

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
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Tyler County Hospital
**Family
Medical Clinic**

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Medical Clinic**

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024 Visit us online at easttexasnews.com | [f tcbooster](https://www.facebook.com/tcbooster) 75¢ | VOLUME 98 NUMBER 33

Appraisals cause concern

Officials encourage taxpayers to protest values

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

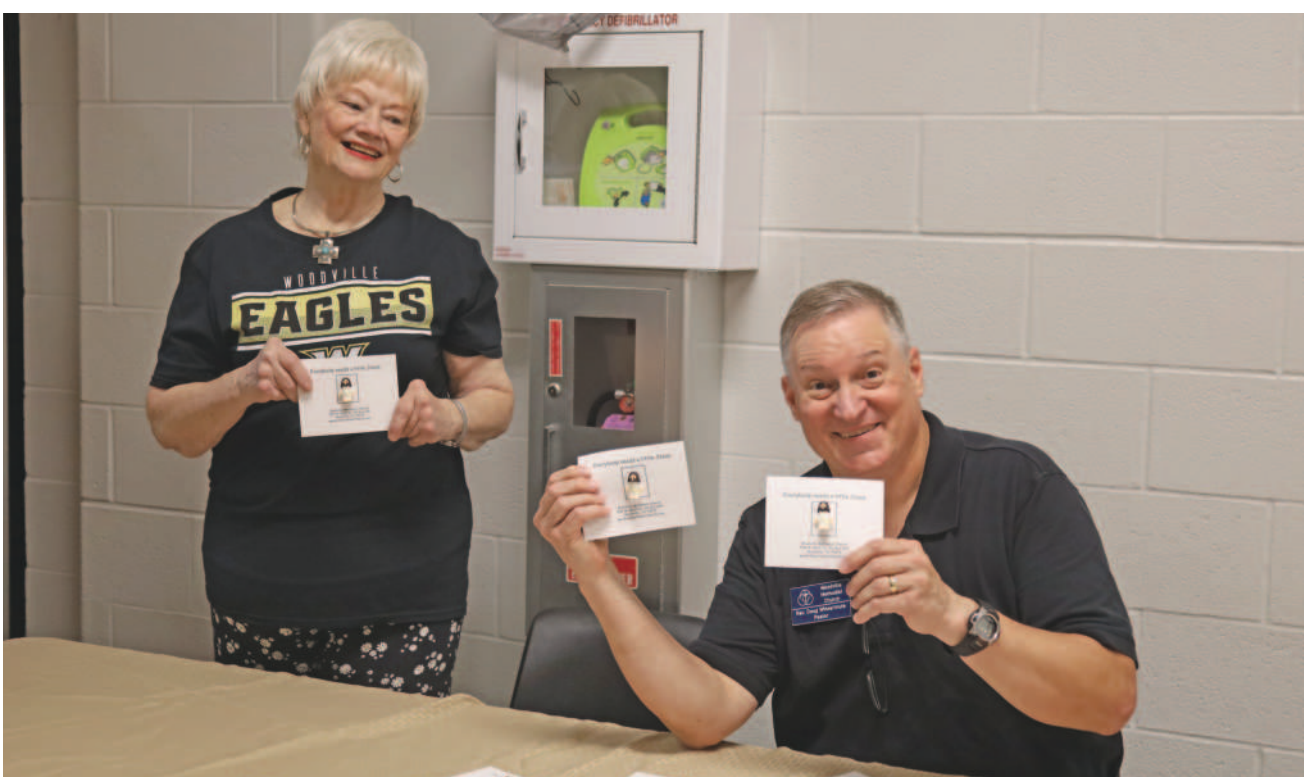
TYLER COUNTY – Many Tyler County residents received a shock by way of the mailbox. The certified preliminary values on tax-

able properties were sent out to county taxpayers last week, and some residents saw their appraised values increase by as much as twice what they were for the previous year's levy. Melissa Carson, the county's tax assessor-collector, urged everyone who received an

appraisal notice with an "enormous" increase to protest their value. "Please, please don't wait. There is a limited window in which to do this," she said. Taxpayers can protest online, or in person. Information as to how to protest and/or contact the county's appraisal office is

printed on the notices, and Carson offered her assistance. "If I or my office can be of any assistance, please feel free to call. Our number is 409-283-2734."

See **APPRAISALS** → Page 7A



A LITTLE JESUS
Dixie Jarrott and Rev. Doug Wintermute, of Woodville Methodist Church, handed out "a little Jesus" in the form of tiny figures of Jesus at the Meet the Eagles event held Monday evening at the Eagle Summit. DONNA HAMMER | TCB

County passes proposed budget

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – On Monday morning, Tyler County Judge Milton Powers presented the county's proposed budget for the 2025 fiscal year. Powers reminded everyone in attendance at the Commissioners Court meeting that, at this point, it is only a proposed budget, but that the filing deadline was approaching for the commissioners to approve the proposal, as of Monday. The final budget will be filed in two or three weeks, Powers said. The proposed budget for 2025 works off of a projection of \$12,406,643 for the general fund from total revenue sources for the county, with \$8,724,134 of that coming from ad valorem taxes, based on a tax rate of \$0.5619 per \$100 of valuation. That proposed tax rate is a decrease from the current tax rate for the general fund, of \$0.5807. Powers said, while bringing the budget proposal to the court's attention that there has been consternation among many Tyler County residents about appraisal increases, represented on certified preliminary values that went out to taxpayers from the appraisal district. Both Powers and Melissa Carson, with the tax assessor-collector's office, encouraged everyone to protest appraisals, if they believed them to be too high. Carson cited an increase in appraisals for both mobile homes and commercial properties. "Every two years the value of land changes and the value of a home changes," she said.

See **COUNTY** → Page 3A

FEMA assistance deadline this week

Special to the Booster

AUSTIN — Texas residents who were affected by the storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes and flooding this spring have until Thursday, Aug. 15 to apply for FEMA disaster assistance. Tyler County is included among the counties that are eligible for FEMA assistance, as designated for federal disaster

assistance, for incurring storm-related loss or damage between April 26 and June 5. Other counties include: Anderson, Austin, Bell, Calhoun, Collin, Cooke, Coryell, Dallas, Denton, Eastland, Ellis, Falls, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harris, Henderson, Hockley, Jasper, Jones, Kaufman, Lamar, Leon, Liberty, Montague, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Navarro.

See **DEADLINE** → Page 2A



A RARE SUMMER SIGHT
Nature photographer and avid outdoorsman Zach Carrell, of Warren, shot what he called a "bucket list photo" last week at the Watson Rare and Native Plant Preserve, near Warren on Lake Hyatt. Carrell said that the sight of Zebra Swallowtails feeding on rare Chapman's orchids was something he'd not seen. PHOTO BY ZACH CARRELL

Davis speaks to Lions about camp experience

By Michael G. Maness

WOODVILLE – Twelve-year-old Elijah Davis, of Woodville, told the Woodville Lions Club about his recent experience at the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville. He thanked the Lions Camp for all they did, and his mother, Sarah, fixed the evening's delicious meal at the club's regular second Thursday evening meeting, Aug. 8.

See **CAMP** → Page 3A

Woodville, Texas
75 CENTS



6 83135 00001 7
USPS 645-560



LAKE LEVELS

B.A. Steinhagen Lake Level:

- As of 8-13: 82.77 feet
- 97.2 % full

Sam Rayburn Reservoir Level:

- As of 8-13: 168.33 feet
- 100 % full

INSIDE

Opinions.....4A
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Real Estate.....10B

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 People you can talk to... Professionals you can depend on.
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 Direct Cremation \$1,295
 409-331-1322 | proctorsmortuary.com

LIFE TRIBUTES

Jason Lee Wentzel

Jason Lee Wentzel, 52, passed away on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at his home in Crosby, Texas. Jason was born in Annapolis Maryland on January 28, 1972.

He attended schools in Bay City, Texas and graduated High School in Mari-on, South Dakota.

After High School, Jason raised his hand and swore an oath to serve his country in the U.S Army. He attained the rank of Sergeant at the age of 20, one of the youngest ever to demonstrate the leadership skills necessary for such a promotion.

His service years took him to Fort Bliss, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, Korea, Guantanamo Bay, and was discharged from Fort Leonard Wood.

Jason excelled at whatever serious endeavors he attempted. He enthusiastically took on tasks and challenges at work, and all of his co-workers knew it would be handled well. His confidence and leadership brought him promotions and eventually starting his own company, Veterans Tapping Services.

He found and married his soulmate, Kahna Joy on April 29, 2015. They made a home out of a house in Crosby, Texas, which was completed by the birth of



his only son, his legacy, Jason Lee Wentzel II on March 23, 2023.

Jason Lee Wentzel is survived by the love of his life, wife Kahna Joy Wentzel, his son Jason Lee Wentzel II, stepsons, Dylan Lee Pool and Logan Thomas Satterwhite. Mother, Beverly Wentzel of Maryland, and Father, Gene Wentzel of South Dakota, adopted brother, Lee Wentzel and wife Cheryl.

We are comforted by the fact that cancer may have won the battle, but Jesus won the war.

Funeral service will be held Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 2 pm at the Riley Funeral Home with burial to follow at the Shady Grove Cemetery. Visitation will be held Wednesday from 1 pm until 2 pm at the funeral home. 305



Shirley McWilliams

Shirley McWilliams, 84, of Nederland, passed away peacefully Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at her home.

Funeral services were held at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Nederland at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 with burial at Beech Creek Cemetery in Spurger. Visitation was held on Monday, June 17, 2024 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Seventh Street Baptist Church.

Shirley was born in Port Arthur, Texas on November 26, 1939 to Hooks and Cordia Sheffield. She lived all over the country as a child but lived most of her young life in Spurger. She graduated as Valedictorian of Spurger High School, class of 1957. In 1958 she married Bobby McWilliams from Woodville and they moved to Nederland, Texas. She loved the Lord. She was a devoted member of Seventh Street Baptist Church and served as pianist and organist for over 60 years. She loved her Martha's class, the music program, and church fellowships. She loved reading the Victory Bible Reading Plan each year. She worked in medical records after studying at Lamar. She was also a business lady and owned the Christian Love Shop located in Central Mall. She loved Mary Kay Cosmetics and was a consultant for many years. She loved the Dallas Cowboys, Houston Astros, and Texas Aggies. She cheered on her favorite sports teams like no other!



She is survived by her loving husband of 66 years, Bobby McWilliams of Nederland; three sons, Monte McWilliams of Fannett, Kevin "Kicker" McWilliams and wife Pamala of Nederland, and Kelly McWilliams of Nederland; 4 Grandchildren, Devin McWilliams of Nederland, Kammie Trahan and husband Aaron of Port Neches; Brannon McWilliams of Nederland, and Colt McWilliams of Fannett; and 2 great grandchildren, Anna Trahan and Aubrey Trahan both of Port Neches; Sister-in-law, Erlene Ingle of Woodville. Numerous cousins, nephews and nieces who she loved.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her mother and father-in-law Arthur and Ava McWilliams; grandson Micah McWilliams; brother-in-law Bill McWilliams; Nephew Mark McWilliams; and Brandy Boykin loved as a daughter.

Shirley Ann was a devoted and loving wife, daughter, mother, Memaw, great Memaw, aunt, sister-in-law, and cousin. She will be missed, and her memory will be cherished. 362

Troy Shutter

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Troy Mason Shutter on 2024-08-02 in Universal City Texas. Troy Mason Shutter was born on 1946-09-13 in Jasper Texas. He was a Retired pipefitter and enjoyed military history, visiting with grandchildren, and road trips. He is survived by his sons David Gibson, Michael Shutter.

He also is survived by his grandchildren, Christian Gibson, Taylor Gibson, Elizabeth Gibson, Casey Gibson, Shelby Cook, Tristan Shutter, Aaron Shutter, Samantha Shutter Great grandchildren Martha Gibson, Mallory Gibson. He was preceded in death by Veronica Shutter to whom he was married to for 51 years. Funeral services will be held at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Date TBD 114



Allen Williamson, D.O. with Tyler County Hospital Family Medical Clinic spoke to the Rotary Club of Woodville about high blood pressure at last Wednesday's meeting at the Pickett House. MOLLIE LA SALLE | TCB

DEADLINE

continued from page 1A

Newton, Panola, Polk, San Jacinto, Rusk, Sabine, Smith, Terrell, Trinity, Van Zandt, Walker and Waller.

At press time, Tyler County Judge Milton Powers said that FEMA has helped county residents with more than \$2 million worth of assistance since the eligibility period began.

To apply for FEMA assistance, homeowners and renters can:

- Go online to disasterassistance.gov/
- Download the FEMA App for mobile devices
- Visit a Disaster Recovery Center
- Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. CT. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service, such as video relay (VRS), captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA your number for that service.

Deadline to apply is Thursday.

Disaster assistance is not a substitute for insurance and cannot compensate for all losses caused by a disaster. The assistance is intended to meet basic needs and supplement disaster recovery efforts. FEMA assistance is unable to duplicate benefits offered through insurance, state or other programs. However, if your losses or damage go beyond disaster assistance available from other sources – or include items or categories not covered by other assistance – you may be eligible for additional funds from FEMA. Even if you have already registered for the State of Texas's disaster program, you must also apply to FEMA to learn if you may be eligible to receive additional funds.

Low-interest loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) are another important form of federal disaster assistance. These loans are not just for businesses. Homeowners, renters and private nonprofit organizations can also apply. Residents and businesses referred by FEMA to SBA must also complete their loan application by the deadline.

For more information, go to: sba.gov/disaster, or call SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. or online at SBA's secure website: disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/

For more information about Texas disaster recovery, visit fema.gov/disaster/4781. Follow FEMA Region 6 on social media at x.com/FEMARegion6 and on Facebook at facebook.com/FEMARegion6/.

To view an accessible video about how to apply visit: Three Ways to Register for FEMA Disaster Assistance - YouTube.

POLITICAL CALENDAR
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE
 Trent Ashby (R)
 TYLER COUNTY SHERIFF
 Bryan Weatherford (R)
 Names within this calendar will appear in this column until election date. Candidates wishing to have their names appear in the calendar must contact the Tyler County Booster in person. Names are listed under each office according to the order in which candidates apply with the newspaper.

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news
 .com

AMERICAN LEGION
 ARGONNE POST 0299
 MICHAEL HOGAN, POST COMMANDER
 409.673.1001
 Meetings: Third Saturday of the month, 10am-11am
 Woodville Fire Station Training Room
 215 Walt Davis Drive

TYLER COUNTY NUTRITION CENTER SENIOR MENU
 AUGUST 19-23
Monday 8/1: Tuna Pasta Salad, Green Salad, Crackers, Oatmeal Cake, Exercise 9:30, Bingo 10:00
Tuesday 8/20: Sausage, Eggs, Fried Potatoes, Biscuit Gravy, Crafts 12:30
Wednesday 8/21: Loaded Nachos, Refried Beans, Salad, Penuche Bars, Exercise 9:30, Bingo 10:00
Thursday 8/22: Chicken Sandwich, Pasta Salad, Cucumber/Tomatoes, Buttermilk Pie Bars
Friday 8/23: Fish or Chicken, French Fries, Slaw, Hushpuppies, Assorted Dessert Choice, Exercise 9:30
 Chef Salads offered Tuesday and Thursday.
SENIORS 60+ \$3 • UNDER 60 YRS. OLD \$10
SERVING TIME: 11:30-12:30 M-F
ALL MEALS ARE TO BE CONSUMED AT THE CENTER.
 201 Veterans Way | Woodville, TX 75979
 409-283-2400

Allan Shivers Library & Museum
 Thank you to all the donors to the Summer Reading Program. Your generosity helped make the program a great success for the children of Tyler County!
Upcoming Events
 •Aug 15 (Th): TDCJ Recruiting; 9am-3pm
 •Aug 15 (Th): Diamond Painting; 1-3pm; kit available for \$5 donation to library
 •Aug 15 (Th): Computer Class; 1-4pm
 •Aug 16 (Fri): Used Book Sale; 9am-4pm
 •Aug 17 (Sat): Adult Craft Time; noon-1pm
 •Aug 19 (Mon): Needles and Pins Quilting Bee; 9am-1pm; new members welcome
 •Aug 20 (Tu): Senior Reading Group; noon-2pm; new members welcome
 We offer book checkout, ebooks, hotspots, DVDs, children's room, story time, and more. Use our computers, send a fax, print and copy documents, or relax with a book or magazine. For information, visit the Library, call (409) 283-3709, email ashivers.library@yahoo.com, view our website at www.allanshiverslibrary.com or see Facebook at "Allan Shivers Library and Museum". Support our programs through volunteering and donations.
 Free Museum admission for individuals, families and small groups. Self-guided tours available Tues-Fri 10am-3pm; Sat 10am-2pm. Fee charged for docent-led and group (over 10 people/reservation required) tours. Donations accepted.
 We hope to see you soon!

