

★ MEMORIAL DAY EDITION ★

# HUTTO

## Magazine

**HONOR.**  
**REMEMBER.**  
**CELEBRATE.**

★  
THANK YOU TO OUR HEROES.  
TODAY AND EVERY DAY.



### A PROUD PAST

Honoring the sacrifices  
that shaped our freedom.



### A STRONG COMMUNITY

Celebrating the people  
who make Hutto home.



### A BRIGHT FUTURE

Building a better tomorrow  
together.





# A MEMORIAL DAY

## Thank You to Our Veterans

**Today, we pause.**

Not just to mark a day, but to honor a legacy of courage, sacrifice, and unwavering service. To every veteran who has worn the uniform, stood the line, and carried the weight of protecting freedom ... thank you.

Because of you, we live in a country where ordinary days are filled with extraordinary freedoms. The ability to gather, to speak, to build a life, those aren't small things. They're everything. And they came at a cost.

**Memorial Day especially reminds us of those who gave their lives in service. But it also reminds us of you, the ones who came home carrying stories, memories, and sacrifices we may never fully understand.**

Your service didn't end when the uniform came off. It lives on in your strength, your resilience, and your continued impact on the communities you helped protect.

*Thank you*



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# HUTTO EVENTS IN MAY

## May Events Roundup

*Written by Tara McAdams*

*Plan your month with all the Hutto activities!*

### **Hutto Wine Bar - Murder Mystery Brunch**

May 2 | 11AM - 1:30PM

202 U.S. 79, Hutto, TX

Brunch-time treats by Baked n' Sconed

### **Cottonwood Creek Brewery**

May 2 & 3 | 12PM - 3PM

610 US-79, Hutto, TX 78634

Celebrating their one year anniversary event!

### **Hutto Resource Center - Food Distribution**

May 2, 16, 30 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Hutto

Resource Center

### **TSTC Fueled for the Future**

May 2 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

1600 Innovation Blvd., Hutto, TX 78634

Community event with a car show, vendors, food trucks, and entertainment.

### **Hutto Public Library - Star Wars Themed Fun**

May 4 | 2PM - 4PM

Located inside Hutto City Hall

Free Admission

### **Sunset Block Party**

May 22 | 05:30 PM - 09:00 PM

1 Co-Op Boulevard, Hutto, TX

Hutto's American Legion Post 302 will lead a special remembrance ceremony for our fallen service members followed by live music, face painting, and more!

### **Tiny Texan Exchange**

May 9 | 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

3333 CR 119 Ste 24

Small Mothers day market in front of our store!

### **The Story Emporium & Bookshop**

May 14 | 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

202 US-79, Hutto, TX 78634

True Crime Book Club to discuss the book "All Good People Here" by Ashley Flowers

### **Hutto Market Days**

May 16, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | The

Gin at the Hutto Co-Op

Local vendors, handmade goods, food trucks, and a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere.

### **Camp Bow Wow - Puppo de Mayo**

May 17 | 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM | 600

Lemens Avenue, Hutto, TX

First 50 guests get a swag bag. Free nail

trims! Free make your own treat bone bar!

Camp photo ops! Tours!

### **Grapes & and Rye: Blind Pour Experience**

May 20 & 21 | 6PM - 9PM

3333 CR 119 Ste 28

Taste 4 pours, play wine-themed challenges, and win prizes!

# MEMORIAL DAY IDEAS

## 10 Ways to Celebrate Memorial Day

Memorial Day isn't just a long weekend, it's a day with real meaning. So yes, enjoy it... but do it in a way that actually honors what it stands for. Here are 10 solid ways to celebrate it right:

### 1. Attend a Memorial Day Ceremony

Local ceremonies often include speeches, flag presentations, and moments of silence. It's one of the most direct ways to pay respect.

### 2. Visit a Veterans Cemetery or Memorial

Walk the grounds, leave flowers, or simply take a moment. It hits differently when you see the scale of sacrifice.

### 3. Observe the National Moment of Remembrance

At 3:00 PM local time, pause. No distractions. Just one minute. It's simple, but powerful.

### 4. Fly the American Flag (Properly)

Start the day with the flag at half-staff, then raise it to full-staff at noon. Yes, there's a right way to do this, and it matters.

### 5. Support Veterans & Military Families

Donate to organizations like Wounded Warrior Project or Fisher House Foundation, or volunteer your time. Appreciation shouldn't just be words.

### 6. Host a Backyard BBQ (With Meaning)

Go ahead, grill the burgers. Just don't forget to acknowledge why the day exists. A quick toast or moment of gratitude goes a long way.

### 7. Create a Patriotic Playlist

Think songs like "God Bless the USA" or "American Soldier." Music sets the tone, make it meaningful, not just background noise.

### 8. Learn (or Teach) the History

Memorial Day isn't just "military appreciation day." It specifically honors those who died in service. Share that with kids, friends, or your audience if you're posting.

### 9. Participate in a Memorial Run/Walk

Many communities host 5Ks or charity walks. It's a great way to honor the fallen while supporting a cause.

### 10. Reach Out to a Gold Star Family

If you know one, send a message, a card, or simply let them know their loved one is remembered. That matters more than you think.

HAT

HUTTO ARTS TODAY PRESENTS



# HUTTO MURAL FEST

**May 22 . 2026**

ART + MUSIC + NEARBY LOCAL EATS

ART STARTS 09.00AM

09.00PM

**LAWN AT THE GIN  
AT HUTTO CO-OP  
420 US-79,  
HUTTO TX 78634**

More information  
follow us at:  
[@huttomuralfest](#)  
[@huttoartstoday](#)  
[huttomuralfest.com](http://huttomuralfest.com)

# FAMILY FUN GUIDE

## Trash Bags, Donation Boxes, and Dance Breaks



*LaToya Collins-Jones,  
Podcaster of The Lunch Hour*

I'll be honest with you. Spring cleaning has never been my favorite phrase. For most of my life, those two words meant an overwhelming weekend of scrubbing baseboards and arguing over what to keep. It felt more like a punishment than a fresh start.

But something shifted when I shifted how I approached it. What used to feel like a solo battle against clutter became something surprisingly meaningful. A family project with real purpose behind it.

If you've been putting off the big clean because it feels too big, too boring, or too hard to do with little ones underfoot, this one's for you. Spring cleaning doesn't have to be a miserable marathon. Done right, it can be one of the most rewarding things your family does together this season. And Hutto has some incredible local resources to make the "giving back" part easy.

### **Why This Is Worth Your Time (Even When Time Is the One Thing You Don't Have)**

I know what you're thinking. You barely have time to fold the laundry that's been sitting in the dryer for two days. How are you supposed to organize an entire spring-cleaning day?

Here's the thing. It doesn't have to be a whole day. And it doesn't have to be perfect. What matters is that you're doing it together.

### **When kids participate in cleaning and decluttering, they're picking up skills that go way beyond tidying a room.**

Here's what they're actually learning:

- Decision-making. "Do I still use this? Do I still need it?"
- Generosity. "Someone else could really love this toy."
- Responsibility. "This is my space and I'm taking care of it."
- Teamwork. "We're doing this together as a family."

These are life skills wrapped in a trash bag and a donation box, and they're more powerful than we realize.

The trick? Your energy sets the tone. If you walk into it dreading every minute, your kids will mirror that. But if you bring even a little enthusiasm (or better yet, a playlist, some snacks, and a fun challenge), you'd be surprised how quickly the mood shifts.

## **Who Can Do What: A Quick Guide by Age**

One of the biggest mistakes families make is assuming spring cleaning is a grown-up job. It's not. There's a role for every member of your household, no matter how small.

### **Toddlers and Preschoolers (Ages 2 to 4)**

This age group thrives on sorting and matching. Here's what works:

- Give them a bin and ask them to find all the red toys, or all the stuffed animals.
- Let them wipe surfaces with a damp cloth. They will love the spray bottle. Trust me.
- Have them "deliver" items to the right room. They think it's a game. You get things put away.

The goal isn't perfect. It's participation. When they feel included, they're learning that taking care of our home is everyone's job.

### **Elementary Age (Ages 5 to 10)**

This is where it gets fun. Kids this age can genuinely help:

- Sort items into "keep," "donate," and "toss" piles.
- Organize drawers and bookshelves.
- Dust shelves and baseboards (give them a sock on each hand and let them go).
- Help vacuum or sweep.

Make it a game. Set a timer and see who can fill a donation bag the fastest. Give each kid a room or a zone and let them own it. You'll be amazed at how seriously they take the responsibility when they feel trusted.

### **Tweens and Teens (Ages 11 and Up)**

Older kids can take on full projects:

- Deep cleaning the bathroom.
- Organizing the garage or pantry.
- Leading younger siblings through their rooms.
- Research where to donate items (this builds community awareness).

