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POLK COUNTY ENTERPRISE



INSIDE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

THE DOMINANT NEWS AND ADVERTISING SOURCE IN POLK COUNTY SINCE 1904

75 CENTS



Proper pollinator conservation keeps cattle happy. Learn about this and more at the free East Texas Conservation Expo from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 14 at the Polk County Commerce Center and in Pedigo Park. PHOTO BY XERCES SOCIETY/ANNE STINE

Conservation expo to showcase sustainable practices, innovative ideas for landowners large and small

From Enterprise Staff

The first annual East Texas Conservation Expo (Expo), organized by the Piney Wood Lakes Chapter of Texas Master Naturalist (PWLTMN) and the Polk County Commerce Center, will come to life Sept. 14 at the commerce center and in Pedigo Park from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. This first of its kind event connects outdoor agencies, non-profits, and businesses with producers, suppliers and consumers, all sharing and learning about the latest technology, ideas, products, and services that promote conservation and sustainability.

Known for its beautiful landscapes and thriving recreational, hunting and lumber industries, East Texas faces an increasing demand for resources and the impact of urban growth. Texas Master Naturalists are committed to provide education, outreach, and service for beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas. PWLTMN created the Expo as a forum for education, collaboration, and inspiration on ways to operate farms, ranches, businesses, and cities without sacrificing our wildlife, woodlands, meadows, lakes, rivers and streams.

One of the highlights of the Expo will be the exhibition

area, where companies and organizations will showcase their products and services. Attendees can network with industry professionals, learn about the latest technology and resources, and discover ways to improve their operations while protecting the environment. Choose from dozens of workshops, seminars, and live demonstrations by recognized experts in agriculture, ranching, timber, water or wildlife management, or recreation, all free to families and individuals.

See EXPO → Page 2A

FEMA still assisting locally

From Enterprise Staff

FEMA continues managing two different disasters throughout the state of Texas – Hurricane Beryl and the April 26-June 5 storms and flooding. However, all FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers will be closed Monday for the Labor Day holiday.

Locally, the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center is located on the second floor of the Livingston Municipal Library at 707 N. Tyler Ave. in Livingston and the hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The center will reopen at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

FEMA Individual Assistance can help Texans recover from Hurricane Beryl by providing funds for basic and critical needs.

What kinds of help can FEMA provide?

FEMA may provide Serious Needs Assistance, Displacement Assistance, Home Repair Assistance, Rental As-

sistance, Personal Property Assistance, Transportation Assistance, Medical and Dental Assistance, and Funeral Assistance for eligible applicants. FEMA assistance is not a substitute for insurance, nor can it duplicate funding received for same purposes.

How can I apply for FEMA assistance?

To apply for FEMA assistance, homeowners and renters can:

- Go online to DisasterAssistance.gov.
- Download the FEMA App for mobile devices.
- Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. 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.
- Visit any Disaster Recovery Center. For locations and hours, go online to fema.gov/drc.

FEMA said I'm "not approved." What can I do?

If you disagree with the amount of assistance provided, you can appeal FEMA's decision and provide more information. However, many times, an application is determined to be "not approved" because of a missing document. Examples include:

- Proof of insurance coverage (Declaration Page.)
- Copy of your insurance settlement pertaining to damage caused by the storms.
- Proof of identity (U.S. passport, military I.D., Social Security card along with a federal or state I.D., a payroll stub that shows all or part of your Social Security number.)
- Proof of occupancy (lease or rental agreement, rent receipts, utility bills, motor vehicle registration, etc.) FEMA has provided more ways to meet this requirement.

See FEMA → Page 2A

ELECTION CANDIDATES

Cook seeking re-election to city council



My name is Alan Cook and I am seeking re-election as an alderman in the upcoming Livingston City Council race on Nov. 5. I was born in Livingston on July 10, 1965, and have lived in Livingston, Blanchard and Onalaska my entire life. My wife Toni and I and our daughters, Kristi and Amanda, have called Livingston home for the better part of the last 30 years. My wife and I own Cook Land Surveying Ent LLC, a business in the City of Livingston that was started by my father and his brother-in-law in November of 1964.

See COOK → Page 6A

Evans seeking council seat



Andy Evans is announcing his candidacy for the Livingston City Council in the Nov. 5 General Election. Evans and his wife, Allison Grube Evans, are the parents of three grown children – Caleb, Colby and Kirbie. "When Allison and I married, we made the intentional decision to stay here and to raise our family here. Livingston is a great place to call home," Evans said. "I'm very proud of the City of Livingston and its current and previous conservative leadership."

See EVANS → Page 6A



VOLUME 143 • ISSUE 70

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e a s t t e x a s n e w s . c o m

LAKE LIVINGSTON DATA AS OF AUG 30

Current level.....130.66 ft
Normal level.....131.00 ft
Discharge.....1792 cfs
Weekly rainfall total.....0.00in

TRINITY RIVER DATA AS OF AUG 30

Location.....Goodrich - Gauge GRIT2
Condition.....Normal Stage
Gauge height.....5.28 ft

FEMA

Continued from page 1A

- Proof of ownership (deed or title, mortgage documentation, homeowner's insurance policy, property tax bill or receipt, manufactured home certificate or title and home purchase contracts. FEMA has provided more ways to meet this requirement.
- Proof the damaged property was your primary residence when the disaster occurred.

You may need to submit these forms of additional information to resume the application process.

If you have questions about FEMA's decision, you may:

- Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
- Call the Disaster Assistance Helpline at 800-621-3362, open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. 7 days a week
- Visit a Disaster Recovery Center near you open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday–Saturday, closed Sunday

What does a FEMA inspector look for?

After you apply for disaster assistance, FEMA may need to verify your disaster-caused damage through a home inspection. Below are some of the things an inspector will look for:

- Is the exterior of the home structurally sound, including the doors, roof, and windows?
- Do the electricity, gas, heat, plumbing, sewer, and septic systems function properly?
- Is the inside of the house habitable and structurally sound, including the ceiling and floors?
- Is the home capable of being used for its intended purpose?
- Is there safe access to and from the home?

The inspector will verify your name, address, contact information, occupancy and ownership status, and insurance coverage. The inspector will walk through the home and note damage to the structure and to personal property caused by the disaster. In many cases, disaster-related damage may exist, yet the residents can still safely live in their

home. The inspection is only one of several criteria used to make a decision and an inspector does not decide whether you qualify for assistance. They will never ask for financial information or charge a fee.

Why did my neighbor get more money than I received for repairs?

Each case is different and every survivor has unique needs. There are numerous factors involved in this determination, including insurance status and the extent and type of damage documented.

I'm a renter. Do I qualify for FEMA assistance?

Renters whose property was destroyed or damaged by the disaster may be eligible to apply for federal assistance. FEMA grants can help pay for temporary housing. Renters may also qualify for grants to replace or repair necessary personal property, such as furniture, appliances, clothing, textbooks or school supplies, a personal or family computer, replacement or repair of tools and other job-related equipment required by the self-employed, primary vehicles, uninsured or out-of-pocket medical, dental, childcare, moving and storage expenses.

I am not a U.S. citizen. Can my household qualify for FEMA assistance?

To qualify for FEMA assistance, you or a member of your household must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified non-citizen. However, undocumented families with diverse immigration statuses need only one member of the family (including a minor child under 18) who is a United States citizen, non-citizen national or qualified non-citizen who possesses a Social Security number to apply.

A qualified non-citizen includes the following:

- Legal permanent resident ("green card" holder.)
- An asylee, refugee, or a non-citizen whose deportation is being withheld.
- Non-citizen paroled into the U.S. for at least one year.
- Non-citizen granted conditional entry (per law in effect prior to April 1, 1980.)

- Cuban/Haitian entrant.
- Certain non-citizens subjected to extreme cruelty or who have been a victim of a severe form of human trafficking, including people with a "T" or "U" visa.
- Legal residents in accordance with the Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Adults, including the undocumented, who do not qualify under one of the categories above can apply on behalf of a minor child who does qualify and has a Social Security number. The minor child must live with the parent or guardian applying on their behalf at the time of the disaster. The parent or guardian will not have to provide any information on their own immigration status or sign any documents regarding their status.

If I disagree with FEMA's decision, how can I appeal?

Every applicant has the right to appeal a FEMA decision. The appeal must be submitted within 60 days of the date of the decision letter.

FEMA will provide an Appeal Request Form that may be used to provide additional information with your decision letter. The decision letter from FEMA will provide information on the types of documents or information that must be provided in an appeal.

Your appeal may be submitted to FEMA in person at a Disaster Recovery Center, online at DisasterAssistance.gov or by mail or fax.

- By mail: FEMA National Processing Service Center, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055
- By fax: 800-827-8112, Attention: FEMA

FEMA cannot duplicate assistance provided to you by another source, such as insurance settlements or another program. However, if your decision letter states you are underinsured you may receive further assistance for unmet needs after insurance claims have been settled by submitting a copy of the insurance settlement or denial documents to FEMA.

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¹ Based on S&P Global Mobility March 2023-February 2024 new electric retail passenger car and light truck (EVW 1.3) registrations in the U.S. The growth calculation is based on percent change between March 2022-February 2023 and March 2023-February 2024. ² Monthly payment is \$20.04 for every \$1,000 financed. Example down payment is 23.1%. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 9/3/24. ³ MUST FINANCE THROUGH CADILLAC FINANCIAL. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 9/3/24. ⁴ LYRIQ purchases may be eligible for a Clean Vehicle Federal Tax Credit of up to \$7,500. Consult your tax, legal or accounting professional for general eligibility based on household income. Credit amount is subject to change © 2024 General Motors. Cadillac Financial and the Cadillac logo are trademarks and/or service marks of General Motors LLC, used with permission. Cadillac Financial is a division of GM Financial. All rights reserved. Cadillac LYRIQSM

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2022 Hyundai Sonata	\$23,995	2024 Chevrolet Trax	\$25,995
2017 Chevrolet Tahoe	\$24,995	2020 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	\$26,995
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Polk County Sheriff's Office makes numerous recent arrests

From Enterprise Staff

A brief vehicle pursuit and extensive search operation recently led to the arrest of Tracy Henderson Allen, 61 of Livingston.

A Polk County Sheriff's Corporal patrolling the FM 350 North area on Friday saw Allen operating a motorcycle. Knowing there was an outstanding warrant for Allen for evading arrest, the corporal turned on his emergency lights to conduct a traffic stop. Allen, however, evaded the stop and led deputies on a brief pursuit that ended when he drove up a private gravel driveway and lost control of his motorcycle, causing it to enter a small creek.

The corporal initiated a foot pursuit as Allen fled into a heavily wooded area. Additional units from the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Game Wardens and Livingston Police Department joined the search efforts.

Through the coordinated search, Allen was located and apprehended without further incident. He was arrested for the outstanding evading arrest warrant and now faces an additional felony charge of evading arrest

with a vehicle.

"The Polk County Sheriff's Office extends its gratitude to all of our local responding agencies for their quick response and effective assistance in reference to this incident," Captain Dave Sottosanti said.

In other sheriff's office activity, the narcotics division successfully executed two felony warrants recently in the Hwy. 190 east area, resulting in the arrests of two wanted felons.

Joshua Duane Wootton, 43 of Livingston, was charged with possession of a controlled substance. William Malcolm Bearss, 40 of Livingston, was charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance.

A New Caney man was arrested in conjunction with a recent theft at Livingston Lawn and Garden on Hwy. 59 North.

A caller to the sheriff's office reported seeing a male subject taking several zero-turn mowers from the business before leaving the scene. The caller provided a description of the vehicle and the trailer the suspect was driving. Deputies from the patrol division,

See **ARRESTS** ⇨ Page 6A

EXPO

Continued from page 1A

Several of the exhibits will feature activities for kids, also with a touch of conservation. This is a must-attend event for anyone concerned with conserving our natural resources by implementing sustainable land management processes.

Among the many partners helping with the Expo are the commerce center, Texas Parks

& Wildlife Department, Texas A&M AgriLife, Wildlife Habitat Federation, Texas Wildlife Association, Texas Grazing Lands Coalition, Texas A&M Forestry Service, Texas A&M Aquatic Diagnostic Laboratory, Texas Children in Nature, and SHSU Invasive Species Institute.

Attendees can also visit three food trucks, Corkie's Munchy Meals, El Trompo Villareal, and Myli's SweEat Ice, to purchase snacks. Raffle tickets will be sold for fun and useful growing, fishing, and sustainability items.

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POLK COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR SEPTEMBER 1-7							Information sourced from weather.com	Forecast Fire Danger twc.tamu.edu
SUNDAY PM Thunderstorms 86°/75° Chance of Rain 74% Wind NE 6mph	MONDAY Scattered Thunderstorms 87°/75° Chance of Rain 49% Wind ENE 8mph	TUESDAY PM Thunderstorms 87°/74° Chance of Rain 38% Wind ENE 7mph	WEDNESDAY Scattered Thunderstorms 85°/73° Chance of Rain 58% Wind NE 5mph	THURSDAY Isolated Thunderstorms 85°/72° Chance of Rain 58% Wind NNE 6mph	FRIDAY Partly Cloudy 87°/70° Chance of Rain 23% Wind NNE 7mph	SATURDAY Mostly Sunny 87°/68° Chance of Rain 18% Wind NE 5mph		

LIFE TRIBUTES

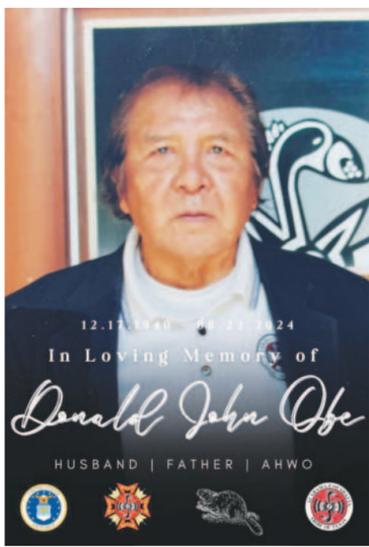
Donald John Obe

Donald was born to Mabel Battise and Boston Obe on December 17, 1940 in Elton, Louisiana and was of the Beaver Clan. He graduated from Jefferson Davis High School in Houston, Texas and went on to complete an associate degree after attending classes at Angelina College in Lufkin, Texas and McNeese University in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Donald served in the United States Airforce from 1961-1965, handling all aircraft technical supplies and parts for at least 16 aircrafts of the military and received an honorable discharge. He came back to Houston to work for RBM Enterprises and various machine shops. Donald also worked for ODECO as a roughneck and rotary worker on the drilling floor, as well as Exxon Company USA as a maintenance specialist working on flowlines, pipeline leaks, and tested oil wells in the field. With his extensive knowledge in the oil and gas industry, Donald worked in various oilfields in Schwab City, Village Mills, Hawkins and Conroe, Texas. He then worked for the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe in minerals management, interpreting drilling reports and lease and pipeline agreements. He went on to work part-time as a road planner for the Tribe, then switched his career to work as an employment coordinator at Coushatta Casino Resort in Kinder, Louisiana. Later, Donald became the Alabama-Coushatta Smoke Shop manager in 2000, finally retiring as Vice Chairman for the Board of Gaming Regulators for Naskila Casino.

Donald was always an advocate for Native American rights and was a proud member of the American Indian Movement. His strong will for advocacy spoke through his work for the Alabama-Coushatta and Coushatta Tribes. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and uncle who cared deeply for his family. He always supported his children and grandchildren at ballgames and powwows and loved cooking for family gatherings. He was an artist in his own right and was proud his sons following his footsteps in Native American artwork.

Donald passed away peacefully in his home on August 23, 2024. He is preceded in death by his parents, his stepfather Miller Battise, sons Ronald King Obe and Darren Wayne Obe, grandson Tallsun John Obe, sisters Mary Obe Williams, Leila Obe Battise, Ora Obe Williams, Irene Obe Stafford,



Donald John Obe
Passed away peacefully Aug. 23

brothers Lee Jenkins Obe and McKinley Obe, son-in-law Clint Poncho and sister-in-law Nellie Marie Sylestine.

He is survived by his wife Anna Lou Obe of Livingston, daughter Yolanda Obe Poncho of Livingston, grandsons Colden Hawk Poncho of Livingston, Shaundai Ne-ta Poncho and fiancé Brittany Taylor of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Darren Wayne Obe, Jr. of Livingston, granddaughter Sequoia Wind Obe of Livingston, and great granddaughter Miwa-Xuba Joyce Poncho of Tulsa, Oklahoma, daughter-in-law Lynn Obe of Livingston, sister-in-law Jennifer Poncho of Livingston, sister-in-law Melinda Sylestine and husband Dederá Sylestine, stepbrother-in-law Roland Poncho and wife Delores.

Pallbearers are Colden Hawk Poncho, Darren Obe Jr., Shaundai Poncho, Bryan Williams, Chad Alec, Kinney Alec, Nathan Williams, and Dane Williams. Honorary pallbearers are Gary Robinson, Timmy Zonk Langley, Dana Williams, Joe Thomas Jr., Bradley Williams, Jack Langley, Floyd Poncho, Stewart Poncho, Hayman Roger Austin, Jerry Langley and Ronnie Thomas.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Cochran Funeral Home of Livingston, Texas.

Debrah K. Foster

Debrah K. Foster was born July 20, 1949, in Austin, Texas to TJ and Stella (Leavell) Green and she passed away on August 28, 2024, in Livingston, Texas at the age of 75.

Debbie was a member of Schwab City Baptist Church and loved helping her congregation when she could. She enjoyed antiquing, traveling and nature. She was passionate about animals. Her favorite times were having Christmas gatherings with her family and making memories. Her greatest life lessons were her faith in the Lord, be kind to others and put God first. Debbie's biggest accomplishments were raising her kids, loving her husband and trusting in God.

Debbie is survived by her husband, Thomas Foster; daughters, Kimberly Moye and husband Stephen, Kerrie Liner and husband Terry, Wendy Schulz and husband Jimmy; sons, Thomas Foster, Matthew Reeves and wife Patricia, Scott Reeves and wife Lori; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, TJ and Stella Green; sister, Brenda Crimp and grandson Alex Dean.

A visitation was held from 5-8 p.m. Friday, August 30, 2024, at Pace Funeral Home in Livingston, Texas. A celebration of life was held at 10 a.m. Saturday, August 31, 2024, at Pace Funeral Home with Pastor David Jones officiating. Interment followed at Big Sandy



Debrah K. Foster
Visitation Friday, celebration Saturday

Cemetery in Dallardsville, Texas.

Services are in the care of Pace Funeral Home. To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.pacefuneral.com.

Samuel Joshua Guy Jr.

Funeral services for Samuel Joshua Guy Jr., 64, of Livingston, Texas, were held Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 2 p.m. at the Cochran Funeral Home Chapel in Livingston, Texas with Bro. Chris Knox officiating. Visitation was held Wednesday, August 28, 2024, from noon to 2 p.m. before the service began at the Cochran Funeral Home in Livingston, Texas.

Mr. Guy was born August 8, 1958, in Tyler, Texas and passed away August 21, 2024, in Livingston, Texas. He is preceded in death by his parents, Samuel Joshua Guy Sr. and Glenda (Bynum) Guy; sister and brother-in-law, Martha and Denny Gressett; and brother, David Guy.

He is survived by his son Joshua Guy and Brandy of Livingston, Texas; daughter, Sara Guy Johnson and Jacob of Tyler, Texas; grandson, Tristen Deramus of Livingston, Texas; granddaughters, Alyssa Guy and Abigail Guy both of Livingston, Texas; brother, Greg Guy and Kelly of The Woodlands, Texas; and sisters, Wanda Henry of Opelousas, Louisiana; Brenda Jones of Humble, Texas, and Rita Jackson of Livingston, Texas; along with numerous other relatives and friends.

Cochran Funeral Home was in charge of



Samuel Joshua Guy Jr.
Funeral held Wednesday
the arrangements. Please sign our online guestbook at www.cochranfh.com.

Dennis Wayne Sherman Jr.

A memorial service for Dennis Wayne Sherman Jr., 34, of Livingston, Texas was held Saturday, August 31, 2024, at 3 p.m. at the Cochran Funeral Home Chapel in Livingston, Texas. Visitation was held the day of service from 2-3 p.m. at the funeral home.

Dennis was born November 27, 1989, in Humble, Texas and passed away August 22, 2024, in Livingston, Texas. He is survived by his parents, Tammy Sherman and Dennis Sherman Sr.; daughter, Alexis Sherman; son, Zaylen Sherman; daughter, Kaylie Sherman; son, Dennis Wayne Sherman III; sister, Patty Sherman; nephew, James Christian Jr.; niece, Cassie Crawford; grandparents, Patricia Moore and Daniel Moore; uncle and aunt, Calvin Sherman and Debbie Sherman; uncle, Lee Sherman; aunts, Malisa Sherman and Michelle Moore; uncle, Sambo Whitmire; and special friend, Rene Kelly; along with numerous other relatives and friends.

Honorary pallbearers: Justin Sherman, Donald Howard, Mindy Howard, James Sumrall, Terry Sumrall, Cory Lee, Billy



Dennis Wayne Sherman Jr.
Memorial Service Saturday

Duncan, Auston Mize, Eric Mize, Richard Jones, Kenneth "Bubba" Gibson, Jarrett Ring, and James Christian Jr.

Cochran Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements. Please sign our online guestbook at www.cochranfh.com.

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Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 11:00a.m. – 1:00p.m.

- Tour our newly renovated facility (formerly Corrigan Funeral Home)
- Meet our Staff
- Enjoy a delicious Fish Fry Plate

OPINION

September is here and school is in session

MEETINGS

All government agencies hold regular meetings that are open to the public. Many agencies post agendas and minutes on their websites.

• POLK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT:

10 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the third floor Commissioners Courtroom at the County Courthouse at Washington and Church.

• LIVINGSTON CITY COUNCIL:

5 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the City Council Chambers at Livingston City Hall, 200 West Church (at the corner of Church and Jackson).

• ONALASKA CITY COUNCIL:

5 p.m. second Tuesday of the month at Onalaska City Hall on FM 356 South.

• CORRIGAN CITY COUNCIL:

6 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at Corrigan City Hall, 101 West Ben Franklin.

• GOODRICH CITY COUNCIL:

6 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at Goodrich City Hall, 1003 Loop 393.

• SEVEN OAKS CITY COUNCIL:

7 p.m. second Tuesday of the month at Seven Oaks City Hall.

• LIVINGSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

6 p.m. third or fourth Monday of the month at Livingston High School Campus, 400 FM 350 South.

• ONALASKA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

6 p.m. third Monday of the month at the OISD Administration Building, 134 North FM 356.

• CORRIGAN-CAMDEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

7 p.m. on the third Monday of the month at Corrigan-Camden High School Library.

• GOODRICH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

6:30 p.m. third Thursday of the month in the Goodrich ISD Administration, 234 Katie Simpson Street.

• BIG SANDY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

6:30 p.m. second or third Monday of the month in the Big Sandy ISD Board Room, 9180 FM 1276.

• LEGGETT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

7 p.m. third Monday of the month, Leggett ISD Board Room.

With September upon us, the school year is in full swing, football stadiums will light up the Friday night sky, and hunters across the state are chomping at the bit to get back into the field. As I'm sure many of you know, this year's dove season starts on September 1 and will run until the end of October, just in time for the duck and deer season.

That being said, here's a friendly reminder to all my fellow sportsmen and women to purchase a hunting license if you haven't already done so. You can pick one up at your local gun shop or sporting goods store as you're loading up for the season or even purchase one online through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Outdoor Annual App or on the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's website, www.tpwd.texas.gov.

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

House Interim Charge: Culture, Recreation, and Tourism

The House Committee on Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, which I am proud to serve on as chairman, has jurisdiction over bills regarding the creation, operation, and control of state parks, the regulation of hunting and fishing in the state, historical sites and their promotion, development, and regulation, and many other issues. The committee also oversees state agencies such as the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Historical Commission, and the Texas Arts Commission.

Over the interim, the committee will monitor the implementation of House Bill 2719 and Senate Bill 1648. HB 2719 authorized the Texas Historical Com-



Capitol Update

By Trent Ashby
State Representative, District 9

mission to acquire new historic sites, granted the commission sole jurisdiction of 26 historic sites, and allowed the commission to sell merchandise online. As the author of HB 2179, I was proud to carry this bill to ensure that the commission is run efficiently and enabled to promote Texas' valuable and diverse historical legacy.

SB 1648 established the monumental Centennial Parks Conservation Fund, which appropriated \$1 billion for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to acquire new land for future state parks. Voters approved the new fund in the November Constitutional Election last year as Proposition 14 with a whopping 74% of the vote.

Additionally, the committee will evaluate the impact of excessive shrimp imports from foreign countries on local economies, domestic shrimp populations, and public health. Over the next few months, the committee will identify measures to promote Texas Gulf shrimp and support local fishermen and coastal communities.

Finally, the committee will study the purpose and efficacy of the Texas Farm and Ranch Lands Conservation Program. The program conserves natural resources by protecting working agricultural lands from fragmentation and development. This program is vital to

protecting the future production and prosperity of agriculture in Texas, the preservation of Texas' natural resources, and Texas' heritage as a proud agricultural and rural state.

Over the next few months, the committee will identify the trends and impacts of land fragmentation given the state's rapid population growth, evaluate the risks of increased foreign ownership of Texas land resulting from fragmentation, and examine the ecological and economic benefits of existing and future land conservation programs.

The mobile office is on the road again in September, and our district director looks forward to seeing you on the following dates at the following times: Sept. 4 at the San Augustine County Courthouse in San Augustine from 9-11 a.m., Sept. 11 at the Polk County Commissioners Courtroom in Livingston from 9-11 a.m. and the Tyler County Commissioners Courtroom in Woodville from 1:30-3:30 p.m. and Sept. 18 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/>.



Don't forget to purchase your hunting license

Fall is just around the corner! Which means the 2024-2025 hunting season is here. Dove hunting season opens this weekend. Be sure to get a license from Texas Parks and Wildlife and as always, be safe.

Here are five things happening around your state:

Business and Commerce Committee discusses Artificial Intelligence, Texas Energy Fund

This week, the Senate Business and Commerce Committee held a hearing on two interim charges, one regarding Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the other on the Texas Energy Fund. The charge asks the committee to recommend a responsible regulator framework for AI development, including data privacy, industry standards, consumer protections, risk mitigation, and compliance processes. The committee heard from higher education professionals that study AI about how AI works, the levels of AI, and how it's commonly used. Panels also discussed AI in the public sector at state agencies, AI in the private sector, and AI in media, like the press, music, movies, and broadcasting. Ultimately, the state should develop a framework that addresses AI responsibly with the consumer in mind but is not overly burdensome on new technology. It's an intricate, but important balance to strike.

The second charge the committee discussed was on the Texas Energy Fund (TEF). The TEF was created last session by Senate Bill 2627, by Sen. Charles Schwertner. It created four programs designed to incentivize the construction of more generation for the power grid. The fund was appropriated \$5 billion last session.

This week, the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) selected the initial projects that will be funded by one of the programs. Out of 72 applications, 17 projects were selected to move on to the due diligence phase of the program. These projects represent 9,781 megawatts of new generation and a technologically and geographically diverse portfolio. This is another critical step forward toward the state's commitment to enhancing the stability of the grid and increasing generation resources.

One million ineligible voters removed from rolls

Governor Abbott announced this month that Texas has removed over one million ineligible people from the voting rolls since



My Five Cents...

By Robert Nichols
State Representative, District 3

from the rolls, over 6,500 were noncitizens, over 6,000 had felony convictions, over 457,000 were deceased, over 463,000 on the suspense list, over 134,000 had moved, over 19,000 requested to cancel their registration, and 65,000 failed to respond to a notice of examination. The safety and security of our elections is paramount and it's our duty to maintain accurate voter registration rolls.

TxDOT announces record \$148 billion ten-year plan

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Governor Abbott announced a record \$148 billion investment in Texas' transportation infrastructure. That includes a \$104 billion ten-year transportation plan and over \$43 billion for development and routine maintenance. This plan is a \$5.6 billion increase in total investment from the previous year. According to the department, many of the projects on the Unified Transportation Program (UTP) are roads included on Texas' 100 most congested roadways list. Also included in the UTP is \$17.3 billion for safety and \$1.7 billion in funding for rural corridors and key roadways in economic hubs.

HHSC awarding \$3.3 million to rural hospitals for labor and delivery services

This month, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announced the Rural Hospital Maternal Care Operations Grant for rural hospitals that are not currently providing inpatient labor and delivery services. The funding totals \$3.3 million and provides qualifying hospitals a one-time payment of \$35,000 to purchase neonatal equipment, supplies, and training for emergency labor and delivery services. Grant applications are open now and close on September 13.

Big Time Texas Hunts open for applications, hunting licenses now available

The Big Time Texas Hunts draw is open for applications. There are 10 premium guided hunt packages and new opportunity this year to win a chance to free-range hunt a mature male aoudad ram in the Trans-Pecos region. Also new this year, wild game chef Jesse Griffiths will join the draw winners of the Big Time Bird Hunt and give a private cooking lesson to the winner on the turkey hunt. Entries are available online for \$9 each or at a licensed retailer for \$10 each. The deadline to purchase is October 15 with winners announced within two weeks. Additionally, Texas hunting and fishing licenses also went on sale this month. Happy hunting!

Sen. Robert Nichols represents Senate District 9, which includes Polk County, in the Texas Legislature.

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A word from one of our local pastors

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22

His first name was Ray, but I knew him as Mister Vance. His son and I were of an age. Mr. Vance was an Elder in our church. Even as a small child, I knew that Elders were very special in that church. They were, in many ways, more venerated than the pastor. I admired Mr. Vance. He appeared to me to be someone



John Hirling
Int Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Livingston

who walked the walk. Soft spoken. Even tempered. A good man. A godly man. One day the deacons were meeting at Mr. Vance's house. My dad was a deacon, so he was included, and I went with him. Ben and I were playing in the front yard when out came Mr. Vance – red-faced and fuming like a locomotive. To this day I would almost swear I saw steam spewing from his ears and nostrils. And in that instant, the model Christian I had built up in my mind, crumbled to dust. Of course, Mr. Vance is not unique. Few of us, if any, haven't 'lost it' a time or two – or three – or four. For me, and I suspect, for others reading this, when we look in the mirror, there is a gap between the person we see and the person we think we ought to be – even the person we want

to be. It isn't always easy to translate faith into daily lives. It's not up to me to take anyone's inventory but my own, but it's fair for each of us to ask ourselves to what degree and how our faith influences our day-to-day decisions and actions. Many years ago, I wrote a sermon to be preached on Super Bowl Sunday. I called it The Longest Half Yard. It played on the idea of the longest yard in football being the one just before the goal line. The longest half yard for Christians, I suggested, is the 18 inches between the head and the heart. Real faith includes thinking – but not just thinking. Real faith includes feeling – but not just feeling. Real faith is more than the sum of thinking and feeling. Real faith is so integrated into our being that no one

can see where the disciple ends, and the citizen begins; where the follower ends and the parent begins; where the believer ends and the employee begins. True faith, the letter of James claims, goes beyond the intellectual and the emotional to the practical. It doesn't let us sit passively; it makes us active participants in God's work. It doesn't simply stir our emotions; it puts us in motion. True faith is about doing the Gospel. True religion won't be found in the ability to spout doctrines. It isn't found in winning an argument based on scripture. "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God is this," James writes, "to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world." (James 1:27)

POLK COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

- Apostolic - Family Life Church
4362 US Hwy 59 South, Livingston, TX 77351. Church 936-365-3113, Pastor 936-328-3454. Sun. School 10 am, Sun. Worship 11 am. Wed., Bible Study 7:30 pm, Fri. Youth 7:30 pm. Rev. Cary Baskin.