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TYLER COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR AUGUST 15-21 Information sourced from weather.com

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
97°/74°	98°/75°	98°/74°	98°/75°	98°/75°	96°/75°	98°/73°
Chance of Rain 12%	Chance of Rain 8%	Chance of Rain 9%	Chance of Rain 16%	Chance of Rain 10%	Chance of Rain 10%	Chance of Rain 20%
Wind SSW 6 mph	Wind SW 5 mph	Wind SW 4 mph	Wind WSW 4 mph	Wind NNW 4 mph	Wind WSW 4 mph	Wind SW 5

Forecast Fire Danger twc.tamu.edu
 Fire Danger Rating: Low (Green), Moderate (Yellow), High (Orange), Very High (Red), Extreme (Dark Red)



BIG WOODS TRAIL PHOTO WINNER ANNOUNCED

The Tyler County Art League Judge selected this photo of a brilliant orange mushroom as the Big Woods Nature Trail Photo-of-the-Month. Elizabeth Frederick submitted the photo. Walking the shaded Big Woods Nature Trail is a wonderful treat to yourself after a delicious meal at the Pickett House Restaurant. The trail kiosk, which is located across from the restaurant, displays a map from which you can chart your path through the woods. There are benches on which you to rest and reflect and there are wayfinding signs so that you never get lost. Be sure to snap photos of beautiful sites that catch your attention and submit them to the Photo-of-the-Month contest. Details are on the kiosk.



Triple Creek to host Three D Bluegrass

From Staff Reports

WOODVILLE – The Three D Bluegrass band will appear at Triple Creek RV Park on Saturday, August 24. The band is described as “explosive” onstage, and promise great music, great performances and great talent. Triple Creek RV Park invites everyone to come out and welcome Dennis; Don; Donna; Will and Brad back to the Triple Creek stage. The fun begins at 5 p.m. with a potluck, followed by the show at 6 p.m. and a jam session to follow at 7 p.m. There will also be a potluck on Friday, August 23, so please bring a dish to share. These are free events.

CAMP

continued from page 1A

Davis excitedly shared how he loved the rock climbing, archery, pool, and camping out under the stars. Over 100 other children with diabetes were sponsored by Lions Clubs throughout Texas for a week of fun and diabetic education.

Davis shared about his Type 1 diabetes that is currently incurable, though Type 2 can be managed with diet and exercise.

Davis’ mother stepped up to aid her son, showing his “hardware” which helps him keep an eye on his glucose level and a pump that injects insulin. She said she was so thankful to the Lions and so proud of her son, and mentioned how independent he was as he learned how to know when his body’s chemistry was off and what to do.

Davis was all smiles, energetic, and reading from his cell phone notes he had prepared. He praised the counselors and doctors at the camp, all of which reinforced the training he has been mastering all of his young life.

Woodville Lion, and past District Governor Jerry Loos was appointed district chair for the fundraiser on behalf of young Davis. His family has raised \$12k of the \$25k needed for a diabetic dog, and the Lions District has raised \$8k, with only \$5k left to go. If you are interested in helping young Davis get a diabetic doggy, you can contact Loos at 707-338-1969

The Lions Camp in Kerrville hosts several types of week-long “camps” every summer at no cost to the families, twelve types this year from June through August. Local Lions Clubs all over Texas support the Texas Lions Camp, and some even pay for the family’s travel expenses from time to time.

So far, the Lions Camp has served over 83k campers with diabetes, down syndrome, and other disabilities. More information can be found at LionsCamp.com.

JAIL BOOKINGS

Jail Booking Report for August 5 – 11

- Ashley Renee Billiot, 43, of Fred** – Possession of controlled substance PG 1/1-B <1G
- Dwayne Ray Cobb, 47, of Burkeville** – Criminal mischief >=\$100<\$750; Unlawful use of criminal instrument
- Brandon Kyle Colotta, 37, of Fred** – Man/del of controlled substance PG 2 or 2-A >=4G<400G; Man/del of controlled substance PG 2 or 2-A >=400G; Possession of marijuana <=5- lbs >5 lbs.
- Jennifer Lamb Colotta, 37, of Fred** – Man/del of controlled substance PG 2 or 2-A >=4G<400G; Man/del of controlled substance PG 2 or 2-A >=400G; Possession of marijuana <=5- lbs >5 lbs.
- Curtis Lee Crutcher, 62, of Orange** – Arson – blue warrant
- Matthew Cody Dent, 38, of Woodville** – Burglary of building
- Bonnie Lada, 33, of Livingston** – Theft of property >=\$100<\$750
- Jason Byron McCauley, 21, of Bellville** – Possession of controlled substance PG 1/1-B<1G/motion to adjudicate

COUNTY

continued from page 1A

“From what I’m looking at and the way [the appraisals] have gone up, please go protest,” Powers said. “The only word I can think of is ‘ridiculous,’” he added, referring to some of the increases he’d seen.

Election items discussed

Several items for ballots within the county for the coming November general election were discussed at Monday’s meeting.

An order to place a local option election for or against the sale of malt beverages and wine for off-premise consumption within precinct 1 was approved. The measure needed 698 signatures to get on the ballot, and Judge Powers said that more than 700 qualified signatures were verified.

Another ballot measure in Pct. 1, from a petition to prohibit certain animals from running at large, failed due to a lack of signatures. Those animals included horses; mules; jacks; jennys; donkeys; hogs; sheep and goats.


In Pct. 2, a petition to prohibit certain animals from running at large did pass. That item, as well as a stock law election pertaining to cattle, also for Pct. 2, will be on the ballot in November.

Other Business

- The contract between all four Justice of the Peace offices and Net Data i3 Verticals for i-Ticket capability was approved. This was initially approved in April, but the contract was not signed. Pct. 1 JP Tina Self said that the i-Ticket process will allow those who need to pay fines with debit cards to do so.

- The resignations of ESD #2 board members Raymond H. Wooten; Henry E. Sawyer, Jr.; Shay Dozier and Robert Perkins was approved. The subsequent appointment of Jeff Burnthorn; Wayne Rawls; Brandon Guillory and Melody Hall to replace those board members was also approved.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 | 10 AM-4M


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OPINION

Cheers and Jeers: A look at a few newsmakers

Well, folks, summer's Dog Days are officially upon us, although here in Deep East Texas, the mercury hasn't yet clamored to numbers that I really don't care to imagine.

With that in mind, let's take a look at a few newsmakers and things going on in our area, state and country that your humble scrivener can either boo and hiss or give a "hip, hip hooray!" shout to. It's all part of this experiment in news commentary on the op-ed page we like to call Cheers and Jeers, so here we go.

Cheers to a fine celebration for a fine man – As former president Jimmy Carter approaches 100 years of age on Oct. 1, historians and pundits, alike, are reevaluating his legacy, and preparations are being made to celebrate his milestone birth anniversary. One such event, which is set to take place at Atlanta's Fox Theatre on Sept. 17, celebrates Carter's love of music.

Titled "Jimmy Carter 100: A Celebration in Song," the event has a stellar lineup, including Chuck Leavell, Drive-By Truckers, Eric Church and others. Known by some as the "Rock and Roll President," Carter's love of rock music and friendships with down-to-earth legends such as Willie Nelson, the Allman Brothers and Johnny Cash made him seem all the more accessible and a man after the people's own hearts.

Carter's fine taste in music is almost as legend-



Meditations 'n Musings

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

ary as his kindness and intellect. Who can't appreciate someone who loves Willie Nelson, the Allman Brothers and Johnny Cash? Heck, I'll even give him a pass for his love of U2, because, well, he's Jimmy Carter.

Cheers to candidates actually agreeing on something – As the presidential race ramps up, it is easy to forget that in 2024, candidates still occasionally speak to actual issues on the campaign trail. In a rare (for this day and age) display of agreeance, both former president Donald Trump and vice president/presumptive Democratic nominee Kamala Harris have backed the elimination of taxes on tips for hospitality and service workers. Trump first suggested the policy while campaigning, and Harris lent support to the idea this week.

While a president cannot, unilaterally, elimi-

nate a type of tax, whoever is elected in November can set the tone, and hopefully get the legislative branch to commit to fight for working families.

Jeers to ultra-processed foods – A recent study found that eating higher levels of ultra-processed food may shorten lifespans by more than 10%. The study, which followed more than 500,000 people for nearly three decades, showed that, among findings, diet soft drinks and sugary soft drinks topped the list of foodstuffs that could decrease a person's lifespan, followed closely by ultra-processed breads and baked goods. The risks, according to the study, goes up 15% for men and 14% for women.

What's the old adage about everything that's enjoyable either being fattening, taxable, sinful, or, well, deadly?

Cheers to the return of Sturgill Simpson – The mercurial but incredible country star is back to touring and making music, albeit under a new nom-de-tune: Johnny Blue Skies.

Simpson, whose future in music was unsure after a vocal cord hemorrhage in 2021, released a new album, Passage De Desir, on July 12, and has embarked on the "Why Not?" tour last week.

See **CHEERS** → Page 7A

GOVERNMENT

U.S. PRESIDENT
Joseph R. Biden
The White House,
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
Comments #: 202-456-1111

GOVERNOR
Greg Abbott
PO Box 12428 Austin, TX
78711-2428
Phone: 800-843-5789

US SENATORS
John Cornyn
5300 Memorial Dr., Ste 900
Houston, TX 77007
713-572-3337

Ted Cruz
The Mickey Leland
Federal Building,
1919 Smith St., Suite 9047,
Houston, TX 77007
713-718-3057

CONGRESS
US Congressman 36th Dist.
Brian Babin
Tyler County Courthouse
100 W. Bluff St.
Woodville, TX 75979
409-331-8066

STATE SENATOR
District 3
Robert Nichols:
2915 Atkinson Dr.
Lufkin, TX 75901
936-699-4988

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
District 57
Trent Ashby:
2915 Atkinson Dr.
Lufkin, TX 75901
936-634-2762

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
District 7
Matt Robinson
313 FM 517 W
Dickinson, TX 77539
281-635-1962
matt.robinson@tea.texas.gov

TYLER COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Lucas Babin:
409-283-8136

TYLER COUNTY SHERIFF
Bryan Weatherford:
409-283-2172

COUNTY JUDGE:
Milton Powers
Phone: 409-283-2141

COMMISSIONERS
300 W Bluff St.
Woodville, TX 75979
Pct. 1 Joe Blacksher:
409-283-7013

Pct. 2 Doug Hughes:
409-283-7013

Pct. 3 Mike Marshall:
409-283-7623

Pct. 4 Charles "Buck" Hudson:
409-283-7013

CITY OF CHESTER:
• Mayor Robert Poynter
• City Hall: 936-969-2360

CITY OF COLMESNEIL
• Mayor Duane Crews
• City Hall: 409-837-5211

CITY OF IVANHOE
• Mayor Skip Blackstone
• City Hall: 409-283-3299

CITY OF WOODVILLE:
• Mayor Amy Bythewood
• City Hall: 409-283-2234

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Pct 1
Judge Tina Self
409-283-3631

Pct 2
Judge Ken Jobe
409-283-6320

Pct 3
Judge Mike Hughes
409-283-6320

Pct 4
Judge James "Jim" D. Moore
409-429-3488

CONSTABLES
Pct 1 Ronnie Ford
Pct 2 Casey Whitworth
Pct 3 Tony Reynolds
Pct 4 Anthony Ross

MEETINGS
County • City
School Board

COMMISSIONERS COURT
2nd Monday • 10am
CITY OF CHESTER
1st Monday • 6pm

CHESTER ISD
2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF COLMESNEIL
2nd Tuesday • 7pm

COLMESNEIL ISD
2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF IVANHOE
3rd Thursday • 6pm

SPURGER ISD
3rd Thursday • 7pm
WARREN ISD
4th Monday

CITY OF WOODVILLE
2nd Monday • 6pm
WOODVILLE ISD
3rd Monday • 7pm

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hello everyone,

Our country is at a crossroads that we can't allow to just pass us by. It will take each of us doing everything we can to save AMERICA!

We are at a place in our Country's history that if we don't ALL join to make sure this election is too BIG to RIG!

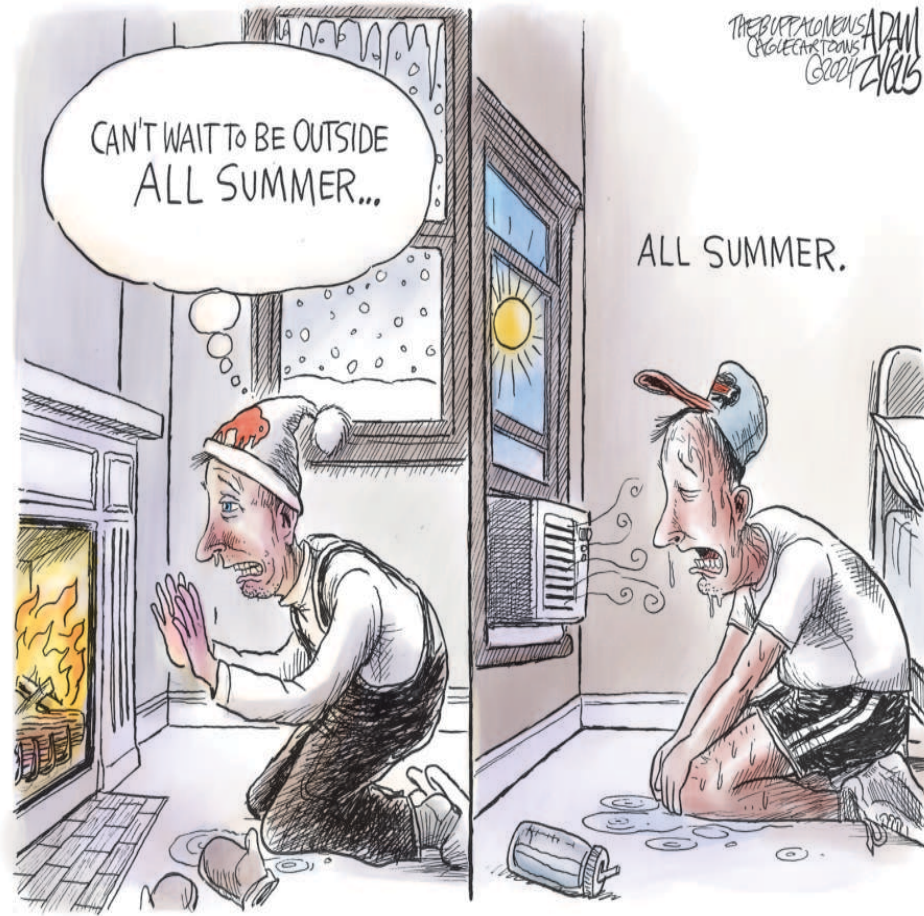
I believe that we will lose the fabric of what truly makes America great. "We the people" still believe in the founding principles of our great nation. Nothing changes that unless we don't act now. There are only 86 days left, not a minute to waste.

Everyone that reads this letter can joined us at a meeting or an event. I know our schedules are busier than ever, our time needs divided among so many things it feels like there is no time to add anything else, however if we lose our country what difference does the rest of it matter?

Whether it's the TRUMP Train, the Patriots Day celebration, making phone calls, writing letters, planning programs, designing flyers we need your help. All of you! We are meeting at the Allan Shivers Library, the second Thursday monthly at 6 p.m. in the reading room.

Won't YOU answer this call to action.

Melda Siebe
President, Tyler County Republican Women
Woodville, TX 75979



A short moment to pause and reflect

There are times, so many times, that I get so completely overwhelmed with the rampant insanity that passes for politics that I have to take what Berke Breathed calls "a dandelion break," or step off to clear the channels of thought.

See, we're ramping up the clown cars and circus acts toward the November election, and I'm a little overwhelmed with things that I can't believe actually happened, and I want to decompress.

So, given that all the children are now back in school, I will inundate myself with movies about school.

Of course, at the top of my, and hopefully everyone's, list is "Grease." I even hear that song "Back to School" every August when the ducklings head back to the halls of learning.



My Two Common Sense

By Tony Farkas
tony@polkcountypublishing.com

The lead male, played by John Travolta, was well-cast, since he got his start in the classroom in the wonderful "Welcome Back, Kotter" sitcom. Yes, he was the lead Sweathog, and once done, gravitated to singing, so he was a lock. No one else

can hold a candle to Olivia Newton-John's Sandy, especially in those final numbers. Still not sure why they cast then-33-year-old Stockard Channing as a high school student, but hey, the movie was good enough to suspend that disbelief.

Heath Ledger had an amazing turn in a lot of movies, but the first time I saw him act was in "10 Things I Hate About You." The longer that movie went on, the more it seemed familiar; eventually, I pieced together that the whole thing was inspired

by Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," with Julia Stiles as in the Katharina role and Ledger as Petruchio.

Two movies off the beaten path but extremely good Saturday afternoon popcorn fare are "My Science Project" and "Real Genius" (not to be confused with "Weird Science," which was its own version of strange).

For the first movie, a kid finds some alien artifact while looking for a slam dunk science grade, which warps the entire school into an alien/post-apocalyptic nightmare scenario, and the kids have to battle their way through ever-increasing bad times to win the day. Fisher Stevens does a remarkable turn as that kid — the one you know was born to handle weird. For the second, Val Kilmer does what he does best — chew the scenery while inventing a laser, which was eventually used to fill a house with popcorn.

See **REFLECT** → Page 7A

TYLER COUNTY'S FINANCIAL CHALLENGES: A call for community action

By Sal Baldovinos

It's time for an open and honest discussion about the current state of affairs in Tyler County. Our community is facing significant challenges that require our immediate attention and action.