This is also a great age to start real conversations about consumption and waste. Why do we accumulate so much stuff? What happens to items we throw away? How does donating impact our neighbors? Give them autonomy and watch what happens.

# The Room-by-Room Family Challenge (a.k.a. A Saturday Morning Game Plan)

Break the whole thing down room by room, give each one a time limit and a challenge, and let the kids compete. Think of it like Spring Break Bingo, but for cleaning day. Print this out, tape it to the fridge, and let your family loose on a Saturday morning.

## 1. The Kitchen (20 minutes)

The Challenge: Clear every expired item from the fridge and pantry.

## 2. Kids' Bedrooms (15 minutes each)

*The Challenge: The "Fill the Bag" race.*

## 3. The Living Room (15 minutes)

*The Challenge: The "Doesn't Belong Here" sweep.*

## 4. The Bathroom (10 minutes)

*The Challenge: Toss every nearly-empty bottle, dried-out marker, and mystery product under the sink.*

## 5. Bonus Round: The Garage or Storage Area (60+ minutes)

*The Challenge: The "Have We Used This in a Year?" test.*

Total time? About an hour and a half minus the garage bonus round. That's it. Put on a playlist, keep snacks in rotation, and take a break between rooms. By lunchtime, your house will feel completely different and your kids will have genuinely helped make it happen.

***The secret is the timer. Kids who argue about cleaning for an hour will sprint through a 15-minute challenge without a single complaint. Competition changes everything.***

## Where to Take It All: 4 Places in Hutto That Need What You're Clearing Out

- Tiny Texan (Kid's Clothes and Toys)
- Second Chance Resale
- Goodwill
- Hutto Resource Center

**LaToya Collins-Jones,**

Podcaster of *The Lunch Hour*

Catch her daily from 1PM-2PM at [www.facebook.com/thelunchhourpodcast](http://www.facebook.com/thelunchhourpodcast)

# The Lunch Hour

THE LUNCH HOUR PODCAST

# EPISODE

# 150

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# WATER PARKS IN TEXAS

## STAY COOL IN TEXAS WITH MANY WATERPARKS TO CHOOSE FROM

Texas is home to a diverse array of water parks, offering fun and excitement for visitors of all ages. From thrilling water slides to lazy rivers and wave pools, these parks provide refreshing escapes from the Lone Star State's summer heat.



### **Rock'N River Water Park**

3300 E Palm Valley Blvd  
Round Rock, TX 78665  
(512) 218-5540

### **Great Wolf Lodge**

100 Great Wolf Dr  
Grapevine, TX 76051  
(800) 693-9653

### **Hurricane Harbor**

1800 E Lamar Blvd  
Arlington, TX 76006  
(817) 640-8900

### **Hawaiian Falls Roanoke**

290 W Byron Nelson Blvd  
Roanoke, TX 76262  
(817) 853-0099

### **Typhoon Texas Austin**

18500 TX-130 Service Rd  
Pflugerville, TX 78660  
(512) 212-7792

### **The Quarry Splash Pad**

3005 Co Rd 175  
Leander, TX 78641  
(512) 943-1920

### **Schlitterbahn Waterpark**

400 N Liberty Ave  
New Braunfels, TX 78130

### **Kalahari Resorts**

3001 Kalahari Blvd  
Round Rock, TX 78665  
(877) 525-2427

# TRAVEL GUIDE

## Travel Apps: Do Not Leave Home Without Them

*Brought to you by Todd & Katy Robison, Dream Vacations*

Travel apps can save us time, money, and stress. There are thousands of them out there, and it's impossible to list them all, so we want to focus on some of the ones we have found quite useful in our travel adventures. You may know of others. If it works for you and makes your travel "planning and going" more organized and efficient, keep using them! Don't ever stop looking for new ones, though. There's always someone building a better mousetrap!

**There is no single travel app that does everything. The best traveler will rely on a combination of apps to find deals, navigate offline, organize plans, translate foreign languages, track expenses, convert currency, or get reviews for hotels, restaurants, etc.**

### How to choose the right travel apps:

- **Offline capability:** Does it work without cell service (maps, tickets, reservations)?
- **Coverage where you're going:** Some apps are strongest in specific countries or regions.
- **Transparency:** Clear pricing, filters, cancellation terms, and fewer surprise fees.

- **Speed and reliability:** Especially for navigation, translation, and boarding passes.
- **Privacy and security:** Two-factor authentication, reputable vendors, and minimal data sharing.
- **Anything else you consider pertinent to your travel experiences!**

### The MUST HAVE apps

- **Anything Google!** This includes Google Travel, Google Flights, Google Maps, Google Translate, Google Photos...and just plain Google search! A little more info on some of these is below.
- **ChatGPT or other AI apps.** They are changing the world and only getting smarter! (ChatGPT assisted with this article!)



## Trip planning and organization:

- **Google Travel (web + mobile):** Good for pulling flight/hotel ideas together, browsing destination guides, and seeing an at-a-glance itinerary.
- **Triplt:** For consolidating confirmation emails into one itinerary (flights, hotels, car rentals, tours). Helpful if you're juggling multiple reservations.
- **Wanderlog:** Great for collaborative planning with friends/family, building day-by-day plans, and mapping stops efficiently.
- **TriPandoo:** AI-powered personalized trip planning; it creates perfectly optimized, personalized itineraries in seconds, and it learns your travel preferences in order to make travel recommendations.

## Flights and airfare tracking

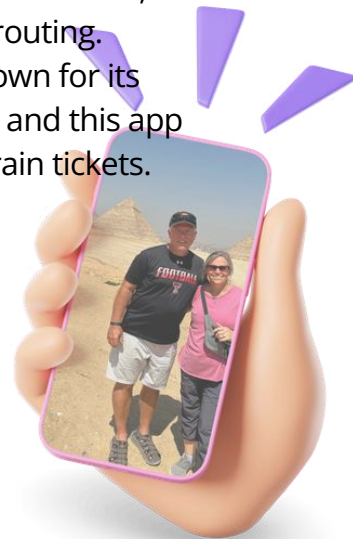
- **Google Flights:** One of the fastest ways to compare routes, dates, and price trends; useful filters (bags, stops, times) and price tracking.
- **Kayak:** A great source for finding flight and hotel deals. PRO TIP: If you are adventurous, have some time you could travel, but can't decide where you want to go, choose the dates and then select "Anywhere" in the "To" box of the flight search! You'll be amazed at some of the places you can go for a great price.
- **Skyscanner:** Strong for flexible searches (whole month, "everywhere") and comparing many airlines/OTAs in one place.
- **Hopper:** Focused on price prediction and alerts; helpful if your dates are flexible and you're watching for dips.
- **Flighty (iOS):** Excellent real-time flight status and disruption tracking, especially for frequent flyers

## Hotels and short-term stays

- **Tripadvisor:** A great resource for reviews of hotels and experiences shared by fellow travelers. As travel advisors, we always look up hotels on Tripadvisor before recommending them!
- **Booking.com:** Huge inventory, solid filters, and frequent free-cancellation options, useful for building a "backup plan" while you decide.
- **Hotels.com:** Straightforward comparison shopping; perks programs can be a plus if you book often.
- **Airbnb:** Best for kitchens, longer stays, and group travel, double-check cleaning fees and house rules before booking.

## Maps, navigation, and getting around

- **Google Maps:** Best all-around for driving, walking, transit directions, and saved lists. Download offline areas before you go.
- **Apple Maps (iOS):** Strong turn-by-turn and lane guidance in many cities; integrates well with iPhone travel features.
- **Citymapper:** Excellent for public transportation in supported cities, with clear step-by-step routing.
- **Trainline:** Europe is known for its magnificent rail system, and this app makes it easy to book train tickets.



## Translation, language, and communication:

- **Google Translate:** Great coverage, camera translation, and downloadable language packs for offline use. Use it for menus and signs and for conversing with locals.
  - **NOTE:** This is a MUST when traveling internationally! We once stayed at a house in a small village of the French wine country. Nobody in the village spoke English, but what a fun adventure as we visited local family wineries and carried on conversations with the owners...all through Google Translate!
- **WhatsApp:** Often the default messaging app internationally for hotels, tour operators, and local contacts. Another "MUST" if you are traveling internationally.

## Other Essentials:

- **Your airline + hotel apps:** Often the most reliable place for live gate changes, mobile check-in, room info, and direct support.
- **GetYourGuide:** Great app for booking excursions and tours.

Download and set up apps before you travel! As you travel, you will discover the ones that work best for you, including ones not on this list! Of course, a good travel advisor can also do some of the work for you, and Todd and Katy Robison, Dream Vacations is happy to help you plan your travel at no cost to you!