- Assembly of God - Beech Creek
Pastors: Don & Lori Goodwin, Hwy 190 E. @ Beech Creek Road, 327-3441. Sun. School 9:45am; Morn. Worship 10:30am; Evening Worship, 6pm; Wed. Mid-Week Service & Family Night Weds. 7pm, Royal Rangers, Missionettes & Youth.

Indian Village
Pastor: Keith & Elaine Tucker, Hwy 190 East of Livingston, 936-933-7902. Sun. School 9:45am; Morn. Worship 11am, Evening Worship 6pm; Wed. 7pm

Livingston First Assembly of God Church
Chris & Tina Borden, Pastor; 2025 N. Houston, 327-4468; Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:30am; Sunday Evening Worship 5:30pm; Wed. Family Night, 7 pm

Onalaska
Pastor Cameron and Sarah Veazey; Old Trinity Road; 646-5675, Pastor's phone: 465-9000; Sun. School 9:45am; Morn. Worship 10:45am; Sun. Night Service 6pm; Wed. Night Service 6pm

- Baptist - Ace Baptist
John A. Taylor, Pastor; FM 2610 P.O. Box 381 Ace, 77326. Ph: 936-327-7909. Morn. Worship 11am

Anderson Chapel Baptist
Rev. Donald Vance, Pastor; 108 E. West Street; Services held Sun. School 10am, Sun. Morning Worship Ser. 11am, Wed. Ser. 7pm Located 108 E. West St., Livingston.

Antioch Baptist Church
Pastor Gregory Johnson; Sun. School 10am; Worship Service 11am. Wed Bible Study 6pm. Located on 350 South, past Florida's Kitchen. Take new right (on Antioch Rd). Church will be to right off of 350. 936-933-5565.

Beacon Bay Baptist Church (Southern Baptist)
Pastor Lee Johnson; 7249 FM 3126 @ SH 350 South; 936-967-0445; Sun School 10am; Worship 11am; Sun Evening 5pm; Wed Kid's Club & Lightkeepers Student Ministry 5:30pm (meal served), Adult Bible Study 6pm.

Bethel Baptist
Harold Isaacs, Pastor; 936-327-6077; Sunday School 9:45am, Sunday Services 11am. Located in the Bold Springs Community. From 190W take FM 350N and go 8 miles.

Big Sandy Baptist
563-2304, Sunday School, 9:45am, Sunday worship 11am, Evening worship 5pm.; Wed. Prayer Meeting 6pm

Blanchard Baptist
Pastor Dr. Fred Alford; 2450 FM 2457, Livingston (corner of FM 2457 & FM 3126); 936-967-8794 or 936-566-4780; Sunday Bible Study 9:45; Sunday Morning Worship 11am; Sunday Evening Worship 6pm; Wed. Bible Study & Prayer Service 6pm

Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor, Ernest Moyers; Highway 190 W. 5 miles from Livingston; Sun. School 10am; Morn. Worship 11am; Training Course 5pm; Evening Worship 6pm; Wed. Bible Study 7pm; American Baptist Assoc.

Central Baptist
Pastor, Sonny Hathaway; 503 N. East Ave., Livingston, 327-5614; Sundays: 8:15am Adult Bible Study, 9:30am Worship, 11:00am Bible Study for all ages; Activities for Youth & Children Wednesdays: 6:00pm Worship Service, CRAVE Student Worship, Children Activities.

Chesswood
Rev Robert Green; Hwy 59 S; 936-327-8870; Sunday School, 9:45am; Church Services: Sunday 11am & 6pm, Wednesday 7pm

Damascus Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor John Henderson, 6390 FM 1987, Corrigan. 936-327-9228. Sunday School 10am. Sunday Worship service 11am.

East Tempe Baptist Church
Pastor William Renfro; 1340 FM 350 S (2 miles from 190 W.), Livingston; Sun. School 10am; Sun. Morning Worship 11am

First Baptist Church Corrigan
398-4177, 103 N. Collins, Bible Study 9:45am; Sun. Morning Worship 11am, Wed. Services, Children's Teammates 5:45pm, Youth Night 7pm, Bible Study & Prayer 6pm.

First Baptist of Livingston
Pastor Brett Lester, 106 Colt Rd., 327-4417. Sunday morning 9am, 10am & 10:30am, evening 6:00pm; Wed 6pm children thru senior adults.

First Baptist Church of Providence
Bro Robert Murphy, Pastor; 898 Providence Rd (off Hwy 146 S); Sunday School 9:45am, Sunday Worship 10:45am, Sunday Bible Study 6pm, Wednesday Youth Disciple Class 6pm.

First Baptist Church Wild Country Mission
Pastor Bobby Horn; 16241 Hwy 146 S, Livingston (about 15 miles south of town); 936-581-9634; Sunday School 9:30am, worship 10:30am

First Community Missionary Baptist
Rev. Curtis Hester, Hwy. 59 N., Seven Oaks; Sun. School 9:30am; Sun. Worsh. 11am & 6pm; Wed. 6pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study.

First Texas Indian Baptist
Church 936-563-5288; 17 mi. E. of Livingston on Hwy. 190. Sun. School 10am; Morn. Service 11am; Evening Service 6pm; Wed. Service 7pm

Forest Branch Baptist Church (Southern Baptist)
Rev Clint Ferguson; Hwy. 59 N. Sun. School 9:45am; Morn. Worship 11am; Evening Worship 6pm; Wed. prayer meeting 7pm; 327-7410.

Garner Chapel Missionary Baptist
FM 3126 between FM 350 & FM 1988, 967-8216; Sun. School 9:30am; Worship Service 11am; Pastor Eldridge Nickson

Goodrich First Baptist
Pastor Tom Owen; Sun. School 9:45am, Sun. Morning Worship 11am Traditional Service w/Bible Verse Preaching Sunday & Wednesday 6pm

Holly Grove
Gary Lawrence, 685-4838, Sun. School 9:45am; Sun. Morn. Worship 10:45am; Sun. Eve. Serv. 6pm Worship Service 10:45am.

Leggett Baptist
Pastor Bro. Tim Thompson, 162 Freeman Road, Leggett; Sun. School, 10-11am; Worship hour 11am; www.leggettbbaptist.org

Magnolia Hill Baptist
FM 943, 936-685-4493; Sunday Worship 11am

Macedonia Baptist Church
Colita St., 327-3212. Kenneth Darden, Pastor; Sun. School 9:30am; Sun. Worship 11am; Wed. Night 7pm; Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

Mayo Chapel Baptist Church
Pastor Elder Johnny K. Johnson, Jr.; 308 S. West St, Corrigan; 936-398-4583; Wed Bible Study 6-7:30pm, Sun School 9:30-11am, Sunday Worship 11am.

Moscow Baptist
1 Blk W. of 59 on FM 350 near park 398-5204. Sun. School 9:50am; Morning Worship 10:30am; Evening Worship 1:30pm; Wed. Night Bible Study, Youth activities at 7pm

New Hope Missionary Baptist
FM 296, Goodrich, 936-365-2052; Pastor: Rev. Paul High; Sunday School 9:45am; Worship 11:30am; Wed. Prayer Meeting 7pm; Bible Study 7:30pm; Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm

Onalaska First Baptist
Pastor Allen Bramlett; 463 S FM 356, 646-3378; Sun. School 9:40am, Worship 11:00am; Sunday Evening 6:00pm; Wed. Activities for All Ages 6:00pm.

Pine Forest Baptist
Pastor Sean Ferry; 10537 US Hwy 190W in Onalaska, 646-4803; Sun. School 9:00am, Worship 10am; Sun. Evening 6:00pm; Wed. evening 6:00pm

Primera Iglesia Bautista Central (Spanish)
Pastor, Hector Marrufo; Sun. School 9:45am, Worship 11:00am & 5:00pm, Weds. Prayer 7:00pm, Youth 516 DeLa Morton, Livingston; 327-3630.

Providence #2 Baptist Church
Rev. Freddie Marshall, Pastor; 713-870-6600; Old Hwy 35 N, Seven Oaks; Sunday: Sunday School 10am and Worship Service 11am.

Schwab City
Pastor David Jones; 327-5989; Sun. School 9:45am; Morn. Worship 11am; Sun. evening 6pm; Wed. prayer meeting 6pm

Soda Baptist
Interim Pastor Lynn Sasser. 936-252-4210; Sun. morning & evening services, Wed. service

Stryker Baptist
Pastor William "Peanut" Glass, Stryker Rd 5 miles out of Corrigan, Sun. School 9:45, Sun. Service 11am.

Sunflower
Pastor Mitchel Murphy 936-425-6069. Sun. Services 10am, 11am & 6pm; Wed. Night Youth 6pm.

Wakefield Baptist Church
3253 FM357 Corrigan; 936-829-3988; Pastor Robert Lankford 936-676-0860. Breakfast served 8am, Services Sun. 9:30am, 10:30am, 6pm; Wed 7pm.

Winnie Street Baptist
327-5810; Sun. School 9:45am; Worship Service 10:45am; Evening Service 6pm; Wed. night Services, 7pm; 5th Sunday dinner after worship service

- Catholic - St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Livingston
Father Tarsisius Puling, S.V.D.; 2590 Hwy. 190 W. Sun.-English Mass, 9am, Sun. Spanish Mass 11am Sat. English Mass 5:30pm; 967-8385

St. Martin's Catholic Church
287 South & Gosset Road, Corrigan; Sun. Bilingual Mass 1pm; 398-2807 or 967-8385

- Church of Christ - Corrigan Church Of Christ
Preacher Robert Raif, 936-398-2269, Hwy 287 West at Eden St., Corrigan, TX 75939. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30am, Worship Service 10:30am, Evening Service 5:00pm, Wed. Bible Classes 7pm

Livingston Church Of Christ
Lindell Mitchell, Minister; 1101 W. Church St., Sun. Bible classes 9am, Sun. morning Worship 10am; Sun. evening Woprsip 6pm Wed. Bible classes 7:00pm

Northside Church Of Christ
Preacher Arthur F Moody, 1 mi. W. of 59 Bypass on US 190 West just beyond the traffic light at Hwy 350 South; 936-967-8521. Sun. Morning Bible Study 9:30am; Sun. Worship 10:30am & 4pm; Wed. Night Bible Study 6pm.

Oak Grove Church Of Christ
190 E. 7 mi. E. of Livingston, 9am Sun. School, 10am Church, 6pm Eve. Worship; Evangelist/ Minister Mike Miller.

Onalaska Church Of Christ
13570 US Hwy. 190 West in Onalaska, 936-646-3517, Minister Gary Bodine, Sun. Worship Services 10am and 6pm, Bible Classes for all ages: Sun. 9am and Wed. 6:30pm

Pine Grove Church Of Christ
Minister Norman Turner, FM 62, 1/2 mile off of 287. Sunday School 10am, Worship Service 10:45am, Bible Study 5pm, Worship 6pm

The West End Church Of Christ
1207 Colita Street, 327-2707. Sun. Morning Bible Class 10am; Sun. Worship 11am and 6pm; Wed. Bible Study 6pm

- Church of God - Lake Livingston Church of God
3072 FM 350 S., 936-967-0191, Pastor Robert Chambers. Sun. School 9:30am, Sun. Worship 10:15am; Sun. evening 6pm Wed. eve. 6:30pm

Revival Center Church of God of Onalaska
585 FM 3459, 936-646-2272. Sun. School 9:45-10:30am; Worship Service 10:30am; Evening Worship 5pm; Wed. Worship Service 6pm

- Church of God in Christ - Bibleway Church of God in Christ
251 Loop 116 Livingston; Pastor Lawrence Brackens; 832-330-8802; Sunday School 9:45 am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:45am; Bible Study Tues 7:00 pm

Creekwood Church of God in Christ
Elder Robert Randolph, Pastor; Sunday School 9:45am, Worship Service 11am; Bible Study, Wednesday 7:45pm 936-365-3700, Goodrich.

Guiding Star Church of God in Christ
Pastor Roosevelt Bogany; Goodrich 936-365-2381; Sun. School 9:30am, Sun. Ser. 10:30am, Wed. eve. 6:30pm Bible Study, Guiding Star Rd. off FM 1988.

Holy Ground International
Pastor: Elder Manual Dunham Jr.; 203 East Calhoun St, Livingston; 936-327-2906; Sun. Morn. Worship 9 am; Bible Study 7:30 pm; Thurs.

Smith Memorial Church of God in Christ
Pastor Broderick Gordon; Services Wed 7pm, Sun 10am; 3405 FM 3126, Livingston, 936-967-4854; Heather Smith 682-330-4566 for more info.

- Cowboy Church - Polk County Cowboy Church
Pastor Steve Fredericks, Sun. Morning Worship 10am, Barney Wiggins Memorial Arena, Hwy 146, Livingston. For more information call 281-779-6239.

Ridin' on Faith Cowboy Church
Pastor Rick Clark, Worship Minister Gayla Clark; 4934 E. FM 1988 Livingston; 936-252-8100; Sun service 10:30am, 6:30pm; 1st Sun gospel singing & fellowship; 3rd Sunday fellowship luncheon after service; Tues Bible Study 6:30pm

- Episcopal - St. Luke's Episcopal
N. Willis; Sun. School 9:15am; Church Serv. 10:30am, 327-8467

- Letter-day Saints - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
2023 N. Houston Ave., Livingston; Sunday Ser. 10am; Bishop Steven Crockett (936) 327-5117.

Community of Christ
259 FM 350 N., Sunday Ser. 9:45am Worship 11:00am; Pastor Tommy Bacon (713) 384-9338.

- Lutheran - Lake Livingston Lutheran ELCA
FM 3152 at 190 W. Onalaska, 646-5681. Sunday School, Adult Bible Study 9:30am; Worship 11am

Trinity Lutheran LCMS
Bus. 59 S. 327-3239, Pastor Alex Garber, Sun. School & Bible Class, 9am; Worship Service, 10:30am

- Messianic - Messiah Yeshua Messianic Assembly
Congregation Leaders Robert Abate and Michael Forbes; 210-232-1996, 936-239-4971; 602 S Washington, Livingston; Saturday Morning inside Java Coffee Shop/Front of Center for Hope

- Methodist - Hope United Methodist Church
296 Co Rd 2615, Chester; umc.arise.etx@gmail.com; Sunday Worship 11am.

First Methodist, Livingston
Rev. Joel McMahon, Pastor; 2801 Hwy. 190 W.; 936-327-7100; Contemporary Serv. 9am; Gospel Serv 9am; Sunday School 10am; Traditional Serv. 11.

First United Methodist, Corrigan
Pastor Mike Waters, Sunday service 11 a.m., 101 N. Market; 936-398-2438.

First United Methodist, Onalaska
700 Hwy 355 S., Onalaska; 936-646-5859; Worship Sunday 10am and Facebook Live @OnalaskaFUMC; www.onalaskatxfumc.com

Goodrich First United Methodist
Pastor John A. Moye; Sun. School 9am; Sun. Service 10:25 am; Bible Study, Mon. 10:30 a.m. and Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Loop 393, Goodrich, 936-365-2435.

Mt. Vernon Corrigan United Methodist
Rev. Robert Twine; Sun. School, 10am; Morn. Worship, 11am 1st & 3rd Sun.

Livingston Memorial United Methodist
Pastor Robert Alexander; 115 West St, Livingston; Every Sun except 5th 9:30am.

St. Luke's United Methodist
Rev. Robert Alexander, Pastor, Services held at Pleasant Hill United Methodist 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sun. 11:15am

Sebastopol Congregational Methodist
Pastor Max Wells, Hwy. 356 at 355; Sun. School 10am

- Nazarene - Livingston First Church of the Nazarene
Fred Huff, Pastor; 3430 Hwy. 190 W., Worship 10:45am, Sun School, 9:30am; Wed. Worship Services all ages 6pm 936-327-1937

- Missions - Mission-On-The-Hill
Liberty St. at GOTDEL in Livingston. Services Sun. 10:a.m. Pastor June Gentry. For information, call 327-5201 or 327-8863.

- Non Denominational - Camp Ruby Community Church
Hwy. 1276 off 190 E. approx. 1 1/2 miles. Sun. Service, Worship Service 11:00am, Bible Study Wed. 7pm

Centro de Vida
Pastor Vincent Hernandez; 2476 FM 3277, Scenic Loop, Livingston; Sunday service 10:30am; 903-733-4603

Church On The Lake
Sun. Services 10:30am; Wed. Service 6:30pm; Pastor Mike Hooper at new address: 8125 Hwy 190 W., Livingston, TX, 936-967-4240.

Corrigan Full Gospel Tabernacle
James Stevenson, Pastor, Hwy. 287 - 6 mi. W. of Corrigan; (Carmona Cemetery) Sun. School 10am; Morn. Worship 11am; Sun. 6pm; Wed. 7pm

Corrigan Jesus Name Apostolic
Corner of Front & Market Street; Sun. School 10am; Sun. Service 6pm; Tues. Service 7pm; Brother Carl Stanle, pastor

Escapes Care
Sunday Evening Vespers Service, 5pm; Care Center, 155 Care Center Drive, Livingston. 936-327-4256.

Faith Christian Center of Livingston
2747 Glory across from corner Texaco; 967-0717; Sun. School, 9:30am; Morn. Worship 10:30am; Evening Worship 7pm; Wednesday Evening Worship 7pm

Faith Temple COGIC of Corrigan
700 Martin Luther King Dr., Elder Freeman, Pastor.

Fellowship in The Pines Church
Pastor Roland Coyle, 1936 FM 2610 (across from the Ace Post office) 936-685-4777, Sun. Prayer Ser. 8:30 am, Sun. School 9:30 am, Worship 10:30 am, Evening 6:30 pm, Tues. Bible study 6:30 pm, Youth Ministry Wed. 6 pm, Evening Worship 6:30 pm, Nursery available, Dinner last Sun. of every month.

Good News Biker Church Ministry
Pastor JC Cribbs, 936-355-8587, Asst. Pastor Debby Elledge, 936-433-5903, Services: Sun. 11am & Tues. 7pm, Thurs. night Bible study 7pm. 4678 N. FM 356 in Onalaska (backside Machine Shop 356).

Hickory Grove Church
FM 1988; Sunday School 10am, Morning Worship 11am; Sunday Evening 5pm; Wednesday 7pm Pastor Wayne Landrum.

Indian Springs Chapel
the Rev. and Pastor: Raymond Harrington, 11386 U.S. Hwy. 190 East Livingston, Texas 77351. Prayer Group: 9:00am, Sun. School 9:45am, Church 11:00am, Children Church 11:20am, Sun. Evening 6:00pm, Wed. Evening 7:00pm

Life Vine Church
203 East Calhoun, Livingston, pastor Simon Geller, Sun. 10:10am. Nursery & Children's classes, 936-931-8212; www.lvctx.com

Lighthouse Revival Center
1505 N. Washington, Livingston. Sunday Worship Service, 10:30am, Mid-week service, Wednesday 7pm; Pastors Ron and Gloria Richardson 936-327-7402.

Livingston Gospel Assembly
Hugh Klodzinski, Pastor; 6 miles east of Livingston on Hwy. 190; Sun. 10:30am Thursday Night 7:30pm; 563-4386

Living Word Church
201 Pan American Dr., Livingston; 936-327-7466. Pastor Danny Moye; Sunday 10:30am; Wed. 7pm

Midway Community Church
Pastor Quentin Matthews; 20 miles E. of Livingston on Hwy. 190; Sunday School 10:00am; Morning Worship 11:00am

Moscow Full Gospel Church
Hwy. 59 Moscow across from post office; Sunday School 10 a.m., Morning Worship 11am, Sunday evening 6pm

New Beginnings Church
Reverend Eric and Rita Essery, Sun. Morning Bible Study 9:45am, Sun. Morning Worship 10:45am, 6952 Hwy 190W, Livingston. 936-827-7594.

New Beginnings Outreach Church
Hwy. 146, Livingston; 936-328-1363, 936-433-6480; Sundays 11:00am, Wednesdays 7:00pm, www.facebook.com/NBO Livingston/

Project Love Church
3166 US 59 North, Livingston, 936-327-3747. Sundays 10:15AM & 6:00 PM, Wednesday 6 PM.

Spirit Of Integrity Worship Center
1817 Hwy. 59 North, Pastor Charles White. Sun. 10:30 Worship; Weds. 6:30. 936-328-5644

The Church By Christ Jesus
New Willard; Services Sunday 7pm; Wednesday 7:30pm; Saturday 7:30pm 327-8837

The Next Level Spirit Filled
1221 Hwy. 59 North Loop; (936)425-6257; Pastor James Sherrill. Worship 9:45am; Wednesday Service 6:30pm; Childrens Classes, Youth Classes, Nursery Available, Interdenominational.

United Christian Fellowship
Pastor Herman Bishop, 340 Pan American Dr, Livingston, Sunday School 9:30am, Sunday Service 11am & 5pm, 936-252-0094

Wildwood Gospel Church
Pastor: Dennis Hodge, FM 356 N. 2 miles W. of 190, Onalaska; Sunday School 10am; Worship 11am & 6pm; Wed. 7pm.

You Can Worldwide Ministries
Pastor Carline Daniels; 1515 N. Washington Ave., Livingston; Sunday School 9am, Worship 10-11:30, Wed night Bible Study 7-8:30pm; 713-592-1692, 1-866-259-2309 Fax.

- Pentecostal - First United Pentecostal Church of Onalaska
Mike Bryan, Services Wed. 7pm and Sunday 10am and 6pm 646-4514 Onalaska. 264 Onalaska East Rd.

First Apostolic Church of Goodrich
Pastor Trey Buxton; 936-365-3838; Sunday School 10am, Evening Service 6:30pm; Wednesday 6:30pm

Charity Tabernacle (United Pentecostal Church)
Pastor/Rev. Richard Gray;

EVANS

Continued from page 1A

We have exceptional city employees. "The city has no outstanding debt, holds a Triple-A credit rating which is the highest possible rating, and has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 35 consecutive years," Evans said.

"We have an excellent volunteer fire department that responded to 550 calls last year and an excellent police department that responded to 15,625 calls for service last year, with an average response rate of two minutes and 45 seconds. I'm proud of our Accredited Main Street Program and our Parks and Recreation Department which does a great job. We have fantastic youth baseball and softball facilities," Evans said.

Volunteerism is important to Evans and with deep family connections to the community, he is no stranger to giving back to his community. He presently serves as president of the Polk County Higher Education & Technology Foundation, serves on the board

of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas' economic development engine and also serves on the Executive Board of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Deep East Texas. He is a past president of the Livingston Lions Club, a former board member of the Livingston-Polk County Chamber of Commerce, a past president of the Chamber's Ambassadors, a past president of Little Dribblers and a past board member of the Housing Authority of Livingston.

Evans is a lifetime supporter of FFA and the Trinity-Neches Livestock Show and a lifetime member of First Methodist Church where he has served on, and chaired, numerous committees.

A Certified Financial Planner®, Evans holds a BBA in finance from Texas A&M University and also graduated from the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University.

"We're blessed to have significant growth in our community, but this growth also presents additional challenges that require financial acumen. I'm confident my financial background and business experience will be a valuable tool I can bring to the table," Evans said.

COOK

Continued from page 1A

To say that we are invested in the City of Livingston would be accurate.

As both a resident and business owner, I've had opportunities along the way to see how the decisions made by our city government and management affect those who live, operate businesses and visit here. I have been – and continue to be – grateful that I can bring an eye for land boundaries and development to the table to better serve the residents and business owners of this city.

Additionally, serving as a volunteer firefighter for the City of Livingston has brought me much closer to those residents and business owners as well. I have witnessed time

and time again the way this city pulls together in times of crisis to help their neighbors, and I will always want to be a part of that in whatever capacity God allows.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve the residents, business owners and guests of this great city for the past eight years through volunteerism as a member of the Livingston City Council and it is my hope to continue to serve in that capacity. I've always felt that service through volunteerism is what has made this city and our county a great place to call home. As much as it depends upon me and the support that the residents of this great city have shown, that is exactly what I plan on doing for as long as you will have me to do it.

Your vote and support are greatly appreciated.

ARRESTS

Continued from page 1A

along with assistance from highway patrol, located the suspect who failed to stop. The suspect attempted to evade officers with his vehicle but was captured near the 4,000 block of Hwy. 59.

The suspect was identified as Sebastian Gerran Xavier Green, 32 of New Caney. Green had an outstanding warrant out of Montgomery County for theft of property and was found to be in possession of fentanyl and methamphetamine.

Green was charged with theft of property, two counts of possession of a controlled substance, evading arrest or detention with vehicle and the Montgomery County theft of property warrant.

The patrol division responded to a burglary of a vehicle call recently that occurred in the Forest Hills subdivision. Further investigation revealed that a credit card had been used in several places in Onalaska and Polk County.

An additional call was received from Four Corners subdivision where a wallet with an AirTag was taken from incident the complainant's vehicle. The complainant was able to provide the location of the wallet, which showed the location of the suspect's vehicle. With the assistance of the Onalaska Police Department, probable cause was established and a traffic stop was initiated.

The occupants of the vehicle were identified as Ryan Cain Barnes, 27 of Livingston and Kevin Barnes, 49 of Onalaska. Credit cards, a wallet with an AirTag and methamphetamine were located inside the vehicle and the subjects were arrested without incident.

Ryan Cain Barnes was charged with engaged organized criminal activity, credit card abuse and three counts of burglary of a vehicle. Kevin Wayne

Barnes was charged with engaged organized criminal activity, credit card abuse, possession of a controlled substance and three counts of burglary of a vehicle.

In conjunction with this incident, the sheriff's office will obtain arrest warrants on Raelynn Tina Hebert for engaged organized criminal activity, credit card abuse and three counts of burglary of a vehicle.

In other recent activity, the narcotics division, with assistance from the DPS criminal investigation division, made two key arrests following tips provided to Polk County Crime Stoppers. The arrests were the result of ongoing efforts to address individuals with active felony warrants in Polk County.

Norris Bernard Harrell was arrested on several warrants, including bond forfeiture for manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance, two counts of trespassing and bond forfeiture for possession of marijuana.

Patrick Michael Kelso apprehended on four outstanding felony warrants, including two counts of possession of a controlled substance, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

"The Polk County Sheriff's Office expresses its sincere gratitude to the community for its role in providing these crucial tips. These arrests highlight the effectiveness of community involvement in combating crime and ensuring the safety of our residents," Sottosanti said.

"We also wish to remind the public that Crime Stoppers tips are completely confidential and play a vital role in supporting law enforcement efforts. Anonymous tips may be submitted at p3tips.com, the P3 app, or call Polk County Crime Stoppers at 936-327-STOP, where you may remain anonymous and may collect a cash reward for information leading to an arrest," Sottosanti said.

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ROAR



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LHS senior Brody Phillips
photo by Aubri Alexander

LION COUNTRY CALENDAR

Monday, September 2, 2024
Labor Day Holiday

Tuesday, September 3, 2024
LHS- Senior Portraits
4:30 pm- LHS- F/JV/V Volleyball @ Huntington
6:30 pm- LJH National Junior Honor Society Induction (Invitation Only)

Wednesday, Sept 4, 2024
LHS- Senior Portraits

Thursday, September 5, 2024
4:00 pm- LJH- 7th/8th Football vs Hamshire Fannett
4:30 pm- LJH- Volleyball vs Tarkington
5:00 pm- LHS- Freshman/JV Football @ Needville
6:00 pm- LHS- Lions in Training Volleyball Clinic @ LHS

Friday, September 6, 2024
7:30 pm- LHS- Varsity Football vs Needville (Youth Football/Cheer Night)

LIVINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Pathway in WELDING



LHS junior Bronsyn Ogden
photo by Aubri Alexander

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Welding program of study focuses on the development and use of automatic and computer-controlled machines, tools, and robots that perform work on metal or plastic. CTE welding students will learn how to modify parts to make or repair machine tools or maintain individual machines. Welding instructor Johnny Sitton says, "Students also learn how to use TIG welding and oxy-fuel welding. They get experience with flame-cutting equipment, and they work toward earning the industry-based certifications AWS D1.1 Structural Steel and AWS D9.1 Sheet Metal Welding." Ninth-grade students entering Livingston High School can take welding courses all four years. Last year, LHS began offering courses through Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools (P-TECH). This program allows students to receive their high school diploma, an industrial certification, and/or an associate degree while attending Livingston High School. The hallmark

of the P-TECH model is its career focus and the provision of work-based education. PTECH currently offers age-appropriate work-based learning opportunities for freshman and sophomore students. Eleventh-graders will be added to the program in the fall of 2025 and seniors will be added to the PTECH program in the fall of 2026. PTECH focused on students gaining work experience through an internship, apprenticeship, or other job training program. The program's goal is to align with regional workforce needs, guiding students into high-demand, high-wage careers. In the fall of 2023, Livingston High School partnered with Lamar Institute of Technology. It began offering the dual credit pathway, which includes Level 1 class of Intro to Welding, Level 2 - Welding I, Level 3 - Welding II-lab, and Level 4 - Ag Structures or Manufacturing. The Welding program of study falls under the Manufacturing career cluster, which focuses on planning, managing, and performing the processing of materials into intermediate

or final products and related professional and technical support such as production planning and control, maintenance, and manufacturing-process engineering. This program of study will fulfill the requirements of the Business and Industry endorsement for high school graduation while earning college credit at the same time. Welding students may continue the welding pathway after graduating from LHS by earning an associate's, bachelor's, or master's degree. At the associate's level, they may become certified welders or welding inspectors. A bachelor's or master's degree could include a path to welding engineering technology and operations management.

The Roar page is produced by the Livingston ISD Communications Department.



