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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Mayor, Council, City Staffers Help Seniors Spread Christmas Cheer

**Granbury, Texas** – Friday, Nov. 20 was one of those rare holiday amalgamations of perfect timing, weather and caring souls that came together to help the nearly one dozen residents and staff of Waterview – The Point senior living center to decorate the trees in the median between Highway 377 and Pearl Street.

Mayor Nin Hulett, Councilwoman Trish Reiner (Place 4), City Manager Chris Coffman,
Deputy City Manager Michael Ross and Granbury Parks Director Aaron McLain each played
integral roles in making the tree trimming a reality. After McLain received permission from the
Texas Department of Transportation, Reiner was able to schedule the event with the seniors. Then
she, Hulett, Coffman and Ross led the passing out and hanging of decorations with the Waterview
residents.

"It was an incredible experience for the residents of Waterview to be able to do something safe and bring some joy to what has been a dreary holiday season this year," Reiner said.

The tree trimming as a special event for the seniors, who have been living in lockdown conditions the last few months because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Tammy Love, Lifestyle Director at Waterview – The Point said that although the lockdown was recently lifted, residents have just now been able to resume outdoor activities.

"While we've been fortunate enough to keep (COVID-19) from coming in our community, it has been a very scary and anxious time for our Residents and their families," said. "We wanted to do something to bring a little cheer to the community. Thank you all so much for your help with (the event)."

Love said the event was inspired by a similar event on Loop 360 in Austin.

"It's a 20+ mile stretch of road where friends and families get together and decorate Christmas trees together. The first time I saw it, I was mesmerized. I've driven by that median a thousand times, but when I drove by it a few weeks ago something spoke to me.

"I probably made that circle five times picturing it (here in Granbury) in my head."

"We are so glad we could join the Waterview Senior Living group to participate in this wonderful Christmas decorating project," said Granbury Deputy City Manager Michael Ross. "At this time of year, we are so thankful for groups like these that truly represent what Granbury is all about."

"I think it's great that they were willing to decorate the trees. During these times of precaution, it allowed the residence of Waterview to get out and spread some Christmas cheer for many to enjoy," said City of Granbury Parks Director Aaron McLain.

Love and her residents were so happy with the outcome of Friday's event, they plan on turning it into an annual tradition. "I'd love to see it grow to be able to include families, once we get past the COVID-19 hurdle," she said.

For questions or more information please contact Granbury Public Information Officer Alex Southern at 817-573-6764 or at <a href="mailto:asouthern@granbury.org">asouthern@granbury.org</a>.

**Photo Captions:** (residents have asked that their last names not be used)

IMG\_4897 – Group photo including Councilwoman Trish Reiner, Mayor Hulett, Deputy City
Manager Michael Ross (back row with black shirt) and City Manager Chris Coffman (back row, next to last), along with the residents of Waterview – The Point senior living center'

**IMG\_4838** – Mayor Hulett (far right) helps Waterview – The Point senior living center residents (left to right) Kathy W., Zita D. and Bob K. prepare ornaments for the trees.

**IMG\_4894** – Councilwoman Trish Reiner helps beautify a lonely oak tree during the tree trimming ceremony.

**IMG\_4834** – Parks Director Aaron McLain gives Carol N. another ornament to decorate her tree.

**IMG\_4831** – Carol N. doing her part to spread Christmas cheer!