## Money, currency, and expense tracking:

- **XE Currency:** Quick conversions and a clean interface; download rates before you travel for easier offline checks.
- **GlobeConvert:** Converts currency, but also converts temperature, length, weight, and many other things!
- **Splitwise:** Ideal for group trips, track shared costs and settle up without spreadsheets.
- **Trail Wallet (iOS) or TravelSpend (Android/iOS):** Simple, travel-focused expense tracking by day and category.



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# HUTTO EATS GUIDE



## Texan Cafe & Pie Shop

BY: PHAVANA SIHARATH

Right in the middle of downtown Hutto, Texan Cafe & Pie Shop has been serving up comfort food since 1996 – making them the town’s longest-standing restaurant. They specialize in traditional home-made style Southern comfort food.

A few favorites: Their board menu “Lent Special” (two fried catfish, three fried shrimp, and two sides!) was a solid choice, as well as their Chopped Steak. The real surprise? The Boudin Egg Rolls, they were to die for! And don’t skip the soup of the day... The Cheeseburger Soup!

If you’re not sure what to get, you can’t go wrong with their most popular dish, the Chicken Fried Steak. Between the daily specials and the board menu inside, there’s always something new to try, which makes it easy to keep coming back.

### Did You Know?

Despite its name, chicken fried steak contains zero chicken; it is a tenderized beef steak breaded and fried like chicken. An estimated 800,000 chicken fried steaks are served daily in Texas!

Texan Cafe 207 East St Hutto, TX 78634 (512) 846-2885
Hours: Monday - Thursday: 11:00 am - 8:30 pm Friday - Saturday: 11:00 am - 9:00 pm Sunday: Closed
Menu: <a href="http://www.thetexancafe.com">www.thetexancafe.com</a>

**Find Hutto Restaurants on [iHutto.com/eats](http://iHutto.com/eats)**

# LIFESTYLE & LIVING

## Backyard Living in Hutto, TX



*Written by Joseph Cortez and Daniela Medellin*

If you've lived through even one Hutto summer, you know the truth: your backyard can either be your favorite hangout spot... or completely unusable from June through September. The good news? With a few smart, eco-conscious upgrades, you can turn your outdoor space into a cooler, more comfortable place to relax - even in triple-digit heat.

**Here's how to make your Hutto backyard work with the Texas climate, not against it.**

### **Start with Shade (The Right Way)**

Shade is everything in Central Texas – but not all shade is created equal. Instead of relying only on umbrellas or temporary fixes, think long-term and natural.

### **Best eco-friendly shade options:**

- Native trees like Texas Red Oak, Cedar Elm, or Mexican Plum
- Pergolas with climbing vines (like crossvine or coral honeysuckle)
- Shade sails for quick, affordable coverage

Native trees are your best investment. They require less water, survive Hutto heat, and increase property value over time.

### **Choose Plants That Actually Thrive Here**

One of the biggest mistakes homeowners make? Planting things that aren't built for Texas.

### **This leads to:**

- Constant watering
- Dead plants
- Higher costs

### **Go native (or drought-tolerant):**

- Blackfoot Daisy
- Salvia (various native types)
- Lantana
- Turk's Cap
- Agave & Yucca

### **These plants:**

- Handle heat like champs
- Require less water
- Support local pollinators

**Bonus:** You'll spend less time maintaining and more time enjoying your space.

### **Water Smarter, Not More**

In Hutto, water matters – especially during dry spells and restrictions.

### **Simple upgrades:**

- Drip irrigation systems (more efficient than sprinklers)
- Water early morning or late evening
- Add mulch to retain moisture and protect soil

If you're already composting (like we talked about in our last post ), mix it into your soil to improve water retention naturally.

### **Rethink Your Ground Surfaces**

Concrete and stone can turn your backyard into a heat trap.

### **Cooler, eco-conscious alternatives:**

- Mulch pathways
- Decomposed granite
- Native grass areas (like Buffalo grass)
- Gravel with shade coverage

### **These materials:**

- Absorb less heat
- Improve drainage
- Feel better underfoot

### **Create Airflow + Cooling Zones**

Sometimes it's not just the temperature – it's the still air that makes things unbearable.

### **Easy ways to cool things down:**

- Add an outdoor fan to patios or pergolas
- Use a solar-powered fan for energy efficiency
- Install a simple misting system for high-heat days

**Even a small breeze can make a huge difference in comfort.**

### **Don't Forget Pets & People**

Hutto summers aren't just tough on you – they're tough on your pets too.



### **Backyard safety basics:**

- Provide constant shade access
- Use heat-safe surfaces (avoid bare concrete)
- Keep fresh water available at all times
- Add a cool-down spot (like a shaded turf area or splash pad)

### **Think Low-Tox + Low-Maintenance**

Your backyard should be a place to relax – not a source of chemicals or constant upkeep.

### **Eco-friendly swaps:**

- Skip synthetic pesticides – use natural pest control options or just let nature do its thing!
- Choose non-toxic outdoor candles or repellents, like Hutto Soap & Candle's Bug-B-Gone
- Avoid treated woods or harsh chemical finishes

### **A cleaner backyard is better for:**

- Your family
- Your pets
- The local ecosystem

### **Final Thoughts: Work With Hutto, Not Against It**

The key to enjoying your backyard in Hutto isn't fighting the heat – it's designing around it.

### **When you:**

- Plant native
- Create real shade
- Use water wisely
- Choose natural materials

... you end up with a space that's not just cooler, but easier to maintain and better for the environment.

### **And most importantly? A backyard you'll actually use.**

Looking for more simple, local tips? Check out our Guide to Composting in Hutto and start turning everyday waste into something your yard will love.

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Written by **Joseph Cortez and Daniela Medellin**, fellow Hutto Hippos and proud owners of **Hutto Soap & Candle Co.** and **Hutto Farmers Market**, two eco-conscious businesses proudly serving the Hutto community. We care a lot about simple, earth-friendly habits - whether that's choosing cleaner ingredients for your home or finding small ways to reduce everyday waste. Composting is one of those surprisingly easy steps that can make a real difference right here in our community.

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# WOMEN'S HEALTH

## Your Body Is Not Broken, It Is Communicating



Hannah Prince, Owner of Eden Phase

How to read common “symptoms” as signals and respond in a way that supports your health.

### A Conversation Many Women in Hutto Are Having

It’s a conversation I hear often from women around Hutto.

Maybe it starts during a walk around the neighborhood or after a tough workout. I’m even seeing it as a common theme online in mom groups. Someone mentions they’re constantly tired. Another says their weight won’t budge no matter how “clean” they eat. Someone else laughs about brain fog, bloating, or mood swings like it’s just part of getting older.

Eventually the same phrases come up:

“My body is just broken.” Or “I was told, this is my new normal.”

But what if it isn’t? And it certainly doesn’t have to be!

### What if your body is doing exactly what it’s designed to do, communicate?

The problem isn’t that your body stopped working. The problem is that most of us were never taught how to listen.

### Symptoms Are Signals, Not Failures

Your body is constantly sending feedback. Things like fatigue, cravings, stubborn weight, poor recovery, or disrupted sleep aren’t random annoyances. They’re signals that something needs support.

When we ignore those signals, they usually get louder.

Instead of asking “How do I make this stop?” a more helpful question is:

“What might my body be trying to tell me?”

### Common Signals Women Experience

Here are a few symptoms many women experience and what they often point toward ...

**“My body is just broken.” Or “I was told, this is my new normal.”**

# WOMEN'S HEALTH

## Constant Fatigue

If you're exhausted even when you're sleeping enough, your body may be signaling:

- Chronic stress or elevated cortisol
- Under-fueling (especially low carbs or calories)
- Overtraining without proper recovery

Pushing harder rarely fixes exhaustion. Supporting recovery usually does.

## Stubborn Fat Loss

Many women believe fat loss stalls because they're not disciplined enough.

In reality, the body may be responding to:

- Long-term calorie restriction
- Hormonal shifts
- High stress load
- Lack of muscle-building strength training

When the body feels safe and supported, it's far more willing to release stored fat.

## Brain Fog and Low Focus

Mental fatigue is another signal women often dismiss.

This can be linked to:

- Blood sugar swings
- Poor sleep quality
- Hormonal fluctuations
- Nutrient gaps

Your brain is one of the most energy-demanding organs in your body. When something is off, focus is often the first thing to suffer.

## Feeling Inflamed or Always Sore

If you're constantly sore or inflamed after workouts, your body may be telling you:

- Recovery is insufficient
- Training intensity is too high for your current stress level
- Sleep or nutrition needs support

Muscle growth happens during recovery not during the workout itself.

***When you learn to listen, your body often becomes your greatest ally in building strength, energy, and long-term health.***

# WOMEN'S HEALTH

## **Why Women Are Taught to Ignore These Signals**

For years, many health and fitness messages followed a simple formula:

- Eat less
- Exercise more
- Push through discomfort

That approach works temporarily for some people.

But for many women especially those navigating pregnancy, postpartum, or perimenopause this eventually creates more stress on an already busy system.