Property Tax Appraisals

The recent tax appraisals have raised considerable concern among Tyler County residents. Many property owners are seeing values

double from last year, with some experiencing even more substantial increases of up to five times their previous assessments. This dramatic rise in property valuations is putting a significant strain on many households.

Unfortunately, the County's response has been less than proactive. Instead of addressing the issue head-on, there's been a tendency to deflect responsibility, often pointing to Austin or the Tax Appraisal Office. This approach does little to

alleviate the financial pressure on our residents.

County Budget Concerns

The county's financial management is another area of growing concern. There's a pattern of overspending, with the budget increasing by over \$1 million each year to cover deficits. This continuous expansion of the budget is unsustainable and puts a heavy burden on taxpayers.

Adding to this financial strain,

our school districts are competing for limited tax dollars. The reality is that our current tax base can barely support one school district adequately, let alone multiple districts vying for the same resources.

Highway Expansion Impact

The highway expansion project, which has completed its environmental impact studies, is set to bring significant changes

See **ACTION** → Page 7A

TYLER COUNTY BOOSTER

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50.280 (Rev. 4/22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The CHESTER ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00PM 08/26/2024 in LIBRARY, 273 YELLOW JACKET DRIVE CHESTER, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$.7550 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$.3000 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Table with 3 columns: Category, % increase, % decrease. Rows: Maintenance and operations, Debt service, Total expenditures.

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

Table with 3 columns: Category, Preceding Tax Year, Current Tax Year. Rows: Total appraised value* of all property, Total appraised value* of new property**, Total taxable value*** of all property, Total taxable value*** of new property**.

* Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** New property is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** Taxable value is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 5,115,000

* Outstanding principal.

50.280 (Rev. 4/22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

Table with 6 columns: Category, Maintenance & Operations, Interest & Sinking Fund*, Total, Local Revenue Per Student, State Revenue Per Student. Rows: Last Year's Rate, Rate to Maintain Same, Proposed Rate.

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

Table with 3 columns: Category, Last Year, This Year. Rows: Average Market Value of Residences, Average Taxable Value of Residences, Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value, Taxes Due on Average Residence, Increase (Decrease) in Taxes.

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.0901. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 1.0901.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Table with 2 columns: Category, Amount. Rows: Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s), Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s).

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

50.280 (Rev. 4/22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The COLMESNEIL ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:30PM 08/29/2024 in BOARD ROOM, HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS COLMESNEIL, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.6814 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.0000 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Table with 3 columns: Category, % increase, % decrease. Rows: Maintenance and operations, Debt service, Total expenditures.

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

Table with 3 columns: Category, Preceding Tax Year, Current Tax Year. Rows: Total appraised value* of all property, Total appraised value* of new property**, Total taxable value*** of all property, Total taxable value*** of new property**.

* Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** New property is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** Taxable value is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 728,881

* Outstanding principal.

50.280 (Rev. 4/22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

Table with 6 columns: Category, Maintenance & Operations, Interest & Sinking Fund*, Total, Local Revenue Per Student, State Revenue Per Student. Rows: Last Year's Rate, Rate to Maintain Same, Proposed Rate.

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

Table with 3 columns: Category, Last Year, This Year. Rows: Average Market Value of Residences, Average Taxable Value of Residences, Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value, Taxes Due on Average Residence, Increase (Decrease) in Taxes.

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.7668. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.7668.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Table with 2 columns: Category, Amount. Rows: Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s), Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s).

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The SPURGER ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00PM 08/29/2024 in JOHN MOONEY HICKS BUILDING

SPURGER, TX. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.7510 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.1400 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	<u>.03</u>	% increase	or	<u>.00</u>	% (decrease)
Debt service	<u>.02</u>	% increase	or	<u>.00</u>	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>.05</u>	% increase	or	<u>.00</u>	% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ <u>188,820,021</u>	\$ <u>199,493,142</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>5,548,208</u>	\$ <u>3,561,028</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>100,830,387</u>	\$ <u>100,356,515</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>4,486,551</u>	\$ <u>3,458,823</u>

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 1,180,000

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.7510	\$ 0.16000 *	\$ 0.9110	\$ 2,535	\$ 13,330
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.8798	\$ 0.1696 *	\$ 1.0495	\$ 2,805	\$ 13,045
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.7510	\$ 0.1400 *	\$ 0.8910	\$ 2,533	\$ 13,133

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 125,135	\$ 135,217
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 38,385	\$ 45,708
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.9110	\$ 0.8910
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 350	\$ 407
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 58

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.9098. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.9098.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 4,753,226
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 32,986

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The WARREN ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00PM AUGUST 26, 2024 in WARREN ISD BOARD ROOM

WARREN, TX. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.7552 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.3600 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	<u>2.7</u>	% increase	or	<u>.00</u>	% (decrease)
Debt service	<u>.00</u>	% increase	or	<u>.005</u>	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>2.7</u>	% increase	or	<u>.005</u>	% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ <u>657,499,818</u>	\$ <u>705,636,648</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>6,714,113</u>	\$ <u>15,515,312</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>369,786,654</u>	\$ <u>372,401,324</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>5,287,081</u>	\$ <u>13,857,763</u>

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 17,285,945

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.7837	\$.3600 *	\$ 1.1437	\$ 3,484	\$ 9,945
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.7552	\$.3600 *	\$ 1.1152	\$ 2,909	\$ 10,450
Proposed Rate	\$.7552	\$.3600 *	\$ 1.1152	\$ 2,909	\$ 10,450

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 363,790	\$ 368,383
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 172,482	\$ 146,161
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.1437	\$ 1.1152
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,973	\$ 1630
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ -343

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.1609. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 1.1609.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 6,087,884
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 998,401

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

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The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

ACTION

continued from page 4A

to our area. The plans include routing through Hillister and bypassing Woodville on the west side. While infrastructure improvements can bring benefits, they can also pose challenges to local economies if not managed carefully.

There are concerns that these changes, combined with our current financial trajectory, could push Woodville towards financial instability. This situation calls for strategic planning and decisive action from our county leadership.

Leadership and Fiscal Management

Questions are being raised about the fiscal management skills of our county leadership. The county judge, who essentially serves as our CFO, may not have the financial background necessary to navigate these complex economic challenges. While all honest work is respectable, managing a county budget requires specific skills and experience that may be lacking in our current leadership.

A Path Forward: Community Action Steps

Increase Civic Engagement: Attend County Commissioner meetings regularly. Ask informed questions about budget allocations and tax increases. Your presence and voice matter.

Communicate with Local Officials: Reach out to your representatives through calls, emails, or letters. Express your concerns and

ask for detailed plans to address these issues.

Form Community Action Groups: Organize groups focused on researching and proposing solutions to our county's challenges. Leverage the diverse skills and knowledge within our community.

Support Local Economy: With the upcoming bypass, our local businesses need community support more than ever. Make a conscious effort to shop locally when possible.

Educate Yourself: Take time to understand county finances, tax laws, and local governance. An informed citizenry is crucial for effective democracy.

Consider Civic Participation: If you have relevant skills and a passion for community service, consider running for local office. Fresh perspectives and expertise are valuable in times of change.

Tyler County is at a critical juncture. The decisions and actions we take now will shape the future of our community. It's crucial that we come together, engage in constructive dialogue, and work towards solutions that ensure the long-term viability and prosperity of our county.

This is not about assigning blame, but about recognizing the challenges we face and taking responsible action. We have the power to influence the direction of our community, but it requires active participation from all of us.

Let's commit to being part of the solution. The future of Tyler County depends on our collective effort and engagement. The time to act is now.

and the Red Sox lost 10-2 to the 'Stros.

Jeers to typical August weather in East Texas – As summer continues, and the Dog Days are here with August, forecasts are calling for muggy mornings, in the 70s, and steadily climbing daytime temps into the upper 90s. If there's a silver lining to be found, at least we're not suffering through the kind of oppressive heat and rainless streak of last year.

Cheers to an early roll-out on pumpkin spice products – In a move sure to confuse a good many folks, IHOP, Krispy Kreme and others are rolling out that quintessential fall flavor early. That's right, pumpkin spice season is here early. Krispy Kreme announced the return of its pumpkin spice cake doughnut and latte this week, while IHOP will launch its pumpkin spice line of products Sept. 1. Personally, I could not care less about pumpkin spice anything, but if consumers want such products, then, by golly, they should be able to get them whenever they want them. That, and just imagining the brains of basic whitegirls short circuiting from this news amuses me greatly.

APPRAISALS

continued from page 1A

The county's chief appraiser David Luther met with the commissioners and County Judge Milton Powers after a recess period from Monday morning's regular meeting of the Tyler County Commissioners Court. Luther used the opportunity to explain the increase in appraisals.

Powers said he'd received quite a few phone calls from constituents who'd found their values had gone up exponentially.

Luther said the increases are mostly with mobile home owners. He said the appraisal district changed its schedule for mobile homes. He said that although there are variables determining the market values for mobile homes. "In my research, not all mobile homes are the same," Luther said.

Luther said the appraisal district had to use an average to calculate the appraisals.

"It's real important that they (taxpayers) contact us," Luther said. He emphasized that many older mobile homes are "treated differently," for appraisal purposes than more recent builds, and mobile home owners who contact the appraisal district can get on the list so that their claims can be checked.

As far as non-mobile homes go, Luther said that market has "leveled out," and the appraisal district made no changes on those. Some, he said, went down in appraised values.

Sondra Williams spoke about her tax appraisal notice, which showed where her market value had decreased, but her appraisal went up in excess of \$46K.

The house, Williams said, was built in

2016, prior to valuations increasing.

Pct. 1 Commissioner Joe Blacksher also spoke about his tax statement, which showed his home's value having gone down, but an increase in his taxes.

Luther said the schedules for appraisals comes from manuals, which are used nationally. The information from those sources are incorporated into the appraisal district's software when appraising both residential and commercial properties, Luther said.

"What effects our taxpayers effects this court," Powers said.

Luther encouraged anyone to protest their appraisals, which can be done a number of ways, by protesting online through the Tyler County Appraisal District website, at <https://eprotest.tylercad.net>, or calling the district at 409-283-3736.

Powers spoke to the confusing nature of the method of appraisals, and referred to the information presented as "clear as mud."

Powers issued an open letter to constituents on Tuesday, which he said was to express his concern and disappointment with the significant increases in appraisal values.

"The Tyler County Commissioners Court shares my frustration, and we want to encourage each of you to take action by protesting these high numbers," he wrote.

In the letter, Powers stated that it is "essential" to address the issue, and encouraged everyone who found themselves with a massive increase to their tax bill to protest their property value with the Tyler County Appraisal District before the Sept. 6, 2024 deadline.

CHEERS

continued from page 4A

Sturgill, who was always cagey about continuing to make music under his own name, even before the vocal chord issue, is back, and no matter what name he's operating under, you can rest assured that it'll be incredible.

Jeers to public displays of bigoted behavior – The Boston Red Sox suspended their All-Star outfielder Jarren Duran for two games after he was heard yelling a vile homophobic slur at a fan on Sunday, while at bat against the Houston Astros. Duran later apologized for the incident and to the Red Sox organization.

People are strange creatures at times and say/do inappropriate things in the heat of the moment, but still, there's no excuse for bigotry. If there is a silver lining, however, the Red Sox donated Duran's two-game salary to a group called PFLAG (Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)

and the Red Sox lost 10-2 to the 'Stros.

Jeers to typical August weather in East Texas – As summer continues, and the Dog Days are here with August, forecasts are calling for muggy mornings, in the 70s, and steadily climbing daytime temps into the upper 90s. If there's a silver lining to be found, at least we're not suffering through the kind of oppressive heat and rainless streak of last year.

Cheers to an early roll-out on pumpkin spice products – In a move sure to confuse a good many folks, IHOP, Krispy Kreme and others are rolling out that quintessential fall flavor early. That's right, pumpkin spice season is here early. Krispy Kreme announced the return of its pumpkin spice cake doughnut and latte this week, while IHOP will launch its pumpkin spice line of products Sept. 1. Personally, I could not care less about pumpkin spice anything, but if consumers want such products, then, by golly, they should be able to get them whenever they want them. That, and just imagining the brains of basic whitegirls short circuiting from this news amuses me greatly.

REFLECT

continued from page 4A

I can never choose between "Lean on Me" with Morgan Freeman and "Stand and Deliver" with Edward James Olmos. The scene when Freeman first hears the reworked Alma Mater was transportive, and the compassion and empathy, as well as tough love, exhibited by Olmos with the students he worked with was inspirational. We'll just watch them both, I'm thinking.

Honorable mentions would go to "Rock

'n' Roll High School" with the Ramones; "Conrack" with Jon Voight; "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" with the nostalgic mimeograph scene; "Carrie" for some representation in the horror genre; "Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure" with George Carlin; and "Kindergarten Cop" because Ahnold.

Later in the evening, we'll switch gears and go with "Animal House," because that is one super funny movie.

Tony Farkas is editor of the San Jacinto News-Times and the Trinity County News-Standard. He can be reached at tony@polk-countypublishing.com.

50.280 (Rev. 4/22/16)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The WOODVILLE ISD will hold a public meeting at 06:00PM AUGUST 28, 2024 in BOARD ROOM ADMIN BUILDING 505 N CHARLTON WOODVILLE, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.6692 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.4600 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations 0.00 % increase or 0.00 % (decrease)
 Debt service 0.00 % increase or 0.5 % (decrease)
 Total expenditures 0.00 % increase or 0.5 % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 1,505,923,290	\$ 1,463,969,676
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 7,799,302	\$ 20,243,804
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 909,128,235	\$ 840,085,322
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 6,358,278	\$ 17,635,765

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(i).
 ** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 46,730,000

* Outstanding principal.

50.280 (Rev. 4/22/16) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.66920	\$ 0.46000 *	\$ 1.12920	\$ 8,926	\$ 7,076
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.68734	\$ 0.46000 *	\$ 1.14735	\$ 8,066	\$ 7,603
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.66920	\$ 0.46000 *	\$ 1.12920	\$ 8,004	\$ 7,707

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 492,541	\$ 491,838
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 169,445	\$ 197,725
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.1292	\$ 1.1292
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,913	\$ 2,232
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 319

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.1298. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 1.1298.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 5,108,400
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 4,970,721

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Attend the church of your choice



Please send us your upcoming church events. Church news is published on a space-available basis free of charge. Send us an email at news@tylercountybooster.com or bring your event information to our office located at 205 W Bluff in Woodville. You can also call us at 409-283-2516.



