

# 2025

# Chalkboard Notes



## FRIENDS OF GILLESPIE COUNTY COUNTRY SCHOOLS, INC.

### OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

#### FIRST QUARTER 2025

Nebgen School Open House, Sat,  
January 25, 2025, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Gillespie County Historical Society -  
Pioneer Museum | White Oak School  
Spring Break,  
Mon., March 17 - Sat., March 21,  
2025

Willow City School Open House,  
Sat., March 22, 2025, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

See: [www.historicschools.org](http://www.historicschools.org)  
for information.

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## Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools, Inc.

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## FREDERICKSBURG BOOK FESTIVAL

The Inaugural Fredericksburg Book Festival will be held at Pioneer Memorial Library, 115 W. Main Street; Fredericksburg, Texas from 9:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday, January 18, 2025. Two other venues, the John Wm Klein Meeting Room and the St. Joseph's Halle will have special presentations during the Fredericksburg Book Festival. A Trolley will run continuously during the Festival transporting attendees between the three venues. What a great opportunity to buy books, visit with authors and attend special presentations by writers.

BOOKS and Historical Country Schools share the quest for learning and reading the written word. See you at the FREDERICKSBURG BOOK FESTIVAL !

BOOKS: Jane Goodall said "one of her 1940 schoolbooks inspired her work with chimpanzees--and-drove her education". Take a look at the 1940's school readers at your school. If any school is without any early schoolbooks, let Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools Board of Directors know. From time to time early schoolbooks are offered to the Board of Directors.

## BOOTS AND BBQ

On Sept. 14, 2024, 400 guests attended Fredericksburg Tea Party's Boots & BBQ fundraiser at the YO Hotel and Conference Center in Kerrville and welcomed Mike Lindell to the Texas Hill Country. A silent auction, barbecue dinner and live auction were held. Fredericksburg Tea Party raised \$67,000 and as is the custom, awarded 10% of the proceeds to a non-profit organization that fulfills the basic principles of FTP. In honor of FTP member Doris Spraggins, the Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools was chosen as the 2024 recipient.



Pictured at the donation are Leola Hartmann Mills, Meusebach School representative; Patsy Grote Hauptrief, FOGCCS' treasurer, Angela Smith, FTP president; Frances Pressler Heimann, FOGCCS' secretary, and Doris Ahrens Spraggins, FOGCCS' advisor.



Ken Cox using the bird viewing wall at Cave Creek school. A local scout constructed the wall as an Eagle Scout project.

## Rheingold School: Hunting & Preserving Meat

Oct 26 at our open house: we did a presentation of sausage making to 19 guests. Showing off 2 hand cranked stuffers from the early 1930s, along with hand cranked grinder. A recipe for preparing the sausage meat was available, along with demonstration of actual casings used in sausage making. Guest viewed pictures of an actual sausage making event by a local family and were treated to samples of the dried sausage from several family recipes.

All guests were big sausage fans and appreciated the sausage making lesson. It helped them understand that it's a little more complicated than just going to the store and buying something a machine makes by flipping on a switch!



Carol Wahrmund Birmingham, rep from Rheingold School showing off items used to make sausage using casings with the restored Rheingold Teacherage in the background.

**WREDE SCHOOL** members collected items to donate to the Heart of the Hills Pregnancy Center.



Christine Lange from Temple, Texas, and daughter Katy Lange Turnley from College Station, Texas, and in-laws of Christine's son - Cindy and Stuart Michalk from Katy, Texas, looking on the demonstration.

Contact Director-at-Large: Jim Lindley at 830-997-2103 to submit newsletter items.

The Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools, Inc. P.O. Box 55, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

Friends' website: [www.historicschools.org](http://www.historicschools.org)

*OUR MISSION: Preserving the past to enrich the future.*

*+To further the preservation and maintenance of historic community school buildings in Gillespie County*

You receive this newsletter as a Friends' member or member-at-large. If you wish to unsubscribe, please e-mail Frances at [fheimann@ctesc.net](mailto:fheimann@ctesc.net)