The result?

## **Women start believing their bodies are the problem.**

In reality, the strategy was.

## **A Better Way to Respond**

Learning to work with your body instead of against it starts with curiosity.

When a symptom shows up, pause and ask:

- Am I recovering as intentionally as I train?
- Am I fueling enough for my activity level?
- Has my stress load increased recently?
- What patterns do I notice in my energy or mood?

## **Small adjustments often make a big difference.**

- Supporting sleep.
- Building strength instead of chasing endless cardio.
- Fueling properly.
- Respecting hormonal rhythms.

These changes allow the body to move back toward balance.

*When that alignment happens, progress stops feeling like a constant uphill battle.*

***Energy improves.***

***Recovery gets easier.***

***Results become sustainable.***

*And perhaps most importantly, women stop feeling like they're fighting their own bodies.*



# Crawfish Pie Recipe



Pamela Rickel  
Hutto Resident

This isn't your grandma's apple pie situation. This is bold, buttery, Louisiana-style comfort food that walks into the room and steals attention. If you've got crawfish on hand, this recipe is about to make you look like you know exactly what you're doing (even if you don't).

## Ingredients:

- 1 pound peeled crawfish tails
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1 cup diced onions
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped garlic
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 cup seasoned Italian bread crumbs
- 1 egg beaten
- 1/2 cup sliced green onions
- 1/2 cup chopped parsley
- 1/4 tsp salt
- black pepper
- 2 (9-inch) deep-dish pie crusts

## Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees.
2. In a 10-inch skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat.
3. Add onions, celery, bell pepper and garlic.
4. Sauté for 3-5 minutes or until vegetable are wilted.
5. Add crawfish and blend well into the vegetable mixture and sauté 3-5 minutes.
6. Add heavy whipping cream, simmer for 10 minutes and remove from heat.
7. Add seasoned bread crumbs and egg, blending well.
8. Add green onions and parsley and mix well.
9. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
10. Place the mixture into pie crust and cover with the second pie crust.
11. Make four 1 inch knife slits in the top crust.
12. Place the pie on a cookie sheet and bake 10 minutes.
13. Reduce heat to 350 degrees.
14. Bake 20 additional minutes or until crust is golden brown.
15. Serve hot and top with Louisiana Hot Sauce or Tabasco to taste.

# CAREER ADVICE

## How to Fill in the **Employment Gap** on Your Resume



So, you've got a resume gap – now what? Ultimately, it's not about hiding the gap, it's about controlling the narrative. A gap only hurts you if it looks like you were not doing anything. You do not have to explain yourself to anyone for any reason. Know that as a candidate, you can disclose as much or as little as you'd like. If your resume gap was around peak pandemic of 2020 – 2022, don't sweat it. We hiring managers know the world was a mess and we're not even questioning it. Scouts honor.

There are a few ways to address the gap – one is in your resume, the other is in a cover letter, the final option is a combination of both.

by *Stephanie Welt, Vast HR*

**Step 1:** Be honest, but strategic. This is not the place to put “Caregiving”, “Stay at Home Parent” or “Personal”. This goes back to the point that what you were doing during your gap is not an employer's business. Titles like these can work against you through pre-judgement and/or being “low-balled” with pay upon a new offer.

**Step 2:** Focus on what you **HAVE** been doing and what is transferable. For example – if you were giving care for a loved one, think about how you leveraged your skills to do so. Operations, logistics, third-party vendor management, documentation, budgeting – you were doing it all and not even realizing it. **All of these are transferable skills.** If you were simply unemployed because of a brutal market or changes within your field, highlight what you've been doing to upskill yourself. Alison.com, Coursera, Udemy, etc. If you were freelancing – it's imperative that you show this. Freelancing is still work and you were NOT unemployed during this time.

**Step 3:** Don't highlight months, use years. When I write resumes, I never list months for clients, strictly years. It emphasizes a shorter time frame and keeps it clean while reducing emphasis on shorter gaps.

**Step 4:** Prepare for the inevitable question. Have an answer ready for if/when it's brought up in an interview. Depending on the employer is whether they will ask. **AVOID** over-explaining and keep it focused on your knowledge, skills and abilities. Highlight past successes and metrics to add value and position yourself in the best light possible.

**Step 5: Address the timing – if the gap is not recent, it's not as much of a concern.** If it is recent, rely on leveraging those skills.

# YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

## Resources to Grow Your Business



*Terry Robinson, Author's Easel*

Resources that can help parents and kids to strengthen their business or provide help in fulfilling the dream to establish their business.

**Here are a few resources that you might useful:**

**Gina and Chris Audiore of Happy Panini**, sponsor ongoing Kidpreneur Markets to provide outlets for kids' businesses. Check the schedule

[www.happypanini.com](http://www.happypanini.com)

**"Empowering Kids Through Entrepreneurship"**: Resources includes online programs and books that "empower kids aged 6-12 to excel in entrepreneurship in life... all while putting smiles on their faces!" Visit [www.kidspreneurs.com](http://www.kidspreneurs.com)

**Acton Children's Business Fair**: A team of passionate entrepreneurs, teachers, mentors, and parents who want their children to learn about entrepreneurship in a practical and fun way. The Fair event empowers children to discover their inner entrepreneur as they develop a brand, create a product or service, build a marketing strategy, and then open for customers to showcase their very own businesses to the public. Visit

<https://www.childrensbusinessfair.org>

**Start-up Kids Club**: This organization's Mission is "To ensure that all children are afforded the opportunity to succeed at life beyond the classroom." The educator Founder and Executive Director of SKC credits the lessons learned from her eight-year old daughter's quest to make her own money during a family garage sale. For information about Start-up Kids Club email [info@startupkidsclub.com](mailto:info@startupkidsclub.com) or call (512) 574-5304.

Would one of these organizations be worth pursuing by you and your aspiring entrepreneur? Perhaps in the coming weeks and months, we'll see your child under a canopy at a local market or online proudly offering their goods or services for sale.

Find more on my blog at [iHutto.com/blog](http://iHutto.com/blog) or on my website at [AuthorsEasel.com](http://AuthorsEasel.com)

MONTHLY HUTTO MAGAZINE

# CALLING ALL YOUNG BUSINESS OWNERS

iHutto has partnered with Author's Easel  
to bring your story to the public.

We want to spotlight your business  
with a SPOTLIGHT article!

Email [Terry@AuthorsEasel.com](mailto:Terry@AuthorsEasel.com)



# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## Spotlight on Play University Inc.



### **Tell us a little about your business. What do you offer, and what makes it unique?**

With over three decades of experience, Play University moves beyond traditional theory to deliver transformative, tactile learning. Our workshops are engineered to align with NAEYC and Head Start performance standards, providing educators with evidence-based strategies they can implement immediately. We are unique because we incorporate play into everything we do, from our professional teacher training to our Play Store. Our mission is to reform the education system by normalizing play-based learning in all environments, from classrooms to workplaces.

### **How did your journey as a business owner begin? What inspired you to get started?**

After 20 years in early childhood education, I realized that mandatory annual training was often long, boring, and ineffective. I was inspired to start Play University to create training that actually inspired educators, provides them with practical tools, and properly prepares them for the school year.

### **How long have you been in business, and why did you choose Hutto as your home base?**

Play University began as a hobby in 2015 while I held a leadership position in Head Start. In 2023, we moved to Texas to pursue the business full-time. We chose Hutto for our "Jr. Players" initiative, which teaches teens to become entrepreneurs, because the Hutto Market was the only one that offered a discount to youth business owners, making it accessible for them to gain exposure.



**Play University Inc.**  
254-265-8195  
playuniversityinc@gmail.com

### **What's been one of your most memorable moments as a business owner?**

The creation of the Play Store was incredibly memorable. Watching my own teenagers develop merchandise and collaborate with other vendors inspired us to bring more youth onboard. One student from Florida created handmade bracelets that sold out on the first day, and we are now featuring two young entrepreneurs we met at the Hutto Market, one who makes lip gloss and another who bakes.

### **What do you think makes the Hutto community special?**

The Hutto community is exceptionally supportive of youth. The market is well-known and ideally located, and shoppers consistently go out of their way to encourage our young entrepreneurs with praise, business advice, and their patronage.

### **What advice would you give to someone just starting a business here?**

Make your booth colorful to draw people in, and always stand up to greet every shopper who walks by. Offer specials to make customers feel valued, and definitely bring plenty of weights to keep your merchandise from flying away!

### **When you're not working, where can we find you around town?**

You can find our teens at ROTC events, local youth church services, and high school. While we don't have a brick-and-mortar location, you can find us at local markets in Hutto, Killeen, Temple, and Belton, as well as at teacher training events nationwide.

### **Anything exciting coming up you'd like the community to know about?**

Based on the feedback we received at the Hutto Market, we are expanding the Play Store to include educational items specifically for children and homeschool parents.