TYLER COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

APOSTOLIC JESUS' NAME APOSTOLIC TABERNACLE 120 FM 3290, Warren 547-2238	CAMP ZION BAPTIST 268 CR 3100, Doucette 283-5497	HEBRON CHURCH 504 CR 1875, Village Mills 409-834-6240	PILGRIM REST BAPTIST 80 Cobb Mill Rd., Woodville 283-3904	WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 357 CR 4475, Warren 547-0064	HOPE UNITED METHODIST 296 CR 2615, Chester Email: umc.arise.etx@gmail.com
LAKESIDE APOSTOLIC 4712 FM 92, Spurger 201-8295	CANEY CREEK BAPTIST FM 1745, Chester 969-2220	HILLISTER BAPTIST 258 FM 1013 Rd., Hillister 283-3350	PINEYWOODS BAPTIST 4945 FM 256 E., Colmesneil 409-837-9669	WOODVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST Hwy 190 W., Woodville 283-5977	CHURCH OF CHRIST LDS CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS 1000 N. Pine St., Woodville 283-2236
ASSEMBLY OF GOD ASSEMBLY OF GOD 493 CR 4450, Hillister 283-2725	CHESTER BAPTIST Chester 969-2311	HILLTOP BAPTIST 11472 US Hwy 190 E., Dam B 409-550-6371	PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST 4274 FM 2992, Spurger 429-7695	COGIC WHITE'S CHAPEL 302 Blackgum St., Woodville 409-200-4676	NON-DENOMINATIONAL AGAPE CHURCH 1102 FM 1745 N., Colmesneil 426-2017
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD 404 N. Wheeler St., Colmesneil 837-4496	CHURCH NEW LIFE BAPTIST 105 Avalon Ct., Woodville 283-2333	KATY BAPTIST N. Pitzer St., Colmesneil 837-2022	PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST 401 Elm, Woodville 283-3008	HOUSE OF PRAYER CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 1098 CR 4470, Warren	BELIEVERS TEMPLE FAMILY 203 W. Bluff, Woodville
HILLISTER ASSEMBLY OF GOD 493 CR 4450, Hillister 283-7549	CHURCH NEW LIFE BAPTIST 213 CR 1075, Woodville 283-7002	LITTLE BAPTIST 351 CR 4494, Hillister	ROCKLAND BAPTIST Rockland 409-504-6124	COWBOY CHURCH TYLER COUNTY COWBOY CHURCH 685 FM 256 N., Woodville 409-200-2014	BIBLE BELIEVERS TABERNACLE 12978 US 69 S., Warren 936-969-2220
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SHADY GROVE COMMUNITY CHURCH Hwy 190 W. & CR 2175 936-208-0453	EMMANUEL BAPTIST Hwy 69, Colmesneil 837-5260	MT. HOPE BAPTIST 400 N. Rail Road Ave., Colmesneil	TEJAS ROAD BAPTIST Hwy 69 N., Colmesneil 409-837-9717	WOODVILLE GOSPEL TABERNACLE 1561 US Hwy 69 N., Woodville 283-2156	FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 123 CR 4260, Woodville 283-2161
TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD 120 CR 1095, Woodville 283-2447	ENON BAPTIST FM 1745, Chester 969-2394	MOSS MILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST Hwy 190 E., Woodville 283-3166	TRUE VINE BAPTIST 2626 US Hwy 69 N., Doucette 283-6863	JEHOVAH'S WITNESS KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH'S Highway 190 W., Woodville 283-7579	NEW BEGINNINGS PRAISE & WORSHIP 501 CR 3330, Colmesneil 837-2210
ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP 12065 Hwy 190 E., Woodville 283-3324	FAIRVIEW BAPTIST 3025 FM 92 S., Woodville 489-3083	MT CARMEL BAPTIST Hwy 255, Colmesneil 283-7513	VICTORY IN JESUS BAPTIST 13626 FM 1746, Woodville 409-429-3460	SEED OF FAITH WORSHIP CENTER 501 S. Beaver St., Woodville	WOODVILLE GOSPEL TABERNACLE 1561 US Hwy 69 N., 409-283-0090
BAPTIST ALINE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST 250 FM 3065, Colmesneil	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WARREN 11645 US Hwy 69 S., Warren 547-2215	MT NEBO BAPTIST 13259 FM 1943 Rd E., Fred 429-5579	WARREN CHAPEL BAPTIST 1482 CR 4470, Warren 547-0165	LUTHERAN FAITH LUTHERAN 704 W. Holly St., Woodville 238-7171	PENTECOSTAL FAITH TABERNACLE PENTECOSTAL Hwy 1013, Hillister 720-9864
BETHANY BAPTIST 1880 CR 2570, Colmesneil	FIRST BAPTIST COLMESNEIL 208 W. Elder St., Colmesneil 837-5439	MT SINAI BAPTIST 972 CR 3750, Colmesneil 283-8566	WOODVILLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST 1446 FM 1746, Woodville	METHODIST HOPEWELL FIRST CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST 190 E., Woodville 283-2874	THE PENTECOSTALS OF WOODVILLE 1613 W. Bluff St., Woodville 283-2049
COMMUNITY BAPTIST 15156 FM 92 Rd. S., Spurger 429-3101	FIRST BAPTIST SPURGER 12676 FM 92 S., Spurger 429-3116	NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH 714 CR 4525, Warren	ZION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST Hwy 69, Colmesneil 837-2064	WARREN METHODIST 11774 US Hwy 69 S., Warren	PROTESTANT SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 16140 CR 4755, Warren 409-547-3733
BEECH CREEK BAPTIST 437 CR 4540, Spurger 429-3537	FIRST BAPTIST WOODVILLE 202 S. Charlton St., Woodville 283-2588	NEW PILGRIM BAPTIST 385 CR 4252, Woodville 283-7227	BIBLE GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP 23276 FM 92 S., Fred 429-5115	WOODVILLE METHODIST 508 W. Bluff St. 283-2471	INTERDENOMINATIONAL GOOD SAMARITAN FELLOWSHIP 21544 FM 92 S., Fred 429-3777
BETHEL BAPTIST 334 FM 1943 W., Warren 547-3201	FIRST SHILOH BAPTIST 114 CR 2310, Woodville 283-8700	NEW SHADY GROVE BAPTIST 5514 US Hwy 190 E., Woodville 283-2218	CATHOLIC OUR LADY OF PINES CATHOLIC 1601 N. Pine St., Woodville 283-5367		
CALVARY BAPTIST 911 N. Magnolia St., Woodville 283-2004	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 148 CR 3260, Colmesneil	NEW ZION BAPTIST CR 4415 off Hwy 92, Spurger 429-5089	CHURCH OF CHRIST		
CAMPGROUND BAPTIST 295 CR 2075, Woodville 409-385-7350	HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH 3020 FM 2565, Woodville	PALESTINE BAPTIST 1346 E. Caney Loop, Chester 969-2524	HILLISTER CHURCH OF CHRIST CR 4455 #1262, Hillister		

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

Going where everyone IS going

Many years ago, there was a television series that was not particularly successful. Years later "Star Trek" became a box office hit. I did not get 'into' the television series because I didn't like it, but primarily because we weren't allowed to sit in front of the TV all of the time.

"Going where no one has gone before" is a statement from the producer of the series.

As I listened to my friend Robert Taylor in his morning coffee devotional, Robert gave a brief history of Gene Roddenberry, the creator of "Star Trek", I started thinking about going where all will go unless Jesus comes back first.

Are you prepared for that journey? Space is not the final frontier.

I cannot count all the people I have known who have made that journey...that journey into eternity. The older I get the more I real-



The Preacher Says
By Keith Bellamy

ize I will make that journey as well.

Gene Roddenberry, in the end, had to face God. It is said he didn't believe in God.

The thing that he missed, and so do most people, is, "Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

As the song says, "There's a great day coming". For some it will be a day of rejoicing and for others it will be a sad day.

Which will it be for you? Are you ready?

Hunter safety course at Spurger Methodist

SPURGER – Spurger Methodist Church is pleased to host a Hunter Safety Course for the community. The course leader is Game Warden, Robert Mann. Please register if you plan on attending at <https://tpwd.elementlms.com/course/hunter-education-classroom-course-10409/>. Lunch will be provided. This event will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2024 at the Spurger Methodist Church at 9 am in Spurger. Texas Parks & Wildlife requires a fee of \$15/Person to cover supplies. Participates must be 9 years or older as of August 24. Email perreaultvictoria29@gmail.com for any questions.

Back to School Rally at Victory Camp

COLMESNEIL – It's that time again for the annual Back to School Rally at Victory Camp Colmesneil on Saturday, August 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year, the camp will kick off the activities with a pep rally along with faith, fun and food to make the day complete.

Join Ms. Kelli and the gang for swimming, archery, horse rides, fishing, a super-fun obstacle course and more. Lunch will be provided, as well as a cooling station with waters and popsicles throughout the day.

Parents, grandparents, and children's workers, please encourage your kids to attend. As always, we will have a back-to-school Bible club, a craft project/object lesson and back to school take-home items. This is a free event, paid for by friends of Gloria Russell Children's Ministry.

Children need to wear their swimsuits under their play clothes and bring a towel. Victory Camp Colmesneil is located at 2472 FM 1745 N in Colmesneil. For more information call 409-837-4472.

Victory in Jesus hosting 'FIGHT'

WOODVILLE –For In God He Trust (FIGHT) is a ministry to young men, to help boys become Men In Christ. It is intended for ages 10yrs and older, (younger ages too, if you bring them and stay). Lunch will be provided, and it will take place Saturday, August 17 at noon and Victory In Jesus Church, located at 13626 FM 1746, in Woodville. For transportation, call 409-429-3460, by Friday, August 16.

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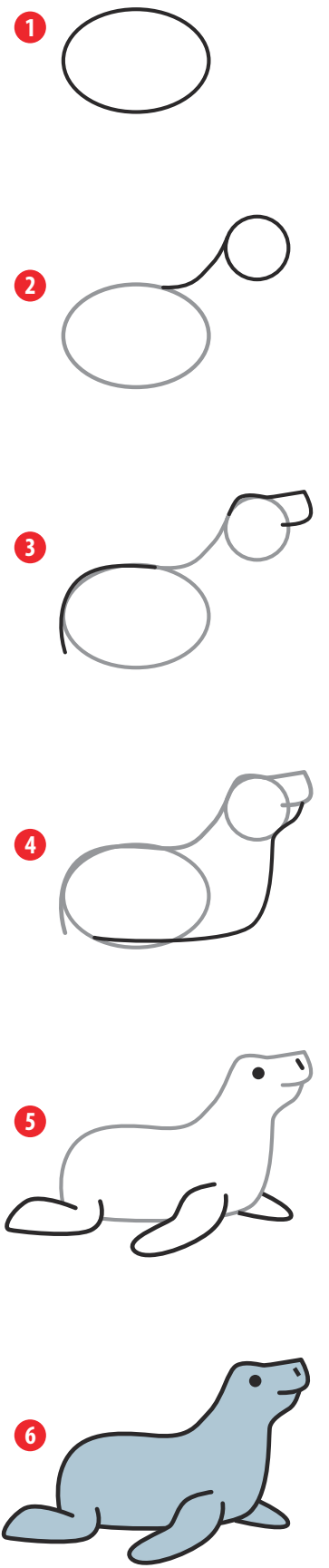
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Kid Scoop Together:

Let's Draw!

Read these facts about Hawaiian monk seals. Then draw one in 4 easy steps!

- **BODY SHAPE:** Their bodies are long and fusiform, or torpedo-shaped, which helps them swim quickly and smoothly.
- **FLIPPERS:** They have short flippers to help them swim and spin quickly.



The Monk Seals of Hawaii

Endangered Marine Mammal

Swimming in the warm, clear waters of Hawaii is a cute animal with large eyes. It's called the monk seal.

Unfortunately, the Hawaiian monk seal is one of the most endangered marine mammals in the world.

Hawaiians call the seal 'Īlio holo i ka uaua.

Circle every other letter to find out what 'Īlio holo i ka uaua means.

D A O L G Z T N H V A P T O R W U C
N J S T I A N M R I O A U K G I
H R W I A J T L E U R Y

Do _____

ER _____

The Good News

When people realized that the number of Hawaiian monk seals was getting smaller, they started taking actions to protect them. In 2022, the Hawaiian monk seal population was estimated to be between 1,512 and 1,743. This was the first time in over 20 years that the population surpassed 1,570.

Standards Link: Understand people impact other living things.



Why is it called a monk seal?

The folds of skin around the seal's neck look like a cowl, or hood. Also, monk seals spend a lot of time alone, or in small groups.

Baby monk seals are called pups. Help mom find the pup.

START

SIZE: 7.5 feet length

WEIGHT: 500 to 600 pounds

SIZE COMPARED TO A MAN WHO IS 6 FEET TALL:

Monk seal pups weigh 25-35 pounds when they are born.

Pups weigh about 200 pounds within five to six weeks.

Monk seal nostrils are small vertical slits. They close when they dive.

Deep Divers

Monk seals can hold their breath for up to 20 minutes as they forage in the coral reef. They can dive deep under the sea to more than 1,800 feet!



How many fish can you find in the coral reef?

Monk seal nostrils are small vertical slits. They close when they dive.

Extra! Extra! The Adjective Hunt

The word **marine** is an adjective, which describes the noun that comes after it in a sentence. Select one page of the newspaper and circle 10 adjectives. Underline the nouns that they each describe.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify adjectives in use.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Monk seals are **generalist** feeders and eat different kinds of marine animals. Circle the animals that you think a monk seal will eat. Then, check your answers by doing the math. The items that add up to even numbers are what monk seals will eat.

crab 7 + 4 + 1 =	fish 5 + 3 + 2 =	seagulls 3 + 4 + 2 =	octopus 2 + 2 + 2 =
urchins 4 + 8 + 4 =	eels 8 + 3 + 3 =	corn dogs 5 + 5 + 7 =	shrimp 6 + 8 + 2 =

Standards Link: Life Science: Understand that some animals are generalist feeders.

Double Double Word Search

BABY
BREATH
CORAL
CUTE
EYES
FIRST
HAWAII
HOLD
HOOD
MAMMAL
MONK
REEF
SEALS
UNDER
YEARS

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

U N E T B P D L O H
 N S R Y U C O V H T
 D L E B K N O M A B
 E Y E A R S H R W C
 R O N B L A M M A M
 E Q F I R S T Z I L
 E Y P W V H S J I A
 F U E T U C X O Y J
 L N H S H T A E R B

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **MARINE**

The word **marine** is an adjective that means living in the sea.

The monk seal is a **marine** mammal.

Try to use the word **marine** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Animal Athletes

Look through the newspaper to find four sports. For each one, select an animal that would excel at this sport. Write a story about your four animal athletes.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write stories that have a beginning, middle and end.

What kind of music do seals try to avoid?

ANSWER: Orca-straw music!

Write On!

Animal Family

If you were an animal, which would you be and why? Which animals would be in the rest of your family?

Brad Elrod
Attorney At Law
 130 S. Charlton St., Woodville, TX 75979
 409.283.8288 | elrodlawtx.com

WANT TO BECOME A FISHING GUIDE? YOU SURE?

Through my career of almost forty years as an outdoors writer, I have fished with and written about countless fishing guides. How many? Well, I can only guess but I'd estimate in excess of one hundred. I've fished with veterans with decades of guiding under their belts and I've fished with great fishermen that were just beginning their guiding career. Most were very experienced fishermen but new to the art of putting paying clients on their boat with the express intent of not only catching fish but enjoying the company of what is hoped to become a new friend and repeat fishing companion.

I believe I have learned what it takes to be a successful fishing guide. As with any career, personality and people skills play a big part but when someone hires a fishing guide, catching fish is usually at the top of the list. Learning new fish catching skills is often important as well. I've fished with guides that were natural entertainers, some could have been stand up comedians but others were introspective thinkers that let their skills do their talking.

Veteran guides learn to 'read' their clients quickly. When guiding experienced fishermen, it's important for a guide not to over instruct with too much emphasis put on basic fishing skills. A seasoned guide can quickly appraise a clients skill level. On the other hand a novice fisherman can benefit greatly by learning the basics from a veteran guide with the patience to teach.

I've learned to 'read' the guides personality quickly through the years and enjoy spending time on the water with someone that is a funny 'showboater' just as much as the quiet but proficient guy or gal.

Getting started as a guide is a challenging endeavor that should only be undertaken by someone with a true passion for both catching fish and the skills to do so on a very regular basis but also enjoy meeting new people and bonding quickly with new clients they are about to spend a few hours with making memories and hopefully, catching fish.

This past week, I spend a morning catching catfish with a young man that I began writing about several years ago when he first began his guiding career on Lake Ray Hubbard, Brandon Sargent. Brandon cut his fishing roots in Florida fishing saltwater but he took to freshwater fishing quickly, and learned the patterns of the white bass and hybrid stripers on Ray Hubbard.

"A good understanding of the bottom structure on a lake is key to consistently catching open water schooling species such as the white bass", says Brandon, "Triangulation with structures on land was the only way to 'get close' to a known piece of fish holding structure back in the day. Anglers would get close to humps, ridges or submerged trees by lining up water towers and other structures on land and then turning on their flasher



Guide Brandon Sargent with two of the many tasty channel catfish he and Luke landed at Lake Ray Hubbard last week. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

(old sonar units) or paper graph to get pin point the structure. Today's navionics maps with GPS makes finding topography below the surface easy. With today's technology, an entire lake is mapped out for you and finding a particular piece of bottom structure is as simple as the touch of a button."

For the past few months Brandon has spent time learning about catching catfish on Ray Hubbard. Many of his clients are only interested in catching crappie, white bass and hybrids but he began getting requests for catfish trips. In true Brandon fashion, the guide began quizzing experienced catfish anglers, and spending a great deal of his 'off time' experimenting with the different techniques. When he called early last week and informed me he was on a couple of very dependable channel catfish patterns, I was all in and joined him early the next morning on the dock of Sapphire Bay Marina, where he headquarters. We had the option of fishing deeper water and catching bigger catfish or go for the nonstop action of a shallow water bite he had discovered. I love catching and eating catfish in the one to two pound range, especially when they are in shallow water and I can catch them under a cork.

Brandon had baited an area with cattle range cubes a few yards out from a shoreline lined with rocks placed there as protection from erosion. The water was 4 feet deep with several dead trees along the shoreline; a perfect spot for catching channel catfish. With the boat positioned about 25 yards from the rock lined shoreline. We baited #6 treble hooks with the guides homemade bait that had no rank smell like most cheese



Guide Brandon Sargent and Luke heading back to dock after a successful catfishing trip on Lake Ray Hubbard. Becoming established as a fishing guide can be a challenging endeavor. Brandon began his career a few years ago and Luke's now rates him at the top of his craft. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

based baits. I'm not sure what secret ingredients Brandon uses but the bait looked more like dense bread dough with a pleasant smell than catfish bait. When I first baited the treble hook, I noted it formed a dense ball and looked like it would stay on the hook well but I was a bit dubious, this didn't smell at all like the dough type or "punch baits" I am accustomed to using.

We were using spinning rigs, with the baits set about 3 feet below the cork floaters which kept them just above bottom. Our trip occurred last Thursday and there was an approaching front with scattered thunderstorms approaching from our north. The cloud cover and gentle breeze made it feel almost like fall. Catching was just as predicted. Toss the bait out and watch the cork closely the instant it hit the water, within a few seconds one of the aggressive little catfish would make the cork disappear. Keeping a close eye on the sky and radar on the cell phone, we enjoyed about 1.5 hours of nonstop action and limits of what I consider to be some of the tastiest of fish in fresh water. Just in the nick of time ahead of the approaching squall, we made it back to the marina where we filleted our catch. Brandon's dock is well appointed with cleaning table, couch, freezer, cooking equipment, etc. We were both hungry so we fired up an electric hot plate, heated some cooking oil in a skillet and soon had a big skillet of very fresh catfish fillets sizzling.