LHS senior Jeremy Bennett
photo by Aubri Alexander



LHS senior Ryan Richardson (L) with welding instructor Johnny Sitton
photo by Aubri Alexander

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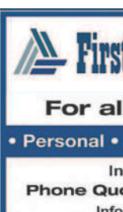
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BITE by BITE

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

“Texas does not, like any other region, simply have indigenous dishes. It proclaims them. It congratulates you, on your arrival, at having escaped from the slop-pails of the other forty-nine states.”— Alistair Cooke

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Iceberg wedge
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Horseradish crusted salmon with lemon dill butter sauce and brussels sprouts
- Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill



Chorizo hash
- Phoebe’s Diner



Jalapeno hanger steak with salsa verde, demi-glace and yukon mashers
- Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill

“I feel like everyone who goes to The University of Texas is blessed and lucky to be there because they’re getting a chance to be as good as they can be.”— Alan Bean

We recently went through a monumental parental rite of passage – moving Daughter, our one and only child, into her college dorm and leaving her there, approximately 200 miles away. It was a long, quiet drive home, to an even quieter house.

I’m sure I’ll write all about it at some point ... but not today. It’s bittersweet and still too fresh and personal to share with my readers. So instead, I’ll pivot and tell you about all the good food we enjoyed. Just as Austin is known for its live music and vibrant culture, it is also known for its food – of which we happily took advantage.

Unlike back in my day when it was all done wily-nilly, students are required to make appointments these days to move into their dorms. Our appointment was on a Friday evening and after being given wrong information regarding check-in not just once, but twice in fact, we finally arrived where we were supposed to be and began unloading the vehicle right about the time the rains started.

A couple hours and a few choice words later we had everything unpacked and set up. We were hot, sweaty, tired and just ready for a quick bite before we crashed for the night. (By this time I’d already clocked 16,682 steps according to my Fitbit.) We settled for a quick, easy meal at Zombie Taco, located in the lobby of our hotel, Moxy-Austin University, at 2552 Guadalupe St. It was filling, yet light, and the perfect way to end a long day.

The following day we enjoyed an incredible brunch at a place called Phoebe’s Diner, the downtown location at 408 West 11th St. I selected the chorizo hash, which was green chorizo, crispy masa cakes, over-easy eggs, corn, onion, sweet potatoes, spinach, guacamole, pickled chiles, cotija cheese and cilantro. Hubby ordered migas, which entailed Hatch chile hollandaise, scrambled eggs, onion, tomatoes, Hatch chiles, crispy masa cakes, cotija cheese and cilantro served with red potatoes and chorizo. Daughter chose Phoebe’s Benedict, which was ham, over-easy eggs, buttermilk biscuits, hollandaise and green onion and was served with a hash brown casserole. Every single bite was incredible and we all agreed that we look forward to heading back to Phoebe’s first chance we get.

For supper on Saturday evening we went to Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill, the downtown loca-

tion at 303 Red River. As of this writing, I truly believe that Moonshine may be my favorite restaurant in Austin. I first discovered it numerous years ago when I was attending a court coordinator conference there. That first time, I enjoyed the seared rainbow trout with cornbread stuffing, chile sage butter and green beans with bacon and it was all wonderful. I couldn’t wait to take Hubby there. If there’s anything we’ve learned over the years, it is that I should trust him when it comes to TV shows and he should trust me when it comes to restaurants.

His first trip to Moonshine was back in July when we were in Austin for freshman orientation and family orientation. Moonshine is one of those places where you can’t go wrong, regardless of what you order. That trip, I started with an iceberg wedge composed of bacon, tomato, blue cheese, candied pecans and ranch and then selected the horseradish crusted salmon with lemon dill butter sauce and brussels sprouts. He chose the jalapeno hanger steak with salsa verde, demi-glace and yukon mashers. Every single bite was divine. Commenting that his jalapeno hanger steak was the tenderest piece of steak he’d ever eaten, Hubby shared a bite with me and it melted in my mouth like butter. I knew that’s what I would be ordering on our next trip to Moonshine.

FOR FUTURE REFERENCE:
zombietacoaustin.com
phoebesdiner.com
moonshinegrill.com
kerbeylanecafe.com

Sure enough, I ordered it during move-in weekend and was not disappointed one bit. Hubby selected the center cut pork chop with bourbon cherry chutney, herb salad, demi-glace and yukon mashers. It may have been the thickest pork chop I’ve ever seen at about three inches thick. He shared a bite with me and it was moist, tender and absolutely delicious.

Daughter ordered a Sunday house club with turkey, ham, bacon, pimento cheese, red onion, house mayo, lettuce and tomato (minus the red onion) and accompanied that with baked macaroni pimen-

to cheese with a bacon gratin.

Moonshine is located in a building that is a Texas Historic Landmark, having formerly served as the Hofheintz-Reissig Store. According to the Texas Historical Commission marker erected out front, the structure served as a grocery and dry goods store for nearly 100 years, having been built between 1850 and 1875 for German Emigrant Henry Hofheintz. A one-story addition was later added and was used as a saloon and a residence. Hofheintz’ eldest child, Catherine Louise, and her husband, Adolph Reissig, inherited the store, and the property remained in the family until 1966. The building is a beautiful example of the German-influenced architecture found in many 19th-century Texas buildings.

Before heading home on Sunday, we met for brunch at Kerbey Lane Cafe, the University location at 2606 Guadalupe. With multiple locations, we’d previously eaten at the original (on Kerbey Lane) on a long-ago spring break trip to Austin, so we knew we would be treated to some excellent food.

I ordered the Cuban Benedict which was Cuban-style pulled pork, poached eggs, hollandaise, bacon, cilantro and onion atop a toasted hoagie roll and served with breakfast potatoes. Hubby chose migas, a Tex-Mex classic of scrambled eggs with pico de gallo and tortilla chips, topped with a choice of homemade sauce and melted cheddar jack cheese. It was served with black beans and Mexican rice and a choice of tortillas. Daughter selected biscuits, eggs, sausage and gravy which was two homemade biscuits topped with peppered gravy, two eggs over-easy and two sausage patties.

As you can see, we certainly didn’t go hungry. With Daughter now ensconced on “The Forty Acres,” I think I can safely predict that our trips to Austin will increase dramatically. If you have any suggestions or preferences regarding your favorite places to eat there, I’d definitely love to hear them. You may email me at editor@polkenterprise.com. I realize we haven’t even scratched the surface yet.

Oh, and by the way, for those unaware of the terminology, “The Forty Acres” is the nickname for the campus of The University of Texas at Austin because that was the size of the original tract set aside by the state. Today, however, UT’s main campus comprises 431 acres with a perimeter of more than four miles. ■



Cuban Benedict- Kerbey Lane Cafe



Center cut pork chop with bourbon cherry chutney, herb salad, demi-glace and yukon mashers - Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill



Sunday house club with turkey, ham, bacon, pimento cheese, red onion, house mayo, lettuce and tomato - Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill

“Only a rank degenerate would drive 1,500 miles across Texas without eating a chicken-fried steak.”— Larry McMurtry

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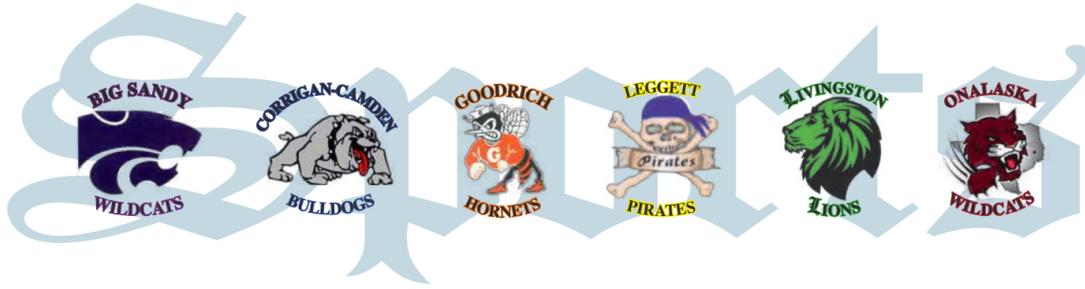
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The Corrigan-Camden Bulldogs honor their school song after a home victory to start the 2024 season. PHOTOS BY ALBERT TREVINO

Second-half comeback produces 1-0 record

By Albert Trevino

The Corrigan-Camden Bulldogs started the 2024 season with a close 27-24 win at home versus the Tarkington Longhorns Friday.

Although it seemed that Tarkington had the early momentum, the young and talented Bulldogs took control in the second half on both sides of the ball when it mattered.

“We knew Tarkington could throw and catch well. We had a lot of self-inflicted wounds early, but we are still a young football team,” said Bulldog head coach Brett Ratliff. “We later made some great adjustments with pacing and tempo. We always celebrate a victory.”

Ratliff also contributes the team’s new strength and training as part of the edge late in Friday’s game.

“That was on display when we needed it to be and I am going to lean on that,” Ratliff said. “These boys put in a lot of work over the summer. At the end of the day, the unity and conditioning really helped us when it mattered.”

On the first drive, Bulldog sophomore running back Damere Arneson pierced up the middle for a huge gain into Longhorn territory. However, the Corrigan offense would later stall and fumble the ball short of the red zone, picked up by Longhorn junior Colton Heard.

An underneath handoff to Tarkington senior running back Michael Galvin created a huge gain for the Longhorn offense, which set them up deep in the territory.

Galvin took another carry nearly all the way to the goal line to set up a short touchdown run on third-and-goal for the early 7-0 advantage.

After a better kickoff return for the Bulldogs, Arneson turned on the jets to sprint past the Longhorn defense for a 63-yard touchdown run. Corrigan would miss the extra kick to make it a 7-6 game.

On the next drive, Tarkington senior quarterback Trace Edwards threw a deep bomb to junior running back Colin Pearson to put them within scoring range.

On 4th-and-goal from the one-yard line, Longhorn senior fullback Brenton Whitley would power through the final yard for another touchdown. This extended Tarkington’s lead 14-6 early in the second quarter.

Bulldog sophomore running back Derrick Reagie was effective on the next drive, changing directions on a run to get a huge gain deep into Longhorn territory.

However, Corrigan senior quarterback Michael Sullivan would underthrow the pass near the end zone that was intercepted by Tarkington senior defensive back Landon Leblanc.

Arneson would later help Corrigan respond late in half on a short touchdown run, with the successful two-point pass attempt to junior tight end Ismael Santoyo.

That tied the game for a short time before Longhorn senior receiver Jackson Stovall caught a deep contested pass, followed by another in the closing minute of the half.

Stovall capped it off with a tough catch by the goal line at the buzzer for another score to quickly regain the lead 21-14 at halftime.

On Tarkington’s first drive of the third quarter, Corrigan’s defense did not give up much inside their own ter-

ritory.

It resulted in a long field goal by Longhorn senior kicker Brett Leoneardt to extend their lead by three points.

A facemask penalty on Sullivan’s keeper set up first-and-goal for Corrigan on the following drive. Shortly after, Sullivan would take another run for the final short yard into the end zone, which cut it to a 24-20 deficit.

The ‘Dog defense kept it close late in the third with a crucial fourth-down stop, as Tarkington was threatening to score.

Sullivan and Bulldog junior running back Mason Murphy both capitalized with big gains on the ground to put Corrigan inside Longhorn territory.

Arneson immediately finished it off with a 33-yard touchdown run. Along with a successful extra kick by Santoyo, the Bulldogs took the 27-24 advantage.

Special teams play for Corrigan-Camden netted an additional possession, as the following kickoff return was stripped and recovered. Yet, the Tarkington defense held strong to force a stop.

Sullivan then stepped up for the Corrigan defense, tracking down a long pass for an interception late.

In the closing minutes, the Bulldogs were effective running down the clock with multiple rushers converting first downs. Reaching the 10-yard line inside the final minute, the Bulldogs ended the night in victory formation for the narrow win.

The Bulldogs will play their next non-district match on the road Friday night at 7:30 p.m. against the Hardin Hornets.



Longhorn senior wide receiver Jackson Stovall catches a pass at the goal line for a touchdown.



Bulldog sophomore Damere Arneson gets the Corrigan offense near the end zone on a scoring drive against Tarkington.



Longhorn senior quarterback Trace Edwards looks to throw deep while deep inside his own end zone.



Longhorn senior receiver Michael Galvin gets an inside handoff for a big gain.



Bulldog sophomore running back Damere Arneson rolls through to help move the chains.



Bulldog sophomore Derrick Reagie looks for an open lane on the early carry versus Tarkington.

B.A. Steinhagen

FAIR. Water stain; 85 degrees; 0.55 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 juglines. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Bob Sandlin

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 93 degrees; 0.29 feet below pool. Summer fishing patterns are holding steady. Big blue catfish 15 feet or less. Channel catfish are fair in 15-20 feet of water on baited holes with stink bait. Crappie are good in 30 feet of water, or suspended in 15 feet of water with minnows. White bass are good at night in the lights with a white spinnerbaits. A few catches of white bass while targeting crappie with a crappie jig and white curly tailed jig. Report by Joey Crews, Lake Bob Sandlin Chubby Chaser Guide Service. Black bass are feeding early on shad patterns around grass and retaining walls. Main lake points are good for bass using clouser type patterns. Bream are plentiful with wooly buggers and small worm patterns. Report by Guide Alex Guthrie, Fly Fish Fork Guide Service. Bass are good on points in 18-22 feet of water using deep water baits like deep diving crankbaits, dropshots and Texas rigs. Night fishing has the best bite and is an escape from the heat and recreational boaters. Sand bass and black bass schooling together near the dam, and bridges. Report by Mike Stroman, R & R Marine. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Caddo

GOOD. Water stained; 80 degrees; 0.06 feet above pool. Never thought I would say this about Caddo this year after all the rain we had in the spring, but we need some rain. Lake is falling quickly now and the bite has slowed down some but there are still some big ones being caught on topwater lures early. River fish are still setting up decently and can be caught on june bug colored Texas rigs, dropshots and shaky heads in your cuts and curves of the river plus along the grass pad lines. Looks like some lower temperatures and chance of rain is on the forecast, so maybe the bite will pick back up some. If you are new to Caddo just put in on the river and have a fluke, pop r or Texas rig tied on and just cover the grass line on edge and you should get bit. Lake is setting up nice and is always a beautiful and majestic trip out here to see and fish this majestic lake that God spoke into existence. Report provided by Vince Richards, Caddo Lake Fishing & Fellowship. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Conroe

GOOD. Water stained; 94 degrees; 0.29 feet below pool. Water temp 91 degrees in the morning to 97 degrees in the afternoon. Catfish are good on baited holes and ledges near structure and shallow at night. Bass shallow early and chasing schools of bait after sun rises. Report by Brad Doyle with Bradley's Guide Service. Crappie are hit-or-miss in 13-21 feet. Hair jigs are producing better than plastics.



Fork

GOOD. Water Stained; 81 degrees; 1.17 feet below pool. The early morning bass bite has been slow, but a few can be caught on windy points with spook type baits and chatterbaits in 2-5 feet. Offshore bite is best in 12-25 feet on humps, roadbeds, long points with flukes, and dingers. Deep crankbaits are still good over deep channel swings and brush piles in 20-25 feet. Report by Marc Mitchell, Lake Fork Guide Service. August brings in hot temperatures. Bass are feeding in 10-12 feet where the thermocline is not present. Look for schooling bass in the open water and creeks as shad hatch is in full swing. Also, check out the brush piles as big bass are using them to feed on crappie. Bream are excellent in the shallows, wooly buggers and small poppers should bring a strike. Report by Guide Alex Guthrie, Fly Fish Fork Guide Service. Crappie fishing on Lake Fork has continued to be excellent. We are seeing some big white crappie on timber in 18-28 feet along creek channels. Covering water and finding the areas holding lots of fish are the ticket. Lots of single fish on pole timber and some trees may have several fish in the branches. Brush piles, bridges and lay downs have been slow the last few weeks. For the best bite try to find a structure that has not experienced a lot of fishing pressure. Minnows are working well, but some anglers are having success with hand tied jigs and soft plastics. The catfish bite is absolutely on fire on Lake Fork. We still have loads of fish in shallow trees around roosting birds. I'm also seeing a big migration of catfish moving into the 18-28 feet range along creek channels. Catfish may be following bait fish just like other fish will do as we head into the fall months. Baiting holes with cattle cubes or sour grains will hold fish to your area. Use any preferred catfish bait to load the boat once you get the fish stacked up. You can catch 100 fish in just a few hours right now. Report by Jacky Wiggins, Jacky Wiggins Guide Service. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Houston County

SLOW. Water stained; 85 degrees; 0.15 feet below pool. Fishing patterns are consistent. Sunfish are good. Crappie are slow on minnows and jigs. Bass are slow mid-day, with the best bite in the morning. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Lake O' the Pines

GOOD. Water stained; 90 degrees; 0.29 feet below pool. Solid summer pattern is holding steady for the bass. Bass are good with schooling activity starting to pick up. Follow the shad to find the bass. There is still some bass in the bushes along the banks pitching Texas rigged worms and

jigs, or wacky rigs. Bass are good on brush piles on points on the south end of the lake in 15-25 feet of water with deep running crankbaits, jigs, wacky worms and Texas rigs. The north end of the lake is producing catches in the grass and bushes. Report by Mike Stroman, R & R Marine. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Livingston

GOOD. slightly stained; 89 degrees; 0.26 feet below pool. Catching a lot of white bass in 8-12 feet of water with white and chartreuse slabs. Report by Michael Richardson, Lake Livingston Adventures. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Martin Creek

GOOD. Water normal stain; 98 degrees; 0.99 feet below pool. Martin Creek is 96 degrees at the boat ramp and 100 degrees plus west of scrapper cut. Bass are fair to good on deep brush piles using redbug worms and 6XD crankbaits. Early and late along the hydrilla with weightless senco's.

Nacogdoches

GOOD. Water stained; 87 degrees; 0.92 feet below pool. Largemouth bass are good on standing timber and hard spots with a Carolina rig or deep crankbait in 15-20 feet of water. The size of bass are 2-4 pounds on average. Crappie are fair in brush with 1/8 ounce white or chartreuse crappie jigs. Catfish are poor on cut bait and live minnows. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Nacouche

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 87 degrees; 1.00 foot below pool. 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. The jerkbait Jr. Plus-1 got the most bites over the weekend. If you find them hugging the bottom in 8-10 feet, dragging a Texas rig Mag-worm can be effective. Crappie population is good. Catfish are slow. Report by Eric Wolfe, NacoTack Fishing Services. Largemouth bass are excellent on Carolina rigs and small paddle tail swimbaits in 8-12 feet of water. Fish might be suspended over 20 feet of water but they are 8-10 feet below the surface. Crappie are excellent with numbers around standing timber. Fish are 10-13 inch stacked up in large groups. Catfish are fair on cut bait and live minnows, especially near the pier. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Pinkston

GOOD. slightly stained; 88 degrees. Largemouth bass are excellent with fish varying from 2-5 pounds. Bass are in timber suspended over 20 feet about 8 feet below the surface using big swimbaits, small 5 inch white swimbaits, and dropshots. Crappie are fair with fish scattered and very few on brush piles with crappie jigs or live minnows. Catfish are poor with cut bait. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Raven

FAIR. Water stained; 83 degrees. There is some rain and cooler temperatures in the forecast to help improve the bite. Crappie are fair on minnows and artificial grubs.

Bass are fair on soft plastic artificials. Catfish are fair on worms fished off the bottom. Bluegill are excellent at the boathouse dock on crappie bites and worms. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Sam Rayburn

GOOD. Water stained; 87 degrees; 0.40 feet above pool. Water is off-colored like the lake is trying to turnover. Water is being released. Hydrilla is surfacing and could be a good place to cast for bass. Bass are slow in shallow water in brush with many smaller fish being caught on frogs, and spinnerbaits. Deeper bass bite is fair with Carolina rigs. Crappie are slow moving to and from the brush to timber. 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, dropshot or jig head minnow or Carolina rig. Mid lake to north lake is the most productive area. 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. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Toledo Bend

FAIR. Water normal stain; 92 degrees; 3.60 feet below pool. With the moon on the fall, the night fishing has slowed down. Few fish are still being caught on Texas rig big worms in 12-18 feet, but for most part, it is slow at night. The day fishing continues to be tough, just very little to no early topwater bite at all. A few good reports of fish schooling in the afternoon, this is happening when we get few clouds around the lake, not many good fish, but reports saying good numbers and some large groups are showing up all around the lake. The deeper bite should get back going anytime. Crappie are slow too, but the few that are being caught are good size, these coming on minnows on standing trees and brush piles. Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Tyler

SLOW. Water normal stain; 91 degrees; 0.50 feet below pool. Rain in the forecast heading into the weekend. This should cool the water and improve the bite. Night fishing is good for catfish and crappie in the lights. Crappie are slow using minnows on brush in 16-25 feet of water. Catfish are slow in 16 feet of water shrimp, and liver. Bream are slow on red worms off the barge and throughout the lake. Bass are slow in 10-12 feet of water with topwaters, spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Report by The Boulders at Lake Tyler. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Welsh

FAIR. Water stained. 106 degrees. Few reports from anglers.

Wright Patman

GOOD. Water stained; 83 degrees; 0.58 feet above pool. The lake level is high and water is being released. Be sure to check ramp status before heading out. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

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JAIL REPORT

Week of August 23-29 August 23

Hughes, Robert Lynn II, 51 of Onalaska, assault causing bodily injury to family member.
Schoell, Raymond Darrell, 47 of Livingston, theft of service, display fictitious license plate, drug test falsification device.
Walker, Natalie Kaye, 30 of Bay City, assault family or household member with previous conviction, criminal mischief.

August 24

Clark, Jeffrey Alan, 39 of Houston, probation violation/possession of a controlled substance, probation violation/theft of property with two or more previous convictions.
Diaz, Tania, 18 of Livingston, driving while license is invalid with previous conviction.
Galvan, Julian Alejandro, 18 of Livingston, aggravated assault motor vehicle discharge firearm at habitation or building.
Harper, David Oshay, 34 of Watterville, Kan., motion to revoke probation/possession of a controlled substance.

Marquez, Emmanuel, 28 of Lufkin, possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana.
Moore, Randy Scott, 40 of Livingston, motion to revoke probation/possession of a controlled substance.
Morris, Jacob Ryan, 26 of Palestine, aggravated sexual assault of a child.
Owens, George Earl, 50 of Onalaska, criminal trespass.

Rodriguez, Edith R., 54 of Spring, warrant/hinder apprehension.
Rodriguez, Melquiades, 46 of Livingston, assault causing bodily injury to family member.

August 25

Hart, Randi D'Lynn, 29 of Livingston, possession of a controlled substance, tamper or fabricate physical evidence with intent to impair, theft of property, operate motor vehicle without license plate, dog at large, expired registration.
McPike, Daniel Wayne, 62 of Livingston, driving while intoxicated.

Richson, Dezirae Williams, 49 of Livingston, bond forfeiture/credit card abuse, bond forfeiture/possession of a controlled substance.
Terry, Tiffany Nicole, 39 of Livingston, theft of property, no driver's license.
Rodriguez, Melquiades, 46 of Livingston, violation of bond or protective order.

August 26

Bass, Shannon Arby, 51 of Livingston, manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance, theft of property.
Benion, Da'Markus Kavon, 24 of Livingston, motion to revoke probation/possession of a controlled substance.
Dorraj, Mehran, 34 of Spring, possession of marijuana.

Rodriguez, Sidney Bowdoin, 27 of Livingston, motion to revoke probation/criminal mischief.
Schoppe, Edward Garner Jr., 43 of Houston, bond forfeiture/theft of property.
Schutz, Kelly Ann, 53 of Moscow, theft of property.
Washington, T'Challa Rhashaed, 43 of Spring, assault family or house member by impeding breath or circulation, parole violation.
Seymour, Matthew Shane, 27 of Caldwell, driving while intoxicated.

August 27

Dupre, Berkman Lewis III, 24 of Huntsville, motion to revoke probation.
Garza-Gonzalez, Jose Karim, 35 of Kingwood, warrant/fraud, warrant/fail to appear, warrant/theft of property.
Johnson, Joshua Lee, 24 of Oakhurst, warrant/theft of firearm.
Pierce, Toni Marie, 21 of Onalaska, possession of a controlled substance.
Walston, Ronald Kelley, 55 of Onalaska, possession of a controlled substance.

August 28

Machuca-Machuca, Ociel, 42 of Livingston, driving while intoxicated/open alcohol container.
Padilla Rodriguez, Hugo, 31 of Houston, Harrist County warrant/bond forfeiture/solicit prostitution.
Sanders, Christopher Cody, 41 of Livingston, assault

family or household member with previous conviction.
Tabor, Savannah Josephine, 27 of Livingston, probation violation/possession of a controlled substance.
Townsend, Jed Landon, 40 of Tyler, theft of property x 2, Harris County warrant/theft, Harris County warrant/possession of a controlled substance.
Upchurch, Jeffrey Lynn, 48 of Onalaska, bond forfeiture/terroristic threat causing fear of imminent serious bodily injury, out-of-state warrant/possession of a controlled substance.
Villanueva, Oscar Quezada, 43 of Livingston, assault causing bodily injury.
Wright, Kimberly Ann, 56 of Livingston, probation violation/aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, probation violation/hinder apprehension or prosecution of known felon.
McKee, Chantelle Ranel, 34 of Cleveland, possession of a controlled substance.

August 29

Allen, Tracy Henderson, 61 of Livingston, evading arrest or detention with vehicle, warrant/evading arrest or detention, warrant/theft of property, warrant/deadly conduct, evading arrest or detention.
Cassard, Scott Wayne, 53 of Onalaska, assault causing bodily injury to family member.
Hansen, Christine Yvonne, 61 of Leggett, terroristic threat causing fear of imminent serious bodily injury.
King, Damian Teon, 42 of Livingston, possession of a controlled substance, criminal trespass, possession of drug paraphernalia.
Lambeth, Billy Vernon, 83 of Livingston, criminal trespass.
Merson, Tabatha Renee, 38 of Conroe, possession of a controlled substance.
Nunez, Bronson Jude, 43 of Magnolia, stalking.
Sessions, Derrick Wayne, 58 of Crosby, violation of a conditional bond.
Williams, Kyle Eagleton, 46 of Livingston, driving while intoxicated.
Certain, Regina Yvette, 48 of Livingston, criminal trespass.
Cooper, Caleb Thomas, 21 of Lufkin, disorderly conduct.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Jason Clarke Peters, 28, Livingston and **Alison Lee Ghoshghai**, 27, Livingston.
Ethan Wayne Head, 33, Livingston and **Brandi LaShelle Carlin**, 38, Livingston.
Ronald Antonio Alvear Saenz, 43, Houston and **Hidie Mercedes Reyes**, 39, Goodrich.
William Chris Shuffield, 22, Onalaska and **Kristan Elizabeth McBryde**, 33, Onalaska.

Adam Micheal Jones, 28, Corrigan and **Jessica Jeanette Walton**, 37, Corrigan.
Ty Mitchell Paredes, 27, Shepherd and **Amber Courtney Patterson**, 35, Shepherd.
Melissa Ann Washington, 57, Natchitoches, La. and **David Glen Johnson**, 54, Livingston.
Conner Dallas Levi Friend, 20, Livingston and **Sara Elouise White**, 21, Livingston.
Robert George Lockhart, 40, Livingston and **Kendra Lea Stanford**, 45, Livingston.

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ACROSS

- 1 chewy movie candy
- 5 TXism: "get your ducks in ___"
- 6 Austin has "Art-O-___" annually
- 7 Palestine AM radio
- 8 TX Willie's is 90
- 9 chicken fried steak & Bar-B-Q in Texas
- 16 Rockport is "where the fun never ___"
- 18 TXism for "mean man" (2 wds.)
- 21 TX Kenny Rogers' "Love or Something Like ___" (1978)
- 22 TX Buck Owens' "I've ___ Tiger By the Tail" (1964)
- 23 a player for the Spurs or Cowboys
- 24 "___ Brothers Band" recorded "Down in Texas '71" directed by TX King Vidor; "___ Passage" (1940)
- 34 TXism: "news wrangler" (abbr.)
- 35 select
- 36 TXism for "old man"
- 37 rub out writing
- 39 TXism: "lit out for ___" (departed)
- 43 TX Tanya's 1st hit: "___ Dawn"
- 44 U.S. Army post in San Antonio: "___ Houston"
- 45 Houston's Olajuwon initials, before "Hakeem"
- 46 Pecos AM radio
- 47 this Cesar made Astros 40-man roster in 2023
- 49 TXism: "___ a skunk" (intoxicated)
- 52 seeing organ
- 53 TXism: "brains ___ box" (computer)
- 54 TXism: "dot ___ and cross the t's"
- 55 opposite of "anode"
- 58 Jewish snack food
- 11 TX-born Roddenberry wrote script for 1971 film "Pretty Maids All in ___"
- 12 Incaviglia who played for Rangers & Astros
- 13 rented
- 14 "each" abbr.
- 15 oil or gas additive
- 17 Ozona newspaper
- 19 "Deaf" Smith's given name
- 20 TXism: "he could ___ eagle" (good cowboy)
- 24 summer necessity in Texas (abbr.)
- 25 TX Lucy, the original Southern Belle (init.)
- 26 Texas singer "Meat ___"
- 27 sullen, sulky
- 28 "___ dog" (homeless)
- 29 snuggle
- 31 TX Ely who was TV's "Tarzan"
- 32 TXism: "___ many irons in the fire"
- 33 "Star Trek" fan
- 38 assumed name
- 40 TX Steve Miller's "Living in the ___"
- 41 Hitler follower
- 42 Fort Worth "Coliseum" name before it was "Cowtown" (2 wds.)
- 48 pool hall shout: "___ em"
- 50 "oh dear" (hyph.)
- 51 Beatty of "Big Bad John" with TX Dean
- 56 poker stakes
- 57 Houston's 2nd wife, Rogers

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "___ the bottom of a well"
- 2 easternmost city in Texas
- 3 TXism: "Sunday go ___ clothes"
- 4 TX Steve Forrest old TV series
- 9 city that put Cowboys out of playoffs in 2023 (abbr.)
- 10 TXism for "miser"

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Kid Scoop Together

Missing Words

Replace the missing words in this article.



Jesse Owens: Olympic Speed and Achievement in 1936

Jesse Owens is widely regarded as one of the greatest athletes in sports _____. He is remembered for several reasons.

Owens won four _____ medals and set two Olympic _____ at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Germany.

This was an important athletic achievement, and a significant social achievement. In 1936, Adolph Hitler was the _____ of Germany. Hitler hoped to show the _____ that Aryans, or northern Europeans, were the best at everything.