# REAL ESTATE TIPS

## A Real-World Guide to Renting Smart



*Brought to you by William and Justine Griffith, Sky Realty*

So you're about to rent your first apartment. Exciting? Yes. Slightly terrifying? Also yes.

Between deposits, leases, and "wait ... I have to pay for trash too?", it can feel like adulthood just hit you with a surprise invoice.

**Good news:** you don't need to learn the hard way. Here's how to rent your first place like someone who actually knows what they're doing.

### Know Your Budget (Before You Fall in Love with the Wrong Place)

Here's the mistake: touring a gorgeous apartment and then realizing it eats 70% of your income. Not ideal.

#### A simple rule:

Try to keep rent at 30% or less of your monthly income. But don't stop there. Factor in:

- Utilities (electric, water, trash)
- Internet (because obviously)
- Renter's insurance (cheap, but required in many places)
- Parking fees
- Pet fees (your dog is not "free" to them)

**Reality check:** That "\$1,200 apartment" can easily become \$1,500 real fast.

### Understand the Lease (Yes, You Actually Have to Read It)

Leases are not light reading, but skipping them is how people end up paying for things they didn't expect.

#### Look for:

- Lease length (usually 12 months)
- Early termination fees (aka "how expensive it is to leave")
- Maintenance responsibilities
- Guest policies
- Rent increase terms

If something sounds confusing, ask. If something sounds sketchy, trust your gut.

### Ask the "Uncomfortable" Questions

This is your money, be nosy.

Ask things like:

- "What do tenants usually complain about?"
- "How quickly are maintenance requests handled?"
- "Are there extra monthly fees not listed?"
- "What's the average utility cost here?"

If they dodge answers? That's your answer.

### Get Renter's Insurance (It's Not Optional Anymore)

It's cheap, usually \$10-\$20/month, and it protects your stuff. Fire, theft, water damage ... life happens. Skipping this to "save money" is one of those decisions people regret immediately.

## **Tour Like a Detective, Not a Tourist**

Anyone can make an apartment look good for a 10-minute showing. Your job? Find what they don't point out.

### **Check:**

- Water pressure (turn that shower on)
- Cell service (no signal = daily rage)
- Noise levels (thin walls = you'll know your neighbor's life story)
- Outlets (yes, seriously, there are never enough)
- Signs of pests or damage

Take photos. You'll thank yourself later.

## **Budget for Move-In Costs (It's More Than Just Rent)**

Here's the part nobody warns you about. You don't just pay first month's rent.

### **You might also pay:**

- Security deposit (often equal to rent)
- Application fees
- Admin fees
- Pet deposits
- Utility setup costs

Translation: Be ready to drop 2-3x your monthly rent upfront  
Yeah. It's a lot. Plan for it.

## **IMPORTANT!! Document EVERYTHING Before You Move In**

Before you unpack a single box:

- Take photos of every room
- Document scratches, stains, dents
- Fill out the move-in checklist honestly

### **Why?**

Because when you move out, they will absolutely check. And you don't want to pay for damage that was already there.

## **Don't Rush It (Even If You're Excited)**

The fastest way to regret your first apartment? Choosing it out of pressure instead of logic.

Take your time. Compare options. Sleep on it. The right place won't feel like a panic decision, it'll feel like a smart one.

## **Consider a Locator or Agent (Yes, It's a Thing and FREE)**

Here's a little insider tip most first-time renters don't know. In many areas, apartment locators (often licensed real estate agents) can help you find a place, for free. They:

- Know which properties are legit
- Help match you with your budget
- Save you hours of scrolling and guessing

**And the best part? The apartment usually pays them, not you.**

**Reach out to William & Justine Griffith of Sky Realty for help! 512-931-9020**

# YOUR MOVING GUIDE

## Make Your Move to Hutto, Texas Easier



Are you considering moving to Hutto, Texas? Known for its small-town charm, excellent schools, and vibrant community, Hutto is one of the fastest-growing cities in Williamson County. Whether you're looking for a peaceful place to raise a family, start a business, or retire, Hutto offers a diverse range of opportunities and a high quality of life.

### Why Move to Hutto, Texas?

Hutto is a hidden gem just north of Austin, making it an ideal choice for those who want to enjoy the benefits of a tight-knit community without sacrificing access to big-city amenities. Here's why moving to Hutto should be at the top of your list:

- **Affordable Housing:** Hutto offers a range of affordable homes and real estate options, whether you're looking for a cozy starter home, a spacious family house, or a luxury apartment.
- **Great Schools:** Families will appreciate the top-rated [Hutto Independent School District](#) (ISD), which boasts exceptional educational opportunities for children of all ages.
- **Proximity to Austin:** Located just 30 minutes from downtown Austin, Hutto is perfectly situated for those who want to live in a quieter setting while remaining close to the capital's thriving job market, entertainment, and cultural events.

### Things to Do in Hutto

- **Explore Downtown Hutto:** The historic [downtown](#) area is a local favorite for its charming shops, restaurants, and community events. It's the perfect place to spend your weekends enjoying the local culture.
- **Catch a Game:** Hutto is passionate about its football, and the Hutto Hippos are a proud symbol of the city. Get involved in the local school spirit by attending a football game or other sporting events.
- **Hutto Parks and Recreation:** Enjoy the outdoors with numerous [parks](#), walking trails, and nearby lakes. Hutto is home to beautiful green spaces that cater to nature lovers and sports enthusiasts alike.

## The Hutto Community: A Place to Thrive

Hutto's community is welcoming and inclusive, with various neighborhood events and festivals that bring residents together throughout the year. Whether you're moving to Hutto for work, school, or a fresh start, you'll find a place to belong here. The city is home to young families, professionals, retirees, and everyone in between.

## Moving to Hutto? Let Us Help!

Relocating to a new city can be an exciting yet overwhelming experience. At iHutto, we're here to help you every step of the way with our resources of agents to help you. Whether you need information on local real estate, schools, or services, our team is dedicated to making your transition to Hutto as smooth as possible.

- **Relocation Assistance:** Need help finding a home? Our team of local real estate experts can assist you in finding the perfect property that meets your needs and budget.
- **Local Resources:** From moving companies to [utilities setup](#), we've compiled a list of trusted service providers to help you settle in quickly.
- **Community Events:** Get to know your new neighbors by participating in local events and activities. Hutto has a calendar full of opportunities to meet people and get involved in the community.

## Start Your Move to Hutto Today!

Ready to make the move? Hutto, Texas is waiting for you! Be sure to check out our [Hutto Neighborhoods](#) page, [Apartments](#) page, or find a Realtor on our [Hutto Realtors](#) page.

**MOVING TO  
HUTTO?**

Visit [www.ihutto.com/move](http://www.ihutto.com/move)

# HUTTO'S *150th Mural*



Created as a featured live art activation at Hippo Trailfest on March 21, this vibrant mural celebrates Hutto's 150th anniversary and the historic arrival of the railroad in 1876.

Designed and painted by local artists **Charlene Martindale** and **Crystal Alulema Jogani**, the piece was brought to life during the event sponsored by the Hippo Social Club and the City of Hutto's 150th Celebration Planning Committee.

The mural also made an appearance at the Crawfish Festival on April 11 and will continue traveling to events throughout the year, building excitement for the city's milestone celebration on **November 14...**  
save the date!

# BEST OF HUTTO SPOTLIGHT

## Happy Hippo Bakery



In a town proudly known as the Hippo Capital of Texas, it only makes sense that one of its sweetest rising stars leans all the way into the theme, and does it deliciously well.

Tucked into the heart of Hutto's growing small business scene, **Happy Hippo Bakery** is more than just a home bakery, it's a brand built on creativity, community, and a whole lot of buttercream.

At its core, Happy Hippo Bakery is exactly what people love most right now: local, personal, and made with intention. Operating as a home-based bakery in Hutto, the business specializes in:

- Custom cakes
- Cookies
- Pies
- Creative dessert options for events

And while the menu sounds classic, the execution is anything but ordinary. This is the kind of bakery where desserts don't just taste good, they're designed to be part of the celebration.

From minimalist buttercream cakes to bold, personality-packed designs, Happy Hippo Bakery keeps up with evolving trends while still keeping things approachable and fun.



### **Built on Community (Not Just Sugar)**

Here's where things get real. This isn't a high-volume commercial bakery pumping out orders on autopilot. It's a relationship-driven business, and that shows.

The owner, **Jackie Ruesink**, has openly shared that one of the best parts of running the bakery is the connections built with customers along the way. That matters.

Because in a world of big-box convenience, people are craving:

- Personal touches
- Local connections
- Businesses that actually know their customers

And Happy Hippo Bakery delivers on all three.