Brandon has not added catfish to the species he guides for. He's not studying the patterns of the lakes plentiful big blue catfish and I expect him to have these fish patterned by fall and cooler weather when the big blue bite gets really good.

If you are interested in a fishing trip with Brandon, he can be reached at 469-989-1010 or at www.texasleadslingers.com.

Check out Luke's weekly outdoor radio show which is now a weekly podcast wherever podcasts are found, "Catfish Radio with Luke Clayton and Friends."



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Staff vs. Chester varsity volleyball match participants – Back Row L-R: Coach Bullock, Jesse Gay, Coach Tonnies and Jordan Tonnies, Kynlee Citrano, Matt Bryan, Marty Thompson, Marae Pounds, Lily Read, Lauren Citrano, Josie Pecina, Ty Cochran, Lily Payne, Cassie Gay, Kaleigh Powell, Coach Butter, Coach Tonnies, Evan Stewart, Melissa Bendi and Dalton Sluga. Front row: Lillie Byrd, Carlee Gay, Abby Bittick, Amanda Pounds, Sydney Brock, Jasmine Mitchell, Carrie Garsee, Susan Muncrief, Amy Dinger, Emma Byrd, Kyli Handley and Sadie Garsee. BECKI BYRD | TCB

‘Meet the Jackets’ event held; Chester ISD staff plays Lady Jackets in game

By Becki Byrd

CHESTER – Meet the Jackets was held on Friday August 9 with a Lady Jacket versus staff volleyball game following. All cheerleaders, cross-country, football, and volleyball players were introduced.

After introductions the staff and Lady Jackets played a “friendly” game of volleyball to officially begin the season. The Lady Jackets beat the staff 2 sets to 0, but not because of lack of effort from the staff. They were good sports, and the crowd enjoyed the entertainment.

The Lady Jacket volleyball team traveled to Crockett on Saturday August 10 for a tri-scrimmage with Rusk and Crockett. The format was a 30-minute running time clock with a straight running score. The Lady Jackets beat Rusk 41-30.

Lily Read led in kills with 8, Lily Payne had 4, Marae Pounds and Lauren Citrano each had 3, Emma Byrd had two, and Ty Cochran had one. Byrd and Read both led aces with 3, Marae Pounds had 2, Sydney Brock, Lauren Citrano, and Lily Payne each had one. Citrano and Payne each had two blocks on defense.

For the second scrimmage of the day, they defeated Crockett 45-18 Marae Pounds racked up 9 kills, Lily Payne had 7, Lily Read with 4, Emma Byrd had 3, Ty Cochran and Lauren Citrano each had two. Emma Byrd had 23 assists.

Byrd led aces with 5, Lauren Citrano and Lily Read each had 3, Lily Payne had 2 and Marae Pounds had one. On defense Sydney Brock led digs with 17, Lily Read had 5, Lauren Citrano ended with 4. Pounds, Read, and Payne each had one block on the net. The JV squad also played Crockett

JV and Rusk JV. Coach Tonnies said they did well and she is excited to see how much progress they make as they get more time on the court.

This week the Varsity Lady Jackets are scheduled to play Diboll and East Chambers in Diboll on Tuesday August 13 starting at 4:30 p.m. At the end of the week, they will travel to Central Heights for a tournament with games against Troup at 3 p.m., Gary at 5 p.m. and Farmersville at 7 p.m. on Thursday August 15.

On Friday in the same tournament, they will play Central Heights at 2 p.m., Shelbyville at 5 p.m., and Arp at 6 p.m. Saturday games are TBA.

The Yellowjacket football team will have their first scrimmage this week against Alpha Omega with kickoff scheduled for 5 p.m. at Aubry Bradley Stadium.

Fun at ‘Meet the Eagles’



The Eagle Summit played host to the annual “Meet the Eagles” event on Monday evening. It provided a great chance for the community to turn out and meet the Eagles players, cheerleaders and volleyball athletes, and to just engage in some good fellowship. Top left photo –Ashley and Bryan Weatherford and Dwayne Hollingsworth pose for a photo. Bottom left – Officer Zach Zachary and Chief Mike McCulley made the rounds. Top – The Eagles’ cheerleading squad showed off its abilities. PHOTOS BY JASON DRAKE AND DONNA HAMMER | TCB



B.A. Steinhagen
FAIR. Water stain; 85 degrees; 1.34 feet below pool. Water is being released into the lake from Sam Rayburn Reservoir. Mayflies are hatching, so expect some topwater bass action. Bass are fair on soft plastics in the cuts, or with frogs over grass. Crappie are fair with jigs in flooded timber. Catfish are fair on jugs.

Livingston
GREAT. slightly stained; 88 de-

grees; 0.10 feet above pool. White bass are good and moving quickly in 2-16 feet of water. Shallow early morning and then moving to flats late morning hitting white and chartreuse Duck Tracker slabs. Report by Michael Richardson, Lake Livingston Adventures.

Nacogdoches
EXCELLENT. Water stained; 90 degrees; 0.33 feet below pool. Largemouth bass are excellent on small swimbaits using forward facing sonar in 8-16 feet of water, or off the bottom in creek channel swings with Carolina rigs, or deep diving crankbaits. Crappie are excellent over brush piles and standing timber with light weight chartreuse and natural colored crappie jigs. Catfish are slow on cut bait and live minnows. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal’s ETX Guide Service.

Nacogdoches
GOOD. Water stained; 89 degrees; 0.50 feet above full pool. The water temperature increased quickly over the last week. Continue to keep an eye on the thermocline because this tells you the exact depth to present your offering. Even over deep water, do not go below this line. Numbers of bass can be caught in the 8-10 feet zone with swing-heads, weightless flukes, and jerkbaits, with the Texas-rig stick-bait landing the most catches. When you find schooling bass, chunk an underspin, or a “spook” style topwater. Crappie population is good. Catfish are slow. Report by Eric Wolfe, NacoTack Fishing Services. Largemouth bass are excellent on deep diving crankbaits, small swimbaits and Carolina rigs 10-15 feet of water. Crappie are excellent cruising around the timber lines with some brush piles with live minnows or natural colored crappie jigs. Catfish are fair on cut bait and live minnows. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal’s ETX Guide Service.

Pinkston

GOOD. slightly stained; 90 degrees. Largemouth bass are excellent on dropshots and small swimbaits in 10-18 feet of water, or with deep diving crankbaits on points and edges. Lots of 3-5 pound catches. Water visibility has cleared to about 3.5 feet of visibility. Catfish are good on live minnows. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal’s ETX Guide Service.

Sam Rayburn
GOOD. Water stained; 89 degrees; 5.35 feet above pool. No water is being released, stoned in the creeks. Bass are slow in shallow water with many smaller fish being caught on frogs, and spinnerbaits. Deeper bass bite is fair with Carolina rigs. Crappie are slow in the morning, but improve midday. Catfish are all over the lake in 20 feet of water and in 12 feet of water in the creek channels. White bass are on points in the south end of the lake near the dam. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service. Bass are feeling the heat as well. Lake level is fluctuating due to recent rains. Bass are biting on finesse baits, drop-

shot or jighead minnow or Carolina rig. Mid lake to north lake is the most productive areas. Lots of fish schooling on main lake flats and ledges.

Falling water creates current so fish congregate and now that the lake is risen again the fish are scattered. Report by Hank Harrison, Double H Precision Fishing.

Toledo Bend
GOOD. Water slightly stained; 91 degrees; 1.63 feet below pool. Fishing patterns are consistent. Lake is stained in some of the main creeks, but still clear out on the main lake. Crappie fishing is slow with a few catches on deep brush and lighted boat docks at night using live bait. Bass are fair with very few bites on topwater now that all the clouds are gone, best bite still has been from 8-14 feet on Texas and Carolina rig worm and mid-running crankbait. There are few small fish being caught out deeper in 18-25 feet on drop shot and spoons, these fish are small and most are Kentucky bass. With no moon and poor weather the night fishing has slowed down this past week



BITE by BITE
Conquering My Culinary
Bucket List One Dish at a Time
By Emily Banks Wooten



Summer in Westport

Or, What did you do this summer?

Editor's note: The "Bite by Bite" family is on vacation, so we called upon a guest writer to create this week's Bite by Bite. Join **George Hollenbeck** as he shares about his and Ruth's trip to their summer home in Westport, Mass. earlier this summer.

You went WHERE this summer? Westport? Where Paul Newman lived, and doesn't Martha Stewart live there? Didn't F. Scott Fitzgerald and Zelda live there? Yes, but ... that's the wrong Westport! That is Westport, CT. We went to Westport, Massachusetts ... a small "right to farm" community on the shore about 70 miles south of Boston. We first went there in the 1990s, but in 2008 we found our "home." We've gone there nearly every summer.

Where is Westport, Mass.? It is tucked in between New Bedford, Mass. and Fall River, Mass., and Little Compton, Rhode Island. When we think of that area, we think of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. But being tucked in there, many people looking for a shore vacation have never heard of it.

We don't go ALL summer ... can't afford that. We go for a week, or two weeks, or maybe three. We go in late May and early June when the fishing is best and landlord's kids have not descended. June weather can be great ("bustin' out all over"), or it can be foggy and cold and rainy ... we've seen it all.

How did we start going there? It starts with fishing, as many of my stories do. In 2008 we were looking for a place to rent for a couple of weeks, not too expensive, but with lots of things to do for Ruth and guests, and fishing for me. We were lucky and hit the jackpot ... we found a place that met all our needs. It's become our vacation "home."

Over the years, we became friends with our landlord Charles, and his wife Susan and we became more or less their default renters for the end of May and early June. I say "friends" but not exactly "social friends," and they are not exactly farmers as we know it ... say "gentleman farmers." Charles' father bought the original "farm" in the early '70s, and Charles and his brothers and sister and their families live there now - it's more like a compound. These are true northeasterners, schooled and careered in Boston ... really nice people, but not looking for friends. Their house is on the hill and ours is on the water, so we don't see a lot of them. But,

our informal rental agreement includes having cocktails together one evening where we can catch up on the year's events.

What is it that we love about going to Westport? Westport is what a vacation home should be ... far enough away to be "different"... it is about as different from Texas as you can get ... climate-wise (cool!), geography-wise (a mix of woods and small farms with smooth winding roads yet on the water); people-wise (a mix of Boston-educated types and ordinary people ... the largest ethnic group is Portuguese). A vacation home should also be reasonably easy to get to - a nonstop flight to Boston and a 70-mile drive south. It should have "things to do" within an hour or two (museums, historic houses, whale watching, Cape Cod, Fenway Park, et.al). A must-have for us is good eating, so a good location must have good "food" places (e.g., a great grocery, lobster and seafood, delicious bread and creamy ice cream). It needs good shopping places for Ruth and friends, and last, but not least, easy fishing places for me.

Our house is on the water on the East Branch of the river before it joins with the West Branch and goes into the ocean. The water is saltwater with tides that go in and out with the moon, each branch a few miles across with marsh islands in the shallow places - a perfect place for great scenery and fishing for striped bass.

2024 was a special summer because we weren't sure we would get to go. Fact is, we are not as sharp physically or mentally as we used to be. We don't notice that, but our kids must. They decided that we shouldn't go to Westport by ourselves, they would go with us - they would chaperone us for two weeks ... first week our daughter Deana and the second week our son Bruddy and his wife Paula, with a weekend visit from granddaughter Savannah and her "friend" Jeremy who live in New York.

How did it all work out? Couldn't have been better. The food? Our go-to restaurant is only a couple miles away with lobster rolls to die for. We ate at the Bayside so often that I suspect they ordered lobster rolls or fish and chips and a couple of Golden Flounder beers when they saw us park the car.

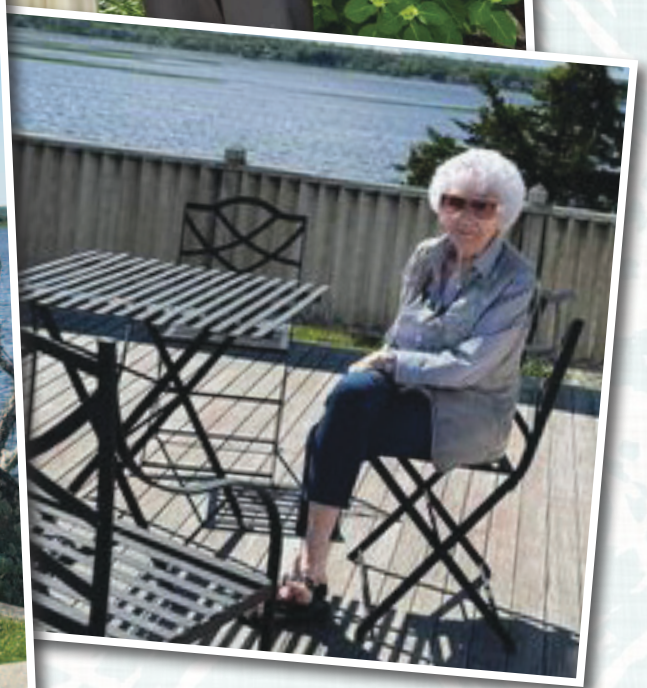


Ruth, George and Deana



Paula, Ruth, Bruddy and George





But this was not our only restaurant. We always frequent the Back Eddy at least more than once; located where the East and West Branches of the river come together, it has a great view of the harbor and delicious food and an interesting clientele. Their Bombay Sapphire martinis should not be drunk by old geezers, although one night I did have one with my fresh-caught swordfish. Ruth had fish and chips, and Deana, taking a break from lobster rolls, had lobster mac and cheese! The Back Eddy clientele varies from anglers to aristocrats.

We had a great laugh one rainy night when we were standing under the awning after dinner, waiting for our car. Some fancy city folks came out and one of the ladies looked down at Ruth's sandals - if you know Ruth, you know that she wears sandals all the time, all year round, rain or shine. One woman looked down at Ruth's sandals and said, "My, those sandals are lovely. Who are they?" It took us a minute to realize that she meant "what designer made them." Our car arrived just in time for Ruth to say, "Thank you" and didn't have to explain, "I got them at Payless for \$14!"

We didn't eat out all the time. Our favorite market in the world is Lee's. It caters to people like us who don't care what it costs if it is easy to fix and delicious. Their chicken salad can't be beat; it's the only place we know to get Adamsville Cheddar, and their Portuguese Sweetbread toast is a great way to start the day. They have a great selection of wines also, from our house wine, La Vieille Ferme White, to very elegant reds.

As for things to do, over the years we have seen so many of the sights that we often stayed home this year and watched the tide come and go. Deana had been so busy the week before we left Livingston that she was quite content to slow down and take care of the parents ... as she said on her Facebook log, "Chaperoning parents is hard work!" The Aggies were in the baseball tournament in College Station so one must-do for her was watching the ball games ... Deana had planned ahead and figured out how to get the Aggie channel.

Other than watching the Aggie games, Deana was devoted to doing whatever we wanted. One thing I wanted to do was have lunch with an old friend and his wife who had moved back to the Boston area after retiring from life as history professors at the University of Iowa. When Mac and I planned our annual lunch this year, we both realized we had aged out of meeting halfway at Harry's Bar and Grill. When I told Mac that Deana was with us, he suggested that we should all come for lunch with him and Sarah at their new home, senior living place, Linden Ponds. We could "reunion" and they would get to meet Deana. Much to my surprise, Deana was not only willing, but eager to make the trip (possibly she was thinking "aging parents, senior living"). She asked, "How long have you known Mack and how do you know him?"

"I've known him for over 60 years. One Sunday night in 1957 when we were first-year graduate students at the University of Wisconsin, by chance we both went to the Wesley Foundation seeking a free meal and hoping to meet girls. As it turned out, we did get a free meal but met no girls. Instead, we met each other and have been friends ever since."

The trip to Linden Ponds turned out to be a truly festive reunion and a chance to see a luxurious senior living facility. Linden Ponds exceeded our expectations. With 1,300+ residents, it has five or six restaurants, a branch of the Bank of Boston, a dentist office, a medical center, and just about everything that seniors, at whatever age and stage, would need. Mac said that after owning houses for years, he felt like he had laid his burden down. Their apartment was lovely, spacious, providing room for both of them to have a working space, kitchen, et.al. As we said goodbye, we admitted that

we were impressed, but not yet ready for senior living.

The week couldn't pass without Deana and Ruth having one "mother/daughter bonding day." They lunched at yet another of our favorites, and did some shopping, and even found something to buy at a Westport boutique.

Week 1 came to an end as we sadly put Deana in a car to the airport for her trip home. It was lonely without Deana, but by midafternoon our Week 2 chaperones arrived from Dallas. No surprise, they were hungry, so back to the Bayside and lobster rolls again!

What did we do in Week 2? There is something about watching the tide come in and go out that is hard to leave. An occasional swan, maybe a flock of geese or osprey, and on the weekend maybe a sailboat or a rowing scull. When Paula and Ruth went shopping, Bruddy and I could fish. With a kayak outside the house, I could fish every day, thanks to an 18-footer borrowed from my friend and retired guide whom I had fished with since 1993. When David retired, he put me onto another great guide, Parker Mauck, who took me out in his boat several days. One day Bruddy and I went with Parker to the West Branch where we found a pod of nice strippers. Bruddy had the hot hand and must have landed a dozen.

