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New laws will change your life, if ...

By Emily Banks Wooten
editor@polkenterprise.com

Texas lawmakers get together once every two years to pass the budget, set new laws and rules and change old ones. The 88th session of the Texas Legislature adjourned sine die following one regular session and four special sessions. During that time, a total of 13,090 bills were filed, with 5,179

actually passing and 77 being vetoed. Most of those new laws went into effect Jan. 1 of this year, while others just went into effect Sunday.

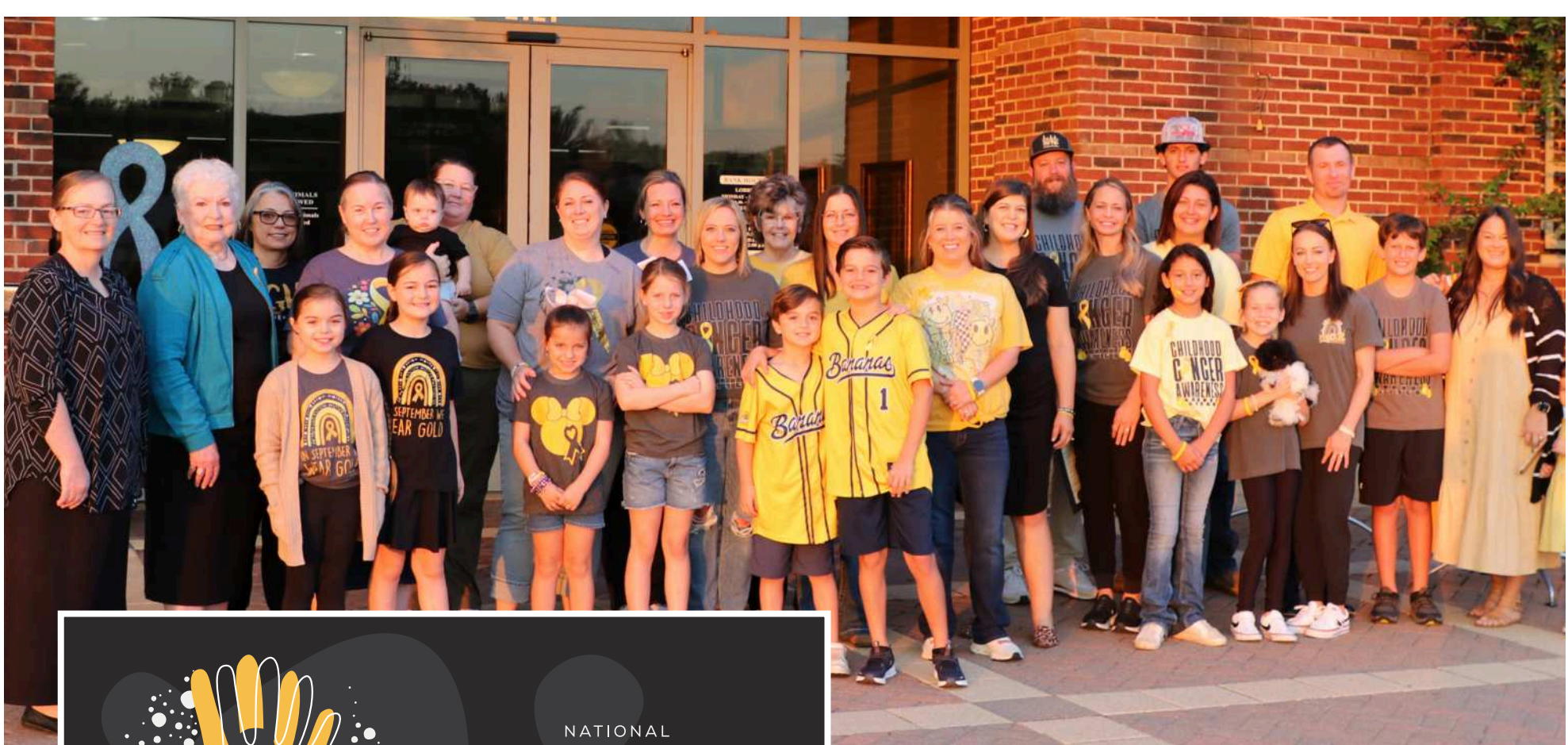
How does it all affect you? Read on ...