Happy Hippo Bakery has already made a name for itself, earning recognition as:

- Best Cake in Hutto (2026)
- Runner-up for Best Cookies

Not bad for a home-based operation. Actually, pretty impressive. From birthdays to holidays to "just because," this local gem is turning everyday celebrations into something a little more special, one cake, one cookie, one happy customer at a time.

**Happy Hippo Bakery** isn't just baking desserts. It's creating moments. And if Hutto keeps growing the way it is, don't be surprised if this little bakery becomes a big name.



# WELLNESS TIPS

## The “Micro Habits” Movement That’s Actually Working



*Leeya Yates, Healing Rabbit*

If you’ve ever said, “I’m going to completely change my life starting Monday,” and then... didn’t, congratulations, you’re human.

That’s exactly why one of the biggest healthy living trends right now is micro habits. Not dramatic overhauls. Not 5 a.m. wakeups and green juice diets. Just small, simple actions that actually stick. And honestly? This trend is winning because it doesn’t require you to become a different person overnight.

### **What Are Micro Habits?**

Micro habits are tiny, easy actions you can do every day without overthinking.

We’re talking:

- Drinking one glass of water when you wake up
- Walking for 5–10 minutes
- Stretching while your coffee brews
- Taking 3 deep breaths before opening your phone

**That’s it. No pressure. No perfection.**

The idea is simple: small actions repeated daily = real results over time.

### **Why This Trend Is Blowing Up**

Let’s be real, most “healthy lifestyle” advice is exhausting.

People are tired of:

- All-or-nothing thinking
- Strict diets that last 6 days
- Workout plans that feel like punishment

Micro habits flip the script. Instead of asking, “How do I change everything?” you ask:

“What’s the smallest thing I can do today?”

And that question? Way easier to answer.

### **The Science (Without the Boring Lecture)**

Your brain loves easy wins.

When you complete a small task, your brain releases a little boost of feel-good chemicals. That makes you more likely to do it again.

## **Over time:**

- Small habits become automatic
- Automatic habits become routines
- Routines become your lifestyle

No burnout required.

### **1. The “One-Minute Start”**

Don't want to work out? Do one minute.

Most people keep going once they start.

### **2. The Water Rule**

Drink water before coffee. Not instead of – let's not get crazy.

### **3. Phone Delay**

Wait 5–10 minutes before checking your phone in the morning.

Your brain will thank you.

### **4. Add, Don't Remove**

Instead of cutting junk food, just add one healthy food a day.

### **5. Move a Little**

A 10-minute walk after meals helps digestion and energy levels.

## **This is where things get interesting.**

You attach a new habit to something you already do:

- Brush teeth → stretch for 30 seconds
- Make coffee → write one sentence in a journal
- Watch TV → do light stretching

No extra time needed. You're just upgrading what you already do.

## **How to Start (Without Overthinking It)**

Pick ONE:

- Drink a glass of water in the morning
- Take a short walk
- Stretch for 1 minute
- Eat one healthy snack

Do it daily for a week.

Then (and only then), add another.

Healthy living doesn't come from extreme changes. It comes from tiny decisions repeated over time. Micro habits may look small, but they're quietly powerful. They don't burn you out, and they don't disappear after a week. They build something better: A lifestyle you can actually keep.

**So no, you don't need to “start over” next Monday.**

**You just need to start small, today.**

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE.



# ONE COMMUNITY. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.

**iHutto** is your all-in-one local resource connecting residents, businesses, and visitors to everything that makes Hutto a great place to live, work, and play.

## EVERYTHING HUTTO. ALL IN ONE PLACE.



### BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Find local businesses, services, and professionals right here in Hutto.



### EVENTS

Discover local events, festivals, and activities happening in our community.



### HUTTO MAGAZINE

Read inspiring stories, local features, and community news.



### ADVERTISE

Promote your business and get seen by thousands of local eyes.



### LOCAL RESOURCES

Schools, churches, city info, real estate, jobs, and more – all in one place.



### COMMUNITY CONNECTION

A platform to connect, support, and celebrate everything Hutto.



**STRONGER**  
*Together.*

- SUPPORT LOCAL
- STAY CONNECTED
- GROW TOGETHER
- PROUD TO BE HUTTO



VISIT US ONLINE

**iHutto.com**

Your community hub for everything Hutto.



★ HUTTO IS MORE THAN A PLACE. IT'S OUR HOME. ★

# HISTORY GUIDE

## **| The History of Snuffy's Place**

Yes... the Snuffy's building was initially a funeral home in the late 1890s with a two-horse-drawn Hearse wagon and the burial business operated by Mrs. L.E. (Lizzie Henley) Bostick, Undertaker. Her husband, L. E. Bostick, a co-owner of the funeral parlor, was also a prominent businessman in early Hutto.



*Mike Fowler, Hutto Historian*

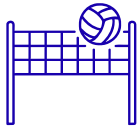


I have heard that when the old road going south to the three main cemeteries (Shiloh-McCutheon Cemetery, Hutto Cemetery, and Hutto Lutheran Cemetery) was too muddy to navigate...

or that on the rare occasion that the ground was frozen and grave digging more difficult that coffins were placed in the local icehouse for refrigeration.

Direct burial was the most common method of interment of human remains during this time and it was common for wakes to be held in the home of the deceased with a service following at one of the local churches and then burial.

# NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHT



## The Sandbox at **Madeline's Place**



*Written by Sydney Johnson, iHutto*

### **More Than a Hangout. It's a Lifeline.**

At first glance, it might sound simple. A place where teens can go after school. *But this isn't just a hangout.* It's a purpose-driven space designed to support middle and high school students emotionally, socially, and mentally.

### **The mission is clear:**

Help teens navigate adolescence safely, happily, and with a healthy sense of self. And let's be honest, if there's ever been a time teens needed that kind of support, it's now.

### **Built From Love, Driven by Purpose**

The heart behind The Sandbox is what makes it truly special. The organization was founded in memory of Madeline Haynes, a Hutto High School student. In response to her passing, her family and community came together with a message that now defines the entire program:

**Be honest. Be kind. Speak up.**

That message isn't just printed somewhere on a wall, it's lived out every single day through conversations, mentorship, and real-life support.

### **No pressure. No judgment.**

Just a safe, welcoming space where they can be themselves.

### **Why This Matters (Especially in Hutto)**

Let's say the quiet part out loud. Teens don't just need rules, they need relationships.

### **They need:**

- Safe spaces
- Positive role models
- Somewhere to go that isn't just home or school

That's where The Sandbox fills a gap many communities don't even realize they have.

### **It's helping teens:**

- Build confidence
- Form healthy friendships
- Learn how to communicate
- Feel seen and supported

And that ripple effect? It doesn't just stay with them, it spreads into families, schools, and the entire community.

The Sandbox at Madeline's Place isn't flashy. It's not trying to be. It's something better. It's real and it's needed. And honestly? Every growing city should have something like this.

Hutto just happens to be doing it right.



# NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHT

## How to Help The Sandbox at Madeline's Place



### How the Community Can Get Involved

The Sandbox thrives because of local support.

#### Ways to help:

- Donate to keep programs free
- Volunteer time or skills
- Sponsor meals, activities, or events
- Simply spread the word

Because when a community shows up for its teens, everything changes.

#### The Sandbox at Madeline's Place

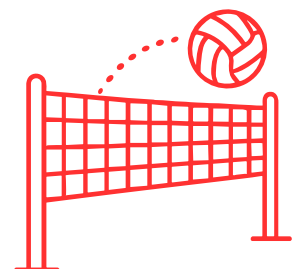
10700 FM1660

Hutto, Texas 78634

**Phone:** (512) 365-4855

**Facebook:** @TheSandboxatMadelinesPlace

**Website:** [www.thesandboxatmadelinesplace.org](http://www.thesandboxatmadelinesplace.org)



BUMBLEBEE  
PEDIATRICS

TIFF'S TREATS

EINSTEIN BROS.  
BAGELS

CASA JALISCO

CHICK FIL A

CHRISTIAN  
BROTHERS HIPPO

HUTTO FIRE  
DEPARTMENT

# Hippos to See

CITY HALL HIPPO

HUTTO HIGH  
SCHOOL

HENRIETTA IN  
DOWNTOWN  
HUTTO

ROLL YOUR DICE AND MOVE TO THE  
SQUARE TO FIND OUT WHICH HIPPO YOU  
SHOULD GO SEE IN HUTTO, TX

HUTTO CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

START

DAIRY QUEEN



HOOKY'S  
ENTERTAINMENT



FINISH!

START AGAIN

HEB

LA PARRILLA LAC  
IN DOWNTOWN  
HUTTO

AMY'S ICE  
CREAM



## SEE HIPPOS

Throwback to when HEB had their hippo painted with fruits and vegetables!

## AROUND HUTTO

This was the **VERY FIRST** hippo pic we ever received, way back in 2018. Submitted by Joe Deleon.