On Friday, the grandkids arrived, and Savannah and Jeremy drove in from New York, eager for a lobster roll and a trip to Nantucket. They like to get up late and "live large," so we knew just tide watching was over. (How large? One day they arrived home with seven pints of ice cream from our favorite creamery, Handy Hill). Going to Nantucket was a trip we had done several years, but this year everyone agreed that the cobblestones of Nantucket were not for old people. Ruth and I gracefully opted out, and Bruddy and Paula and Savannah and Jeremy took off for a couple of days on the Island, a two-hour ride on the ferry from New Bedford. They had two days doing island things like a bicycle tour of the island, shopping and eating. We were sorry to see them go without us, but to tell you the truth, Ruth and I are not used to being chaperoned 24/7. We enjoyed our time watching the tide and were glad to see them when they came back. Savannah and Jeremy soon took off for their three and a half-hour drive back to New York ... a weekend drive that turned out to be seven hours!

What did we do those last few days? Not much but watch the tide, went over to Tiverton, Rhode Island for lunch (yep, more lobster rolls), and on the way back stopped at Handy Hill to replenish our stock. That place is a disaster for ice cream lovers.

But, all good things come to an end. Our last day, Bruddy and Paula took us to Boston where they put us on our flight to Houston before they took theirs to Dallas.

So, how was the vacation this summer? One of our best vacations ever. How did you like having a chaperone? We loved it ... no decisions, no worries! What was the most fun? The whole thing was delightful, but the really special thing was living every parent's dream - spending a week with each of the kids, and even a couple of days with grandkids. With the schedules that everybody has today, a whole week with each kid is really tough to arrange.

What about next year? Nobody knows what a year will bring. I figure Carpe Diem. Maybe by then we will have aged out of our summer home. Maybe the world will end? Who knows? If you catch that 7:45 a.m. to Boston on May 27, 2025 ... God willing and the creeks don't rise, look for us ... in first class with our chaperone! You might as well go first class too ... your heirs will! ■

STATE

Pandemic relief funds for schools about to end

Texas public schools received more than \$19 billion in pandemic relief funds over the last four years, but that pipeline of cash will largely end on Sept. 30, The Texas Tribune reported.

That means many Texas schools already struggling with budget deficits will begin the school year with even more serious deficits, especially since the Texas Legislature has not increased base per-student pay since 2019 — a year before the pandemic began.

Congress passed the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief package in 2020 to help schools deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused enrollment declines, teachers exiting the profession and falling test scores. That funding is about to end, with essentially nothing to take its place for many school districts already at the maximum allowed property tax rate.

"It's not about making up ESSER, because we all know that was one-time funding," said La Joya ISD Superintendent Marcey Sorensen. "I just would ask, without getting political whatsoever, that everybody just look in the mirror and say, OK, if we really haven't provided additional funding since 2019, maybe it's time that we just give school districts a little bit more of what they need, knowing that kids have different needs now."

A recent survey conducted by the Texas Association of School Business Officials concluded that out of 313 school districts across the state, nearly 80% reported deficit budgets or a lack of resources as one of their top challenges.

Abbott orders hospitals to report immigrant care data

All Texas hospitals enrolled in Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program have been ordered by Gov. Greg Abbott to report costs incurred by treating undocumented immigrants, the Austin American-Statesman reported. In a news release outlining his executive order, Abbott blamed the Biden administration's border security policies for health care costs related to those immigrants.

"Texans should not have to shoulder the burden of financially supporting medical care for illegal immigrants," Abbott



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

said.

Some Democratic lawmakers criticized the order.

State Rep. Gene Wu, D-Austin, posted on X: "Texas has the HIGHEST uninsured healthcare in the nation. Texas has the WORST mental health care in the nation. Texas has one of the worst (mortality) and infant mortality rates in America. But these are the Republicans priorities."

Five more counties added to disaster list

In the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl, five more Texas counties have been added to the federal disaster list, the governor's office announced.

The counties of Austin, Bowie, Shelby, Trinity and Waller have been added to the list, which already included Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, Walker and Wharton counties.

Texans can apply for FEMA disaster assistance online at disasterassistance.gov or by calling 800-621-3362.

Carbon monoxide poisonings spike in wake of storm

Carbon monoxide poisonings rose dramatically in the wake of Hurricane Beryl, with about 400 people ending up in Texas emergency rooms since the storm struck on July 8, the Texas Standard reported. That is the highest number reported since the 2021 winter storm, the Texas Standard reported. Two people died of CO poisoning in Harris County.

CO poisonings caused by widespread power outages are growing more common as climate change causes more extreme weather events, according to scientists.

"Whether you want to blame it on this, that or the other, I don't care. The world is changing. The climate is changing," said Dr. David Persse, Houston's chief medical officer.

School about to start; watch for the kiddoes

With school about to start, drivers are urged to stay alert and exercise caution in school zones, the Texas Department of Public Transportation advised. School zones can be chaotic, and 748 crashes were reported inside them last year. In addition, 2,523 collisions involving school buses occurred in

Texas last year, killing 11 people and injuring 63.

TxDOT has launched its "Be Safe. Drive Smart Back-to-School" campaign in hopes of reducing crashes. The most common causes of crashes are preventable, such as speeding, distracted driving and failure to yield the right of way. Among the tips offered by TxDOT:

- Be aware. Traffic patterns around schools may have changed since last school year.
- Stay alert and put your phone away. Using a handheld electronic device while driving in an active school zone is against the law.
- Stop and yield the right of way to a pedestrian, bicyclist, or other vulnerable road user in a crosswalk. The Lisa Torrey Smith Act of 2021 enhanced the penalties for failing to follow the law and protect people in crosswalks. Seriously injuring someone who is lawfully in a crosswalk is now a state jail felony.
- Obey school zone speed limit signs. Remember, traffic fines increase in school zones.
- Know where to go. Drop off and pick up your kids in your school's designated areas, not the middle of the street.
- Be on the lookout. Keep an eye on children gathered at bus stops.
- Watch for children who might dart across the street or between vehicles.

Yup, it's hot in Texas

Exactly how hot is it in the Lone Star State as a heat dome covers much of Texas during these dog days of August? According to the Statesman, our state has the fourth-highest average temperature so far this year, coming in at 65.8 degrees. That might not seem all that hot, but keep in mind it includes temps recorded in January averaged in with that summer heat.

Topping the list of hottest states is Florida, followed by Hawaii and Louisiana, according to data compiled by The Blogger. After Texas comes Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama. Surprisingly, Arizona — even with triple-digit temperatures recorded regularly around Phoenix — is tied for ninth place.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Committees take on Human Services, Public Health

It's back to school time! Two weeks ago, the Texas Comptroller announced the 25th Annual Texas Sales Tax Holiday, which took place from August 9 to 11 this year. This year, the holiday was estimated to save Texans over \$140 million at the checkout, and it has saved Texans nearly \$2 billion since its inception in 1999.

The holiday exempts sales tax on qualified items, such as clothing, footwear, school supplies, and backpacks, priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 per \$100 they spend.

With that, we'll dive back into our examination of House interim charges. . .

House Interim Charge: Human Services

The House Committee on Human Services has jurisdiction over bills regarding welfare and rehabilitation programs, intellectual disability support programs, and the prevention and treatment of intellectual disabilities.

The committee also oversees state agencies such as the Health and Human Services Commission, the Department of Family and Protective Services, the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners, and the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors.



Capitol Update

By Trent Ashby
State Representative, District 9

Over the interim, the committee will monitor the implementation of House Bill 1575 and Senate Bill 24. HB 1575, which was passed to improve health results for pregnant women, created an enhanced screening process for expecting mothers to identify better nonmedical health-related needs. The bill also sought to increase access to existing support services by reimbursing community health workers to provide services to improve maternal and infant health outcomes.

SB 24 consolidated programs offered during pregnancy, childhood, and to disadvantaged families for prevention and early intervention under the Health and Human Services Commission. The bill also established the Thriving Texas Families Program to fund services to families to promote healthy pregnancy, childbirth, and family formation and to help families achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Additionally, the committee will evaluate the appropriate role of the state in overseeing Medicaid managed care and will also study access to home and community-based services waiver,

including the interest list, effects of inflation on the cost of services, and availability of services and service providers.

House Interim Charge: Public Health

The House Committee on Public Health has jurisdiction over bills regarding the protection of public health, the prac-

tice of medicine and dentistry, mental health support programs, and the treatment of mental health.

The committee also oversees state agencies such as the Health and Human Services Commission, the Texas Medical Board, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, and many other agencies.

Over the interim, the committee will monitor the implementation of Senate Bill 26, which seeks to expand mental health capacity, especially for children and adolescents, by creating an innovation grant program. The bill also implements a methodology for transitioning patients out of state hospitals.

Additionally, the committee will study the best practices of procedures for the emergency detention of a person with mental illness.

The committee will also examine the causes contributing to the closures of obstetrics units in rural areas and the effects of the closures on births, infant mortality, and maternal mortality and will make recommendations to ensure access to prenatal and obstetrical care in rural Texas.

The mobile office is on the road again in August, and our District Director looks forward to seeing you on the following dates at the following times: August 7 at the San Augustine County Courthouse in San Augustine from 9-11 a.m.; August 14 at the Polk County Commissioner's Courtroom in Livingston from 9-11 a.m. and the Tyler County Commissioner's Courtroom in Woodville from 1:30-3:30 p.m.; and August 21 at the Houston County Courthouse Annex in Crockett from 9-11 a.m. and the Trinity County Courthouse in Groveton from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office if we can help you in any way. My district office may be reached at (936) 634-2762 and my Capitol office may be reached at (512) 463-0508. Additionally, I welcome you to follow along on my Official Facebook Page, where I will be posting regular updates on what's happening in your State Capitol and sharing information that could be useful to you and your family: <https://www.facebook.com/RepTrentAshby/>.

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 national gemstone of Australia

5 TXism: "busy as _ -armed fry cook"

6 children

7 TX Matson who won gold in shot put in 1968 Olympics (init.)

8 last name of Dallas City Hall designer

9 TXism: "changes his _ often as he does socks"

15 "Foard County _" (newspaper)

16 TX Michael Johnson won gold here in 1992 (4 x 100 relay)

19 James Bond's code number

21 bye in Mexico

22 TXism: "couldn't hit the side _ _" (poor shot)

27 depend on

28 in Lubbock County on U.S. 62 & 82

29 most mature fruit performers

30 first two initials of 8-across designer

33 27th governor, familiarly (2 wds.)

36 irritate or annoy

37 this Jeff of Houston Oilers committed suicide in 1993

38 delighted

39 state north of the Red River

41 TXism for "your"

42 48-across is a _ city

45 decline, decrease

46 star Paul of Texas-based 1963 film "Hud" (init.)

47 members-only warehouse store: " _ Club"

48 Yemen port city

49 TXism: " _ _ _ fiddle string"

52 sharpened

53 also called "off-the-rack" or OTR

54 Dallas Stars leag.

DOWN

1 White _ , Texas

2 Hawaiian taro dish

3 county that is north of Ector and south of Gaines

4 French-based musical (2 wds.)

8 unskilled laborer

9 TXism: "got too _ fire" (spread too thin)

10 first two letters of U.S. tax agcy.

11 she was wife of Gov. Connally (init.)

12 TXism: "was around when the _ _ only sick" (old)

13 Alan of "The Aviator" about TX Hughes

14 dirt

15 Perryton is a city in _ Texas

16 cowboys wear big _ buckles

17 TXism: "if it ain't true, there ain't _ in Texas"

18 highest academic honors go to _ cum laude graduate

20 extremely

22 TXism: "don't give a hoot _ a holler"

23 small lie

31 J.V. " _ " Sikes was an A&M star in the 1920s

34 TXism: "mighty fond _"

35 " _ low, sell high"

37 TXism: "busy as _ -armed paper hanger"

40 TX Trini's "If I _ _ Hammer"

43 arithmetic

44 "Hook ' _ _ _!"

50 TXism: "fresh married" (_ wed)

51 "in the year of our Lord" abbr.

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Meth use in East Texas: An ongoing battle

By Paige Bentley

Methamphetamine use remains a significant public health challenge in East Texas. This highly addictive stimulant poses a severe risk to individuals and communities alike. A look into the current state of methamphetamine use within our region reveals how crucial to understand its impact, the signs of abuse, and the resources available for those in need.

John, a resident of East Texas, struggled with methamphetamine addiction for several years. His life took a downward spiral as his addiction deepened, leading to severe health problems, strained family relationships, and legal troubles. John vividly remembers the physical toll and the mental struggles he endured.

Despite these challenges, John's turning point came when he was referred to the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Council's (ADAC) treatment program. Initially hesitant, John gradually committed to the comprehensive treatment plan, which included detoxification, individual and group counseling sessions, and ongoing support. The compassionate and professional staff at ADAC played a crucial role in his recovery, providing the necessary resources and support to help him rebuild his life.

Through the program, John reconnected with his family, repaired broken relationships, and found stable employment. Today, John is a strong advocate for addiction recovery, often sharing his story to inspire others struggling with similar issues. His journey underscores the importance of recognizing the signs of methamphetamine abuse early and seeking help from trusted organizations like ADAC.

The rise of fentanyl-laced methamphetamine has added another layer of danger. As Kim Bartel explains, "Due to the fentanyl, there is an increased risk of not only overdose but of severe side-effects." This makes it even more crucial to be vigilant and proactive in addressing this issue.

Methamphetamine, commonly known as meth, crystal, or ice, has seen a resurgence in East Texas over the past decade. According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, methamphetamine one of the most commonly reported drugs in substance abuse treatment admissions. In East Texas, this increase is alarming due to the drug's potent addictive properties and the severe physical and psychological effects it has on users. Kim Bartel, Region Five

Prevention Resource Center Program Manager, notes, "We've seen an increase in fentanyl-laced methamphetamine coming up from Mexico," further complicating the issue. He went on to note that, "fentanyl contamination of other drugs has pushed East Texas to have the highest overdose per capita in Texas."

Methamphetamine use not only affects the individuals who use it but also has far-reaching consequences for families, communities, and the broader society. The drug is linked to a range of issues, including severe health problems, such as chronic dental issues, skin sores, weight loss, and increased risk of infectious diseases. Mental health issues are also prevalent, with users often experiencing anxiety, paranoia, hallucinations, and violent behavior. Crime rates are notably affected by methamphetamine use, with a rise in both property crimes and violent offenses. Furthermore, the economic costs to the community are substantial, encompassing healthcare expenses, law enforcement efforts, and lost productivity.

Early detection of methamphetamine abuse can significantly improve recovery outcomes. Common physical signs include rapid weight loss, dental issues (often referred to as "meth mouth"), skin sores, and hyperactivity. Behavioral signs to watch for include erratic behavior, paranoia, hallucinations, and social isolation.

For those struggling with methamphetamine use, immediate help is available. Community support is robust, with local organizations like the Alcohol & Drug Awareness Council (ADAC) providing resources, support groups, and educational programs to assist individuals and families affected by methamphetamine use.

Methamphetamine use remains a critical issue in East Texas, impacting the health and safety of individuals and communities. By understanding the scope of the problem, recognizing the signs of abuse, and knowing where to find help, we can work together to combat this epidemic. Remember, recovery is possible, and support is available.

For more information and resources, please visit the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Council's website at <http://www.adacdet.org> or contact our office directly at 1-800-445-8562. Let us work together to build a healthier, drug-free East Texas.

Paige Bentley is the PRC Public Relations Coordinator for the Region 5 Prevention Resource Center based in Lufkin.

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An Amazing Creature

By Maureen Peltier



We see them at night in our yards or on the sides of roads, wobbling around slowly with beady little eyes, short hairless ears, long rat-like tails, narrow rather unattractive heads, and bodies about the size of a house cat with a long snout. Sometimes they get mad and hiss as they show their sharp teeth.

Other times, they do the opposite and roll over like they're playing possum. Then if we leave them alone, they surprisingly come back to life. Yes, we're talking about the possum, that nocturnal creature we take for granted, but which is really quite unique.

Why? Because it is the only marsupial in North America and because it is the only animal in North America with a prehensile tail, which it uses like a fifth limb. The possum also ranks as the mammal with more teeth (50) in its mouth than any other animal in North America.

But what's with that playing dead behavior? Do possums serve any purpose? Can they hurt us? Could we eat them? What should we do when we see one? The answers to these questions may lead you to agree that they are a little amazing.

First, the answer to the question you always wondered about – is this creature called an opossum or a possum? They are formally named opossums, with a silent "o" like the silent "h" in the word hour. Since the "o" is not pronounced, it's perfectly okay to text your friends to tell them that you have an "opossum" in your yard. But if you're out with your friends in the yard at night and one shows up, you can tell them to come see the "pos-

sum". Suffice it to say that this little animal got the strange opossum name in the early 1600's from an Indian word. No matter how you spell it, you say "possum".