If you're a child who surfs the internet ... The Securing Children Online Through Parental Empowerment Act, or SCOPE Act,

tightens restrictions for online users under the age of 18 by limiting a minor's access to social media platforms and protecting them from seeing harmful content if they do gain access. Additionally, sites must block and filter harmful material pertaining to suicide, self-harm, bullying, trafficking and other exploitation from minors. Texas will enforce the SCOPE Act through penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation.

If you're a victim of dating violence ... Senate Bill 1841 gives survivors of dating violence access to family violence centers. It also clearly defines dating violence as someone in a dating relationship who causes physical harm, makes someone fear for their safety, or suffers emotional abuse.

See LAWS → Page 2A



September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and a group of people at First National Bank kicked it off Tuesday with a proclamation by Livingston Mayor Judy Cochran and remarks by Livingston ISD Superintendent Dr. Brent E. Hawkins. Gold is the color that represents childhood cancer so many of these people chose to wear gold in solidarity. Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children and one in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed by their 20th birthday. Forty-six children per day or 16,790 children per year are diagnosed with cancer in the United States with the average age of diagnosis at six years old. COURTESY PHOTO

Rotary Club hears about local animal shelter

By Emily Banks Wooten
editor@polkenterprise.com

Ron Hornsby, executive director of the SPCA of Polk County, recently spoke to the Rotary Club of Livingston, providing an update on the local organization, as well as "what's working and what isn't."



RON HORNSBY

Having served as executive director for about four years now, Hornsby relayed the challenges the SPCA has faced this year, including flooding and a hurricane, as well as declines in both adoptions and donations.

When the flooding occurred earlier this spring, he said only two of his volunteers were able to get to the animal shelter, but that those two were able to relocate 62 cats from the cattery which was flooding.

Additionally, nearby Choates Creek overflowed, pushing debris away and creating a very large sinkhole near where the dog park was located.

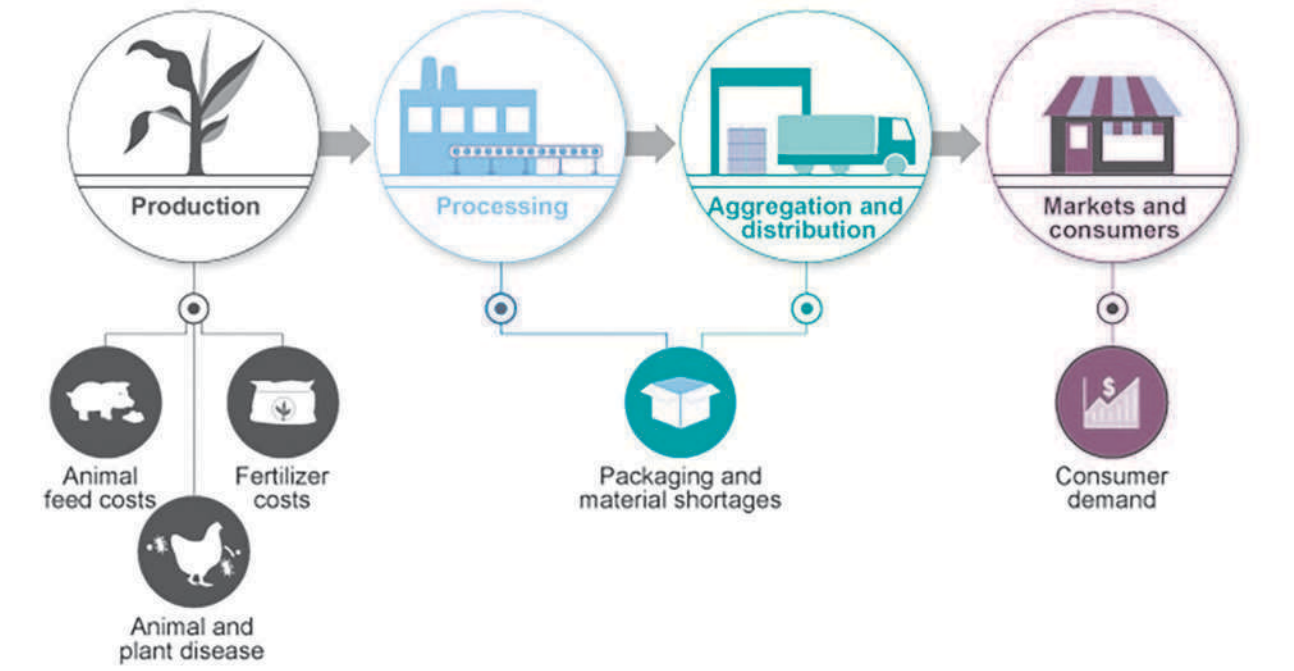
"There's a bit of work to do and we're reaching out to the EPA and others and raising funds to do something about the rubble, which included five feet of shingles, cars and car parts," Hornsby said