When Jesse Owens, a Black American, dominated the Olympic track-and-field _____, he showed the world that people of all races are capable of excellence.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SPRINTER**

The noun **sprinter** means a person or animal who runs, swims, or does something else very fast over a short distance in a race.

A cheetah is a **sprinter** because it can run short distances very fast.

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

On the Fast Track!

What is the fastest animal?

Add the numbers from the start to the finish of each animal's path to find out how fast they move in miles per hour (MPH).

Peregrine Falcon 14 3 50 50 50 _____ mph

Cheetah 30 9 30 1 _____ mph

Sailfish 30 15 8 15 _____ mph

Dragonfly 5 10 5 5 5 _____ mph

Pronghorn Antelope 20 20 20 _____ mph

Tiger Beetle 2 1.6 2 _____ mph

What about humans?

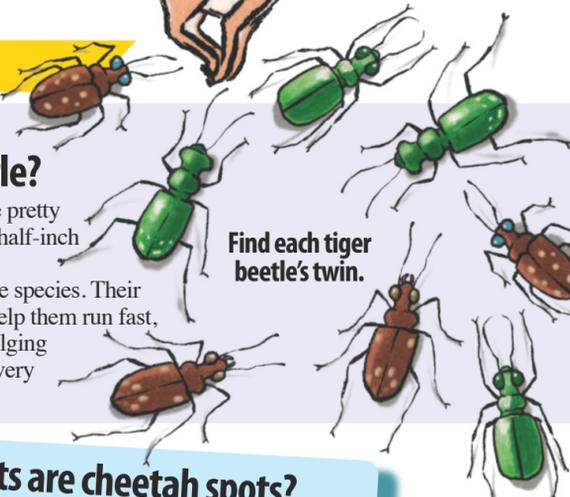
Running at top speeds of about 20 mph, human beings are one of the slower-moving animals on Earth.



What's a Tiger Beetle?

Tiger beetles are pretty small — about a half-inch to an inch long, depending on the species. Their long, thin legs help them run fast, and their big, bulging eyes give them very good vision.

Find each tiger beetle's twin.



Top Sprinter

The cheetah is the fastest land animal. Cheetah paws are more like a dog's than a cat's.

They have shorter, blunter claws that do not retract like those of other cats. The pads on the bottom of their feet are ridged, rather than rounded.

Their special feet help cheetahs get a good grip on the ground and push off firmly for the next bound. No wonder cheetahs can run so fast! But cheetahs can only run at top speed for a short distance.



Standards Link: Animals have special adaptations for survival.

Which spots are cheetah spots?

How can you tell a leopard from a cheetah? Both have spots — but their spots are not the same. Read below to find out how their spots are different. Then circle the cheetah spots.



A leopard's spots are grouped in clusters called **rosettes**, while a cheetah's spots are scattered evenly.

Extra! Extra!

Speed Grammar

Select one page of the newspaper. Time yourself to see how quickly you can find two of each of the following:

- Nouns
- Adjectives
- Verbs
- Pronouns

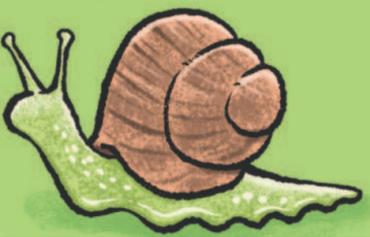
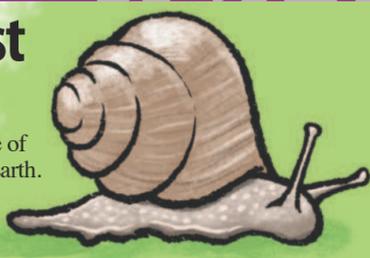
Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify parts of speech.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

The Slowest Animal

The snail is certainly one of the slowest animals on Earth.

At .03 mph, it would take a snail 30 minutes to move around the outside edge of this newspaper page.



Find the differences between the two snails.

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- BIG
- CHEETAH
- FALCON
- FAST
- HELP
- HUMAN
- LEGS
- MILES
- PAWS
- RUN
- SPEEDS
- SPOTS
- START
- TIGER
- VISION

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Fast, Faster, Fastest

Find three newspaper pictures and/or words that show things that move. Put them in order and label them **FAST**, **FASTER**, and **FASTEST**. Do the same with other adjectives such as **happy**, **sloppy**, and **funny**.

Standards Link: Use main idea and supporting details in writing.



What's harder to catch the faster you run?

ANSWER: Your breath!

Write On!

Fast Animal Report

Write a paragraph with 3 facts and opinions about your favorite fast animal.

Standards Link: Recognize the difference between fact and opinion.

E

Brad Elrod

Attorney At Law

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Legal Notices

Estate of Wilma Lee Sloan

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Wilma Lee Sloan, Deceased, were issued on August 19, 2024, in Cause No. 24-CC-PB-0042, pending in the Polk County Court-at-Law, to Tyrone Edward Beeson, Independent Administrator-With Will Annexed. The address to which claims should be submitted is as follows: Tyrone Edward Beeson, Independent Administrators-With Will Annexed c/o Joshua L. McMahon IV Skelton Slusher Barnhill Wat-

kins Wells PLLC 501 W. Church St. Livingston, Texas 77351 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are hereby notified to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 27 th day of August, 2024. Respectfully submitted, Skelton Slusher Barnhill Watkins Wells pllc 501 W. Church St. Livingston, Texas 77351 Phone (936) 327-8215 By: Joshua L. McMahon IV State Bar No. 24088030 JMcMahon@SSBWW.law Attorneys for Applicant

Estate of William Henry Tanner

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letter Testametary for the Estate of William Henry Tanner, were issued on August 19, 2024, in Cause No. 24-CC-PB-0092 pending in the County Court-at-Law of POLK County, Texas, to David Alan Tanner. 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: Bobby L Phillips Attorney at Law 419 North Washington Ave. LIVINGSTON, TX 77351 DATED the 29th day of August, 2024. /s/ Bobby L. Phillips Bobby L Phillips Attorney for the Estate of William Henry Tanner State Bar No. 24088223 419 North Washington Ave. Livingston, Texas 77351 Telephone: (936) 327-5619 Facsimile: (936) 327-5610 Email:bphillips@polkcountyattorneys.com

PCSO accepting bids on truck

The Polk County Sheriff's Office is accepting sealed bids on a green 2005 Ford F250 Diesel 6.0 truck, last four of the VIN is 0566, with 132585 miles. Send sealed bid to 1733 N Washington Ave, Livingston, Tx. 77351, Attn: Lt V. White Write sealed bid on the outside of the envelope. In your sealed bid include your bid for the truck,

your full name, address and a good telephone number. The highest bidder will be awarded the vehicle. A photo of the vehicle will be on the Polk County Facebook page. The Sheriff's Office will open the sealed bids on Monday, 09/02/2024. The highest bidder will be contacted on how to complete the purchase.

City of Livingston requests demolition proposals

CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS Sealed Proposals Requested for Demolition Services Structures at 154 Banks Drive NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS No. 2024-09-001. The City of Livingston is requesting sealed proposals (RFP) for "Demolition of Structures at 154 Banks Drive" in the City of Livingston. Eligible proposals must be sealed, identified on the exterior of the envelope as "Proposal No. 2024-09-001, 154 Banks Drive Demolition" and submitted to the Community Development Department at 200 W. Church St., Livingston, Texas 77351 prior to 5:00 P. M. on Monday, September 23, 2024. No facsimile or electronic submission of proposals will be accepted, only signed original proposals. No public opening of proposals will be made, and no public inspection will be permitted until after an award of a contract. Submitted

proposals will be reviewed by City staff for compliance with the RFP and further negotiations with proposers. A Proposal packet may be obtained by contacting the Livingston Community Development Department at (936) 327-4311 or in person at Livingston City Hall, 200 W. Church St., Livingston, Texas. Proposals will be considered for an award of a contract by the Livingston City Council at its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. at Livingston City Hall, 200 W. Church St., Livingston, Texas. The Livingston City Council reserves the right to reject in whole or in part any or all proposals, or to accept the proposal deemed to be most advantageous to, in the best interest of, and at the best value to the City, and reserves the right to negotiate the terms of the final contract which may be awarded to a successful proposer.

Polk County Commissioners Court accepting bids

The Polk County Commissioners Court is accepting Bids for the FY2025 purchase of; BID #2024-01.01 thru 01.08 : Precinct 1 Road Materials BID #2024-02.01 thru 02.08 : Precinct 2 Road Materials BID #2024-03.01 thru 03.08 : Precinct 3 Road Materials BID #2024-04.01 thru 04.08 : Precinct 4 Road Materials BID #2024-05 : Bulk Purchase of Limestone Road Base BID #2024-06 : Tires BID #2024-07 : Oil, Grease, Gasoline & Diesel BID #2024-08 : Pest Control Services BID #2024-09 : Motor Grader Blades BID #2024-10 : Material Hauling Specifications and required submittal forms may be obtained by contacting the Polk County Purchasing Office 936-327-6849, option 2 or visiting the County's website www.co.polk.tx.us. Eligible Bids must be

submitted individually, by designated bid #, on the form provided by the County. Bids must be sealed, identified on the exterior individual envelope/s with the bid#/title and received by Nacole Reeks, in the Polk County Purchasing Office - 602 E. Church, Suite 120 - Livingston, Texas 77351 prior to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2024. Bids will be opened and publicly read in the Polk County Purchasing Office at 2:00 p.m. on the deadline date. The subject bids are scheduled to be awarded in the Commissioners Court session to be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.. The Polk County Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept the bid deemed to serve the best interest of the County.

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Legal Notices

TABC application filed for All Star License Service

ALL STAR LICENSE SERVICE 10101 Southwest Freeway, Suite 307 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77074 713/644-2120 LEGAL NOTICE Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms of the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code THAT: Panthers Petroleum III LLC. d/b/a Panthers 30 HAS FILED AP-

PLICATION FOR A: Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On- Premises Permit SAID BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED AT: 13501 State Highway 150 W, Coldspring, San Jacinto County, TX 77331 OWNER: Mohammad Arif, Managing Member Chaudhry Ayaz, Managing Member

Estate of Hazel Mills Vick Stringer

NOTICE CONCERNING HAZEL MILLS VICK STRINGER ESTATE Karen Jean Bayless McIntyre, Karla Jean Bayless, and Linda Sue Bayless (1) Tract 14B of ABST Peter Cauble Surv and Tract 32 ABST 179 Peter Cauble Surv (2a) Tract 14B of ABST 180, Legal Descrip: Beginning at the SW corner of a 123 acre survey in Book I, Page 210 of PCDC, at the intersection of the Livingston and Moscow Public Road; Thence E488 vrs.

to corner in said road; Thence S25W 120vrs to Corner; thence S31W 280 vrs to corner; thence S50W 390 vrs to beginning. (2b) Tract 32 of ABST 179, Legal Descrip: 1.5 acres of land, conveyed by Mrs. O.A. Gas-siot et al to J.C. Mills record in V125 P59 of the Polk County RPRs (3) Located in Polk County Texas (4) Undivided Interest in Real Property; and (5) Rocking E Services, LLC 2719 Bay Laurel Ln Conroe, TX 77304

Estate of Crystal G. Blakley

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Crystal G. Blakley, Deceased, were issued on June 5, 2024, in Cause No. 22-CC-PB-0228, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Polk County, Texas, to: Christie Lee Hancock-Jones. All per-

sons 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: Christie L. Hancock-Jones, Attorney at Law Attorney at Law PO Box 2131 / 405 N Dogwood Ave Livingston, TX 77351

Request for proposals

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS for Grant Application and Administration Services for the TDA CDBG 2025-2026 Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program The City of Onalaska plans to apply for the upcoming 2025-2026 Texas Community Development Fund from the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). These services are being solicited to assist the City in its application and administration of the TxCDBG contract, if awarded, to support the following eligible activities in the City of Onalaska Accordingly, the city is seeking to contract with a qualified Professional Administrator or Service Provider (individual/firm) to prepare the application and/or administer the awarded contract. Please submit your proposal

of services and a statement of qualifications for the proposed services to the address below: Angela Stutts, City Administrator/City Secretary, City of Onalaska, P. O. Box 880, 372 FM 356 South, Onalaska, TX 77360. Proposals shall be received by the City no later than 3:00 pm on the 13th day of September 2024. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Onalaska is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Public Hearing Meeting on October 22

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MEETING The Livingston Housing Authority will hold a Public Meeting on October 22, 2024 @10:00 AM at 1011 N. Pine Ave. Livingston, Texas 77351 to receive comments on the 2025 Revision to the Admissions and Occupancy Policy (ACOP) of the Housing

Authority of the City of Livingston. The amendments are pertaining the Final Rule HOTMA. All documents are on display and available for viewing at the office of the Housing Authority, located at 1101 N. Pine Ave., Mon- Thurs., between the hours of 8:00 AM and 12 Noon.

Estate of Thomas Joseph Ames

NO:24-CC-PB-0134 NOTICE IN PROBATE THE STATE OF TEXAS SCHELANA HOCK, COUNTY CLERK 101 W. MILL ST. SUITE 265 LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351 (936) 327-6805 APPLICANT(S) ATTORNEY or APPLICANT: Justin R Hurst 6601 Cypresswood DR STE 109 Spring TX 77379 281-803-5878 TO HEIRS AND/OR UNKNOWN HEIRS: IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: Thomas Joseph Ames, Deceased On August 27, 2024, Marie Grace De Le Vingne, filed under Cause No.24-CC-PB- 0134, in the County Court at Law Polk County, Texas, APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION OF INTESTATE ESTATE BY AGREEMENT AND LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION & APPLICATION TO DECLARE HEIRSHIP in the estate of: Thomas Joseph Ames, Deceased. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days exclusive of the date of publication from the date this citation is published or at such later time as may be set by the County Court, Polk County

Courthouse, Livingston, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for the hearing by filing a written contest or answer to the application should they desire to oppose or contest it. The written contest or answer should be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Polk County Texas, in Livingston Texas. The officer serving this citation shall, in compliance with the law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in this county which is the county in which the proceeding is pending, for not less than ten days before the return date of this citation, exclusive of the date of publication. The date of publication that the newspaper bears will be the date of publication. If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of issuance, it shall be returned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT in Livingston, Polk County, Texas, on this the 27th day of August, 2024. COUNTY COURT AT LAW Honorable SCHELANA HOCK, Clerk County Court at Law Polk County, Texas By: Paula Rinehart Paula Rinehart, Deputy

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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 Polk County Enterprise or the San Jacinto News-Times call (936) 327-4357 ext. 1002, for the Trinity County News-Standard call (936) 642-1726, for the Tyler County Booster call (409) 283-2516.

Announcements

POLK COUNTY SPCA urges everyone to do their part to control the pet population in Polk County. Have your pets spayed and neutered to avoid dealing with unwanted puppies and kittens. To adopt a pet, come by SPCA at 802 South Houston, corner of Mary St. and Hwy. 146 or call (936) 755-3020. (1-tfn-nc-PCE)

HABITAT FOR Humanity located at 321 N. Beatty, Livingston. Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm Saturday 9am-1pm. (35-tfn-nc-PCE)

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)

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

Deer Hunters
DEER HUNTERS WANTED: Have camp with power and water, Tyler County. Call 409-356-5767, leave message. (35-4t-cc-TCB)

Auctions & Sales

Call or Come by Today
Livingston
Senior Citizens
Country Store
1310 North Houston
Open 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
Weekdays
Open during noon hour
Come by for bargains anytime
(1-tfn-nc-PCE)

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)

Yard Sale
Friday-Saturday
Aug. 30th-31
8am-3pm
213 E Peterson Lp
Livingston
Vinyl albums, CDs, DVDs, jewelry, dog/cat items, glassware, accessories, sheets/bedding, clothes and much more!
(34-2t-nc-PCE)

YARD SALE Wednesday-Saturday, August 28th-31st 9am-5pm, 3973 US 59 North, Livingston. (34-2t-cc-PCE)

HARD WORKING TYLER COUNTY WOMAN, Landscaping, fence line clearing, painting, clean out flower beds, any outdoor jobs. Christal-409-224-5293. (38-tfn-p-TCB)

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(32-4t-cc-PCE)

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936-327-HEAT
(50-tfn-b-PCE)

LLOYD'S REMODELING located in Tyler County (Serving all areas) Add-ons, decks, metal roofs, cabinets, piers, docks, and boat houses. No job too small. Call 409-429-6164. (1-tfn-b-TCB)

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(23-tfn-b-PCE)

I WILL clean out your garage, barn, old building and/or haul off your old junk like cars, trucks, tractors, etc, (936)328-1679. (35-4t-pd-PCE)

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(2-tfn-b-PCE)

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(1-tfn-b-PCE)

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if no answer call for aptp Livingston, TX
936-513-0783
(1-tfn-b-PCE)

Services Offered
PRIVATE DUTY caregiver looking for clients in the Onalaska, Point Blank and Livingston areas. Monday-Friday only. Call (936)933-6926. (35-2t-cc-PCE)

Cleaning Services

S & S Cleaning and Maintenance

Residential
Commercial
Construction
936-714-6226
(32-tfn-b-PCE)

Employment
DAVID NORTON TIRE CENTER, Woodville, TX is accepting applications for a mechanic. Apply in person, 1116 S. Magnolia. (46-tfn-b-TCB)

NOW HIRING; Local cleaning company looking for new hires, must have your own transportation and be reliable. Call or text (936) 714-6226. (33-4-pd-PCE)

We ❤️ our readers at Polk County Enterprise

Actively seeking a dynamic individual from the Trinity area to fill a part-time sales position. The position offers a base pay plus commission, and bonuses. The ideal candidate should be enthusiastic, highly motivated, and well acquainted with the local community. If you're interested in joining our team, please email your resume to ashley@polkcountypublishing.com. (5-tfn-nc-TCNS)

NOW TAKING applications at Red Barn Builders Supply for yard help. Apply in person only 4683 St. Hwy. 146, Livingston. Ask for Randy. (36-tfn-bill-PCE)

Notice of Position Opening TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICER August 19, 2024
The CITY OF LIVINGSTON is accepting applications for one (1) Telecommunications Officer position for the Livingston Police Department. Experience preferred but will train. Candidates must be willing to work nights and/or weekends and are subject to emergency call-in. This is a full-time position with benefits. Applications will be accepted at the Police Department, 208 W. Church Street, Livingston, Texas from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. The deadline for accepting applications will be Friday, August 30, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. For job description, starting salary, required knowledge and training requirements, please contact Trisha Patton, Telecommunications Supervisor, at 936.327.3117. No interviews will be scheduled until after the deadline. The City of Livingston is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. (34-2t-b-PCE)

Now Hiring!
Looking for honest, hard working, outgoing, self motivated individuals with a good attitude looking to build a career in the fast food industry. Looking for a Team Leader with one year experience and an assistant with 2-3 years experience. Must have good references, Livingston, TX.

Apply at www.burgerworkshr.com (1-tfn-b-PCE)

1st Quality Hospice
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Homemaker for Hospice needed, full or part-time
409-331-9909
(33-2t-b-TCB)

LOOKING FOR A MANAGER for a world-famous restaurant, the Pickett House Restaurant, a mainstay of the Woodville community and a hot spot for tourists since 1965. The right person must have prior experience in restaurant management, current food manager certification within the state of Texas and the ability to supervise a staff of kitchen workers and waitstaff. Ideally, the candidate will also be a great "people" person with enthusiasm about the restaurant and with new ideas to help market our brand further. For a list of job requirements and an application, please email: opportunities@heritage-village.org (33-4t-b-TCB)

For Sale

SQUARE BALES of sprayed, fertilized Jiggs hay in a barn, Livingston, (281)830-2810. (30-6t-cc-PCE)

70x12' MOBILE HOME, 3BD, two hallways, kitchen, dining room, antique window bars. Call 409-489-8095. (34-2t-p-TCB)

LAND FOR SALE, 6.8 Acres, 5 minutes from town, Woodville. \$7,000 per acre. Call 409-719-8888. (34-4t-p-TCB)

FOR RENT; Hair, nail or spa salon locations available. Also, two office and a retail location available. Includes utilities, WiFi, business sign and plenty of parking. Our Space 111 Hwy 59 S Loop, Livingston (936)328-9358. (36-tfn-cc-PCE)

Rentals

1-BEDROOM HOME available for rent in Leggett, DIRECTV/ water/trash pick-up included \$600/month plus deposit Call (832)277-3737. (49-tfn-cc-PCE)
2-BEDROOM home with lake view in Indian Hills, Livingston, large yard, \$810/month. For info call (409)256-8365 (31-6t-cc-PCE)

3-BEDROOM 1-BATH in Livingston, washer/dryer connections, central air/heat, \$900/month plus deposit. Call (936)223-4609. (34-2t-cc-PCE)

3-BEDROOM 2-BATH mobile home in Port Adventure. Call (713)702-0523 or (713)702-0683. (34-2t-cc-PCE)

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The dinky train, run by a steam engine and fired with wood, hauled logs out of the woods to the sawmill. Photo taken around 1908. Two men in the middle: Johnny Tomlinson and Minor "Pie" Tanner.



Polk County Fair, October 18-20, 1911, looking north on Washington Avenue from the second floor of The Livingston Drug Company building. Martin Racket Store on right and the new Manning home in the background.



Edens-Birch Company store in Corrigan, circa post-1933. This photo shows an overall increased inventory, with more household and dry goods items.



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Welcome to this year's Heritage Section!

While our annual Heritage Section usually has an overarching theme, this year we opted to go a different route and just celebrate our county's heritage in general. We are blessed to have numerous Polk Countians who are extremely knowledgeable about their respective communities and delight at the opportunity to share that information with others.

Not wanting to waste all this local knowledge and talent, we chose to outsource this year's section. We are thrilled with the results and think you will be too. In fact, there is so much information and history that each one of the respective communities represented here could have had an entire section devoted just to it. We may consider that in the future.

I read with rapt attention the histories of our local communities and learned new things about each. You could even say that I came away wanting more.

I want to offer my sincere appreciation to the following individuals who either wrote stories, provided pictures or helped out behind the scenes: Gary Davis, Joyce Johnston, Annette Dominy Lowe, Kathy Black Lott, Sherry Brecheen, Angela Stutts, Betsy Deiterman and Kelly Shadix.

– Emily Banks Wooten, Editor



Onalaska Public School, built around 1906. Photo taken Feb. 28, 1919.

Corrigan

City of Corrigan named for 'Wrong Way' Corrigan?

Local connection? Speculations, suppositions and conclusions ...

By Betsy Deiterman

Curator, Polk County Memorial Museum

Since Douglas Corrigan's transatlantic flight in 1938, local legend has connected Douglas with the city of Corrigan. Here's what we know, what we've heard, and what we can prove:

The settlement of Corrigan was founded around 1860 and was first called 'Gant,' then 'Kurth.' The first post office carried the name Kurth. In 1881, the Houston, East and West Texas Railroad arrived, although the settlement was not a scheduled stop until 1883. The town name was changed to 'Corrigan' in honor of Pat Corrigan, the conductor on the first train to the town.

Pat Corrigan purchased land near the railroad tracks on the James Hendry tract about 1883. Local legend says that Pat Corrigan came to Polk County from Galveston, and he is listed on the 1880 census in Galveston. His marital status was 'single.'

We have traced Clyde Groce ("Douglas") Corrigan's family tree, and there is no Pat Corrigan listed anywhere.

We have looked for birth certificates, census records, on Ancestry.com records, MyHeritage.com records, standard Google searches, train schedules, newspapers and obituaries.

Douglas and his siblings were born in Galveston and the family lived together in Port Aransas for a while, as documented in the 1910 census. Clyde is noted as working on the railroad bridge in Port Aransas.

Urban legend has Pat in Galveston prior to his arrival in the Pineywoods in 1881. This does lend some credence to the claim that Pat was a relative, but it is inconclusive.

Pat Corrigan was in the Corrigan area though around 1900 living on Hardy Road. He was married twice, but we have found no records for either marriage or a divorce. By 1910, only Mrs. Corrigan was listed at the Hardy Road address. His first wife's name may have been Alice; his second wife was Martha Jane McWhorter Corrigan. She is buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Houston. We have no records for Pat Corrigan's death or gravesite.

Douglas is listed on his paternal grandmother's obituary (Jennie Sarah Bare Corrigan, 1944) and on his pater-

nal aunt's findagrave.com memorial (Anita Elizabeth "Annie" Corrigan Langford, memorial # 27907609, 1957) as "Wrong Way" Corrigan.

Douglas had contact with folks in Corrigan on several occasions, even choosing the 'most beautiful' girls for the 1939 school annual.

I had contacted the Planes of Fame Museum in Chino, California where Douglas's plane, Sunshine, was donated in 1996. I received an email from Harry Corrigan, Douglas's son. He recalled that he had worked with a researcher about 50 years ago to try and prove the relationship between Pat and Douglas Corrigan, and they concluded that the men were not related.

All the evidence of a family relationship between Pat Corrigan and Douglas Corrigan is circumstantial.

My suspicions were that Pat was Clyde Sinclair Corrigan (Douglas's father's) brother, and that his father was John Sinclair Corrigan (1845-1927), his mother Jennie Sarah Bare Corrigan (1846-1944). This would make Pat Corrigan Douglas Corrigan's paternal uncle; however, Harry Corrigan could not confirm that.

Corrigan

By Kelly Shadix

Corrigan Area Heritage Center

"Has the paper come yet?"

"The paper came."

"Have you seen the paper?"

"The paper is around here somewhere."

"Did. You. See. The paper?"

"Oh, yesss! I saw the paper!"

"Is this the paper from this week?"

"That's the paper from last week."

"It was on the front page of the paper. That's what the paper said. There was a picture of him/her/them/it in the paper."

I wish I knew how many times in my 47 ½ years I have heard these and similar expression – most commonly on Thursday or Friday. The specific "paper" has never been of question; the generic term is unmistakably "The Corrigan Times." Regardless of the subject, how celebratory or momentous, emotional

"The Paper"

or disastrous, scandalous or seemingly unimportant, be it of strictly local appeal or a global affair – we locals want our own version of coverage. After all, I'm not sure how you know what's important or how it is perceived in Corrigan, if you aren't actually here and attuned to the impact every little thing has on the community at the North end of Polk County.

The Wall Street Journal, The Houston Chronicle, and often (no offense to the mother paper intended) The Polk County Enterprise have very little insight into the day to day ticking of Corrigan, Texas. Whose kid is the Student of the Week, made a homerun in T-Ball, or attended their first UIL meet is of no interest to an outsider. However, when it appears in The Corrigan Times everyone in town knows that kid, or their parents and grandparents. That same kid is immediately escalated to super-stardom with a super-star grin and pride in their hometown. Every member of the family actually gets a piece of the spot-light in some way.

The picture and story of five generations represented during a party at Corrigan LTC (more commonly referred to as "the nursing home") doesn't matter to a bunch of strangers. However, when presented to the proper audience – as only a local rag can do – the honoree who was born and raised here, made a name for themselves, their family, and were once a vital part of and an asset to the town is acknowledged! They may have been forgotten with time, but their contributions to the community, or perhaps even a single person, are recalled, recognized and documented.

I could go on and on about the importance, the relevance, the need for "the paper"... our local paper ... our own paper ... The Corrigan Times. Keeping track of events, city news, celebrations and grievances, the comings and goings of both individuals and businesses has been happening since at least 1892. Yes, that is ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE years of keeping track of and communicating the large and small happenings in our neck of the county.

Prior to "The Times" (not necessarily in this order), "the paper" referenced The Corrigan Press, The Plain Dealer, The Corrigan Tribune, or The Corrigan Index. There is at least one more from the early 1900s, unfortunately time does not currently permit me to research and confirm its name. (As I am not a journalist or reporter for the paper I trust the reader won't hold this against me.) From a historic aspect, all of the little items that appear in a local weekly paper are just as important today as they were the day they happened. That kid who was "famous" because they appeared in "the paper" is just as excited to recall and share that information 70 years later. The previously mentioned party honoree's birth announcement is recorded, down to the doctor or neighbor who assisted in the birth, along with the information that they came in the middle of the night while it was raining cats and dogs.

Families are elated when they find the mention of a loved one's name in "the paper" of old – "Mr. and Mrs. John Brown and little Billy, motored to Lufkin to visit relatives Sunday afternoon. Cousin Sue accompanied them back home for a week-end stay." Certainly that information may be trivial to some, but to others it is invaluable.

Let's look at the importance of the local paper from a larger scale. What was Henderson Hall? How did Ben Franklin Street get its name? If Corrigan was "founded" in 1882, why was it not incorporated as a city before 1938? What was Corrigan's contribution to the war effort? And what special "visitors" worked at the mill? (On that note – what mill?) What was the purpose of securing the government housing project in the late 60s? Why did seven grocery stores close in 1973? What happened to four longtime neighboring businesses in 1978? How were funds for the Little League Baseball Park obtained? Why does the paneling in the City Hall not match? Who scored the winning touchdown for the 1988 State Champion Football game? How did the Sechrest Webster Community Center come to be?

What about all the common people, places, businesses and events of comment that have occurred in the past 125 years? There would be no record of these things without our local paper. No record of your town's history, no record of your school or church history, often no record of your family's history. (Even your kid's letter to Santa!) The most spectacular, wonderful or horrific, the little special moments that become big moments because they appeared in "the paper," are lost in time if not properly reported and chronicled.

"The paper" and what it represents is personally important to me. I have been a faithful subscriber and advertised to sponsor school and holiday events for many years; just as my parents and grandparents did. I realize I am not alone in this endeavor. It is vital to our community.

I say all of this – which I realize has turned into a ramble – to point out the importance of Corrigan's own voice. In comparison to the papers of years past, it may appear we no longer have much to report, document, or chronicle. This is not the case. News and events of interest occur daily. Often the same types of plentiful news and events from days past, but with new generations and twists to report. However, it seems somehow those items have fallen from significance over the years.

Although small, each piece of news is a piece of our community. A piece of our history. Ultimately, a piece of our heart. Every community has a heart and every community should have a voice that relates to it and speaks its language. Yesterday, today and tomorrow. I'd like to think we can all make an effort to regain that voice and retain our heart in "the paper" ... aka The Corrigan Times

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Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

From Enterprise Staff

The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe calls its reservation home in Southeast Texas located 17 miles east of Livingston in Polk County, Texas. Although recognized as two separate tribes, the Alabamas and Coushattas have been closely associated throughout their history. Both of Muskogean language stock, they lived in adjacent areas in the present state of Alabama, followed similar migration routes westward after 1763, and settled in the same area of Southeast Texas.

The Alabamas and Coushattas have been closely associated throughout their history. Culturally, these two tribes have always been one people, despite minor differences. Their languages are mutually understandable, although some differences occur in individual words. The closest tie has been that of blood, as intermarriage has been the rule since the earliest times.

