

State of Texas *
*
County of Comal *

Proclamation

Recognizing Edgar Alfred Grist, DVM with a Texas Historical Commission Subject Marker

WHEREAS, Edgar Alfred Grist, DVM (1915-1994) has been awarded a Texas Historical Commission Subject Marker as he was determined to be a significant part of Texas history; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grist received his veterinary medicine degree from the Agricultural & Mechanical College of Texas (A&M) in 1937 and became the first veterinarian in Comal County opening his practice on June 25, 1937 on San Antonio Street, and shortly after setting up his practice, he met his wife, Betty Wille Grist after she brought her sister's dog to his practice, and they subsequently had four children, John, Eddy Beth, Charles, and Joseph; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grist also worked for the Texas State Health Department Food and Drug Division, in 1943 he was elected the Texas State Veterinarian, and during WWII he worked for the Procurement and Assignment Service; and

WHEREAS, in 1949 the Grists bought 20.3 acres on N. Live Oak Avenue and built the New Braunfels Veterinary Hospital along with a barn and their home, in the 1950's Dr. Grist battled rabies and anthrax outbreaks in the county and urged pet owners to get their animals vaccinated, and in 1955 Dr. Grist was appointed the city's meat inspector and visited the local slaughterhouses for inspections; and

WHEREAS, in 1959, after receiving a letter from his son, John describing German village festivals with sausage, beer, and dancing, he had the idea to replicate it in New Braunfels, a prolific sausage making area, and in 1961, what is now known as Wurstfest was born; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970's Dr. Grist retired from veterinary medicine after thirty-three years of practice and became the County Sanitarian and filled his last decades with civic/public service to include the New Braunfels Lions Club, New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, Wurstfest, the New Braunfels School Board, the Texas Veterinary Medical Association, and the American Veterinary Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, Edgar Alfred Grist's legacy lives on throughout the community and state; and

WHEREAS, the sponsors of the marker are Joseph and Susan Grist; and

WHEREAS, a marker dedication ceremony will be held on Sunday, June 2, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the Wurstfest grounds in New Braunfels, Texas, with the marker to be installed at a later date at 727 N. Live Oak Avenue, New Braunfels, where Dr. Grist had his veterinary practice for many years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Commissioners Court of Comal County and the Comal County Historical Commission wish to commend Joe and Susi Grist on their work towards receiving this marker and their dedication to historical preservation and recording the history of Comal County.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 30th day of May, 2024.


Sherman Krause, County Judge


Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct. 1

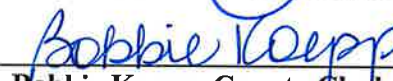

Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct. 2


Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct. 3


Jen Crossover, Commissioner Pct. 4



Attest:


Bobbie Koepp, County Clerk