*Find even more hippos  
on [iHutto.com](http://iHutto.com)*

# Best of Hutto Directory



If you're looking for the Best of the Best, look  
no further than [iHutto.com/bestofhutto](https://iHutto.com/bestofhutto)  
And be sure to look for the gold decal!



- Food & Drink
- Entertainment
- Youth
- Shopping
- Community
- Service

# BEST OF HUTTO FOOD

## **BEST BAR**

Casa Jalisco Sports Bar & Grill  
125 Co-Op Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST BBQ**

Southside BBQ  
106 Co-Op Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST BREAKFAST TACO**

Mario's Mexican Restaurant  
209 East St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST BURGER**

Mighty Fine Burgers, Fries and Shakes  
310 Ed Schmidt Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST CAKE**

Happy Hippo Bakery  
happyhippobakery.com

## **BEST CHICKEN IN HUTTO**

Chick-fil-A Hutto  
200 Ed Schmidt Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST CHINESE CUISINE**

Fortune House  
2098 Muirfield Bend Dr #110, Hutto, TX

## **BEST COFFEE SHOP**

Dutch Bros Coffee  
90 Chris Kelley Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST COOKIE**

Tiff's Treats  
210 Ed Schmidt Blvd #300, Hutto, TX

## **BEST CRAFT BEER**

Cottonwood Creek Brewery  
610 US-79, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST DONUTS**

Hutto Donuts  
110 US-79 Suite 400, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST FOOD TRUCK**

Birria y Mariscos La Reina  
100 Rain Creek Dr, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST FROZEN TREAT**

La Michoacana Plus Ice Cream  
531 Ed Schmidt Blvd Ste A130, Hutto, TX

## **BEST INDIAN FOOD**

Hutto Spice Route  
209 Farley St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST MEXICAN CUISINE**

Rio Grande Tex Mex  
551 Ed Schmidt Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST MILK TEA**

Oh My Tea  
722 U.S. 79 W Suite 120, Hutto, TX

## **BEST PIE**

Texan Cafe  
207 East St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST PIZZA**

Bella Sicilia Pizzeria  
409 W Front St, Hutto, TX 78634

# BEST OF HUTTO FOOD

## **BEST SANDWICH/SUB SHOP**

Happy Panini  
202 Farley St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST SMOOTHIE**

Tropical Smoothie Cafe  
326 Ed Schmidt Blvd Suite 120, Hutto

## **BEST WINE BAR**

Hutto Wine Bar  
105 East St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST WINGS**

Wingstop  
125 Ed Schmidt Blvd Ste 200, Hutto

## **BEST NEW RESTAURANT**

Nana B's Country Kitchen  
101 Limmer Loop Suite 100



# BEST OF HUTTO SHOPPING

## **BEST GIFTS**

Hutto General Store  
103 East St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST GRILLING SUPPLIES**

Rockin A Grilling Supplies  
10251 FM1660, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST HANDMADE ITEMS**

Hutto Soap & Candle Co.  
huttosoapandcandle.com

## **BEST HUTTO HIPPO SWAG**

Procraftination  
623 W Front St ste 1900, Hutto

## **BEST HOBBY STORE**

Hutto Hobby  
3333 Co Rd 119 Suite 30, Hutto, TX

## **BEST LIQUOR STORE**

Hippo Liquor Shop  
3333 Co Rd 119 #6, Hutto, TX

## **BEST MARKET**

Hutto Farmers Market  
350 Ed Schmidt Blvd., Hutto, TX

## **BEST THRIFT SHOP**

Second Chance Resale  
3333 Co Rd 119 #138, Hutto, TX

## **BEST VAPE SHOP**

Cozy Cannabis  
200 East St, Hutto, TX 78634



# BEST OF HUTTO ENTERTAINMENT

## **BEST 'HUTTO' THING TO DO**

Hooky's Entertainment  
150 Alliance Blvd Suite 100, Hutto, TX

## **BEST GAME ROOM**

Hooky's Entertainment  
150 Alliance Blvd Suite 100, Hutto, TX

## **BEST ANNUAL EVENT**

Olde Tyme Days - Hutto Chamber  
122 East St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST CRAFT SPOT**

BBK Ceramics  
3333 Co Rd 119 #26, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST PARK IN HUTTO**

Fritz Park - Hutto Parks & Rec  
400 Park Ave, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST DECORATED HIPPO**

Bumble Bee Pediatric Dentistry  
351 Exchange Blvd #140, Hutto, TX 78634



# BEST OF HUTTO YOUTH

## **BEST YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR**

Jack's Lemonade  
jackslemonades.com

## **BEST DAYCARE**

LifePointe Christian Academy  
1451 Carl Stern Dr, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM**

Tiger-Rock Martial Arts of Hutto  
503 W Front St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST KID'S SPORTS PROGRAM**

Texas Allstar Cheer & Dance  
325 Ed Schmidt Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST PLAYGROUND**

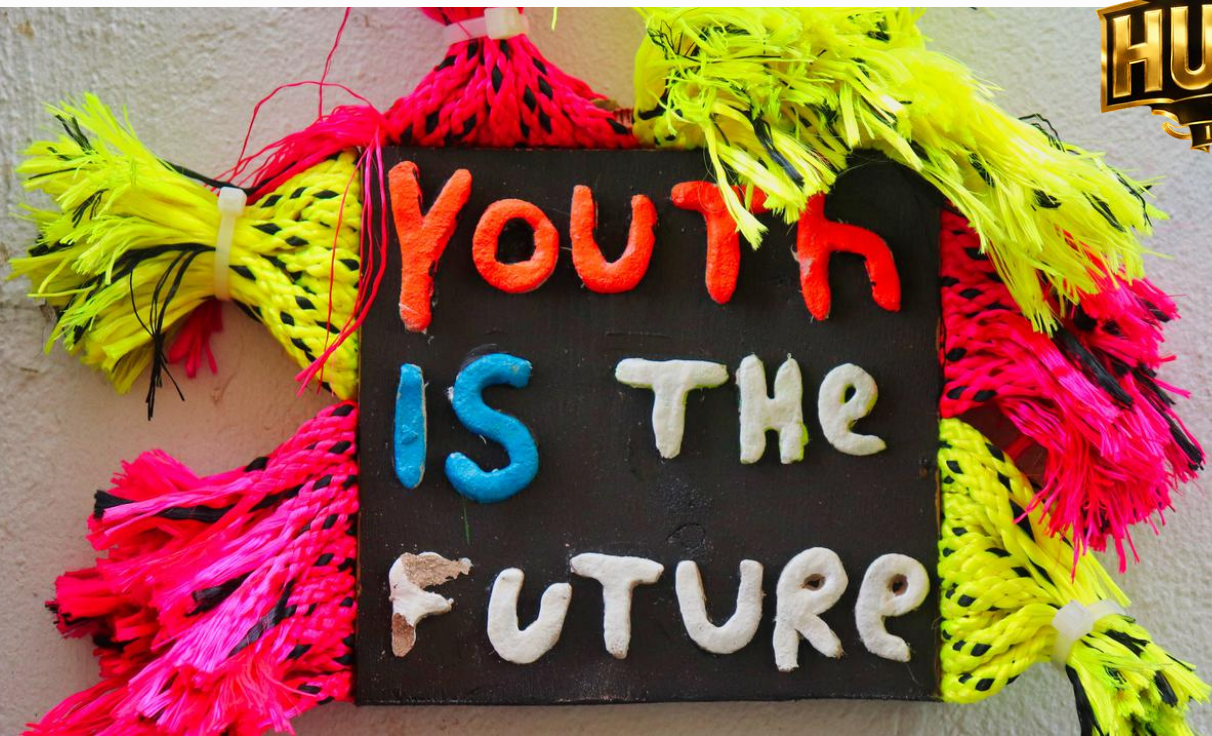
Fritz Park - Hutto Parks & Rec  
400 Park Ave, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST YOUTH SHOPPING**

Tiny Texan Exchange  
3333 Co Rd 119 #24, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST KIDS' MENU**

Chick-Fil-A  
200 Ed Schmidt Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634



# BEST OF HUTTO COMMUNITY

## **BEST NON-PROFIT**

Hutto Resource Center  
204 E Live Oak St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST CHURCH**

The Fellowship Church Hutto  
6655 US-79, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST NEIGHBORHOOD**

Riverwalk

## **BEST HUTTO CITIZEN**

Amy English

## **BEST APARTMENT COMMUNITY**

The Emory  
251 Carl Stern Dr, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST EMPLOYER**

HEB  
5000 Gattis School Rd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST NEW BUSINESS IN HUTTO**

Hooky Entertainment Hutto  
150 Alliance Blvd Ste 100, Hutto, TX 78634



# BEST OF HUTTO SERVICES

## **BEST AC COMPANY**

Green Leaf Plumbing AC, and Heating  
108 McNutt Rd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST ACCOUNTING SERVICE**