Since that's all cleared up, let's move on. The behavior we call "playing possum" occurs when they feel threatened. They are mimicking the appearance of a sick or dead animal so they can be left alone. What you might not know, though, is that you are witnessing an involuntary physiological response, similar to our fainting. When it happens, their lips draw back to bare their teeth, saliva foams around their mouth, their eyes close, and they emit a nauseating smell. It seems to work every time. They can be prodded, turned over or carried away, but they'll remain stiff. Makes us want to leave them alone! After a while, they regain consciousness and saunter away like nothing ever happened.

If they have a purpose, it would be as clean-up eaters, the ultimate scavengers, eating anything dead or alive, animal or vegetable. And if it's dead, they love it - animal, insect, rodent, bird, etc. When we see them on the road, they may even be eating the skeletal remains of roadkill that vultures leave behind. Possums need high amounts of calcium and their strong jaws and all those teeth allow them to easily crack and consume bones of dead animals. They also eat living things, like eggs, frogs, plants, fruits and grains, plus cockroaches, spiders, fleas and ticks. They keep mice and rat populations in check. When foraging at night, the possum keeps its nose to the ground, relying on its strong sense of smell and touch. But as we all know

too well, they especially relish an easy meal of dog and cat food, plus whatever scraps they find in your garbage can if you don't leave the lid on tight. We can give them a little credit though - they only come along after the raccoons have pried open the lid. Possums can't do that.

Being marsupial, like the kangaroos and koalas, the females have no placenta, meaning they have a very unique reproductive system. Their gestation period is only 11-13 days, allowing a female possum to have 1-3 litters per year. The newborn possums, much like embryos, are about the size of honeybees. After birth they migrate to the mother's pouch, which has thirteen nipples, formed in a circle with one in the middle. They nurse for about two months, at which time the young start to venture out and eventually cling to the mother's back as they begin to find food sources for themselves. At about 4 or 5 months they are on their own and begin reproducing themselves. A nursing mother is not often nimble enough to escape predators, so the lifespan of a female possum is only one or two years; few of the young even survive the first year. Likewise, male possums usually don't live more than two years.

With strong claws and that prehensile tail, they easily scale tree trunks and travel out on branches to hunt for food. Their climbing ability also allows them access to tree hollows where they sometimes nest.

At one time this animal was widely consumed in our country, with meat coming

from hunters or long-gone farms. Googling possum recipes results in thousands of hits. The most popular recipe is Possum Stew. The recipe says to remove the skin and as much fat as possible, rub down the meat with flour, salt, pepper, and thyme, cover it with a little water, add sweet potatoes, apples or various vegetables and cook everything for a couple of hours. Interesting YouTube videos give more specific instructions and other options you might like to try.

Presuming you don't want to hunt down a possum for your dinner table, but would rather that it move on out of your yard, what do you do? First, make sure it can't assess dark places under or around your house, then just leave it alone. It doesn't dig. It's not a rodent. It's solitary, very shy and not aggressive. It typically won't attack your dog or cat. It's just Nature's amazing chief sanitation engineer, working its night shift.

PUC seeks feedback on utility performance

Special to the Booster

AUSTIN — The Public Utility Commission of Texas encourages consumers in the Greater Houston area to share their experiences with power outages and utility performance during the May 2024 derecho and Hurricane Beryl.

To share their experiences, Texans can use a questionnaire linked on the PUCT's homepage. The questionnaire is available in English and Spanish and only takes about five minutes to complete.

"The most important people in our investigation into the preparedness and response to these devastating storms are the Texans who experienced these storms firsthand," said PUCT Executive Director Connie Corona. "We want to hear from you, whether you lost power during these storms or not. The information you provide will guide us in making changes to prevent a disaster of this scope in the future."

Nearly 1 million Texans lost power in May 2024 following the derecho. Hurricane Beryl stormed through the Greater Houston area as a Category 1 storm on July 8, leaving more than 2.6 million Texans without power.

At the direction of Gov. Greg Abbott, the PUCT is investigating the preparedness and response by utilities in the Greater Houston area to these extreme weather events. The PUCT must submit its findings with recommendations by Dec. 1.

The public can view Gov. Abbott's directive and public documents related to the investigation through the PUCT's Interchange website under Project No. 56822.

Meanwhile, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick sent a letter to the PUC urging them to claw back \$800 million of ratepayer money from CenterPoint.

Upon sending the letter, Patrick said in a statement: "As promised, here is the letter I sent to the PUC urging them to claw back \$800 million of ratepayer money from CenterPoint. I remain committed to fighting on behalf ratepayers to ensure they do not pay for CenterPoint's mismanagement."

In the letter, Patrick urged the Public Utility Commission of Texas to conduct an immediate review of CenterPoint Energy's Temporary Emergency Electric Energy Facilities Rider.

Patrick's letter states that utility companies can lease mobile generation units for use during emergencies causing large-scale power outages, such as severe storms or hurricanes to quickly get power to critical facilities following a major emergency.

It states that while several firms, including AEP and Oncor, leased small mobile generators, CenterPoint deviated from this approach, instead appearing to choose to prioritize profits over effectiveness. Rather than leasing small mobile generators as intended by the legislation, CenterPoint squandered \$800 million of ratepayer funds on massive non-mobile generators while spending only .000625% of that amount on what the legislation called for and would have actually helped their customers in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl.

As a result, CenterPoint was forced to borrow small mobile units from other firms while the large non-mobile generators sat idle.

During the recent Senate Special Committee on Hurricane and Tropical Storm Preparedness, Recovery, and Electricity hearing, it was revealed that CenterPoint's strategy of leasing these large generators will result in at least \$30 million in profits, despite providing limited to no benefit during over 99 percent of emergencies, the letter states.



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'Wildlife in Focus' expands photography contest Prizes now up to \$45,000

Special to the Booster

SAN ANTONIO – Wildlife in Focus, a non-profit organization which targets wildlife and ecosystem conservation in Texas, recently expanded its popular biennial photography competition in order to reach more landowners and photographers across the state.

The expansion includes plans to encourage the owners of any and all privately owned land across the state to participate in the contest. In addition, the organization has added a new category that allows individual photographers to compete for separate prize purses without being part of a landowner/photographer team.

The competition, which has existed for 20 years, has three entry levels: landowner/photographer team, videographer, and individual photographer. The two photography contests both span 50 categories, and the videography contest

has eight opportunities for entries. Total prize purse for all three contests, all categories, is

\$45,000. The goal of the competitions is to promote conservationism and to create a visual story of the beauty of native Texas land and wildlife, from insects to sunsets, from borders to bayous. The prize-winning photos for each competition are then used to produce a coffee-table book as well as promoting the educational outreach program of the organization, Kritters 4 Kids, which targets school-age children grades K-8.

"We are very excited to share that our upcoming contests are now available for landowners anywhere in the entire state of Texas," said Miles Phillips, Wildlife in Focus photo contest director. "Photographers and videographers from anywhere and with all levels of skill and time now have additional entry options."

Registration for the competition is now open at the wild-

lifeinfocus.org website. Deadline for entry is Dec. 1, 2024. The active window for photography is from Feb. 21, 2025 to May 31, 2025. Photographers and landowners can set up their own teams, or WiF will assist in pairing teams.

The registration fee is \$500 for each participant on the landowner/photographer teams. The individual photographer entry fee is based on the number of categories and photos entered and includes entry into the videography competition. The fee for entering the videography contest alone is \$100 each for landowner and videographer. Full rules for the contest, including equipment requirements, technology specifications, categories and prize purses, are available at wildlifeinfocus.org.

Any questions or concerns regarding the competition can be emailed to info@wildlifeinfocus.org or left in a voicemail at 361-342-9585.

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Legal Notices

Sheriff's sale/real estate September 3

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE (REAL ESTATE) BY VIRTUE OF A WRIT OF EXECUTION issued out of the Precinct 1 Justice Court of Tyler County, Texas, in a certain cause numbered SC9130266. On the 11th day of July A.D. 2024, styled: Bruce C. Kippely vs. John A. Gaines, to me, as Deputy directed and delivered, I have levied upon this 25th day of July A.D. 2024 and will between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday in September A.D. 2024, it being the 3rd day of said month, at the Court House of said Tyler County, proceed to sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash in hand, all right, title and interest, if

any, which the defendant had on the 11th day of July A.D. 2024, or at any time thereafter, of in and to the following described property: Property ID #3081, Geographic ID #R003081, Type: Real. Legal Description: A0110 BBB & CRR CO, TRACT 1, PT OF 2, ACRES 1.899. ADDRESS 249 CR 4374 SPURGER, TX 77660. Said property is levied on as the property of John A. Gaines and will be sold to satisfy the judgment for \$20,499.00 Dollars. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND on this 8th day of August A.D. 2024. Sheriff Bryan Weatherford Tyler County, Texas By Richard Cokes, Sgt. Richard Coker.

Tyler County announces Sheriff sale September 3

STATE OF TEXAS TYLER COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE §§ BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE DATED and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Tyler County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on August 2, 2024, seized, levied upon, and will, on the first Tuesday in September, 2024, the same being the 3rd day of said month, at the North Door under the Stairway, 100 West Bluff Street of the Courthouse of the said County, in the City of Woodville, Texas, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 10:00 AM, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Tyler and the State of Texas, to-wit: B-03381, Account No(s). R011031, TYLER COUNTY, ET AL VS. RANDA LEA GERSTLE KENNON, AKA RANDA LEA KENNON, ET AL, S5420 TIMBERLAKE SD (A846) LOT 27 ACRES 1.3930, with an adjudged value of \$13,512.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$2,739.85; situs: Sale Notes: B-03381, Account No(s). R011001, TYLER COUNTY, ET AL VS. RANDA LEA GERSTLE KENNON, AKA RANDA LEA KENNON, ET AL, S5420 TIMBERLAKE SD (A846) LOT 2 ACRES 0.5990, with an adjudged value of \$5,810.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,547.41; situs: Sale Notes: B-03381, Account No(s). R011054, TYLER COUNTY, ET AL VS. RANDA LEA GERSTLE KENNON, AKA RANDA LEA KENNON, ET AL, S5420 TIMBERLAKE SD (A846) LOT 49 ACRES 0.8220, with an adjudged value of \$7,973.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,694.61; situs: Sale Notes: B-3326, Account No(s). R010280, TYLER COUNTY, ET AL VS. TERRY LYNN MAYER, SR., AKA TERRY LYNN MAYER, ET AL, A0815 W. BROUGH BLOCK W ACRES 5.0, with an adjudged value of \$129,246.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$12,977.09; situs: Sale Notes: B-3333, Account No(s). R030809, TYLER COUNTY, ET AL VS. HAROLD BUFORD, AKA HAROLD GENE BUFORD, ET AL, S6003 WHITE TAIL RIDGE SEC 3 (A23) LOT 272 273 274, with an adjudged value of \$42,330.00, and an Estimated minimum

opening bid of \$10,814.51; situs: Sale Notes: B-3335, Account No(s). R009799, TYLER COUNTY, ET AL VS. JIMMY E. BELL, SR., AKA JIMMY EARL BELL, ET AL, A0729 J. D. PHELPS ACRES 1.0000, with an adjudged value of \$51,482.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$4,045.53; situs: Sale Notes: B-3358, Account No(s). R060131, TYLER COUNTY, ET AL VS. BARBRA MORRELL, AKA BARBRA ANN MORRELL, A0089 J. T. BEAN ACRES 5.707, with an adjudged value of \$197,864.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$52,141.93; situs: Sale Notes: (any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Tyler County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s) interest, penalties, and cost; and any property sold shall be subject to the right of redemption of the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the time and in the manner provided by law, and shall be subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs. Dated at Woodville, Texas, August 2, 2024 Notes: Sheriff Bryan Weatherford Tyler County, Texas By Deputy #14. The Minimum Bid is the lesser of the amount awarded in the judgment plus interest and costs or the adjudged value. However, the Minimum Bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgments against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or LINEBARGER GOGGAN BLAIR & SAMPSON, LLP, attorney for plaintiffs, at (936) 639-5040.

Hatch's Towing: Cargo Trailer

Hatch's Towing, L.L.C (VSF# 006601409C) has the following CARGO TRAILER at 31376 US HWY 96 BUNA TEXAS 77612 .NO VIN OR LICENSE PLATE AVAIL-

ABLE. The Charges per day in storage are \$22.76 per day plus the original Tow bill. Please contact us at 409-622-9100 for more information.

Hatch's Towing: Burnt Motorcycle

Hatch's Towing, L.L.C (VSF# 006601409C) has the following BURNT MOTORCYCLE at: 1116 STATE HWY 87 NEWTON TEXAS 75966 .NO VIN OR LICENSE PLATE

AVAILABLE. The Charges per day in storage are \$22.76 per day plus the original Tow bill. Please contact us at 409-622-9100 for more information.

City of Ivanhoe extends bid opening to Aug. 28

The City of Ivanhoe, Texas – CDBG-MIT HUD MID Lakewood Drive Improvements Project GLO Contract No. 04-065-027-E482

extended the bid opening until 9:00 AM on Wednesday, August 28th, 2024.

Estate of James Walter Henson

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of JAMES WALTER HENSON, Deceased (the "Estate"), were issued on July 30, 2024, under Cause No. PR-10038, pending in the County Court of Tyler County, Texas, to PAMELA HENSON HICKS and SUSAN KEENE MOORE. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows: Estate of James Walter Henson, Deceased, c/o Jeffrey D. Chadwick, Winstead PC, 24 Waterway Avenue, Suite 500,

The Woodlands, Texas 77380. All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated: August 9, 2024 WINSTEAD PC, By: Jeffrey D. Chadwick, Texas State Bar Number 24085243. jchadwick@winstead.com. 24 Waterway Avenue, Suite 500, The Woodlands, Texas 77380, Telephone: (281) 681-5900, Facsimile: (281) 681-5901, ATTORNEYS FOR THE ESTATE.

Legal Notices

Estate of Allen Richmond Spivey

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ALLEN RICHMOND SPIVEY, Deceased, were issued on August 7, 2024, in Cause No. PR-10096, pending in the County Court of TYLER County, Texas, to: CHARLES BRADLEY SPIVEY. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney at Law, 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664. DATED the 7 day of August, 2024. BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney for CHARLES BRADLEY SPIVEY State Bar No.: 24087471, 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664 Telephone: (409) 283-8288 Facsimile: (409) 283-8078 Email: brad@elrodlawtx.com.

Estate of Adolfo Chapa, Jr.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ADOLFO CHAPA, JR., Deceased, were issued on August 7, 2024, in Cause No. PR-10099, pending in the County Court of Tyler County, Texas, to: ALEX CHAPA. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the

undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: J. MICHAEL RISINGER, 314 S. Magnolia, Woodville, Texas 75979, DATED the 7th day of August, 2024. J. MICHAEL RISINGER Attorney for ALEX CHAPA State Bar No.: 24000483 314 S. Magnolia, Woodville, Texas 75979, Telephone: (409) 283-2324, Facsimile: (409) 283-8244. E-mail: jmichaelrisinger@att.net.

Estate of Andrew Joseph LeBlanc, Jr.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ANDREW JOSEPH LEBLANC, JR., Deceased, were issued on August 7, 2024, in Cause No. PR-10098, pending in the County Court of TYLER County, Texas, to: DANIELLE LEBLANC. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by

law. c/o: BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC, Attorney at Law, 130 South Charlton Street, WOODVILLE, TX 77664. DATED the 7 day of August, 2024. BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney for DANIELLE LEBLANC State Bar No.: 24087471 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664 Telephone: (409) 283-8288 Facsimile: (409) 283-8078 Email: brad@elrodlawtx.com.

Estate of Michael Paul McGinnis

Location Tyler County, Texas. NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MICHAEL PAUL MCGINNIS, Deceased, were issued on August 8, 2024, in Cause No. PR-10095, pending in the County Court of TYLER County, Texas, to: EILEEN FRANCES MCGINNIS as independent executor of the deceased's estate. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to

present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, as follows: c/o: HARVEY L. BLACK, JR., 16117 Acapulco Drive, Jersey Village, Texas 77040. DATED this the 8th day of August, 2024., HARVEY L. BLACK, JR., Attorney for EILEEN FRANCES MCGINNIS, Tx. Bar Number: 02382500, 16117 Acapulco Drive Jersey Village, Texas 77040, Telephone: (281) 500-7015, Facsimile: (832) 430-7774, E-mail: hlblackjr@aol.com.

Estate of Elwood Cleo Gore

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Elwood Cleo Gore were issued on June 5, 2024, in Docket No. PR-09996, pending in the County Court of Tyler County, Texas, to Donna Sue Fowler Gore. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required

to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows: Donna Sue Fowler Gore, c/o The Butler Law Firm, P.O. Box 1737, 1035 Redwood Street, Kountze, TX 77625. Dated August 12, 2024. /s/ Gary F. Butler, Gary F. Butler, Attorney for Executor of the Estate of Elwood Cleo Gore.

Estate of Wilbert Henry Marmion III

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of WILBERT HENRY MARMION III, Deceased, were issued on August 7, 2024, in Cause No. PR-10100, pending in the County Court of Tyler County, Texas, to: ELLEN MARIE RAIDL. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time

and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: J. MICHAEL RISINGER, 314 S. Magnolia, Woodville, Texas 75979 DATED the 7th day of August, 2024. J. MICHAEL RISINGER, Attorney for ELLEN MARIE RAIDL State Bar No.: 24000483 314 S. Magnolia, Woodville, Texas 75979, Telephone: (409) 283-2324, Facsimile: (409) 283-8244 E-mail: jmichaelrisinger@att.net.