During the Mexican War of Independence from Spain, the tribes fought with the revolutionaries. Their many com-

bined contributions included a battalion of 300 warriors who were instrumental to the capture of San Antonio in the April 1, 1813 battle. The newly formed Mexican government recognized both tribes independently and offered them tracts of land for permanent settlement. Those lands are attributed to the tribes in early maps of the region, including Stephen F. Austin's 1829 map of Texas.

In 1836, Sam Houston brokered a treaty with the tribes before the Texas War of Independence from Mexico. The agreement provided the title of land between the Neches and Sabine rivers for one community with both tribes in return for assurance the tribes would not side with Mexico. Tribal members served as guides for Houston's army and provided provisions to feed Texas refugees fleeing from Santa Anna's army. Today, Houston's descendants still acknowledge that contribution to the Republic of Texas.

Before 1859, Alabamas and Coushattas established and occupied several prominent villages in the present counties of Polk, Tyler, and San Jacinto. In 1854, the Alabamas

received a grant of 1,110.7 acres of land in Polk County for a reservation. Since a grant of land for the Coushattas was never patented, State Agent James Barclay wrote that in 1859 the Coushattas, with the permission of the Alabamas, began moving onto the Alabama's Polk County reservation.

This merging of the two tribes on the same reservation provided additional evidence to support the use of the hyphenated term "Alabama-Coushatta" in subsequent references to these Indians.

The Restoration Act passed Congress in 1987 and restored the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe to federal recognition.

Today, the reservation encompasses approximately 10,200 acres in the Big Thicket of Deep East Texas. The tribe is a fully functioning sovereign government with a full array of health and human services, including law enforcement and emergency services. There are more than 1,300 members, about half of whom live on the reservation. The Tribe is governed by an elected Tribal Council and advised by a Principal Chief and Second Chief.

Chiefs of the Alabama Indian Tribe

Chiefs of the Coushatta Indian Tribe:

Long King – Long King was chief of Long King's Village, the Middle Coushatta Village, three miles north of the Trinity River near the junction of Long King Creek and as the Mikko or principal chief of the Coushattas in the official records of the period.

Colita – Colita was an outstanding leader of the Coushatta Indians of Texas during the first half of the 19th century. He served first as chief of Colita's Village (the Lower Coushatta Village on the Trinity River in San Jacinto County). He then succeeded Long King as Principal Chief of all the Texas Coushattas after Long King's death approximately in 1838. He died on July 7, 1838, while on a hunting trip in Liberty County.

Ben-Ash – Ben-Ash was chief of the Battise Village. He served during the first half of the nineteenth century. This village was located on the west bank of the Trinity River at the Coushatta Trace crossing of the Trinity near Point Blank in present San Jacinto County.

Tempe – Tempe (Timpey, Timby) became chief of the Middle Coushatta Village after the death of Long King, approximately 1838. Well-known among Texans during the early decades of the 19th century, Tempe occasionally received greetings from Sam Houston through letters or messengers. Tempe Creek in western Polk County was named for this Coushatta Chief.

Long Tom – Long Tom, a Coushatta Indian Chief, was successor to Long King and Tempe as leader of the Coushattas, who lived along the valley of Long King Creek in western Polk County.

Note: After 1859, a small number of Coushattas remained in the Colita Village in San Jacinto County under the leadership of Chickasaw Abbey and Mingo. The last of these Coushattas moved to the Alabama-Coushatta Reservation in 1906.

Chiefs of the Alabama-Coushatta Indian Tribe of Texas:

John Scott – John Scott, the principal chief of the Alabama-Coushatta Indian Tribe of Texas from 1871 to 1913 and grandson of a chief of this tribe before these Indians came to Texas, was born in 1805 near Opelousas, Louisiana. Scott moved with his family to Peach Tree Village in northwestern Tyler County, Texas. Later, they relocated to Fenced-In Village three miles southeast of Peach Tree Village, followed by James Barclay Village, then Rock Village in eastern Polk County, and finally to the present Alabama-Coushatta Reservation, arriving at this reservation during the winter of 1854-55. He served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, was an active leader in the Presbyterian Mission Church on the reservation and served as a trustee of the Alabama-Coushatta community school. He died March 3, 1913, and rests in the reservation cemetery.

John Walker – John Walker was elected second chief of the Alabama-Coushattas in 1871. Records are unavailable as to the length of his service as second chief.

Charles Martin Thompson – Charles Martin Thompson, whose Indian name is Sun-Ke, served as principal chief of the Alabama-Coushatta Indian Tribe from 1928-1935. He was born on this tribe's reservation in Polk County, Texas, in 1860. Not only did he become a leader in tribal business, church activities and school development, but he also ranked above all other tribal members in efforts to focus attention on Alabama-Coushatta cultural heritage. He died Sept. 8, 1935, and was buried in the tribal cemetery on the Alabama-Coushatta Reservation. He was served by second chief, Mikko-Se Hot-Ka, Clem Fain Jr.

McConnico Battise – Battise served as an interpreter to Charles Martin Thompson.

Bronson Cooper Sylestine – Bronson Cooper Sylestine (Tic-Ca-Itche) was principal chief of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe from 1936 to 1969. He was born on this tribe's reservation on March 7, 1879. He was elected tribal chief in November 1935 and inaugurated Jan. 1, 1936. He was widely respected for his leadership and influence among the Alabama-Coushattas. He died on Feb. 23, 1969, and was buried in the tribal cemetery.

Kina Robert Fulton Battise – Kina Robert Fulton Battise was inaugurated principal chief of the Alabama-Coushatta on Jan. 1, 1970, and served in this position until his death on Feb. 9, 1994. He was elected second chief in 1935 and began his service on Jan. 1, 1936. He lived in a wood frame house until his death, insisting that tribal members get new homes before he received one.

Colabe Atokla Emmett Battise – The Alabama-Coushattas chose Emmett Battise to serve as their second chief after Robert Fulton Battise became principal chief. He served as second chief until his death on Oct. 21, 1991.

Oscola Clayton Marion Sylestine – Oscola Clayton Marion Sylestine was elected second chief after the death of Emmett Battise and was inaugurated as the second chief on Jan. 1, 1993. He was installed as Mikko Choba on Jan. 1, 1995, and served until his death on Jan. 31, 2013.

Colabe III Clem Fain Sylestine – Clem Fain Sylestine was elected as the second chief on Oct. 19, 1994, and was inaugurated on Jan. 1, 1995. Colabe III is the son of Tic-Ca-Itche Bronson Cooper Sylestine. He was inaugurated as Mikko Choba on Jan. 1, 2014, and served until his death on May 17, 2019.

Herbert G. Johnson, Sr., Chief Skalaba – Herbert Johnson Sr. was elected as Mikko Atokla on Oct. 5, 2013, and was inaugurated on Jan. 1, 2014. He was installed as Mikko Skalaaba on Jan. 1, 2020, and served until his death on Aug. 15, 2021.

Donnis B. Battise, Mikko choba, Chief Kanicu – Donnis B. Battise was elected as Second Chief in September 2020 and was inaugurated on Jan. 1, 2020. He was inaugurated as Principal Chief on Jan. 1, 2023.

Millie Thompson Williams, Mikko Istimatokla, Chief Poliika Istaaya – Millie Thompson Williams was elected on Sept. 14, 2022. She was inaugurated as Mikko Istimatokla on Jan. 1, 2023. Millie was the first female to serve as Second Chief for the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe and served until her death on Aug. 25, 2023.



Donnie B. Battise, Mikko Choba, Chief Kanicu

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Moses L. Choate and his influence in the formation of Polk County, Texas

By Gary Davis
Polk County Historical Commission

William Moses Livingston Choate was born in Livingston, Tennessee in 1794. He was laid to rest in 1867 in the Old City Cemetery, on the land that he received from the Mexican government in Nacogdoches in 1835. On this land, Choate buried his four-year-old son Josephus who died on August 11, 1840. Choate later, in 1846, buried a 13-year-old son, Rodolphus. The family lived in a cabin on land just to the east of the cemetery in the first house ever to be built in Livingston. From there he could see his children's graves.

The earliest account of a Moses L. Choate is found in the 1855 History of Texas from its Annexation to the United States in 1846. The report reads "In 1822, the schooner Revenge, Captain Shires, brought upward of eighty Stephen F. Austin colonists from New Orleans. They landed at Bolivar Point, and they then proceeded up the Trinity Bay and ran aground on Red Fish Bar. The passengers left the vessel and went ashore on the west side of the bay. From this point they proceeded in search of homes. Two of them, Moses L. Choate and Colonel Pettis, went up the San Jacinto River some ten miles above its mouth, where they made, perhaps, the first improvement ever effected on that stream."

An Early Settler of Texas by W.B. Dewees, compiled by Cara Cardelle in 1852, mentions Choate on page 18. Also, Indian Wars and Pioneers of Texas by John Henry Brown has the same verbiage, also on page 18, as follows: "According to the notes of Mrs. Briscoe, the first actual settlers

arrived in April 1822, of whom Moses L. Choate and William Pettus were the first settlers on the San Jacinto, and a surveyor named Ryder, unmarried, settled on Morgan's Point, on the bay."

Yet another account of Moses L. Choate being wrecked on Red Fish Bar came from the October 1, 1906, issue of The Home and State newspaper. This account, written by esteemed Texas historian, James T. Deshields, told of the shipwreck at Boliver but then elaborated that Choate had later moved to Nacogdoches and then in 1837 to Livingston.

At this point it needs to be disclosed that there is no proof that this is "our" Moses L. Choate. We certainly would like to embrace these accounts. Enterprise staff writer Don Hendrix, one of the best Polk County historians, spent much time studying Choate history and found yet another account of the shipwreck story in Harris County, 1822-1845.

"The year 1822 seems to have been the earliest period claimed for any settlements (in Harris County), and it is more probable that the rumor of Austin's colonization scheme caused them to be made. A few settlers may have come overland from Louisiana, but those of whom record is here made, arrived on shipboard, and were in some instances tossed ashore when their frail boats were wrecked by storms on the reefs and bars of the bay. Numbered among these were Moses L. Choate and Colonel Pettus, on board the Revenge, which was wrecked on Red Fish Bar in April 1822. Their schooner, commanded by Captain Shires, ran aground, and the passengers left the vessel and went up the San Jacinto River

where they made homes, probably the first settlement on this river, or in Harris County."

Mr. Hendrix embraced the Choate shipwreck story and included it in a front-page narrative to commemorate Polk County's 140th anniversary. The following month, in his Trinity Valley Trivia column he admitted his assumption. Hendrix did a tremendous amount of research on Choate and his documentation of him and our county's history is immeasurable. Thanks to Don Hendrix (1936-1995).

According to the April 30, 1835, Nacogdoches census, Choate was still living there with Ursula and three children, Maria Clara, a daughter aged seven, Lara James, a son aged four and Adolphus, a son aged two. His occupation was listed as a carpenter and three boarders, young single men, lived in his household and were also carpenters.

Choate soon afterwards moved to present day Livingston where he built a log cabin near the creek that bears his name. His son, Lara James, died at an early age, perhaps before he settled here.

Arthur P. Garner, a contemporary of Choate, also received a land grant from the Mexican government, his on February 2, 1835. From his land on the west side of the Trinity, he began to operate a ferry that crossed over to property that was granted to William Pace on January 26, 1835.

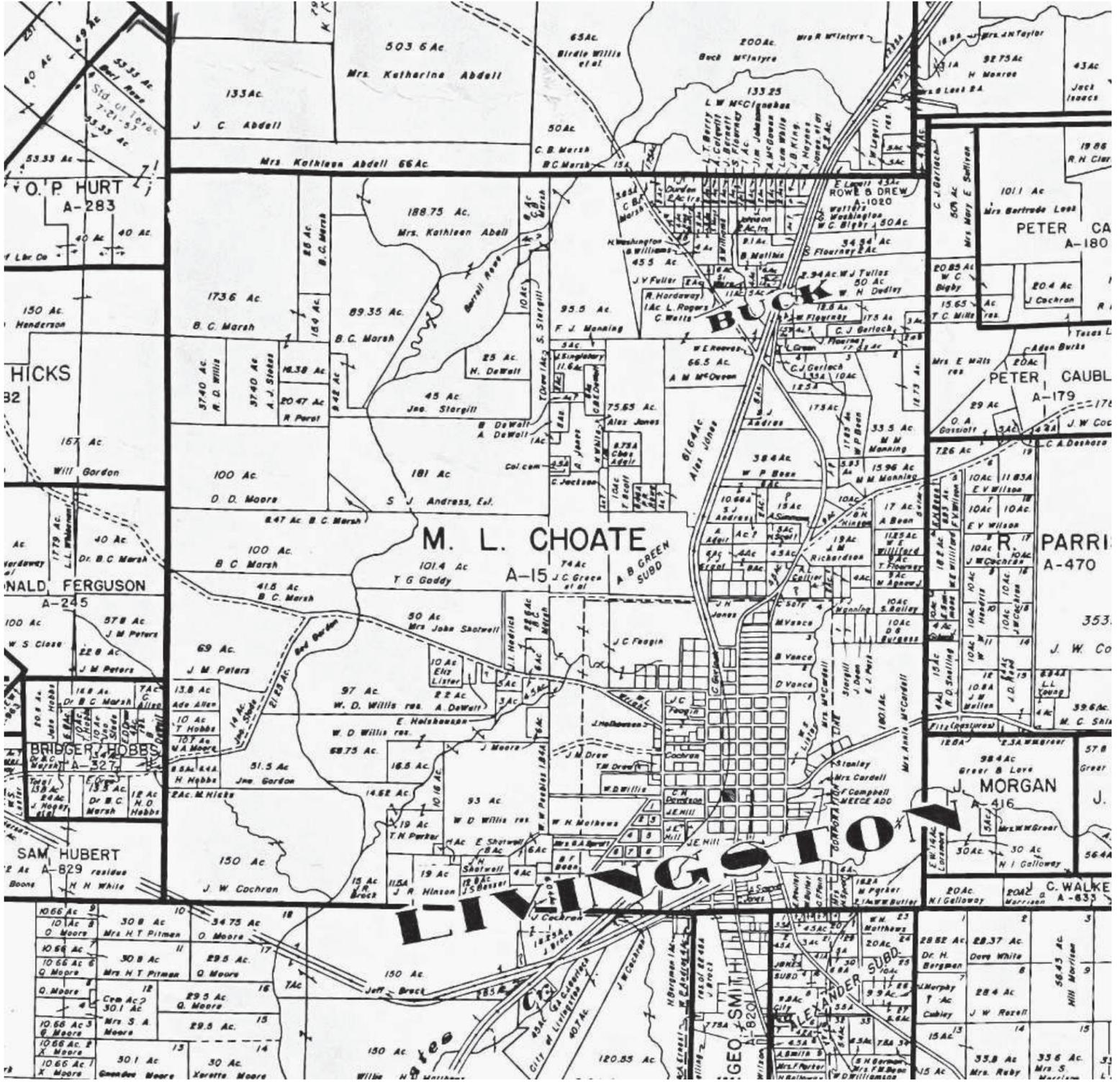
It was at this place, Garner's Ferry, that the great Coushatta Indian Chief Colita (Kalita) announced to those fleeing the advancing Mexican army in "The Runaway Scrape" that the Mexican army had been defeated by General Sam Houston and the Texian forces at San Jacinto on April

21, 1836. The weary colonists had been on the run for over a month since the slaughter of the Texan forces at the Alamo on March 6th. The ferry that Garner operated on the Trinity was on the main route to the Big Thicket and the one hundred miles of trackless jungle to the Sabine River and the United States where there would be refuge from the advancing murderous foe.

There is a fantastic article from Livingston's East Texas Pinery (fortunately re-published in the Galveston Daily News of April 19, 1892) about The Runaway Scrape in Polk County. Written by John W. Stevens, the son of San Jacinto pioneer Miles G. Stevens, who as a young boy was at Garner Ferry and witnessed the following: Colita, the Coushatta Indian Chief, had seen Houston's forces defeat Santa Anna. He then rode seventy-five miles, stopping at Coushatta villages along the river for fresh mounts, and arrived to tell the masses of weary folks fleeing from danger that they could return home. Colita told of the grand victory, the complete rout and slaughter of the Mexican army. "Old men wept, youths and children cried for joy, women shouted from campfire to campfire, Hallelujah! Glory to God! God Bless Sam Houston! God Bless Colita!"

Colita then solidified his place as a hero of the Anglo settlers when it was found that a woman with nine children had left one behind, asleep in a wagon, on the opposite bank. Colita braved the rain swollen river on horseback and brought the child safely across and placed it in her mother's arms.

Colita and his people had remained neutral in the Texas Revolution and made sure that the flee-



M.L. Choate, Abstract 15, plat from 1830.



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ing white family's properties were kept safe. They returned to find that their properties and stock were all intact. This is quite contrary to what happened to the hapless victims out west towards San Antonio where most all homes were either ransacked or destroyed and some entire towns were deliberately burned to keep them out of the hands of the advancing Mexican army.

Colita died on July 7, 1838, at the advanced age of 120 and has a community named for him in western Polk County. A headstone to commemorate his life is located at Moss Hill on Hwy 146 in Liberty County.

At Garner's Ferry the upstart development of Swartwout was formed on November 1, 1838, by a partnership between Thomas Bradley, James Morgan Arthur Garner. They named the town for financier Samuel Swartwout (1783-1856), the Port Collector of New York City who was a land speculator and investor in the little Texas upstart. He was later found guilty of embezzling over one million dollars from New York and fled to Europe to escape prosecution. He never stepped foot into Texas.

Each of the three men gave fifty acres to the partnership. Garner purchased land on the east side of the river from William Pace for his share of the partnership (he owned the west side). The town was surveyed and laid out into 86 blocks, most of which had eight lots. Lot 1, block 21 and lot 1, block 24 were set aside for churches and lot 5 in block 23 was set apart for an academy. Blocks 18 and 59 were set aside for public squares, where a courthouse or park could be built. It is purported that Sam Houston was a shareholder. This was the first subdivision in Polk County.

Swartwout was a busy riverport town and untold tons of cotton, corn, honey and hides were sent to the port of Galveston from this point. While there were many other riverport towns on the Trinity, I.T. Patrick's and Monroe Drew's Landings being significant, none were of the size and importance of Swartwout.

According to the following 1838 advertisement, found in numerous issues of the Galveston Daily News, "the town was situated 100 miles above Galveston at a spot known as Garner's Ferry and this ferry is passable, at all times, when other ferries overflow and are impassable, or require a ferriage of miles through the bottoms. The town fronts six hundred yards on the river and is complete with a hotel, a church, a seminary for children and a house of entertainment.

"There is fine river navigation for steamboats from the bay to far above Swartwout; the steamboat Branch T. Archer, Captain Ross, having ascended a considerable distance above that, last summer.

"It is located on the nearest and most direct route from Nacogdoches and San Augustine to Houston, being about eighty miles distant from Nacogdoches and Houston, and near the Long King's Village."

From Swartwout, the road led westward through Cold Spring to Houston and Montgomery, then the site of the Montgomery County courthouse as well as Huntsville, the site of the Walker County Courthouse after 1847. It is interesting to note that the Texas prison system

was established there in 1848.

At this time, Swartwout was the largest community in the Liberty Division with a population of fifty inhabitants and was an important stop on the rural mail route from Houston to Jasper, which had a population of 150. The post office in Swartwout was established on May 22, 1846, with Whitehead Van Dam as the Postmaster.

After Swartwout's fraudulent activities had been made public, the Houston Morning Star of January 20, 1840, suggested "We advise the inhabitants of the town bearing the name Swartwout to petition congress at the very earliest opportunity for an alteration-take any name but that."

Moses Choate was a founding member of the Masonic Trinity Lodge #14 which was organized in 1840 in Swartwout. James J. Hill was the Worshipful Master of the new lodge and Moses L. Choate and Arthur P. Garner both joined, as all new candidates do, as "Entered Apprentice." The men built a two-story structure for their meeting hall. The Lodge meetings were held on the second floor and the school children were educated on the first floor, a common practice of Masons of the day.

In 1846 the lodge building was moved to Livingston, onto the northwest corner of the City Cemetery lot, at a cost of \$500. Once again, the lower floor of this building was used for school purposes. Choate was still a member in 1857 and was listed as a "Steward" of the organization at that time.

On several instances, Choate was employed as an agent to locate properties, have surveys made and obtain title for parties that had claims but apparently not the skill set that it took to make the acquisition. He would do this in exchange for a portion of the property. By 1840 Choate's land holdings totaled 6,642 acres according to the Liberty County tax records.

Choate was appointed Justice of Peace of Precinct 4 of the Liberty Division on February 4, 1839. On January 31, 1840, Choate, along with B.M. Spinks and A.L. Winfree, were appointed to serve as Liberty County Commissioners. At this time Mirabeau B. Lamar was the President of the Republic of Texas, David G. Burnet, President of the Senate and Vice President David S. Kaufman was Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Then, only a few days later, on February 5, 1840, the Northern Division of Liberty County was created by an Act of the Texas Congress. On this date, James Garner, Moses L. Choate, J.D. Burke, Frederick Rankin and A.S. Ainsworth were appointed as Commissioners. Swartwout was the Site of Justice (courthouse) for the Division.

This Act, signed by Lamar, Burnet and Kaufman, authorized the Commissioners to select, by an election, the site for a Justice of the Peace and to "obtain, upon the faith and credit of said district, or receiving by donation at the point so selected by the people, such a quantity of land as will be sufficient for the erection of public buildings. The land so purchased, or donated, shall be under the control of the Commissioners."

Choate's four-year-old son Josephus died on

Aug. 11, 1840, and he chose the hill to the west of his home to bury the child. This was the origin of the Old City Cemetery. Choate later buried his 13-year-old son, Rodolphus, in 1846.

The Houston Morning Star of October 7, 1841, and The Telegraph & Texas Register of October 13, 1841, both published a letter that was written at Swartwout on October 5, 1841, by a person with the initials T.H.J. The letter reported on the newly formed Northern Division of Liberty County.

The correspondence gave a description of the boundaries of the new Division and went into the merits of the lands within. "This Division, for the richness of its soil, fine timber and navigation, in the opinion of those who have impartially examined the country from the Sabine River to the Colorado, is superior to any other portion of the same extent.

"When this Division was created by Congress, there were not more than one hundred voters residing within its vicinity; there are at this time more than double that number. Prior to that time this section of the country was but little known to emigrants, and that portion of our citizens who immigrated since the Declaration of Independence; there being no road to guide the traveler, and but few huts to shelter him from the storm or inclemency of the night, the consequence was, that few persons left the main road trading through San Augustine and Nacogdoches, until after they had reached the Brazos, in search of the place intended for their future homes.

"Since the organization of this Division, the County Court ordered a survey of a road leading from the town of Swartwout in an easterly direction, of the distance of thirty miles, to the County line, at Clements, to intersect at the County line, at Clements, to intersect at the County line with the San Augustine and Jasper roads, and appointed our worthy and enterprising fellow citizen, Moses L. Choate, Esq., overseer, who by his indefatigable exertions has succeeded in opening a road thirty feet in width from Swartwout to the County line, and caused mile posts to be placed at the end of every mile through its whole route.

"The banks of the river at the ferries were graded as the law required, and a good and substantial ferryboat, fifty-five feet in length was provided for the safe crossing of all persons, horses, cattle, waggons (sic), etc. Swartout, the seat of Justice, is situated at or near the centre of the Division on the east bank of the Trinity River. It contains a population of about one hundred souls, three stores, two taverns, one tailor's shop, a boot and shoemaker's shop, and a cotton gin, many improvements have been made and are now making by the enterprising citizens throughout the Division, and I have no doubt, but that it will in a few years rank with any county in the Republic, in point of wealth and population."

This road led first to his home in what was then called Springfield. He certainly used it to deliver and pick up goods from the river boats at Garner's Ferry, the most reliable source of the time. The Clements reference is the property of Emanuel Clements, Sr., located just to the west of the town of Chester, on the county line, and

along the Long King Trace towards Nacogdoches.

Clements received a labor of land that was surveyed on May 29, 1841, by Claiborne Holshousen. Holshousen was an early settler of Polk County, was a Liberty District surveyor and served as Polk County Judge from 1848 to 1850. He was the father of Joseph Holshousen, who built, in 1904, his law office that is now occupied by the writer.

District Court records reveal that Choate operated Garner's Ferry at Swartwout for several years. In July 1847 Choate filed suit against Elizabeth Garner, as administrator of the James A. Garner estate, for \$163.02 in payment for operating the ferry from October 2, 1844, to August 14, 1846. During this time, he took a team of oxen with cargo to Houston for Garner for the charge of \$16. He sued for damages totaling \$179.02 and was awarded \$82.62 and ½ cents. He entered into another lawsuit that same year against William M. Maxey over ferriage charges and sought damages of \$17.99.

Texas was annexed into the United States on December 29, 1845, when John Tyler was President. Polk County was formed by the Texas Legislature on March 30, 1846, as one of the first twenty-three counties after James K. Polk became President on March 4, 1835. (San Jacinto County was later created on August 13, 1870, from the part of Polk County that lay west of the Trinity River).

An election was held in Swartwout on June 14, 1846, to determine if the site of the county seat should be moved. Johnson's Bluff (Cape Royale area), Swartwout and Springfield were the candidates.

To no one's surprise, Springfield was the winner. Choate had offered to donate one hundred acres for the seat of justice and this, plus the fact that it was centrally located, made it the overwhelming choice. It is widely accepted that Choate's offer came with the condition that the town be named Livingston.

It is unclear as to why Choate wanted to change the name from Springfield to Livingston. Some say that his middle name was Livingston. Others say that it was to honor his hometown of Livingston, Tennessee. The 1850 and 1860 census records reflect that he was indeed from Tennessee.

Judge J.C. Feagin, when interviewed by the Houston Post on September 22, 1922, advised that Livingston was named for Chancellor Robert Livingston, who administered the Oath of Office to George Washington.

Judge J.E. Hill, Jr., in a Houston Chronicle interview dated July 6, 1949, stated that the town was named for the African explorer, Dr. David Livingston. "There was no particular reason for calling the town Livingston unless M.L. Choate just admired the explorer."

And esteemed Polk County historian Emma Haynes stated in her very comprehensive History of Polk County that Choate was from Livingston, Alabama.

Another possible theory is that he was married to Ursula in Livingston County, Kentucky. Regardless of how it got its name, Springfield came to be known as Livingston.



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Left – James Edison Owen, first owner at the location on Mill Street in 1935.
Right – James (Buck) Owen, second owner at the location next to Old Fain Theater.



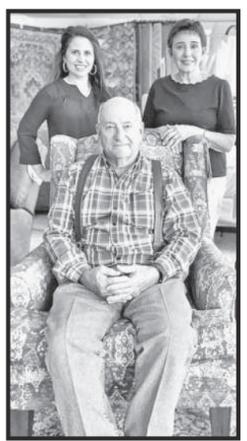
1984 - Jim Owen, owner, with his daughters Jill Owen Brown and Holly Owen Singh.



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Goodrich

By Annette Dominy Lowe
Polk County Historical Commission

History of Goodrich, Polk County, Texas

The town of Goodrich began when the Houston East and West Texas Railroad crossed the Trinity River in 1879 and established a railroad depot two miles north of the river. The depot was called Goodrich Station for William M. Goodrich, a New York land speculator, who had bought a lot of land in the area. The coming of the railroad was the beginning of Goodrich and the end of the river ports along the Trinity River. Drew's Landing, located several miles down river from Goodrich, was a thriving town for 40 years, but its post office was closed about 15 years after the arrival of the railroad.

Wilson Willett Armitage, his wife and oldest son arrived in Drew's Landing from England about 1879. He played an important part in the settlement of Goodrich where he purchased 100 acres of land in 1889. The land was part of 320 acres that William W. Williams had purchased from W.M. Goodrich. The Williams family had come to Polk County, Texas from Alabama in the 1850s with six other large families and settled southeast of Livingston in a place they called Providence. Those other families were Peebles, Brock, Wilkinson, Purvis, Oates and Galloway. Many members of those families lived in the Goodrich area before and after the town came into existence. Wiley Peebles' first land purchase was in the area northeast of Goodrich. Wiley Peebles' homestead included the land that became Peebles Cemetery. This cemetery has been the primary burying place for both the community of Providence and the town of Goodrich for over 150 years. Over the years, additional land has been added to the cemetery.

The first postmaster for the Goodrich area was appointed in 1882. The plat for the town of Goodrich included lots along the railroad on land owned by both Goodrich and Armitage. The town plat was filed with the county clerk on Aug. 28, 1896. By 1900, W.W. Armitage had built a large home in Goodrich and moved his family there. The house sat behind the old post office located on the right side of FM 1988 just before it crossed the railroad tracks. Mr. Armitage sold the house in 1918 to Samuel W. Jones who had a grocery store on the west side of old Hwy. 59.

W.W. Armitage's grandson John Thomas Armitage married Sam Jones' daughter Clara Elizabeth Jones. Their son John Thomas Armitage Jr. stated in an interview several years

ago that the house originally faced south, but his grandfather Jones changed it to face north. Other owners and changes followed until the old house fell into disrepair and burned about 10 years ago. The large house whose owners played an important part in the history of Goodrich may be gone, but Wilson Willett Armitage has a more important legacy in Polk County. Descendants of his son Ray Armitage and his daughter Pearl Armitage Lawrence still live in Polk County today.

After W.W. Armitage sold his home in Goodrich, he bought the lovely old, restored house that now sits on Young Street in Livingston and operated it as a hotel or boarding house. He died about a year later, leaving his second wife and young daughter to continue the business. He was buried with his first wife and young son in the old Drew's Landing Cemetery. The location of the cemetery is on or near the Holiday Lakes development, but unfortunately, is can no longer be found.

The town really began to grow around 1900 with the arrival of five large family groups from Mississippi. The Craig, Edmonds, Walters, Moffett and Henderson families came to stay and play an important part in the growth of the town. By 1910, the town had a school, a church, several stores, cotton gin, sawmill, grist mill, blacksmith shop, a barber and a physician. Many men found employment in the logging industry as the virgin timber was cut throughout the area. The author's father came to Goodrich about 1921 to work for his uncle who had six sons and several logging teams working in the surrounding area.

Ray and Wilson Armitage, W.W. Armitage's sons, lived the rest of their lives in Goodrich and were active in the civic and business life of the community. Ray Armitage merged two of these old families when he married Meldrett Caroline Walters. He owned and operated several businesses including a general store, a cotton gin, a tomato packing shed and several sawmills. He owned most of the land in north Goodrich at one time. He lived in a large two-story house north of FM 1988 and built all four of his children a home nearby. His house burned in the early 1950s but another house sets there today. Mr. Armitage's water well is still on the south side of the house, although it is not usable anymore. At the time of his death in 1945, he had a large sawmill in the triangle where the present loop through Goodrich rejoins Hwy. 59 on the way to Liv-

ingston.