Jennifer L Brown, CPA, PLLC  
351 Exchange Blvd Ste 105, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST APPLIANCE REPAIR**

Santana's Appliance LLC  
santanasappliance.com

## **BEST BANK**

A+ Federal Credit Union  
141 Ed Schmidt Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST BARBER SHOP**

Thig's Diamond Haircuts Barbershop  
107 Taylor St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST CAR WASH**

WhiteWater Express Car Wash  
300 Ed Schmidt Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST CAREER SERVICES**

Vast HR  
stephanieawelt@gmail.com

## **BEST CHIROPRACTIC SERVICE**

Hutto Family Chiropractic  
105 Main St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST CLEANING COMPANY**

Jack's Helping Hands Cleaning  
jackshelpinghandscleaning.com

## **BEST DENTAL GROUP**

Hutto Premier Dentistry  
60 Chris Kelley Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST DOG GROOMING**

Happy Hounds Grooming  
560 US-79 #700, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST ELECTRICIAN**

SALT Plumbing, Air & Electric  
3071 Co Rd 100, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST EMBROIDERY**

Lone Star Hat Company  
Info@lonestarhatcompany.com

## **BEST FAMILY MEDICINE**

Austin Regional Clinic: Pediatrics  
151 Exchange Blvd Ste 500, Hutto, TX  
78634

## **BEST GYM**

HT Fitness  
101 Star Ranch Blvd N, Hutto, TX

## **BEST HAIR SALON**

The Studio Hair Nails & Skin  
3333 CR 119, Ste. 1, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST HANDYMAN**

The Handy Hippo  
thehandyhippo.com

## **BEST LODGING**

Victorian House of Hutto  
402 East St, Hutto, TX 78634

# BEST OF HUTTO SERVICES

## **BEST INSURANCE AGENT/AGENCY**

State Farm Agent Monica Story  
351 Exchange Blvd ste 210, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST LASHES**

B. Sweet Lash Wax & Medspa  
Co-Op Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST MARKETING AGENCY**

Blue Goat Marketing  
bluegoatmarketing.com

## **BEST MASSAGE THERAPY**

Ideal Massage & Headspa  
112 US-79, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST MOVING COMPANY**

Hutto Hippo Moving  
huttohippomoving.com

## **BEST NAIL SHOP**

Nexgen Spa and Nails  
5002 Gattis School Rd #130, Hutto, TX

## **BEST OPTOMETRIST**

Hutto Family Eye Care  
401 Exchange Blvd Bldg. 1, Hutto, TX

## **BEST PAINTER**

Hippo Painting  
hippopainting.com

## **BEST PARTY ENTERTAINMENT**

Emerald City Face Painting  
www.facebook.com/EmeraldCityFacePaint

## **BEST PEST CONTROL SERVICES**

Hutto Pest Control  
www.pestcontrolhuttotx.com

## **BEST PET BOARDING SERVICES**

Camp Bow Wow  
600 Lemens Ave #1000, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST PHOTOGRAPHER**

Sweet Daisies Photography  
mypixieset.com

## **BEST PHYSICAL THERAPIST**

Endeavor Physical Therapy  
210 Ed Schmidt Blvd Suite 250, Hutto, TX

## **BEST PILATES**

HOTWORX  
567 Chris Kelley Blvd Ste 102, Hutto, TX

## **BEST PLUMBING**

Honest Plumbing & Air  
112 McNutt Rd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST PRINTING SERVICES**

Fingerprint Ideas  
201 Taylor St a, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST REAL ESTATE AGENCY**

Hippo Realty, LLC  
453 Co Rd 135 Unit A, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST ROOFING**

The Roof Joker  
www.facebook.com/theroofjoker

# BEST OF HUTTO SERVICES

## **BEST SCREEN PRINTING SERVICES**

Hutto Screen Prints  
huttoscreenprints.com

## **BEST SKIN CARE**

Skyline Dermatology  
120 Chris Kelley Blvd Ste 100, Hutto, TX

## **BEST SPA SERVICE**

Hutto Brows & Spa  
525 Chris Kelley Blvd Ste 250, Hutto, TX

## **BEST STORAGE FACILITY**

Affordable Storage  
3333 Co Rd 119, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST TATTOO SERVICE**

East Street Tattoo  
204 West St, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST TRAVEL SERVICE**

Todd & Katy Robison, Dream Vacations  
bookournexttrip.com

## **BEST VEHICLE REPAIR SERVICE**

Hutto Automotive  
2009 Innovation Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

## **BEST YOGA**

Finding Balance Yoga  
531 Ed Schmidt Blvd Ste 120, Hutto, TX



SERVICE



# Meet Our **AWESOME** **TEAM MEMBERS!**



**Sydney**  
**iHutto**  
Founder



**Tara**  
**SignUp.com**  
Events & Organization



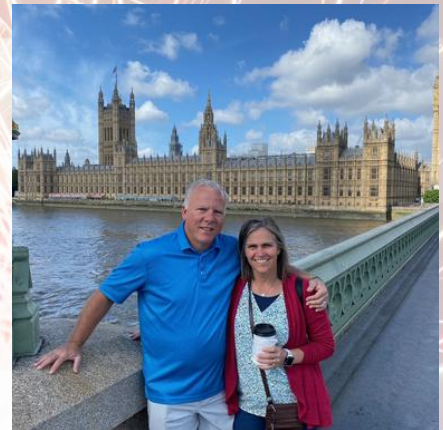
**William & Justine**  
**Sky Realty**  
Real Estate Experts



**Hannah**  
**Eden Phase**  
Women's Wellness



**Amberley**  
**Hutto Resident**  
Politics



**Todd & Katy**  
**Dream Vacations**  
Travel Experts

# Meet Our **AWESOME** **TEAM MEMBERS!**



**Pamela**  
**Hutto Resident**  
Local Recipes



**Phavana**  
**Owner of Oh My Tea**  
Foodie Spotlights



**Joseph & Daniela**  
**Hutto Soap & Candles**  
Lifestyle



**Leeya**  
**Healing Rabbit**  
Wellness Tips



**LaToya**  
**The Lunch Hour**  
Family Fun Ideas

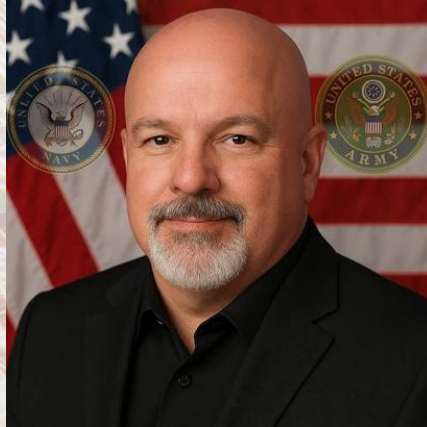


**Terry**  
**Author's Easel**  
Young Entrepreneurs

# Meet Our **AWESOME** **TEAM MEMBERS!**



**Mike**  
**Hutto Historian**  
History



**Kevin**  
**Hutto Resident**  
Hutto Happenings



**Chelsea**  
**Owner of Ideal Massage**  
Wellness



**Stephanie**  
**Vast HR**  
Jobs & Careers



**UJ**  
**Ujaval Tax Service**  
Financial Guidance



**Peter**  
**Hutto City Council News**

# EDITOR'S NOTE

## So, What Exactly is iHutto?

I'll be honest, iHutto started as a simple idea: keep our community connected in a way that actually feels real, not robotic. What it's grown into is something I'm incredibly proud of.

Around here, we don't just post content, we show up for Hutto. You may see us on social media motivating you in the mornings, making you laugh during the day, but always keeping you connected to Hutto businesses, events, and community happenings.

That connection shows up in everything we've built:

- **The Hutto Directory** helps you find exactly what you need locally without the endless scrolling.
- **Best of Hutto** gives the community a voice to celebrate their favorite businesses.
- **Hutto Magazine** highlights the stories, people, and places that make this town what it is.
- And our **iHutto Programs** are all about real-life impact, teaching life skills, sharing small business resources, and helping people move forward with confidence.

Let's be clear, iHutto isn't just some social media conglomerate (even though, yes, we love showing up there) or blog. It's a living, breathing reflection of this community and the people who make it what it is. And trust me, we're only getting warmed up.

*Love,  
Sydney*

"The digital town square for Hutto."

[www.iHutto.com](http://www.iHutto.com)

**Hutto**  
— MAGAZINE —

 **iHutto**

**WORDS OF GRATITUDE  
FROM OUR LEADERS**



“Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.”

— PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN

“The willingness of America's veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our lasting gratitude.”

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

“Freedom has a flavor the protected will never know.”

— PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

“This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.”

— PRESIDENT ELMER DAVIS