Hatch's Towing: Camper/Buna

Hatch's Towing, L.L.C (VSF# 006601409C) has the following CAMPER at 31376 US HWY 96 BUNA TEXAS 77612 .NO VIN OR LICENSE PLATE AVAILABLE. The

Charges per day in storage are \$22.76 per day plus the original Tow bill. Please contact us at 409-622-9100 for more information.

Legal Notices

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District



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of opportunity to make comments or request a public hearing is hereby given by Brazos Transit District regarding the proposed one – two year pilot project for Demand and Response services for Tyler County. More information regarding the proposed Demand & Response service is available on our website at www.btd.org or by calling 979-778-0607. Written comments or a request for a public hearing are being accepted until **Friday, August 23, 2024** and must be sent to 2117 Nuches Ln., Bryan, Texas 77803 or via fax at 979-778-3606. If the proposed routes are not modified the new routes will begin **Tuesday, September 3, 2024**.

Please feel free to submit your comments or suggestions for the proposed fixed routes. Comments and suggestions should benefit the general public and not just one individual.

Comment forms are available on all buses.

Thank You.

AVISO PÚBLICO



Anuncio de la oportunidad de hacer comentarios o solicitar una audiencia pública la presente se da por Brazos Transit District con respecto al proyecto piloto propuesto de uno a dos años para los servicios de Demanda y Respuesta para los Condado de Tyler. Más información sobre el servicio de Demanda y Respuesta propuesto está disponible en nuestro sitio web en www.btd.org o llamando al 979-778-0607. Los comentarios escritos o una solicitud de una audiencia pública se aceptarán hasta el **Viernes, 23 de Agosto de 2024** y debe ser enviado a 2117 Nuches Ln., Bryan, Texas 77803 o por fax al 979-778-3606. Si las rutas propuestas no son modificadas, las nuevas rutas comenzarán el **Martes 3 de Septiembre de 2024**.

Por favor, siéntase libre de enviar sus comentarios o sugerencias para las rutas fijas propuestas. Los comentarios y sugerencias deben beneficiar al público en general y no solo a un individuo.

Los formularios de comentarios están disponibles en todos los autobuses.

Gracias.



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Policy
PLEASE CHECK your ad the first day it appears. We will correct any error as quickly as possible. However, we cannot be responsible for errors beyond the first day of publication day. Any error on a bordered ad must be brought to the attention of the classified department immediately. A correction will run in the following issue. It is the intent and goal of this newspaper to have each advertiser who wishes to place an advertisement in the newspaper comply with Fair Housing laws. Any advertisement, which is perceived to contain language contrary to these laws, will be rejected or changed to remove the offending statement. TO PLACE your classified ad in the Tyler County Booster call (409) 283-2516.

Announcements
Kids Free Clothing Exchange is a non-profit organization providing free, gently used clothing for children ages 0-18 years of age living in Polk and the other 6 surrounding counties of Lake Livingston. Donations of new and gently used clothing are appreciated. We are in Onalaska, Hwy 190 at 3186. Open Friday and Saturday, 10-3. Kfceonalaskatx.com (49-tfn-nc-PCE)

DEER HUNTERS WANTED, have camp with power and water, Tyler County, privately owned camp. Call 409-356-5767, leave message. (33-4t-cc-TCB)

CHRISTINE'S PLACE Resale Shop accepts donations and is open M-F, 501 W. Bluff in Woodville. 409-331-9939. www.westrengthfamilies.org. (1-tfn-nc-TCB)

A BOOKSTORE FOR CHARITY is located inside the Tyler County Booster newspaper office located at 205 W. Bluff in Woodville. All books are 25 cents each, or fill a bag for \$2. All proceeds benefit Tyler County non profits. Come shop with us for a good cause. (2-tfn-nc-TCB)

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CHARLIE'S TREASURES BIG SALE, Friday & Saturday, August 16 & 17, 10-4, 2922 Hwy 69 N, Doucette, Texas. Mexican pottery, metal art, cast iron, magnalite, pyrex. 281-520-7678. (33-1t-p-TCB)

Free
FREE - Coats for Kids is no longer open on a regular schedule, but if you are in need of a coat for your child, you can contact FBC Office at 409-283-2588 and leave a phone number where you can be reached. Someone will then contact you and arrange to meet you at the House of Hope to help you get a coat. (4-3t-nc-TCB)

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HARD WORKING TYLER COUNTY WOMAN, Landscaping, fence line clearing, painting, clean out flower beds, any outdoor jobs. Christal-409-224-5293. (31-tfn-p-TCB)

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Notice of Position Opening
SCHOOL-BASED
POLICE OFFICER
August 1, 2024

The CITY OF LIVINGSTON is accepting applications for (1) SCHOOL-BASED POLICE OFFICER for the Livingston Police Department. Experience preferred, but not required. This is a full-time position with benefits. Subject to emergency call-in and weekend duty. Must be Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) certified. Applications will be accepted at the Police Department, 208 W. Church Street, Livingston, Texas from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday. The deadline for accepting applications will be through Friday, Aug. 16, 2024, at 5:00 pm. For more information, a copy of the job description and summary of benefits, please contact Trisha Patton, Administrative Assistant to the Police Chief, at 936.327.3117. The City of Livingston is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. (31-3t-b-PCE)

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- HANDY PERSON HOME, 2 bed, 1 bath, approx. 720 sq. ft. pm .36 acre, Marion Drive North **SOLD** \$45,000
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 - 2.4 ACS: Stylish 3BR/2BA brick on lg. wood lot in Colmesneil, recent updates, lg. workshop. \$329,000
- HOMES ON LAND**
- 20+ ACS: Wildwood 2BR/2BA/2GA on 20+/- acs, golf boating, but room for horses, water hunting! \$749,500
 - HILLISTER: Sprawling 3BR/2BA hill top home, 1BR/1BA guest apt, pond, 19 open acres...\$521,300
 - 6+AC: 1BR/1BA cabin. \$129,500
 - 2 AC: Splendid stucco/stone 3BR/3BA/2GA, open floorplan, saltwater pool, nice landscaping \$485,500
 - 15 AC: Azalea Springs, pretty woods, (b/o) \$514,900
 - 46 AC: 2BR/2BA Cottage, barn, nice wood. \$561,600
 - 299+/- AC: Rolling pasture woods, neat 3BR/2BA cabin, creek, lake, FM 1745 in Chester. \$1,895,000
- LAND & ACREAGE**
- 280+/- AC: Rolling woods, developable tract, two county rd frtgs., home & lake bldg. sites. \$6,500/AC
 - 220+/- AC: Mix woods, lg. live sandy creek, electricity, rolling terrain, camp site, nr. Colmesneil...\$4,990/AC
 - 196+/- AC: Natural pine/hardwoods fronts US 190E and co. road, live creek, elect., homestead. \$5,390/AC
 - 152+/- AC: Nr. Fred on FM 92, mixed woods, creek, great hunting, lake/home sites, electricity. \$5,490/AC
 - 126+/- AC: Good hunting & timber land. \$3,595/AC
 - 103+/- AC: Rare untouched rolling hardwood forest, elect. avail, poss. home/lake sites, Wdvl. \$5,500/AC
 - 77+/- AC: Rolling tin. \$5,890/AC
 - 62+/- AC: Hilly mixed acres, huge hardwoods, 2 live sandy creeks, acc. to elec. great hunting. \$5,990/AC
 - 53 AC: Remote mixed timber, rustic farmhouse, electricity, 2 creeks, pretty rolling terrain...\$5,500/AC
 - 50 AC: Live crk, hilly terrain, good hunting \$6,490/AC
 - 49+/- AC: Mature mix woods, nr Warren \$5,990/AC
 - 48+/- AC: On U.S. Hwy. 287, mixed woods, live

- creek, access to elect, potential bldg. site \$6,500/AC
- 43+/- AC: U.S. Hwy. \$6,490/AC
- 43+/- AC: Rolling hills, hmsite \$6,490/AC
- 27+/- AC: Woods on U.S. 190E, Newton. \$3,200/AC
- 33+/- AC: Pretty rolling pasture, large lake, electricity avail, ideal country home big site Warren \$11,990/AC
- 28+/- AC: Mixed woods on CR 3000, long frontage, sloping terrain, elect. available, pot. bldg. \$6,990/AC
- 25+/- AC: Pasture, \$9,995/AC
- 22+/- AC: Heavily mix-wooded acres on CR 2150, access to elect., potential homesite, lv. crk. \$6,490/AC
- 19+/- AC: Nicely wooded good terrain for building site, end of private rd, access to electricity \$6,900/AC
- 17+/- AC: Out. \$6,900/AC
- 9+ AC: Acreage nr. Chester, fenced/elect. \$119,900
- LOTS: Woodville lots ready-to-build, off 69 \$24,900
- 6.9+/- AC: 600ft of comm front. US 69S...\$230,000
- LEASE: Res/com. 2,000+sf, 3-4 off/br. \$2,350/Mo

COMMERCIAL

- 18.96 AC: Woodville cleared on US 69S. \$495,000
- 9+/- AC: Ideal develop site, US 69S Wvle. \$430,000
- INDUSTRIAL: 20 \$999,000
- KIRBYVILLE: Com property downtown...\$384,560
- IN TOWN: 3/2 Con \$99,500
- 2+/- AC: Outstanding bldg. lot on US 69S \$200,000
- 6.9+/- AC: 600ft of comm front. US 69S...\$230,000
- LEASE: Res/com. 2,000+sf, 3-4 off/br. \$2,350/Mo

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Featured Listing
 Country Living Dream! - RARE 39 Unrestricted acres with your own 3.6+/- acre private lake and two creek-fed ponds. Ideal for hunting, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, or simply relaxing. Two older homes are situated on the property. One is currently occupied by the owners, and the other has a new roof. There is a carport near the house and a large open workshop on the property. Enjoy approximately 1 mile of meandering, hillside 4-wheeler or hiking trails and idealistic country living. Approximately 3 miles from Colmesneil, 10 minutes from Woodville, 40 minutes to Lufkin or Livingston, 1 hour to Beaumont, 2 hours to Houston. **\$625,000**

- golf course.....**PENDING** \$ 325,000.00
- Single-Family**
- Woodville: 4BD/2BA home on nearly half an acre lot inside the city limits.....\$229,995.00
- Jasper: Excellent opportunity for businesses looking to establish a presence in a desirable location, ensuring high visibility and foot traffic.....\$119,000.00
- Woodville: 3BD/1BA home on 1 acre of unrestricted land.....\$50,000.00
- Colmesneil: 39 Unrestricted acres with your own 3.6+/- acre private pond and two creek fed ponds. Two homes are situated on the property.....\$625,000.00
- Woodville: 3BD/2BA home w/privacy fenced back yard inside city limits.....\$190,000.00
- Woodville: 3BD/2BA home w/privacy fenced back yard inside city limits.....\$205,000.00
- Woodville: 3BD/1BA home on 1.5 acres inside the city limits.....\$195,000.00
- Woodville: 2BD/1BA home w/spacious LR/Kitchen, large yard, carport, 2 sheds, workshop w/2 garage doors, an RV cover, and a boat shed.....\$120,000.00
- Woodville: 2BD/1BA home situated on 2 acres w/ carport.....**SOLD** \$68,000.00
- Woodville: Beautiful 3BD/2BA w/2,964 SF situated on 2.9 acres.....**SOLD** \$439,000.00
- Woodville: Investors! Charming Fixer Upper w/4BD/2.1BA & 1,851 SF.....**SOLD** \$75,000.00
- Woodville: Investors! Residential home and commercial office building on a fenced lot w/hwy frontage. 2 BD/1 BA home has an open concept w/1,440 square feet. The commercial building is 720 square feet with 2 BD/1BA.....**SOLD** \$135,000.00
- Woodville: Well-maintained 3BD/2BA mfg home situated on 1.9 acres.....\$152,500.00
- Woodville: Spacious 3BD/2BA mfg home w/Generac situated on 1.7 acres. **SOLD** \$110,000.00
- Woodville: Spacious 2-story home w/4BD/4BA, 2 master suites, above ground pool, concrete driveway, covered patio & storage bldg. on 3+/- acres.....\$350,000.00
- Colmesneil: Charming 3BD/2BA home on .69 acre located within walking distance of the school. Large, fenced yard, LR, kitchen w/under cabinet lighting.....\$179,900.00
- Woodville: 3BD/2BA home with large yard & storage bldg. on 1-acre of land.....**SOLD** \$99,000.00
- Woodville: Ideal 2,205 sqft home w/3BD/2.1BA. Fenced/cross-fenced, storage building, large workshop and a 2-stall horse barn with feed & tack room.....\$299,900.00
- Colmesneil: 3BD/2BA waterfront home on Lake Amanda w/WBFP, carport, shop, covered boathouse, bulkhead, Veranda, outdoor kitchen & more!.....**SOLD** \$285,000.00
- Colmesneil: 2 or 3 BD/2.5 BA waterfront home on Lake Amanda w/WBFP, walk-in closet covered porch, wooden bulkhead, fishing dock.....\$229,000.00
- Woodville: 4/5BD/2BA waterfront home on Lake Charmaine.....**SOLD** \$295,000.00
- Colmesneil: Waterfront double-wide manufactured home combined with a single-wide through a thoughtful addition. Endless opportunities await.....**PENDING** \$260,000.00
- Colmesneil: 3BD/2BA brick home w/1,216 SF on 3 ac res.....**PENDING** \$205,000.00
- Village Mills: 3BD/3.1BA brick home w/2,988 SF on
- Country Homes/Acreage**
- Colmesneil: 7.6 wooded acres with a cozy hideaway cabin.....**PENDING** \$89,000.00
- Woodville: Beautiful 22.2+/- acre property with 3 bed/2 bath house with three car garage, water well, and open storage shed.....**PENDING** \$350,000.00
- Colmesneil: 3.97+/- acre property divided in two by a County Rd.....**PENDING** \$39,000.00
- Warren: 16+/- Unrestricted income producing acres.....**PENDING** \$110,400.00
- Colmesneil: 3BD/2BA Mfg home w/ storage bldg. on 15 acres.....\$250,000.00
- Colmesneil: 2 BD/2BA w/1/1 guest house situated on 20 acres.....\$475,000.00
- Colmesneil: Unrestricted! 7.3 wooded acres w/ electricity.....\$70,000.00
- Colmesneil: 11.5+/- acres w/hardwood & pine trees near the Neches River.....\$75,000.00
- Woodville: 3.77+/- acres w/a circle driveway & 30x30 shop & hardwood trees.....\$165,000.00
- Colmesneil: Custom-Built Modern Farmhouse on over 5 Acres! This gorgeous 4BD/2BA home has 1,904 SF of living space and 1K SF in covered porches.....\$375,000.00
- Colmesneil: 6.8 UNRESTRICTED acres w/a 1BD/2BA house, built in March of 2021. Water well, tankless water heater & underground electric. 20x30 garage w/a slab & electricity, a 20x20 shop w/electric & water plus a 20x25 carport. The property has CR frontage, trails & a branch along the back.....\$325,000.00
- Colmesneil: EXCELLENT HUNTING/RECREATIONAL PROPERTY! 28+/- acres w/a creek along the back and 546 feet of FM 256 W frontage.....\$165,200.00
- Woodville: Nestled at the very end of the county road, this 4-acre property boasts a 3 BD/2BA brick home surrounded by a beautiful canopy of trees.....\$225,000.00
- Woodville: 3 BD/2BA brick home w/1,216 SF situated on 3 acres. WBFP, above ground pool, fenced front yard, 3-car carport, storage buildings, and more!.....\$205,000.00

Lots

- Village Mills: Wooded corner lot located in Wildwood.....\$3500.00
- Woodville: 2 lots located within walking distance of Lake Charmaine.....**SOLD** \$16,950.00
- Woodville: 0.33+/- wooded acres on a well-paved road in Ivanhoe. Excellent lot for building and is within walking distance of Lake Tristan.....\$15,000.00
- Woodville: 3 WATERVIEW Acres with a water spigot already on the Property. Electricity available at the street. Land has been partially cleared **SOLD** \$55,000.00
- Woodville: Waterfront! Over half an acre Wooded Waterfront lot on Lake Galahad in Ivanhoe. The perfect getaway spot or dream home location.....\$ 99,000.00
- Village Mills: Wooded lot located on the 16th green of the golf course.....\$ 7,500.00
- Woodville: Vacant lot inside the city limits presenting a great opportunity for you to build to your liking with city utilities readily available.....\$20,000.00
- Hillister: 0.76+/- acre wooded lot located down a country road.....\$12,500.00

Gina Fowler REALTOR®, Broker, GRI, (409)382-5805
Ginni Stein REALTOR®/Sales Associate, (832)444-7787
KayCee Anthony REALTOR®/Sales Associate, (409)730-9558
Jessica Tant REALTOR®, Sales Associate, (409)926-4672
Amber Hamilton REALTOR®, Sales Associate, (409)698-6569
Dee Tisdale REALTOR®, Sales Associate, (346)423-7764

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