

Scottish inn serves it on Sundays

Traditional roast satisfies visitors

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GEORGETOWN, TEXAS ■ MAY 29, 2019

One Dollar



Lost memories pose mystery

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Monday's Memorial Day commemoration drew about 3,000 people to the event in Sun City. Keynote speaker Senator Ted Cruz spent 30 to 45 minutes visiting with the crowd gathered to see him at the Georgetown-Williamson County Veterans Memorial Plaza.

Veterans praise service director who is retiring

By BRAD STUTZMAN

As the wife of a U.S. Marine, Donna Harrell is familiar with the Corps' motto: *Semper Fidelis* – Always Faithful.

During her retirement reception May 24, military veterans and county government leaders gathered to thank Ms. Harrell for what they called her own 17 years of faithfulness at the county's Veterans Services office.

"I'm going to miss all my veterans," Ms. Harrell said. "After 17 years they've become family. Looking back — the people I've touched and the people who've touched me — I'm blessed."

Ms. Harrell is slated to retire May 31. She and husband Jim are headed to Uvalde to help care for Ms. Harrell's parents.

Although she's leaving, one particular veteran will still get, as she put it, "a little bit of my attention."

The Harrells have been married 35 years and Ms. Harrell, 62, has previously said she became motivated to help veterans because of

her husband.

As a combat Marine, Mr. Harrell served two tours of duty in Vietnam and suffered injuries related to his service.

"It took us nine years for the VA [Department of Veterans Affairs] to make a decision on Jim's benefits. We didn't want anybody else to go through what we went through," Ms. Harrell told the *Sun* during a November 2018 interview.

At the time of that interview, Ms. Harrell had just become the first non-veteran to receive a particular statewide award for veterans services officers.

"I've known her for a long time — and I've talked with a lot of other county judges — and we've got the best Veterans Services office in the state, bar none," recently-retired County Judge Dan Gattis said during Ms. Harrell's reception.

"That's not all Donna," Mr. Gattis said. "It's Donna and her staff. But it's Donna's leadership."

His successor, County

Continued on 5A

Thousands attend memorial

By BRAD STUTZMAN

American flags flew in pairs along Del Webb Boulevard leading to Williamson County Veterans Memorial Plaza where an estimated crowd of nearly 3,000 gathered Monday morning in tribute to the men and women who've given their lives in military service.

Cloud cover and oaks provided merciful shade. Friends and neighbors exchanged greetings, as the Texas National Guard's 36th Infantry Division Band played a lively instrumental march called "Americans We."

Some men now on canes and walkers sported caps representing their service branch.

A contingent of Georgetown High School football players served as ushers.

Sheriff Robert Chody, an Army veteran, introduced his 17-year-old son, Justin, who recently enlisted in the Marines.

With speeches, songs and prayers, speakers recalled sacrifices and lives lost by the 175 Williamson County men and women killed in conflicts from World War I to the present.

"Some gave all, but we celebrate the fact that they

"Some gave all, but we celebrate the fact that they lived."

Jim Robinson
Coast Guard Captain, retired

lived," said retired Coast Guard Captain Jim Robinson, who served as master of ceremonies.

Colonel Paul Howe, a retired Army chaplain, described the loss families feel.

"It's a dad missing from

around the table, a brother or sister who should be graduating from college."

Col. Howe invoked words from the Gospel of John. "Greater love has no person, than the one who's given his life for his friends."

U.S. Senator Ted Cruz received warm applause as he entered the plaza just moments before a flyover from the pilots of Falcon Flight, a recreational aircraft formation flying team.

A pair of standing ovations bookended the senator's remarks and more

Continued on 5A

Voices raise \$22,000 for Faith in Action

The choirs from 10 Georgetown churches rivaled the thunder claps outside May 9 during the annual Faith in Action Choral Concert, which raised \$22,000.

This marked the 18th year of the concert to help fund Faith in Action's transportation services for older adults. With these funds, the organization is primed to increase the number of people it serves to 790.

The organization provided more than 3,200 rides to clients through the first quarter of 2019.