During the 1920s and 1930s, the town was surrounded by tenant farms. Because the people who lived and worked on the farms did not own them, they moved often from farm to farm. Some of those names from the past were Love farm, Greer farm, Traylor farm and McCardell farm. In the 1920s, the Sand Hill School, located on what is now the Baker ranch, was attended by some of the children from these farms. Nellie Wade Clamon's family once lived on the Love farm in San Jacinto County. Nellie said the children came across the Trinity River on a skiff to attend the Sand Hill School when the Love farm did not have its own teacher.

For many years, the county school superintendent took a school census every spring so that he could tell the schools in the county how many children would be in their school the next fall. Those old census records were still in the land office in the courthouse when the restoration of the courthouse began. They have information that would be of interest to people who are researching their family history.

A logging camp named Camp Edna was built on the north side of Goodrich about 1925. To reach it, you would go up old Hwy. 35 a short distance, then turn left and go over the railroad tracks. It even had a tram line that ran across the Trinity River into San Jacinto County. There is a picture of it at the History Center in Diboll. After about five years, the logging camp was moved to another location. The Eska family continued to live there after the logging camp was gone. Their daughter Blanche Eska Moffett said the tracks of the tram line were pulled up for scrap metal during World War II.

Although the flooding that Polk County periodically experiences causes lots of damage and misery today, the flood of 1929 was worse. It destroyed the Long King Creek bridge just west of Goodrich and flooded homes and businesses in Goodrich. Accounts from the time describe families fleeing out of the river and creek bottoms on foot with only a few belongings. The author heard about this flood from her father who talked about buildings in Goodrich being flooded. He described finding people in trees where they had climbed to escape the rising water.

The United Gas Station and the steady jobs it brought were a welcome addition to the town in the early 1930s. Many of the employees were younger men with children. Eventually there were 14 houses on the sta-

tion yard where about half the employees and their families lived. Cotton was raised in the area until the late 1960s when the last cotton gin in the area closed. Goodrich survived the depression and World War II but like the rest of the country, some of their young men did not come home. Carl Jones, Marvin Pixley, Buddy Sory and Verdon Walters did not return from the war.

The stately red brick schoolhouse that is still in use today was built with the help from the federal government's depression era programs in the 1930s. It was the third school building that served the children of Goodrich and the surrounding area. Some children from Providence and Schwab City attended school in Goodrich. The 1939 and 1940 school annuals are the only known ones before World War II. The 1939 senior class had 19 members and was one of the largest classes to ever graduate from the Goodrich school. The 1947 annual was the first one to be published after the war. After the war, the biggest school event of the year was the Halloween carnival and program. This was the only time you saw some of the parents who lived a good ways from town.

The social life of the town was centered around the churches and school. First Baptist Church was originally located on the west side of the railroad track. A new church building was built in 1947 at the present location. The Methodist church was organized in the early 1950s. People worked hard and did not have a lot of money, but they had family, friends, fresh air, home-grown vegetables, safety and freedom to roam and play.

The author grew up in the 1950s and fondly remembers her hometown. One thing that was impressive at the time was the number of businesses on the main street, which was Hwy. 59. There was always one and sometimes two cafes, a drugstore, three or four grocery stores, five service stations, a feed store, a clothing store, a hardware and furniture store, a barber and beauty shop and a telephone company. In addition, the town had its own post office and in the early years, sometimes had a doctor. And all of this was contained in no more than four blocks.

One thing that Goodrich did not have was crime. Many people did not even lock their doors at night. The author was a high school teacher. One day she told her class about how she grew up. When she finished, one young man replied that was how he wanted his children to grow up. I would wish it for all children today. I believe I grew up in a golden age and a golden place.



The 7th, 8th and 9th grades during the 1925-26 school year at Goodrich. Front row (l-r) Avis Lowe, Ina Parker, Marie Jones, Edna Edmonds, Jewel Williams, Earl Craig, Wayne Thomas, Clinton Lowe, Edgar Loggins, Dewey Galloway and Audrey Coward. Back row (l-r) Leroy Craig, Bessie Parker, Joe Parker, (Sleeping Jesus) Everett, Bill Edwards, J.E. Cambell, Lester Armitage, Joe Baby James, Jay Walters and Frank Armitage. Teacher: Jessie Taylor.

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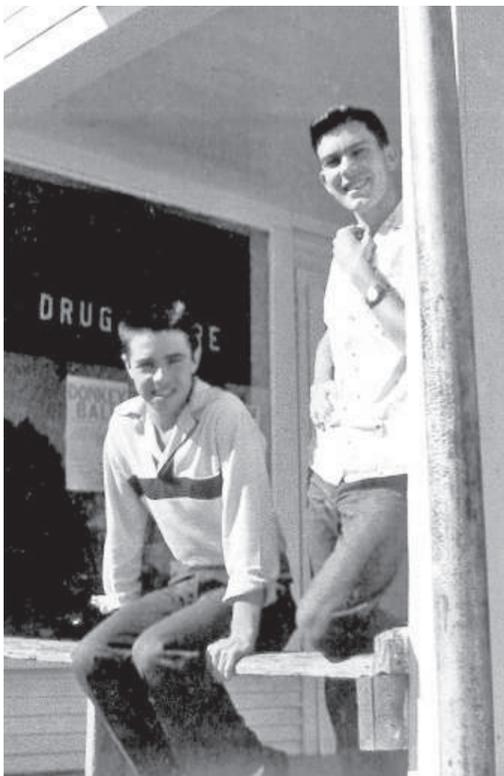
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Willett Wilson Armitage and his wife Martha Ray, who were both born in England, and their children in 1904. This house was built between 1893 and 1900. Standing in front are Ray and Wilson Armitage. The girl seated in front is Carrie Armitage. The seated adults are Meldrett Walters Armitage, Wilson Willett Armitage, Martha Ray Armitage and baby Daisy Armitage. The girls in back are Maud and Pearl Armitage.



At that time, the 1938-39 Senior Class of Goodrich ISD was the largest in the history of the Goodrich school. Mrs. O.C. Bostick and Miss Pauline Brown were the class sponsors. First row (l-r) Velma Jones, Bertha Taylor, Norma Jones and Lucy Faye Craig. Second row (l-r) Reba Redd, Mavis Holliday, Velma Sory, Mary Pearl Moffett and Dorothy Sory. Third row (l-r) Blanche Eska, Maurine McElroy, Ola Mae Armitage, Nina Ann Fisher and Velma Young. Fourth row (l-r) Marvin Pixley, Bryan Jennings Sewall, Garrison Moffett, Clyde Tully and Thurman Armitage.



Bobby Lowe and Charles Boyd on the drugstore porch in Goodrich around 1954.



The Armitage Store in Goodrich, owned by Ray Armitage. It was located on the west side of the railroad track in Goodrich and on the north side of FM 1988. Photo taken in the early 1930s.



Willett Ray Armitage and Meldrett Caroline Walters on their wedding day in 1902.

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CORRIGAN

A brief history of Corrigan, Texas

By Kelly Shadix
Corrigan Area Heritage Center



Edens-Birch Company Store in Corrigan, circa Easter 1948. Robert "Bobby" Davis is front and center. Johnny Powell is front right and Grover Hooks is the man on the left.

The northern end of Polk County began to form when a handful of hardy and determined settlers, enticed by the availability of public lands, migrated to Texas beginning in the mid-1850s. It has been said the beautiful wilderness, abundance of water sources and ample game for hunting were key factors in this selection. The area they chose to establish homesteads and farms was actually located in (then) Trinity County – newly partitioned by the State of Texas from Houston County. Sumpter, and then the Pennington post office served this group.

In March 1875 those same original settlers, as well as many more, became official residents of Polk County due to annexation and a move of the county line. Careful farming, hunting, trading and other traditional practices of homesteading, were of the utmost importance to survive and hone out an existence during these early years.

Families such as Chandler, Knox, Wilcox and Hendry, formed and built a church at Union Springs in the 1860s. The one-room log structure was also used as a school for a time.

Construction began on the Houston, East and West Texas Railroad through this part of Polk County in 1881, while the first actual train did not arrive until 1882. Rail spurs and trams began to pop up from the surrounding forests as entrepreneurs came in to seek their fortune in the lumber business. Two main rail lines intersected in Corrigan, the Houston, East and West Texas (HE&WT), which runs parallel to now US Hwy. 59. The other line, initially the Missouri, Kansas and Texas – also referred to as the "Katy" – until the line was purchased in 1924 by the Waco, Beaumont, Trinity and Sabine (WBT&S) rail company.

Corrigan was named for Pat Corrigan, a rail foreman, who became close to the townspeople during the construction of this section of the railway. As a sentiment of their respect and affection for him and his wife, the community named the town for him and a post office was established in 1883.

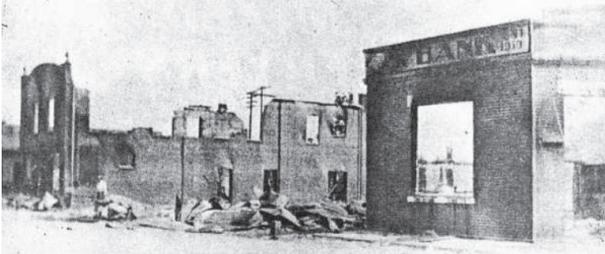
To establish a "town site," Mr. J. B. Hendry donated

the southern section of his 1881 land grant, coinciding with the coming of the railroad. The town began to develop with the arrival of the "iron horse." Business grew on both sides of the railroad. It was a thriving, yet rough and tumble, sort of place with numerous businesses ... grocery mercantile, dry goods businesses, photographers, furniture sales, a bottling works, numerous hotels and boarding houses, three banks, a printer and two newspapers, a bakery, shoe repair, a jeweler, barbers and hair stylist, a milliner, as well as quite a few saloons and a "dance hall;" even a theater was torn down in 1929 to build a new one! Beautiful, well-constructed churches, such as the First Baptist Church, Methodist church and Catholic church were all present during this period, as well. An early 1900s photo, taken from roughly where the red light/highway intersection is today, looking north shows a field with some small goats and a narrow path lined with crepe myrtles.

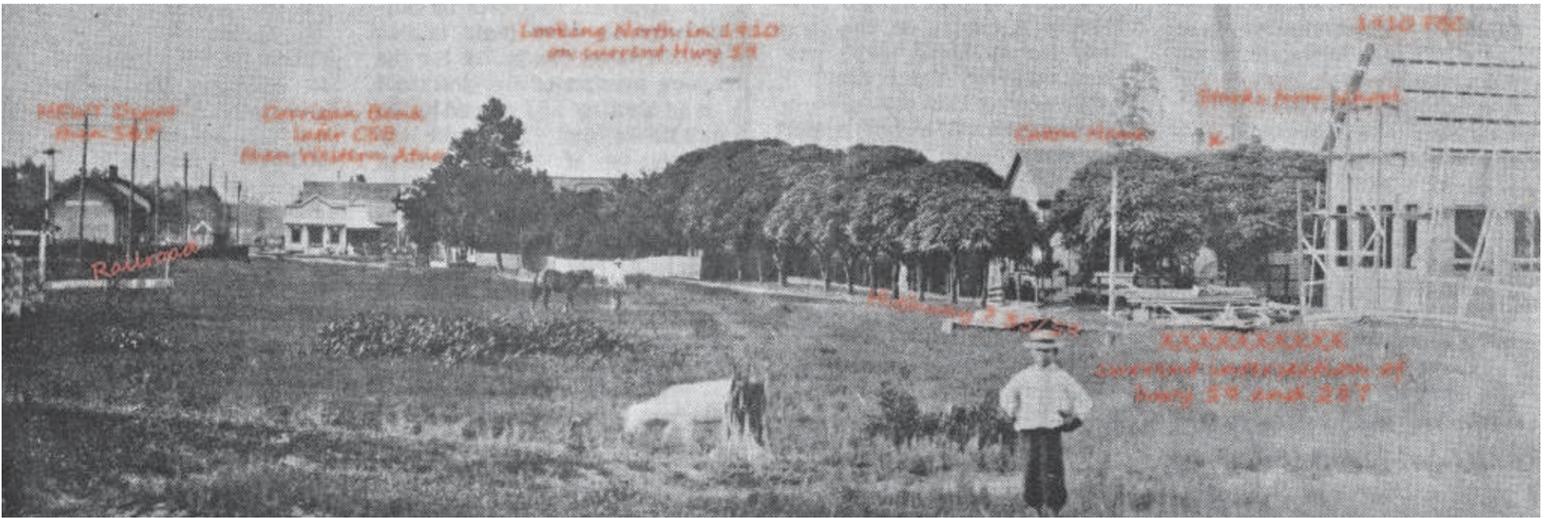
Education was also important to both outlying settlers and the townspeople with a petition to start the first school in 1889, along with many area common schools. Even a condensed version of the Corrigan/Corrigan-Camden school system would not scratch the surface of the school's history and the community's long-standing support for advancement.

Corrigan was not incorporated as a city until 1938. Earlier attempts, driven by sanitation purposes, were voted down. An increasing amount of livestock roaming about town, as well as raw waste from outdoor "facilities," finally won everyone over to the public water and sewer side.

Many, many people, places and events have contributed to the fabric of Corrigan's history, far too many to cover in a news article – from 1938 to now would be impossible. A third movie theater, putt putt golf, gas stations on every corner and all four entrances to town, clothing stores, hardware stores in the bottom of a lodge, another newspaper, seven grocery stores at one time, the bus station, the ice house, a standalone jail, appliance repair, washerias, drive-in "dairy" joints, sit down cafes, the hospital, Sweet Potato Square, city officials and projects, social clubs, and benevolent societies. One could go on and on with the topic of "history."



1934 post fire ... from right to left ... the old Citizens State Bank building (later Day's Dime Store and several other businesses over the years), the vacant area due to loss by fire is where Saxon Grocery/Heritage Center is currently located. The building on the far left is the old, two-story Melba/Hollingsworth Hotel. After the fire, they took off the top story. The bottom was used as Brookshire Bros., Days Dime Store, Wills/W&W Variety over the years.



Corrigan in the spring of 1910. For reference, the little boy is standing in the path of the current intersection of Hwy. 59 (35) with Hwy. 287 (106) running horizontally just above his hat.

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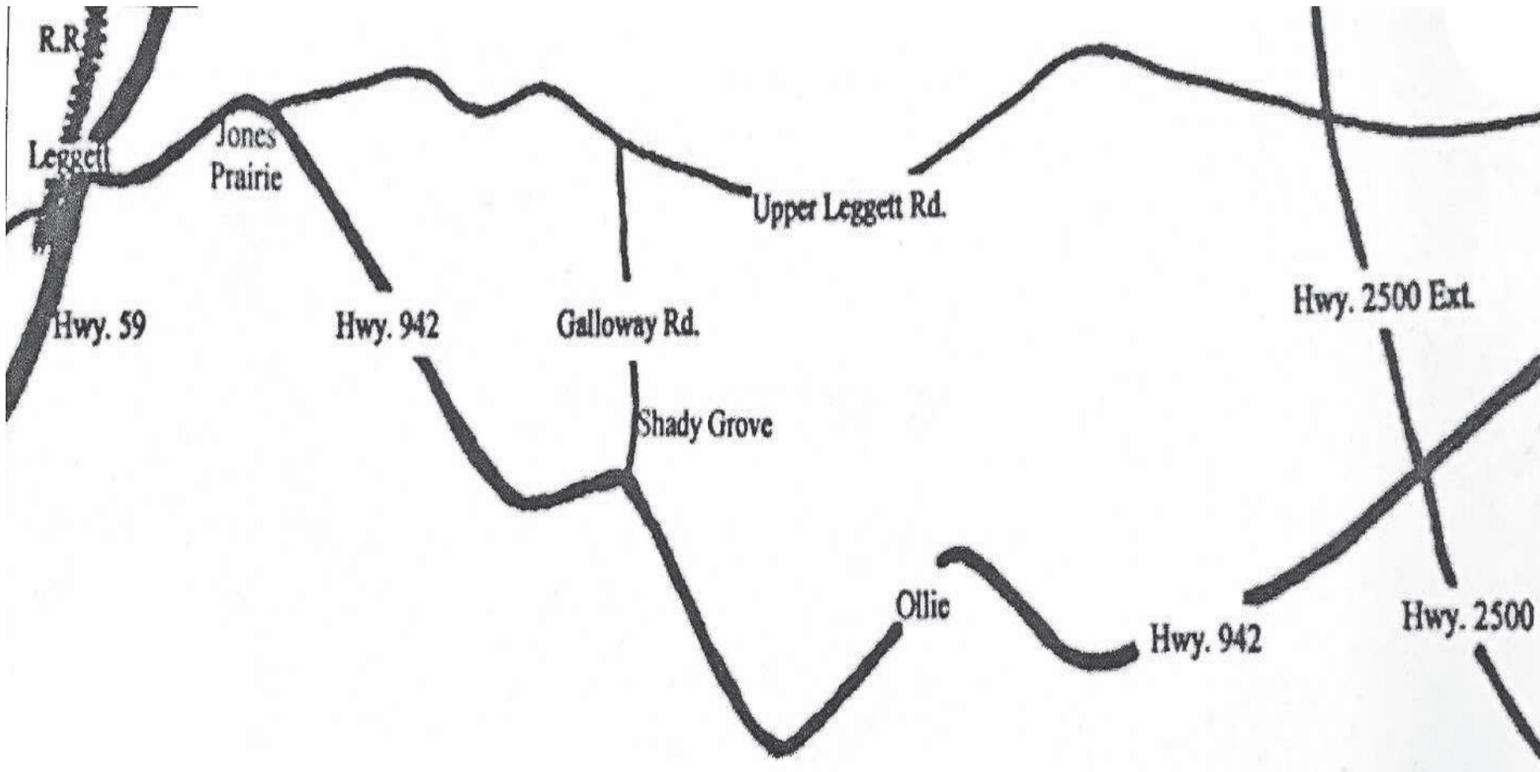


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LEGGETT

Leggett, Texas 77350



By Joyce Johnston

Polk County Historical Commission

Today, when you give directions to Leggett to someone outside of our county, you probably say, "on Highway 59 North, turn at the blinking light at FM 942." Now there is also another glaring marker on 59 North. It is a 70 mile an hour speed sign next to a notice that you are entering a 55 mile an hour zone. Some of my friends say that this is just another way of saying "don't blink."

Leggett is an unincorporated community in our county. Some of our historians have suggested the beginning of Leggett was when the H.E. and W.T. Railroad was extended from Livingston to Leggett in 1885. But the post office was established in 1882 and there were already a couple of general stores, a sawmill, a bank, a cotton gin, and of course, a saloon. So, this was an established community already before it became Leggett.

Before the post office, this community was known as Red Horse. Will Freeman was the owner of several businesses along Hwy. 59. His son, who was a very active, red-headed young boy was given the nickname of "Red Horse." Mr. Freeman liked the nickname. He made a wooden sign with

a horse and the words, "Red Horse" on it. He hung this sign on the front of his store and thus this area became known as Red Horse. And that saloon of course, was the Red Horse Saloon. I understand that a descendant of Mr. Freeman's still has that sign. I hope so.

A meeting place for worship and social gatherings was always one of the first public buildings for early settlers. Baptist and Methodist faiths were the religion choices of this community. Caraway Oates was instrumental in getting the first Baptist church organized. He named it New Salem Baptist and it eventually became the present-day Jones Prairie Baptist Church which is still functioning today. The First Baptist Church of Leggett was organized in the early 1900s and is still an active congregation. A Methodist church was organized before 1890, but most of the members moved away soon after. In 1912, another Methodist church was organized, and a new church building was built on FM 942 East. But today, there is not a Methodist church in Leggett.

There are two large cemeteries in Leggett. Jones Prairie, or Crossroads, as it is sometimes called, is located on FM 942 East across from the Jones Prairie Baptist Church. The original land was donated by the Thomas Jones family in 1906. The other

cemetery is Oates Cemetery which is located off Upper Leggett Road. This cemetery was originally the Oates Family Cemetery. It is now the resting place for many Leggett folks, including veterans from all wars. It was awarded a Texas Historical Marker in 2009.

The first school in this area was in the Shady Grove community in 1858. It was a typical one-room building with open windows. As in most schools of that day, all classes met together with one teacher. Pictures are available of student groups from 1908 to 1913. The next school was in the Jones Prairie area of this community. It was in the same location as the present-day Leggett School. It also began as a one-room school building with additional rooms and facilities added as needed. Mr. Ray Marsh was the principal of the school in 1936. He became the superintendent before moving to become Livingston High School Principal. Today, Leggett ISD has classes for Pre-Kindergarten through the 12th grade on two campuses.

In the mid-1900s, Leggett had several stores and a pharmacy on Hwy. 59. There were two stores on the west owned by the Freemans and the other by the Glover/Leggett family. Bill Richardson had a wonderful General Store on the east at the FM

942 East junction. I have wonderful memories of the Richardson store. One could get a double dip ice cream cone for a nickel. Slowly, everything closed, and everyone now goes to Livingston for their shopping.

Today, there is only the Chevron Off the Road Truck Stop and the Leggett Post Office that still use the Leggett zip code of 77350. Any other business in Leggett, even if it is on Hwy. 59, has Livingston's zip code of 77351. All home delivery, including mail delivery, has a Livingston address.

But back of Hwy. 59, east and west, there is a community of 500-plus families living in a quiet rural setting. Some of us have returned to old family property and built new homes. Others, wanting to get out of the city, have found beautiful acreage to build their dream home and enjoy the peace and quiet of country living. But all of us, no matter how we got here, consider ourselves to be living in Leggett.

"A History of Leggett, Texas" by Norma McLoughlin is the most comprehensive history written about Leggett. A copy is available at the Livingston Municipal Library.

Two oral interviews with Edward Ward Jones III, sharing his Leggett history, are available on the Polk County Memorial Museum's website which is polkcountymemorialmuseum.com.

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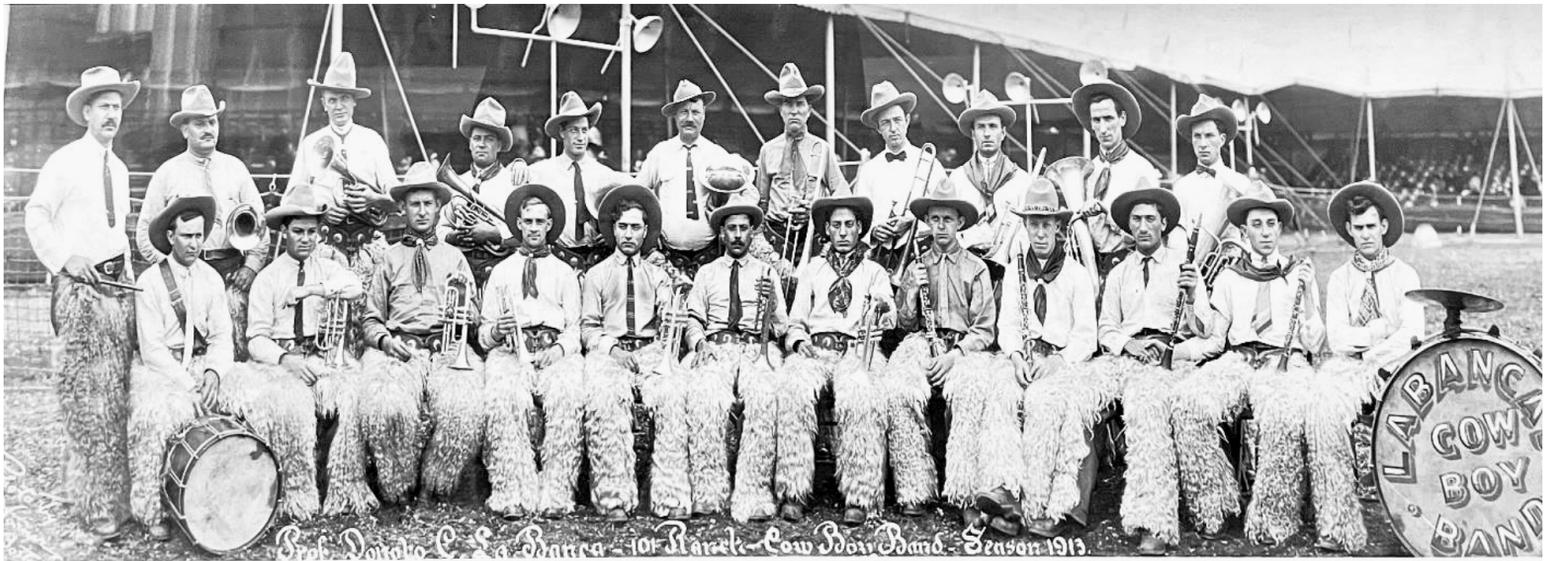


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Livingston

The Circus comes to Livingston ... very often



Ernest Reuter Sr., a cornet player, left his hometown in 1913 and spent the year touring with The Miller's 101 Ranch Wild West Show from the O.T. (Oklahoma Territory). He is front row third from left as a member of Professor Donato La Banca's Cowboy Band who performed in the 101 Ranch Wild West Show.

By Gary Davis
Polk County Historical Commission

In the years following the Civil War, travelling tent shows began to bring entertainment to the culturally starved people from the rural South. The circus became the largest form of entertainment in the late 19th and the early 20th centuries. Some shows were of the traditional circus variety, with a menagerie of trained wild animals, while others were repertory theater troupes which featured multi-act plays. Still others specialized in vaudeville, minstrel or medicine shows and carnivals. Some of the most popular were the wild west shows made famous by Buffalo Bill Cody and later the Miller Brothers from Ponca City, Oklahoma Territory. Most incorporated elements of each of these into their acts.

In the early days the travelling tent shows, known in the industry as a mud show, traveled overland by wagons but with the expansion of the railroads, that became the preferred mode of transportation and led to a circus boom. Livingston, due to its proximity to Houston and its position on the Houston, East & West Texas Railroad, which arrived in Livingston on Christmas Day 1880 made it a natural stopping spot for these troupes. Many news articles describe that the show grounds were located near the depot, located on the north end of town on block 9, but the exact location is unclear.

In the early 1900s, when there was not a band marching through downtown Livingston to promote an Opera House show, there was one to promote a tent show. These traveling companies, upon entering a town, would pull their railcars onto a siding at the depot and a small city of workers would take up residence and begin to erect the tents and get things ready for their event.

In these days the show masters and stars travelled in Pullman Palace cars. This was a very luxurious form of travel, but the performers had no time to rest while on the circuit. Travelling with enormous amounts of gear, animals and their feed and an army of workers, the circus life was a very hard life. Every troupe travelled with a huge waterproof canvas tent to accommodate their audiences regardless of the weather. Led by their show band, the entire circus would parade at noon from the depot down to the courthouse and back to attract audiences for their nighttime performances.

The Gentry Brothers brought their circus to Livingston on September 29, 1906. Their newspaper ad in the Polk County Enterprise stated that they were bringing 500 educated horses, ponies, dogs and performing Persian sheep. They boasted of a tent with seating for 3,000 that was set up near the depot. A dazzling parade to the center of town was held at noon. At this time the Gentry Brothers show was one of the largest in the country. The paper later reported that the town was filled with many visitors that came to witness the show.

Just six weeks later the Van Amburgh Circus was in town on Monday, November 12th. It had a reputation of being the cleanest, most refined and up-to-date circus in the world. Founder, Isaac A. Van Amburgh (1808-1865), was purported to be the first ever to use trained wild animals in a modern circus.

"The work of the acrobats alone is worth twice the admission. The finest lot of trained horses in the United States, the daring bareback riders, the trapeze and bar performers and the funniest set of clowns ever carried with a circus are all with this big show." Iola Russell, a "brave little woman," was

set to enter a den of untamed lions. Also advertised to be at the circus were trained pigs, geese, cats, storks, dogs, goats, ponies, bears, lions, tigers, panthers, wolves, leopards and zebras and the largest elephant in the world.

The Amburgh Show featured "The Only Genuine Olympic Hippodrome" with all kinds of "thrilling and desperate" two and four horse chariot races. Shows were held at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and at 8 o'clock at night.

The following month, on Christmas Eve, Monday December 24th, Canada Frank's Big Tent Show and Concert Company gave a performance at 8 o'clock.

With a troupe of 25 people, consisting of specialists in wire walking, flying ring artists and other high-class acting, there was to be plenty of fun for the children and entertainment for all.

Beginning on Monday, January 14, 1907, The Danville & Kasper Amusement Company brought their "Big Free Street Fair and Carnival" to Livingston for a six-day affair. They advertised four sensational free band concerts daily with a total of 8 shows over the course of the week. They came to town with a Ferris wheel and a steam gondola, all set up in their unsurpassed way.

W.L. West, co-owner of the Polk County Enterprise and the new Livingston Roller Rink (block 34, lot 4), declared in his newspaper advertisement that this was Livingston's first carnival and that his rink would be open every day of the week. "We take pleasure in 'learning' new beginners. We respectfully invite the skaters and visitors from the neighboring towns to visit the Rink and spend an afternoon of pleasure."

The Roller Rink ad revealed that the building was 50 feet by 100 feet and that plenty of skates were available. This building soon became the Livingston Opera House.

West and his brother-in-law, E.J. Manry, founded The Polk County Enterprise in September 1903 and had many local merchants advertising in the paper. The Emerald Oyster Parlor had their Carnival ad placed sideways, apparently for attention. This event prompted the Davis Brothers, C.J. Gerlach & Brother and the J. Hickman mercantile to run ads in the paper to promote big special sales for the first ever carnival week.

Following the event, the Enterprise report of January 24, 1907, hailed the carnival as a success with hundreds of visitors in town for the week. "The amusement company is entitled to commendations for good, clean shows and splendid order."

Just a couple of weeks later, on January 25, The Geyer's Run-away Tramp Company came to town with a big waterproof tent complete with 35 performers and Professor Smith's Cornet Band at noon. Tickets were 35 cents for adults and 25 cents for children. On Thursday May 2, 1907, The Herring & Glasscock Brothers Shows were in town with trained animals and beasts at the show grounds near the depot.

Sometimes the carnivals were conducted by the home folks. The ladies of the Presbyterian Church held a Gipsy (sic) Carnival during the week of October 17, 1907, complete with a Gipsy street parade at 4:30. A merry-go-round for the small people was in full swing each afternoon and ice cream, warm lemonade and hot peanuts were served. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine, said the Wise Man so come out, have a good time and swell the church repair fund."

On December 27, 1907, The W.A. Eiler Company rolled into town with a cast of 30 actors and musicians travelling in two Pullman Cars. They performed a five-act western melodrama, "King of the Cattle Ring," a charming story of love and adventure. The big production was complete with an orchestra, a calcium smoke machine, mechanical effects, and elegant costumes, all under a large special built tent. Curtain rises at 8:00.

The Eiler Company returned on Thursday, February 20 to perform "Down Mobile, A True Story of Southern Life." The newspaper ad read "Down Mobile Show is a prodigious production, peculiarly pleasing to particular people, packing our pavilion nightly. Precedes all previous presentations in points of pleasantry. Points of peering procurable at the pavilion preceding the performance." Of course, they had a show band march through town at noon.

Mollie Bailey (1844-1918), Circus Queen of the Southwest "Aunt" Mollie Bailey, arguably the most famous of all the

circus entertainers, especially in the South, was a regular in Livingston as well as all of the surrounding region. With a career that spanned pretty much her entire life, Mollie is worthy of a narrative all her own and many have been written. She was known for her kind spirit and often assisted the underprivileged children and Confederate veterans with free tickets to her shows.

The Mollie Bailey troupe experienced a tragedy on December 5, 1908 when her brother-in-law, Alfred H. Bailey, was found dead in his train car upon arrival in Livingston. He had served during the Civil War and afterwards spent 42 years in the circus life with his brother Gus and Mollie. He was buried that same day at the Forest Hill Cemetery with the service being conducted by the Methodist minister, W.T. McDonald. Mrs. Bailey requested that the paper tender the family's sincere thanks to the people of Livingston who so kindly assisted in the burial of their relative.

From the years 1903 to 1913 there existed a railroad from Soda, then called Knox, to Livingston to bring the lumber from the huge sawmill there. It was common for this line to run excursions into town so that their citizens could attend special events. A mention is made in April 1909 of an excursion train for the purpose of attending a carnival in town.

Dr. Pastor's Vaudeville Show, which had a balloon ascension, was in town for a week in June of 1909. The admission for this show was only 10 cents.

The world-famous John H. Sparks circus came to Livingston on Friday October 29, 1909, just one week after the huge First Annual Polk County Fair. "Embracing everything extraordinary and exhibiting everything exceptional, complete with a convocation of acrobats, leapers, gymnasts, tumblers and equilibrists." With a clown contingent of 20, costly carved tableaux cars and chariots, ponderous elephants, stately camels, open dens of wild beasts, pretty dancing ponies and beautiful women, they advertised a solid mile of parade and grand free exhibition afterwards. Their shows were held twice daily at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. The paper reported that this was a clean and moral show with no "skin games."

"From the moment of early arrival of the trains bearing these great shows until their departure in the night every consideration will be shown the public. The populace will receive an early morning welcome at the crossway where the trains are unloaded, this morning, and may view the interesting operation without fear of unpleasant experience. The train superintendents, and through them, their subordinates have been instructed to be polite and courteous at all times, and in no possible manner to offend the most sensitive either by word or action. On the show grounds the same rule is rigidly enforced in all departments, whether large or small. Ladies without escort and children unattended are assured respectful consideration on the show grounds, as every employee has been constituted a guardian for their protection. In fact, nothing has been left undone that would enhance the comfort, pleasure, and peace of mind of even the most aesthetic patron of this great show aggregation" Enterprise notice of October 21, 1909.

The following month, for three days beginning November 18, 1909, the Jennings Show Company #1 came to town. A clean moral show with big laughs and fun under the canvas, this show was advertised as being different. "No waits, no dull moments, a perfect typhoon of merriment every evening for two solid hours!"

No sooner than this one left town, another, Blondin's Big Show came in two special cars for a show on Monday, November 29. Also performed under canvas, "The Cowboy, Indian and the Lady" proclaimed to be the largest and best of all tent shows. With Betz's Military Band and Superb Orchestra, a parade was held at noon.

In these days Wild West shows, made popular by William "Buffalo Bill" Cody, were extremely popular. Many performances of this type were performed under the big tents in Livingston. The Wiedemann Bros, whose company performed "Custer's Last Charge" on Monday, February 14, 1910, came to town complete with "cowboys, wild west girls, vaqueros, señoritas, guardi rurales (Mexican mounted police), champions of lariat, rough riders, Pony Express veterans, bucking broncos along with Sioux Indians, daring athletes and funny clowns. They promised to pay \$25 to anyone bringing an unbroken horse or mule that their cowboys could not ride and offered to buy those bad bucking horses.

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Also performing in Livingston, for three days beginning March 31, 1910 were Roy E. Fox's Lone Star Minstrels who played a concert on the "principal street corner" at noon. Their Saturday night show did not break up until after midnight. The Enterprise reported "they gave too much show for the money."

The Jones Brothers Buffalo Ranch Wild West show was operated by J. Augustus Jones. They performed in Livingston on October 4, 1910. The show, a combination of a circus and a wild west show, consisted of 14 railroad cars. One advance car for the advertisement men and billposters and then 3 stock, 6 flat and 4 coaches. A company like this would employ hundreds of people. These large travelling railway shows were highly organized and had every railroad stop booked each night for the entire season. These dates and places were published into a lengthy route book so that all employees were in coordination.

Through the Enterprise of September 22, 1910, The Jones Brothers advertised an "educational exhibition with 1,000 men and horses." They advertised "western frontiersmen, cowboys, Indians, cowgirls, South American gauchos, Mexican vaqueros, Japanese samurais, Cossack riders, Arabian acrobats, celebrated scouts, chiefs, warriors, papooses, belles and beauties from the wigwam, real cowboys from the ranch, the most daring lady riders, noted guides and fearless stagecoach drivers. Don't fail to see the great historic street parade at 11:00 daily."

Wild West shows had many different styles of equestrian men and women thus the wide variety of cultures included above. Entire Indian villages were assembled at each stop for the public to view.

On December 13, 1910, the "Dog and Pony Show" of Bobby Fountain featured an areoplane (sic) that was to appear in Livingston. The J.H. Boyer Company brought the high-class vaudeville "Jesse James Show" on January 3, 1911, with a troupe of educated Russian poodles. This same troupe returned on January 23, 1912, and advertised a mammoth canvas tent that would seat 1,000 people. They promoted their show to be clean, moral and refined.

New Willard was a new sawmill town established in 1909 by the Thompson & Tucker Lumber Company. In March 1911 the town people filled the spacious tent of "Aunt Mollie Bailey's Circus" to witness the performances, which have "greatly improved since it traversed the country before."

A hint is given in The Enterprise of October 19, 1911 of a midway, where one could see the "Slippery Wheel Snake Show" and other attractions on the Midway, back of the Racket Store. A racket store specialized in a wide variety of low-cost goods from shoes and clothing to fruits and vegetables. A convenience store of sort, they were very popular during this time. This Livingston business was owned by E.E. Martin who had recently moved to Livingston from Onalaska where he had been a millwright. E.E. Martin was also a jeweler and watchmaker and is the grandfather of Eddie Martin. His store was located on the corner of Washington and Polk on lot 1, block 23, the current site of Petalz florist.

The shows continued to roll into town and the play "Man from the West" was performed in their big tent on December 13, 1911. "Pure love is made; good blows are struck and there is mountain of real comedy." Professor Wierz and his band played a free concert on main street at noon and 7:30.

"Hands Up, Jesse James is Coming!" J.H. Boyer's Famous Shows returned and brought their sensational four act melodrama "Jesse James" to town on Tuesday, January 23, 1912. The show was billed as a "real western play, clean, moral, refined and devoid of vulgarity, it is a thriller from the moment the curtain goes up on the first act, brim full of climaxes and startling situations." Under a mammoth canvas theater that could seat 1,000, the show was complete with a big band and orchestra, a big troupe of trained poodles and of course, a big free concert at noon.

The Lachmann Carnival arrived in Livingston on December 29, 1912 and pitched their tents for a one week engagement. "The attractions are of unusual merit especially the trained wild animal exhibition. Salina the dancing girl in the lion's den and her group of performing wild beasts is the best performance of this kind ever witnessed here, the lady performing feats almost impossible with those savage animals of the jungle" read their advertisement.

This show included an obligatory free daily band concert. Also included was "The Famous Georgia Minstrels Show," that was full of ginger and good clean wholesome comedy. By all means, "attend the carnival, it's all right."

The Mother's Club arranged for a Grand Carnival for Monday, January 27, 1913 to benefit their club. Organized on November 9, 1909, the Mother's Club later evolved into the Parent-Teacher Association in July 1913. The ladies that were instrumental in forming the club were Mesdames L.T. Sloan, Clem Fain, J.E. Hill Jr., S.H. Smith, H.B. Davis, N.J. and J.W. Cochran, J.P. and F.J. Manning, W.W. Leggett, J.L. Muller, Joe Sisson, N.T. Green and Misses Fannie and May Andress.

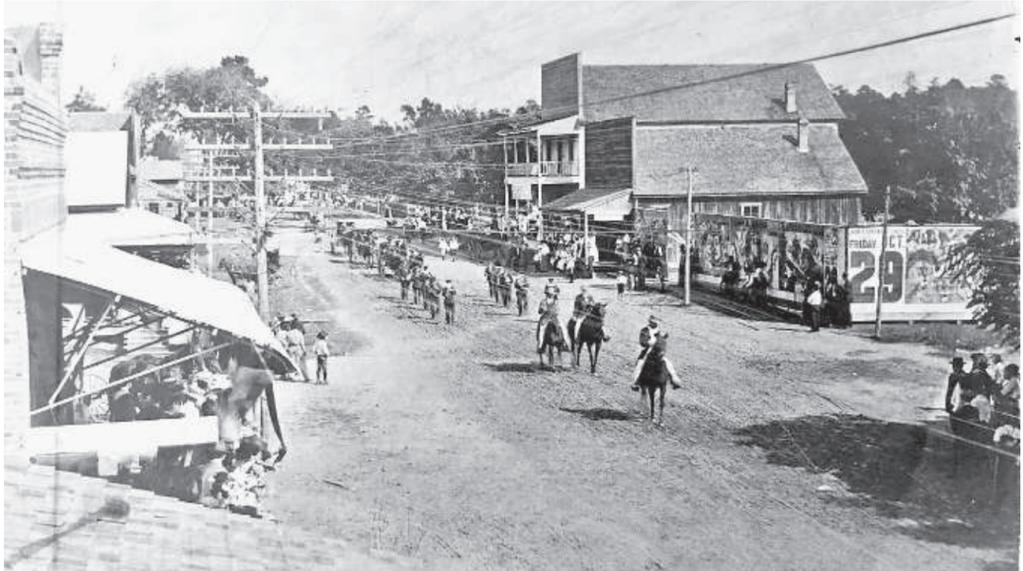
The Mother's Club carnival featured The National Amusement Company and advertised that they had a Giant Ferris Wheel, Monster Jumping Horse, Carry-Us-All, Military Band and amusements galore. Admission to the grounds was free.

To be set up in a tent near the courthouse, Blair's Ton-Ko-No Comedy Company came to Livingston in July 1913 for a week. Promising that their "entertainments" are of the highest character, clean and moral and composed of ladies and gentlemen. They ran an article in the July 3, 1913 Enterprise that contained endorsements from different mayors, judges, sheriffs and business leaders from around East Texas. So convinced of their success, they offered the first night for free.

Polk Countian F.K. Leggett established The Livingston Drug Company in 1906, all the while serving as the Dis-



Mollie Bailey parade, circa 1898, due north of the courthouse. The buildings from l-r, extreme left partially hidden is the J.C. Feagin law office, the Dr. E.D. Drew dental office, both at Church and Jackson, the Dr. B.C. Marsh office and drug store, unknown restaurant, R.A. Henry & E.V. Doyle store and the Davis McCardell store, at the NW corner of Church and Washington. These were all destroyed by the 1902 fire.



This photo was taken during the first Polk County Fair, October 21-22, 1909, one week before the Sparks show was to arrive. Notice the location of the single-story building in the middle. It was later moved to the corner. Also notice the advertising and large fencing for the upcoming circus. An advance party would arrive in the "advertising or bill car" to place these about, sell tickets and arrange for provisions for the company. The large white building, built in 1893, was a storehouse/residence combo owned by F.J. Manning. He replaced this with a new home in 1911.

trict Clerk from 1906 until his resignation in January 1910. Leggett then left Livingston and became the owner and operator of the Lone Star Amusement Company. He employed his nephews Jack Leggett and Robert Doughty and travelled the state with six pay attractions, sixteen concessions and several free side features.

Leggett returned to Livingston when he was contracted to bring his carnival to the 5th Polk County Fair in 1913. The Enterprise reported that his company had been showing in many large towns and is one of the best organizations of its kind on the road.

In November of 1913, The Neff Theater Company, under a big, heated canvas tent, brought their band and orchestra to town for a week. With a different play each night, admission was 10 cents for children and 25 cents for adults.

In what must be the best of all of the Livingston tent show stories is the one when the show did not come to town. In early 1914, a 22-year-old, strapping young man from Lawrence, Massachusetts arrived by train and walked to the Cottage Inn (formerly The Greer Hotel, located NW corner of block 11, burned in 1948). The young gentleman inquired with the hotel keeper, Tobias Bulter, "Where can I find the Miller Ranch show?" Mr. Butler advised, "Son, there is no show in town now."

Ernest Reuter Sr., a cornet player, had left his hometown in 1913 and spent the year touring with The Miller's 101 Ranch Wild West Show from the O.T. (Oklahoma Territory). The troupe, after playing around the country, disbanded at the end of the tour in Houston on October 28, 1913. When the 1914 season arrived Mr. Reuter found his way to Livingston, Texas to reconvene with his company. According to Ernest Reuter Jr., he should have been in Livingston, Missouri. Mr. Reuter's life is an incredible story in itself. He married Mr. Butler's daughter, Jeffie, began to supervise the construction of Livingston's first public water system, became Livingston's first fire marshal, was an entrepreneur and was the patriarch of one of our community's most beloved families.

The October 29, 1914 Enterprise carried an article, credited to The Honey Grove Signal of October 16th, that reported that Mollie Bailey had retired from show business. She was 74 years old and had earned a good rest, which they hoped that she found in the quiet of her farm. She had given much to charity and had furnished funds for the erection of two churches. She later died in Houston, Texas on October 2, 1918.

The J. Doug Morgan Stock Company, who had previously played at the Livingston Opera House in December 1907, returned with their new \$5,000 heated tent theater for a one-week engagement beginning on December 6, 1915. Morgan, who wintered his troupe in Cherokee County, was considered to be the leading road show at this time. Opening to a packed tent, they presented their four-act comedy drama, "The Builder of Bridges."

Mr. Morgan, on his previous trip to Livingston, had been taken on a hunting trip with K.W. Jackson (grandfather of Sidney Smith and Mary Alice Wise) and P.H. Blalock, railroad agent. Apparently, Morgan got lost in the woods and got back into town that night just in time to open his performance. He advised that he would not be going on any more hunting trips with them.

Their performances were so widely attended, the company decided to stay over for another week and gave a new play each night with good music and vaudeville.

While in town, on Saturday afternoon, December 18, 1915, Morgan performed for the attendees of the Livingston versus Groveton basketball game, which was held on the outdoor courts of the Jackson Avenue schoolhouse.

The Whitney Shows carnival was brought to Livingston for the last week of January 1916 under the auspices of the newly formed Livingston Fire Department. Established on July 15, 1915, K.G. Peebles was the first Chief and Ernest Reuter Sr. was the first Fire Marshal. The carnival delivered 9 big clean shows to the citizens of Livingston and helped with the expenses of the fire department.

Morgan returned to Livingston once again on Monday, February 21, 1916 to perform for another week in his big tent theater near the depot. In addition to the daily band concert, there was a free high trapeze act each night at 7 by the Flying Huffs in front of the show tent. The opening play was to be "An American Girl."

In summary it is hard to imagine that this much activity once occurred in our sleepy little town ... and all within a ten-year period! Sadly, this type of entertainment became obsolete with the advent of the motion picture industry.

Practically every ounce of information for this sketch was procured from The Polk County Enterprise archives. While there were many shows prior to 1906, unfortunately, there are no newspaper reports of them that have been found.

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Livingston

By Gary Davis
Polk County Historical Commission

Like most towns of the pioneer days, Livingston had its share of saloons. The tired working men of the timber, railroad and farming occupations were prone to gather at these places of respite. As soon as the workers received their paychecks, they would come into town for entertainment, often spending it all at the local establishments. The old stories were told that the town was so rowdy that women and children were not to be seen downtown on a Saturday.

There is no written history about the saloons of Livingston. In fact, their history was nothing to boast about, and the good citizens tried hard to keep the town's reputation as clean as possible. The author thinks that enough time has passed to bring these great stories out of hiding.

The lore holds that the town was full of saloons but there has been no evidence found of this. Five different saloons have been discovered and fortunately photos exist of three of them. And thanks to syndicated newspapers, even in the 1800s, information is available about shootouts that occurred in two of them.

The families of many of these parties still reside in Polk County and it is the hope of the author that no new family feuds will occur as a result of these revelations.

The Greer Saloon

The first known written account of a Livingston saloon is that of the J.M. Greer Saloon. A newspaper ad, found in the January 26, 1888 issue of the East Texas Pinery advertised "Fine Wines, Liquors, Cigars, Soda Water, Ginger Ale, Sarsaparilla (sic) and Lemp's Bottle Beer. Pure Whisky, for medicinal purposes, always on hand. A new billiard table in a quiet place where gentlemen can spend a pleasant time."

But this was no quiet nor pleasant place on November 28, 1885, the day that W.H. "Dick" Muckleroy entered the Greer Saloon in downtown Livingston. He was lying dead soon afterward.

The shootout had to be one of the most publicized events ever in Livingston up to that point. The incident made the news in Detroit, Chicago, Pittsburg, Fort Worth and Galveston. The Colorado Citizen, a newspaper from Muckleroy's hometown of Columbus, Texas, reported the shootout as follows:

The Fort Worth Gazette: A Justifiable Killing

Livingston, Tex., Nov. 29 "W.H. Muckleroy of this place was shot and killed at 11 o'clock last night in the saloon of J.M. Greer of this place. The ruling before the coroner's jury was that Muckleroy shot at Walter Green (sic) and at J.M. Greer, when they returned fire, killing him. Sixteen shots were fired, five striking Muckleroy, three proving fatal. The coroner's jury ruled the killing to be in self-defense. Muckleroy leaves a wife and one child. His body will be sent to his father in Colorado County for interment."

The Detroit Free Press:

At Livingston, Tex., "Saturday night, during a saloon row, W.H. Muckleroy was shot and killed by J.M. and W.M. (sic) Greer. Muckleroy fired first, but his marksmanship was not up to the Texas standard and five bullets were promptly lodged into his body."

The Pittsburg Post-Gazette:

Livingston, Tex., Nov. 29 "Late last night during a fight in Greer's Saloon W.H. Muckleroy was shot and killed by J.M. and W.M. Greer. Sixteen shots were fired and five balls penetrated Muckleroy's body. The evidence at the inquest today showed that Muckleroy fired the first shot."

The Chicago Tribune: He Fired the First Shot

Livingston, Tex., Nov. 29 "Late last night, during a fight in Greer's saloon, W.H. Muckleroy was shot and instantly killed by J.M. and M.W.(sic) Greer. Sixteen shots were fired, and five balls penetrated Muckleroy's body. The evidence at the inquest today showed that Muckleroy fired the first shot."

The Galveston Daily News: Shot in a Saloon

Livingston, November 29 "Last night, at 10 o'clock, W.H. Muckleroy was killed by J.M. and W.M. Greer, in Greer's Saloon. There were about 16 shots fired. Five balls entered Muckleroy's body, three of which would have proved fatal."

The Colorado (County) Citizen reported it a bit differently, and in more detail:

W.H. Muckleroy Killed in Livingston November 29, 1885 "The sad news was received here last Saturday night that Mr. W.H. Muckleroy, formerly of Colorado County, now of Polk County, was killed in the Greer Saloon at 10 o'clock Saturday night by J.M. and W.M. Greer, also at one time of Colorado county, at the town of Livingston, Polk County. News of the particulars were anxiously inquired for by many friends of the deceased in this city. Monday it was learned that the fracas was caused by one of the Greer boys refusing to drink with Mr. Muckleroy, whereupon he drew his pistol and fired upon him and both the Greers fired at him, 16 shots being discharged, five by Muckleroy. His body was struck five times, three of which were mortal wounds. The coroner's jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death from pistol shot wounds, inflicted in self-defense, by J.M. and W.M. Greer. To his aged and respected parents living in this county and to Mrs. Campbell and her daughter, of this city - to all of whom "Dick," as he was familiarly called, was gentleness and kindness personified - the sad news came with crushing sorrow. He was naturally a genial, kind-hearted young man, esteemed by many friends. His body passed through Columbus last Tuesday to be interred at the old family residence in Frelsburg, Texas."

(The Greer brothers were James Marshall and William Walter. W.W.'s name was misprinted in each of the articles above. It was written as W.M., M.W. and even Walter Green. There was a third brother, A.V., who was not mentioned in the articles.)

The Saloons of Livingston



W.E. (William "Willie" Elmore) Fitze was born in Richmond, Texas on Nov. 29, 1855. His father, Charles Gustav Fitze, from Prussia, immigrated into Galveston in 1848 and came to Polk County in the 1870s as a merchant at Mariana, also known as Drew's Landing.

Muckleroy and the Greer brothers had known one another from Colorado County, where Muckleroy's family had lived since the 1840's. The Greer's, who had been planters from Mississippi, immigrated to Colorado County after the war in the 1860s and subsequently moved to Polk County around 1883.

Muckleroy also moved to Polk County around 1883, when he bought 25 acres from Livingston cotton ginner and merchant E.V. Doyle. Three days later Muckleroy bought 125 acres from J.A. McCardell. These tracts were at Swartwout. On October 1, 1885, Muckleroy sold the 125-acre tract to the three Greer Brothers, J.M., W.W. and A.V. and retained a note against the property.

Less than two months later the shooting occurred. The final bit of irony is that Muckleroy left a 193-page will, dated April 15, 1884, and the executor of the will was ... J.M. Greer.

The mystery of the Muckleroy shooting is further deepened by the inability to determine the location of the saloon. It is the quest of the author to one day find a clue that will reveal this.

The Greer brothers later became very integral figures in the development of our community. They purchased large farms in the William Pace and Thomas Bradley surveys, now the Baker and Laurent Ranches and the Augustine Viesca seven-league survey, now the Simon Peter Bend Ranch. They were planters, farmers, lumbermen, ginners, postmasters, politicians, developers and merchants in the towns of Goodrich and Livingston.

W.W. Greer, the grandfather of Ola Bergman, was a merchant and the postmaster in Goodrich from 1898 to 1906. He moved to Livingston in 1910 and served as Livingston mayor pro tem from 1913 to 1914. He was a board member of the Guaranty State Bank (predecessor of the First State Bank) and built many buildings in town, one that still stands, located at 415 N. Washington, built in 1914. He and his wife, Florida, were very much a part of the social fabric of Livingston. Mrs. Greer was responsible for the very first street signs in Livingston at their home on the corner of Sherman and Washington.

On May 5, 1919, W.W. Greer was shot in the back while riding his horse from his farm. All that is known of the location is that it was four miles from Livingston. The shooter, a local farmer from a pioneer family, A.G. "Man" Stevens, used a shotgun with buckshot. When Greer fell from his horse, he remounted and was shot twice more. After falling a second time, Greer asked him not to shoot him again.

There had been an ongoing dispute over a drainage ditch which lay on their common property line. Greer had dammed it to prevent erosion and Stevens was upset that water was backing into his property. A second gun, a pistol, was alleged to have been thrown by Stevens to make it look like self-defense. Greer lived long enough for Dr. R.B. Love, his son-in-law, to summon a special train to Houston where he died the following day, May 6, 1919.

A trial was held in Houston the following month and many from Livingston attended and were called to the witness stand. Among them was Ben M. Lewis, a Livingston jeweler, photographer and gunsmith. Lewis testified that the pistol that was presented as evidence belonged to Stevens as he had previously worked on it. The trial lasted through the month of June and after deliberating all night, the jury acquitted Stevens at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 30.

J.M., referred to as Captain Greer, had a sawmill and gin in Goodrich and served as postmaster there after his brother, from 1906 to 1911. Greer was a Master Mason and upon his death received a "resolution of respect" from his Masonic brethren that was signed by J.E. Hill Jr., J.C. Feagin and J.L. Manry. He served as county commissioner from 1890 to 1894 and tax collector from 1900 to 1904. Captain Greer served as Living-

ton's mayor from 1911 to 1913. He was a director of both the First National Bank and the Livingston Telephone Company and was a founding member of the Chamber of Commerce. He was the founder of The Greer Mercantile Company, and his building stands today as a part of the Polk County Judicial Center. In a bit of irony, in March 1911, J.M. Greer was elected as the county chair for the local prohibition cause.

J.M. Greer was married to Beulah Hines. He had no children and died on December 8, 1926 at his farm west of Goodrich.

The W.E. Fitze Bon Ton Saloon

Another infamous Livingston establishment of days gone by was the Bon Ton Saloon, owned by W.E. "Willie" Fitze. Fitze purchased his property, the east 25 feet of lot 4 of block 21, for \$50, on February 17, 1881, from John P. Kale and T.F. Meece. This property later came to be owned by J.W. Cochran & Co. and is now the rear portion of the Courthouse Whistle Stop Cafe.

W.E. (William "Willie" Elmore) Fitze was born in Richmond, Texas on November 29, 1855. His father, Charles Gustav Fitze, from Prussia, had immigrated into Galveston in 1848 and came to Polk County in the 1870s as a merchant at Mariana, also known as Drew's Landing. C.G. Fitze served as postmaster of Mariana in 1872. When the HE&WT railway was being constructed in the 1870s, Fitze was their right of way agent and when completed in the 1880s he became their general freight and ticketing agent. Fitze was also a music professor and wrote many musical pieces.

His son, Willie Fitze, according to the 1880 Polk County census, was a dry goods merchant in Livingston. A Fitze ad in the February 28, 1878, issue of the Polk County Banner advertised that he was a "dealer in dry goods, notions, family groceries, tobacco, cigars, snuff, oysters, sardines, and all kinds of canned fruits. Also, a full supply of wood and willow ware. Will buy cotton, hides and beeswax." The August 2, 1894, issue of The East Texas Pinery advertised that he carried items such as clothing, notions, hats, shoes, saddlery, furniture, groceries and liquors. Fitze also was a buyer of produce and Spanish moss blankets that were made by the local Indian tribe, used primarily as saddle blankets.

Fitze's store also had a side room to the east of the store that was called the Bon Ton Saloon. About 16 by 22 feet, the saloon was connected to the store by an eight-foot gallery (porch) that ran across the front along Church Street. The porch also served as a covered sidewalk. There was a five-foot doorway into the saloon. The bar faced north, about 16 feet from the front door.

Fitze advertised in The East Texas Pinery, which was located just around the corner (N pt. lot 2, blk 21, 304 N. Washington), "Remember the best liquors and the coldest beer is at The Bon Ton Saloon."

On October 6, 1890, a gunfight broke out and once again blood spilled into the streets of Livingston.

A week prior there had been a political speaking four miles south of Livingston at Providence Church. Talvus A. Wilson, (his son, Talvus D. Wilson was the originator of the Livingston Drug Company and was Livingston postmaster in 1906) addressed the crowd. Wilson had previously served in the 20th legislature as a Democrat from 1886 to 1889. According to the Galveston Daily News, Wilson was then running as an independent candidate. Democrat T.S. (Travis Spraggin) Cochran of Colita, father of J.W. Cochran, held the seat from 1889 to 1891 so the conclusion is drawn that Wilson was running against Cochran.

There was a disagreement between the attendees and some were charged with disturbing the peace. The justice court was

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held on Monday, October 6, 1890. Jim Parker and Alex Lowe (who were brothers-in-law) came into town that morning as witnesses against friends of Demmit Jones and Uriah M. Freeman. "This, added to whisky, is supposed to have caused the tragedy which is greatly deplored."

The political wrangle, in which three men were senselessly killed, was widely covered by newspapers around the country, including The Los Angeles Herald, The Salem Oregon Statesman Journal, The Houston Post, The Brenham Weekly Banner, The Galveston Daily News and the Dallas Morning News.

The Houston Post of October 7, 1890 read, "A Little Texas Affair in which The Disputants Were Evenly Divided and Each Got in His Work with His Revolver-The Trouble Had its Origins in Politics."

An October 8, 1890, article in the Dallas Morning News stated that Lowe was killed outright, Parker was shot in the stomach, Jones in the head and breast and Freeman in the left arm. The Salem, Oregon Statesman Journal of October 7, 1890, stated that "Lowe was dead, Parker is shot in the stomach and cannot live, Freeman is shot in the left arm and breast and doctors say he will die. The quadruple tragedy had its origins in politics."

The St. Joseph Missouri News Press Gazette of October 11, 1890, opined that "political argument in Texas is still fraught with some trivial disadvantages, as those late lamented debaters of Livingston, Texas found out to the sorrow of their relatives."

The Precinct #1 Justice of Peace at the time was J.F. (Joseph Franklin) Peters. In the days after the incident, he interviewed several men who had witnessed the event.

According to the written testimony of W.D. Green, "Jim Parker, the deceased, said in the town of Livingston on the day that the killing occurred, that he had a good pistol and the best grit in town to back it."

Sheriff J.W. Hammond, who served from 1888 to 1890, testified that he was at the Meece Hotel (NW corner blk 10) at 7:30 p.m. when he was informed of the disturbance by Miss Mattie Meece, daughter of the owner T.F. Meece. Hammond at once went down into town where he met J.P. Snow, who told him of the trouble at Fitzze's Saloon. Hammond testified that upon arriving at the saloon, he found Alex Lowe lying dead on the gallery about four feet from the door. He noticed a bruise on the left side of his chin and a gunshot wound in the upper part of Lowe's chest. Hammond found Demmit Jones lying on a billiard table and was badly wounded.

Hammond further testified that he left the saloon and went to Dr. W.F. Gibson's home about four hundred yards from the saloon (block 30, the location of the City Library). Dr. Gibson had James Parker brought to this home so that he could attend to his stomach wound. Parker died on October 7th around noon.

Dr. Gibson hosted a leap year ball at this elegant mansion in 1881, as reported by the East Texas Pinery. This home was later purchased in 1908 by Sheriff R.P. Foreman. His son, Percy, was age 6 at the time and lived there until he left for fame and fortune as a teenager.