Kristen Ramirez, Raegan Ramirez and Suzie Gabriel perform with First Baptist Georgetown's choir.

The theme for this year's concert was "Engagement for Every Age," which blended music from classical hymns to more modern praise music in honor of the varied ages of the volunteers.

Vickie Orcutt, Faith in Action Georgetown's executive director, was pleased with the turnout of almost 600 people.

"The community who braved the rain were not disappointed," she said.

To volunteer with the organization, visit www.FaithInActionGT.org or call 512-868-9544.

Georgetown advances to Regional finals

By BRAD STUTZMAN

Following Georgetown's 6-1 loss to Santa Fe last week, in the first game of the Regional semifinal series, coach Adam Foster's words proved prophetic.

"Championship ball clubs respond," Coach Foster said.

True to his word, Georgetown bounced back, taking games two and three from Santa Fe and advancing to the Regional finals — just one series away from the state championship rounds at Dell Diamond.

Now it's on to the Regional finals against the Magnolia West Mustangs, who swept the Nederland Bulldogs in the other Regional 3 semifinal series. The first game in that three-game se-

ries is scheduled for Saturday, June 1.

Coach Foster said Tuesday morning the site of the Magnolia West series had yet to be confirmed.

As of Tuesday the schools were trying to reserve Olsen Field at Blue Bell Park in College Station, home to the Texas A&M University baseball team. *Sports Illustrated* has ranked Olsen Field as one of the best college baseball fields in the country.

On May 23 the Eagles saw their 23-game winning streak snapped, uncharacteristically committing three fielding errors in their 6-1 loss to the Santa Fe Indians.

That left Georgetown facing elimination and in a situation similar to last sea-

son when Kingwood Park bounced the Eagles from the Regional semifinals.

What a difference a year makes.

On Friday, May 24 the Eagles clamped down on Santa Fe, with Grant Wood and Reese Grimes pitching Georgetown to a 2-1 win.

Wood started, allowing Santa Fe's only run. He gave up five hits and struck out three in four innings of work.

Grimes got the win, pitching three innings of shutout ball as he struck out three and allowed just one walk.

Wyatt Childress knocked in Georgetown's winning run with a fifth-inning double. Childress went 2-for-3 at the plate.

Georgetown stretched

its new winning streak to two games and improved to 38-3-1 on the year with a series-clinching 4-2 victory Saturday, May 25.

Santa Fe walked six Georgetown batters in the first two innings alone. The Eagles made the most of those opportunities, stealing four bases on their way to a 2-0 lead.

"It helps to steal bases if you get on base first," a pleased Coach Foster noted.

Georgetown finished the game with 10 steals. Childress and Posey led the team with four each. Pitchers Jack Brinley started and got the win, improving to 11-0. He allowed three hits in four innings. Braxton Pearce provided relief and Grimes earned his eighth save of the season.



City Secretary Robyn Densmore swears in District 3 City Councilman Mike Triggs with his wife, Cindy on Friday.

Triggs takes oath, joins city council

Around 15 supporters gathered to celebrate Mike Triggs's swearing in ceremony Friday in the City Hall lobby.

He won the District 3 seat from former Councilman John Hesser during the May 4 election.

"I'm overwhelmed that so many people showed up," Mr. Triggs said.

He said he's looking forward to his first council meeting Tuesday. He will serve a three-year term.

Bill Reeves of Sun City was one of Mr. Triggs's proud supporters. He and his wife were co-treasurers for his campaign and said they worked hard to elect him.

"He's sharp," Mr. Reeves said. "He'll be real good for the city."

Mr. Triggs has said his first goal as councilman is to solve traffic issues in a

Sun City neighborhood by enforcing ordinances that prohibit commercial trucks from driving through the neighborhood. He said the traffic is disruptive to residents.

The councilman also plans to dig deeper into the city's electric contract problems. He wants to understand the city's obligations so he has a better idea of the direction to take to resolve the ongoing deficit.

Mr. Triggs said he has experience dealing with problems in the finance industry regarding development and utilities. His career in finance includes positions at two major banks — TCF and Bank of Montreal. His specialty is troubled assets.

— Charlotte Kovalchuk

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