According to the testimony of Dr. W.K. McCardell, he was having supper at J.H. Shotwell's home (McCardell was married to his daughter Nancy Shotwell McCardell) and immediately went to Fitzze's Saloon to attend to Demmit Jones. McCardell advised that he laid Jones on a billiard table in the saloon and examined his wounds. Jones had been shot four times. Dr. McCardell attended to Jones for five days and his mind was perfectly clear and he seemed to entertain hope of recovery. On Saturday October 11th, his mind seemed to be wandering and he died around 2 p.m. Jones made no statement other than that someone shot him in the back.

Constable E.D. Bishop testified that he had been with Lowe and Parker but left only 15-20 minutes before the ruckus to go to the Peebles Saloon. The Peebles Saloon is most likely the business that became the Bishop & Tew Saloon at 306 N. Washington Ave. In a political poll taken on March 3, 1892, by The Galveston Daily News, A. Peebles was interviewed, as was W.L. Harding, and their occupations were noted simply as "Saloon." Deed records reflect that later Harding sold the saloon to Bishop & Tew in 1895. There is no record of Peebles owning land on this block so the Peebles Saloon location cannot be pinpointed.

Bishop testified that he heard words between the four men that indicated there could be a difficulty. At the time of the shooting, he was behind the bar at the Peebles Saloon, talking to J.P. Snow when the shots were fired. He went to the scene of the shooting as soon as he could get there and found Lowe lying dead. He found next to Mr. Lowe a Smith & Wesson 38 caliber 5 shooter. Mr. Jones was wounded and begging for help. His clothes had powder burns which indicated that he had been shot at close range. He found next to Mr. Jones a Colt 41 caliber 6 shooter pistol. He testified that Justice of Peace J.F. Peters picked up a pair of brass knuckles and a pocketknife. He did not know who they belonged to. It is speculated that Lowe was hit with them, and this resulted in the bruise that was found on his chin.

W.L. "Willie" Willis testified that he was in the store of C.H. Davison (the Galveston newspaper political poll stated that Mr. Willis was a bookkeeper for Mr. Davison) and that he saw the flash of a pistol and that a man on the gallery of the Fitzze Saloon fell to the floor. Frank J. Manning was a clerk for Mr. Fitzze and according to his testimony, had a bedroom in the building. Willis found Freeman, wounded and in the bed of Mr. Manning. He told Willis that the damn rascals shot him in the back, that he was a little slow but that he thought that he got him (the man that shot him in the back).

Mr. Fitzze testified that the parties, Lowe, Parker, Jones and Freeman, came into his saloon about 7 or 7:30 on the evening of the 6th of October. They came in cursing and quarreling about being refused credit at the other saloon (most likely the aforementioned Peebles Saloon). Lowe was the party who seemed to be doing most of the quarreling and cursing. Fitzze continued with his testimony by stating that Mr. Jones called for the drinks and treated the crowd. It was after they finished their drinks that the fray occurred, and Fitzze stated that he tried to stop the boys from hurting one another. About the time that he thought that he had settled things, the guns began to blaze and he did not see exactly who fired first. Both Lowe and Jones were laying on the gallery and Freeman and Parker were shot inside the saloon.

In summary, Lowe was killed instantly, Jones died the next day and Parker lived until Saturday, October 11, 1890. Freeman survived and was charged with murder on December 5, 1890 by W.D. Willis, District Clerk. He was promptly arrested by the new Sheriff T.J. Epperson. On December 21, 1890, Freeman testified "that there exists so great a prejudice against him that he cannot obtain a fair and impartial trial. That here is a dangerous combination instigated against him by influential persons." He was granted a change of venue and his trial was held in Houston on February 20, 1893 according to the Galveston Daily News of February 21st. The paper stated "the attention of the criminal court was practically engaged all day with the case of the state against U.M. Freeman. A jury was chosen early this forenoon and without much trouble."

Polk County Sheriff Epperson delivered the prisoner, Uriah H. Freeman, and 30 witnesses, on the train from Livingston to Houston. The witness list, men from the downtown business district, was a who's who of Livingston at the time. Among them were W.E. Fitzze, Sam Smith, Jonce Henry, Dr. W.K. McCardell, Dr. W.F. Gibson, F. Campbell, D.M. Bean, D.S. Chandler, Joe Holshousen, F.E. Address, Frank Manning, Dr. B.C. Marsh, Will Peebles, W.T. Epperson, J.W. Hammond, C.J. Gerlach, J.M. Drew, C.R. Miller, W.L. Willis, A.D. Gibson, Sheriff T.J. Epperson, F.D. Bishop, Ed Shotwell, J.S. Copeland, Abe Peebles, W.D. Green, James H. Meece, William Emanuel, Tom Lindsey, James Barfield, Henry Adams, E.G. Purvis, T.L. Epperson, Will Galloway, Jim Burch, Jim DeWalt, J.C. Adams, Ed Galloway, J.P. Snow and Mid Purvis.

The examination was started into by the attorneys on both sides and pushed with commendable dispatch. It was finished during the afternoon and the attorneys made able and lengthy speeches to the jury. They retired and in about five minutes they returned a verdict of not guilty.

Willie Fitzze continued his business until it was lost in the great fire that occurred on August 29, 1902. According to the many newspaper articles about the event, his building and stock were valued at \$7,000 and that he carried \$3500 of insurance.

Fitze afterwards moved to Center, Texas where ironically, his business was involved in another massive downtown fire, on March 4, 1911, in which six citizens perished. (In another bit of irony, the Mistrot Brothers also lost buildings in both fires).

William Elmore Fitzze lived until 1940 when he died of exhaustion due to insanity at the Rusk State Hospital. He was buried in the Old City Cemetery next to his first wife Emma Alexander who predeceased him in 1894.

The Capitol Saloon and The Lone Star Saloon

Another saloon keeper from Livingston in the 1800s was W.L. Harding, who was married to Dr. W.F. Gibson's daughter, Bertie, owned two saloons in Livingston. One, The Capitol Saloon, was located at 306 South Washington on the north 26 feet of lot 2, block 21, and from the verbiage in the deed recorded in volume 4, page 404, this saloon had been established by C.R. Miller, although the date is unclear. Walter L. Harding purchased the lot, for \$1,000, on January 11, 1894, from Cleveland & Company, from Harris County, who recovered the property when previous owner, the D.S. Chandler Company, went bankrupt. The location of the saloon is on the same lot on which the Gene Bush law office now stands at 306 N. Washington.

Harding's advertisement in the East Texas Pinery of September 15, 1892, offered "The Capitol Saloon is just opposite the courthouse, where tired and thirsty mortals may find rest and refreshments. Whisky, beer and cigars the best in town."

Harding, at the same time, also operated the Lone Star Saloon opposite the H.E.&W.T. Ry. and 53 feet north from the southwest corner of block 10. Harding purchased this lot in a deed dated January 5, 1892, from Max London of Corsicana, who recovered the property when the D.S. Chandler Company, as stated above, lost the property due to bankruptcy. The purchase price was \$333.35 down with one payment of \$166.65 due in twelve months.

Harding advertised in the East Texas Pinery of September 15, 1892, a "new saloon, a dealer in Wines, Liquors, etc., located at the railroad depot near the Alliance Store (SW corner blk 10) where the country and travelling public will find the best beer, wines and whiskies with polite attention and fair dealing." Another ad that stated, "The Lone Star Saloon is just opposite the depot, where the tired passengers may get a cold glass of beer, a drink of the best whisky in town, or a splendid cigar."

In the Pinery of August 2, 1894, Harding advertised "buy the pure R. Monarch whiskey kept by W.L. Harding. He keeps nothing but the best brands."

Although the fate of the Lone Star Saloon is unknown, the Capitol Saloon was sold on December 26, 1895, to the firm

of F.D. Bishop and M.S. Tew. One known photo exists that captures the image of the business, then called the Bishop & Tew Saloon. It was taken by Ben Lewis in approximately 1900.

The Bishop & Tew Saloon placed a nice ad in the September 24, 1896, issue of the East Texas Pinery and boasted that their whiskies, Echo Springs, Monarch, Old Cabinet Rye and the justly famous Hoffman House Whiskies had "not a HEAD-ACHE in a barrel of either of the brands." In the September 24, 1896 issue was the request to "Go to the Capital Saloon for good whiskey, cold beer, fine cigars and good treatment."

Ferdinand D. Bishop, Jr. (1854-1918) came to Livingston as a child from Mississippi with his father F.D. Bishop, Sr. (1816-1887). Senior was a merchant in Livingston as per the 1860 census and in the 1870 and 1880 census records, Bishop, Sr.'s occupation was hotel keeper. It is noteworthy that a lodger in his hotel in 1880 was 26-year-old C.J. Gerlach whose occupation was listed as grocer. Of course, Mr. Gerlach became one of the leading merchants and citizens of Livingston afterward. The F.D. Bishop Hotel was sold in 1913 to Dr. H.S. Denham. This location was on South Washington at the corner of Denham Street, just south of Choate's Creek.

As per the 1900 census, F.D. Bishop, Jr. was a saloon keeper and was a partner with M.S. Tew, who was also listed as a saloon keeper. M.S. Tew (1874-1934) was married to Roxie Feagin (1881-1950), daughter of Judge J.C. Feagin (1855-1927).

The Capitol Saloon went up in flames in the 1902 fire. The Shiner Gazette of September 5, 1902, reported that Bishop and Tew had lost their house, valued at \$1750 and that there was no insurance.

On the same location where they had the saloon, Tew rebuilt and opened The City Meat Market with Jett Brock. They operated until 1914 when they sold to Collis Manning and Parson Clifford. Tew & Brock then concentrated on the livestock business and according to the Polk County Enterprise of May 28, 1914, they shipped 850 cattle by rail and received \$22 per head. Tew became the justice of peace and in 1922 became the first city manager of Livingston. Tew retained both jobs until his death in 1934.

The Fire

In the early morning hours on August 29, 1902, a great fire occurred in downtown Livingston. The fire, which was started by unknown anti-prohibitionists, began at the Gerlach warehouse (Block 21, lot 5) east of Fitzze's Bon Ton Saloon. At issue was a difference in opinion over a scheduled election to prohibit the sale of liquor in town. The Houston Post reported on August 13, 1902 that a local option election was to be held on August 30th. The Gerlach brothers, C.J. and L.F., originally from Bayou Sara, Louisiana, were active campaigners for prohibition. In a case of extreme irony, the Post of the 14th advised, "the campaign is rather warm."

The conflagration wiped out three complete blocks, 15, 21 and 22 and a portion of 14. There was a second fire in December that did not cause much damage to property but there was loss of life. This is a story for another day.

On Saturday, August 30th, with nothing left but smoke and ashes, the election was held as planned. The results were 406 for prohibition and 107 against. Subsequently, the town remained dry for more than 100 years.



W.E. Fitzze store and Bon Ton Saloon in center of photo, taken by Ben "Lewis the Jeweler" Lewis around 1900.



Lone Star Saloon on the right in front of the Meece Hotel. The HE&WT depot is on the left. The photo was taken from Yale Street, which later became Feagin Street, the only street from the original townsite from 1847 to have a different name.

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A good name is rather to be chosen
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ONALASKA

The founding and growth of Onalaska, Texas – An under told story

By Kathy Black Lott
Polk County Historical Commission
Greater Onalaska Heritage Society

Some people look at Onalaska as a lake town, which we are now and have been for a long while.

But our city was founded with the excitement of a “boomtown.” It wasn’t gold or even black gold that brought thousands of people rushing to Onalaska. There had been a wide outcry, as far as it could go without phones and modern sources of communication, of the high wages and comfortable housing which included electric lights, hot running water, block ice and screens on all windows and doors. Each house had its own private outhouse in the backyard with maintenance services provided. This housing only cost 1.67% of your monthly wages.

Lives were changed with a family’s decision to move to Onalaska. The rush started in 1903 with the building of one of the largest sawmills in the State of Texas.

Mr. Wm. Carlisle & Co. built three mills. The first mill in 1870 was in a small town in Wisconsin. Ten years later in 1880, they decided to build on the Ouachita River in Arkansas. These two mills were both named Onalaska. After 20 years searching for another location, Mr. Carlisle decided that Mr. L.O. Jackson was the man to find the location. This search brought Mr. Jackson to Polk County in 1903. With the help of Judge J.E. Hill and R.T. Stone, he landed between Trinity, Groveton and Corrigan and east of Livingston. He purchased thousands of acres of land. The price of the land was approximately \$5 per acre. This included the land and mineral rights.

And on the western banks of the Trinity River another Onalaska was born.

Mr. Jackson moved to Onalaska, Texas in 1904, bringing with him 30 men from Arkansas. The men who came with him were Oscar Agee, Phate Baily, Luke Gore, John Haynes, Dan Moore and J.H. Wright. Many of their descendants are still members of this community today.

He began the construction of the mill; the streets were marked, made and named. Our street markers still bear the original names.

The L.O. Jackson House, C.J. Rogan House, the large office building and one of the hotels were located on Front Street, which ran east and west. The office building covered an entire block with living quarters upstairs for office and store personnel. The downstairs level housed the Onalaska Exchange Bank and vault, bookkeeping and general offices.

Mr. L.O. Jackson’s house is still standing after 120 years, stately overlooking Lake Livingston.

Onalaska also had two hotels and a hospital with an operating room. The company sold just about everything that was needed. There were 10 departments in the store: drugs, tobacco, groceries, cosmetics, jewelry, ladies’ dresses, piece goods, men’s clothing, shoes, hardware, furniture and caskets.

After years of hearing the sawmill working, the loud noise it made probably became a comforting sound of home and security. Hearing the evening blow from the steam whistle signaled the last hour of a workday. It let the wives and children know to gather at home because the workday was over. Onalaska was a thriving town until the mid-1920s. By that time, the timber had been cut down and the mill was forced to close.

On the last day of the mill, the whistle blew until there was no more steam, signaling there was no more mill work. There was a mass exodus from Onalaska. Families moved on to other places of work.

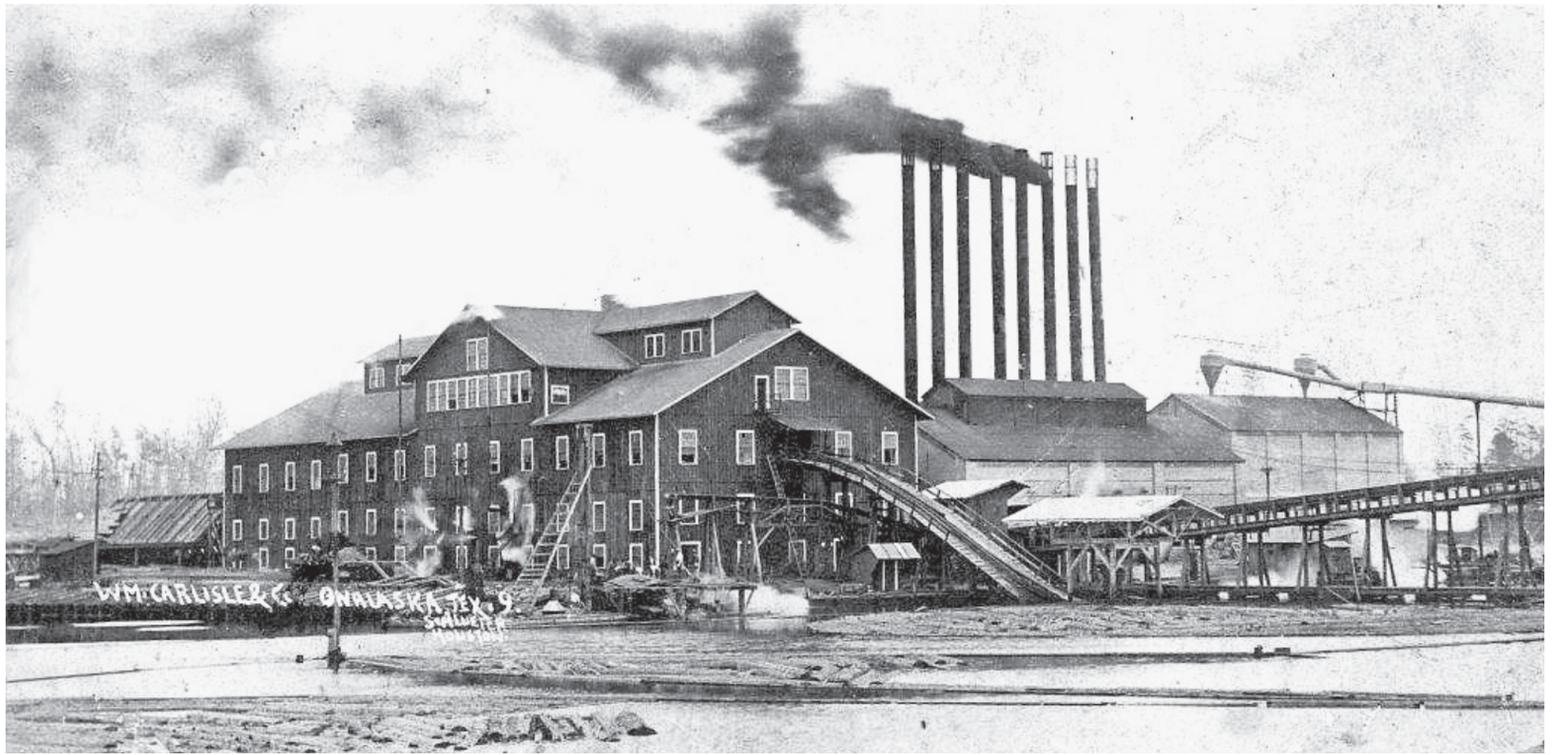
One of the things the mill left us was cleared, rich river bottom ground – just right for growing cotton!



Onalaska No. 1 (Tremont) Hotel located on the west corner of Oak Street and Commerce. Photo taken in 1907.



The L.O. Jackson family. In 1905, Lawrence O. Jackson came to Polk County as manager of construction work and operation of the Onalaska Lumber Mill and a section of the B&GNRR.



The Wm. Carlisle & Co. mill in Onalaska was built in 1903 and was one of the largest sawmills in the State of Texas.

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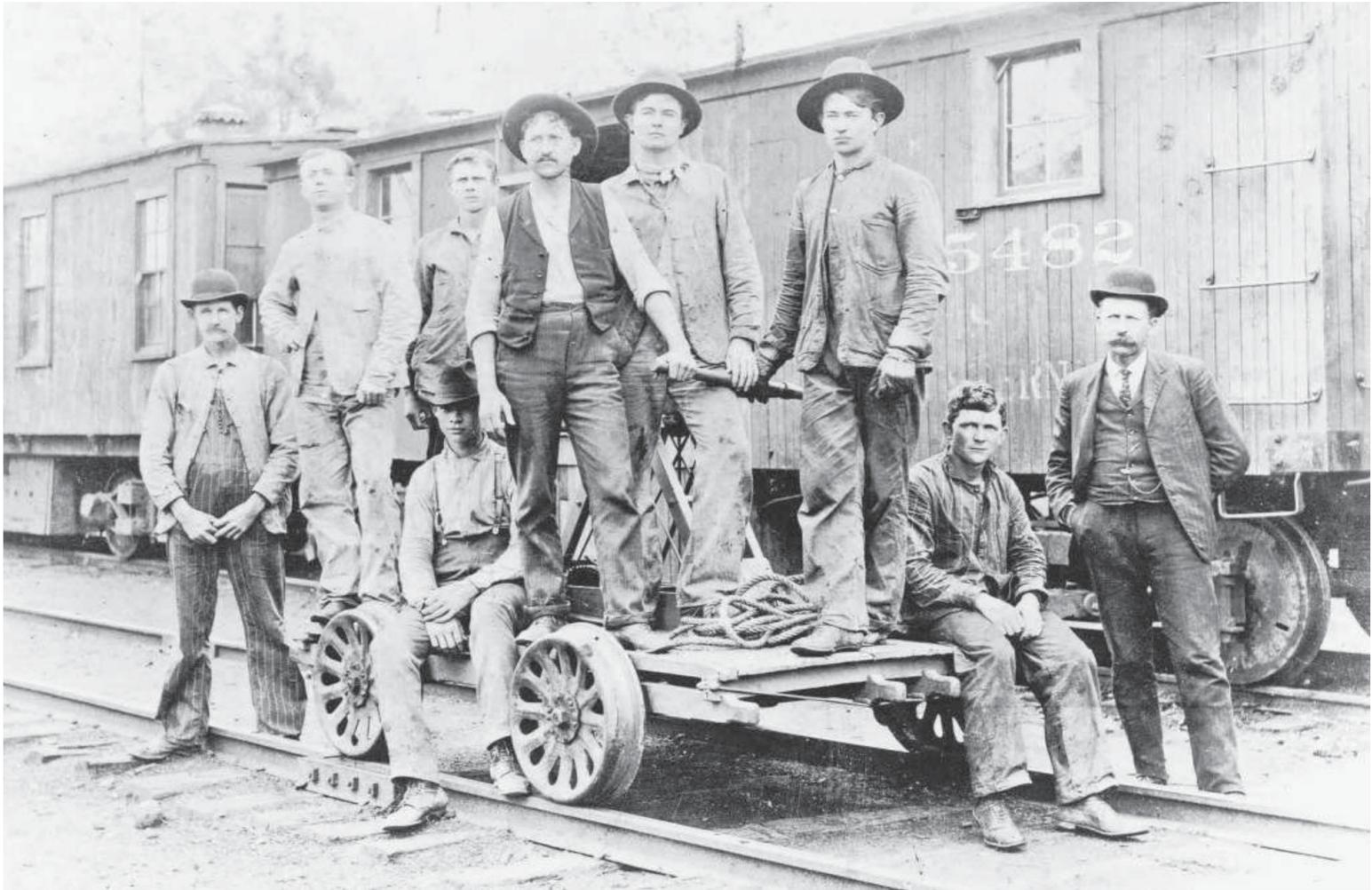
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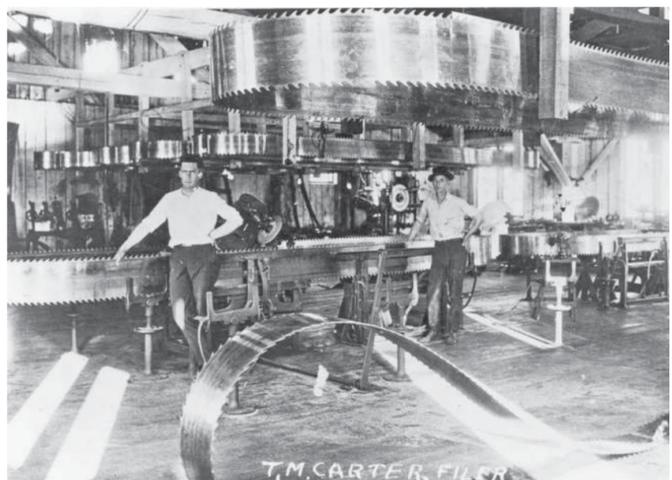
Thank you!



Carlisle & Co. Section Crew in Onalaska, photo taken around 1909.



Beef on the hoof, taken in the Onalaska City Park around 1906. The background is Bullington Street. Before meat markets, A.S. Faircloth, known as Uncle Eck® butchered and delivered meat on given days with helper Zack Hopson, Dog "trailer" and "Horse" ball.



Carlisle & Co. BandSaw Mill.

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check engine coolant level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check windshield wiper blades
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check air filter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lubricate chassis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check/fill power steering fluid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check and set tire pressure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visually check brake fluid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wash exterior windows
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check/fill battery fluid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check all exterior lights
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Livingston

By Gary Davis
Polk County Historical Commission

The Tournament

An extremely popular sporting and social activity in Polk County in the late 1800s, predating even baseball, was the equestrian sport called The Tournament. Often called a ring tournament, or Tilting at the Ring, this sport had its origins in Europe and was inspired by Walter Scott's novel, Ivanhoe. Written in 1819, it was one of the most popular books of the 19th century.

The romanticized sport was first brought into the United States to Virginia and Maryland. After the Civil War, it reigned supreme in the Old South as the unquestioned favorite pastime and the term "tournament" originally referred only to this sport.

The first reference to the sport in Texas was when Dallas hosted its first Tournament in 1858. The Jasper Newsboy mentioned a grand Tournament to be held at their county fair in 1871. A Tournament to be held in Moscow was announced in the Galveston Daily News of November 28, 1872. The first mention of a Livingston Tournament was found in the Galveston Daily News of August 1, 1889 where it reported, briefly, that the supper, ball and tournament was an entire success.

Based on the medieval sport of jousting, the local young men and women donned costumes from this time. The "knights" would mount their horses and gallop down a straightaway track of 80 yards. The first rings were suspended from an arch at 20 yards, the second and third were 30 yards apart.

With the use of a lance, the rider attempted to collect small cord-wrapped rings that were suspended from the arches that were built along the track. In the event of a tie, the contest would continue until such tie was broken. It was required that the riders go at full speed and if deemed by the judges to be not making speed they could be disqualified.

The gentleman taking the greatest number of rings would be entitled to a crown to be awarded to his favorite lady, who would then be declared the "Queen of Love and Beauty." The second and third place winners were awarded wreaths which were then bestowed upon their favorite ladies, the first and second "Maids of Honor."

Large crowds attended these annual events, which were always complimented with a large barbecue and of course, speeches by political leaders. At the end of the day a grand "Queen's Ball" was held. These balls were initially held in the courthouse and then later were held at the Opera House.

The winners of the 1895 edition, as reported in the October 26, 1895 issue of the Galveston Dailey News were E.B. "Eddie" Andress, who presented the crown to Miss E. Heatherwick. S.H. "Sam" Smith bestowed his first wreath upon Miss Olive Willis (daughter of W.D. Willis, she later married Smith and they were the grandparents of Sidney R. Smith) and Dave Green presented the second wreath to Miss Mary "Nellie" Cochran of Colita, (sister of J.W. Cochran, the Cochran family moved to Livingston from Colita in 1895, Mary later married Eugen Henslee). There was a grand ball at the academy (likely the school on Jackson Avenue) and many were present from Lufkin, Corrigan, Moscow and Coldspring.

In 1896, a committee of E.J. Manry, J.W. Cochran and T.F. Meece was made to secure special train service and the crowd was estimated to be up to 3,000. The event was declared "successful beyond anticipation". The orators, popular statesmen of the day, W.M. Imboden of Cherokee County and S.B. Cooper, from Tyler County, each spoke for two hours at the courthouse concerning political topics of the day. They both championed for William Jennings Bryan, democracy, and against populism. Afterwards, the dinner was "abundant and of the very best."

The winning knight, M.S. "Marion" Tew awarded the crown to Miss Roxie Feagin (daughter of Judge J.C. Feagin and later she married Tew), Eddie Andress awarded the first wreath to Miss Daisy Watts (Andress, son of S.J. Andress and this couple later married) and James E. Hill Jr. the second wreath to Miss Ruth Standley (daughter of Sheriff W.G. Standly and she later married Hill). D.G. Green was also a winner for the day. The festivities closed, once again, with a grand ball at the courthouse.

The 1897 edition was held under the auspices of the Young Men's Club. The attendance was estimated at 500 or more. The Houston Post acknowledged their invitation to the gala affair.

Eli Copeland, Albert Watts Jr. and James E. Hill Jr. were the winning knights. The lucky ladies were Miss May Watts, Queen, and Annie Manning and Ruth Standley first and second Maids of Honor. Once again, Wiley Mangum Imboden served as orator of the day, having been introduced by J.C. Feagin, Esquire. The ball at the courthouse was largely attended.

In what was surely the event of the year 1901, the presentation of the Ike Turner Confederate Camp marker on the courthouse square was held on October 10, 1901. The Livingston Local newspaper of October 17, 1901 reported that the event attracted an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 people from

the country and adjacent towns. The program began at 10 a.m. with the unveiling of the monument by Miss Rowena Green and was marked with an extended speech by Judge J.M. Crosson. Afterwards was held a huge barbeque for which Livingston was so famous. In the afternoon a tournament was held by the young men on the track near town, in which several participants strove with varying success for the crowns to place on their lady loves. The exercises were concluded with a grand ball at the courthouse at night, in which the young people of the city and country "tripped the light fantastic" until a late hour.

The 1904 version, as reported by the Houston Post, had Lewis Alexander adorning Miss Sydnor Woodward with the crown (they later married), Kirk Drew presenting to Miss May Green and Dr. R.B. Love awarding Miss Ola Greer (daughter of W.W. Greer and she later married Dr. Love, parents of Ola Bergman). Another participant mentioned was Eugene Garvey (grandfather of Norma Coates Slater). Cade Bethea Jr., a local attorney, gave a "brief but appropriate address."

Beginning in 1909, the business-minded people of town, led by the energetic newspaperman, W.L. West, publisher of the Polk County Enterprise, began to hold annual county fairs. These huge events were held from Wednesday through Friday and would attract thousands of people to town each year.

In the first mention of a Tournament in the Enterprise, the October 5, 1911 issue stated "the young men of the town are arranging for a tournament, which will be had in the afternoon of the second day. They are making arrangements and many are expected to run."

The 1911 County Fair featured the event and according to the Enterprise, it was to be held at 1:55 p.m. on Thursday, October 19 at the grounds located east of S.C. Chapman's residence. This placed them in the Choate's Creek valley south of DeLaMorton Street and east of Hwy 146. Chapman, who had served as Polk County Sheriff, was the Chief Marshall for the fair. His wife, Vera Freeman Chapman, was manager of the ladies exhibits inside the Opera House. Sadly, Mr. Chapman was murdered the following month at his Trinity River farm west of town when there was a disagreement between him and some of his tenant farmers.

The Post of October 22, 1911 ran an extensive story about the fair. In these days, articles were submitted to the large "city" papers by local correspondents and they seemed to perhaps inflate the "news." According to this article, 5,000 people were in attendance for the fair. The winner of the event, as reported by the Post, was Duncan Victory. He presented the crown to Miss Carrie Campbell (daughter of Fox Campbell, she later married R.D. Willis). Second prize went to Earl Manning and he in turn gave the wreath to Miss Hazel Waller. Jett Smith was another winner.

The next mention of it was found in the Houston Post of October 22, 1922 where it was simply reported that a great crowd was present. One final reference of the Livingston Tournament is found in the October 13, 1938 Historical, Anniversary and Fair issue of The Polk County Enterprise. A.E. Gerlach, who was the coach of the first LHS football team in 1916, recalled "there was no more fascinating and thrilling contest than that ancient game called "The Tournament," where gaily bedecked young men, mounted upon fast charging ponies, dashed down a straightaway race track, billiard cues in one hand, trying to spear a little ring from its perch suspended above the track. Yes, this was a sport. From miles around came the debonair men and beautiful ladies, gathering together each year in Livingston for the running of the tournament. The lucky winner of this game became the proud possessor of the glittering "crown" and with it the privilege of placing it upon the head of his lady love, who then was acclaimed the "Queen" of the tournament."



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