"It's been a year. But we'll get through it, we always do," Hornsby said.

As for the decline in donations, Hornsby said it is due to the economy, that they have received about 60% overall and that there has been a steady decline over the last two years. As for the decline in adoptions, he said it is not unique and not just here. He said that previously, there were 10-20 adoptions a day, and now maybe one.

Hornsby said there are more animals in the southern states, so they are trying to relocate animals to the north. And by clearing them out, it results in more space for more animals.

See ROTARY → Page 2A



Source: GAO analysis of information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and interviews with experts. | GAO-23-105846

Grocery prices: Why so high?

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

The respective pricing of eggs, milk and bread have long been used as a barometer for how well an economy is doing, and, lately, as it is a presidential election year, they're also used as a political talking point.

Both major party presidential candidates, Kamala Harris and Donald Trump, are using grocery prices as major planks in their campaigning.

Harris has promised a congressional band on price gouging in the food and grocery sectors, while Trump has attacked her rhetoric, and referred to the plan as "Soviet-style" controlling. Regardless of what candidate says

what, the increase of food prices through the past few years have affected everyone. Economists reckon, on average, that consumers spend about 30% of their yearly income on food.

Economic reports show that from 2021-22, food prices in the United States rose by 11%, which was the largest annual price increase in more than 40 years.

Figures from the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Food Price Index has shown a slow increase through the past six months, which is opposite trending of much of last year, according to a report from that organization's website.

One example cited in the FAO's report was the price of orange juice

concentrate, which was 42% higher in April than one year ago.

Factors that the FAO gives as having impact on food prices, worldwide, include geopolitical conflict; extreme weather events; high input costs and increased demands. The COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine are two major events given as examples of the trend in recent years.

The overall rate of inflation for the U.S. was 2.9% ending in July, for a 12-month period, according to U.S. Labor Department data published last week. The slowing of inflation has had some effect of relief on cash-strapped consumers following months of price increases.

See GROCERY → Page 2A

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easttexasnews.com

LAKE LIVINGSTON DATA AS OF SEPT 3	TRINITY RIVER DATA AS OF SEPT 3
Current level.....130.63 ft	Location..Goodrich - Gauge GRIT2
Normal level.....131.00 ft	Condition.....No Flooding
Discharge.....1,798 cfs	Discharge.....N/A
Weekly rainfall total.....0.27 in	Gauge height.....7.68 ft

LAWS

Continued from page 1A

The bill also updated the qualifications for family violence shelters, which provide housing and care for victims of domestic abuse.

If you're a judge ... House Bill 1710 requires the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to notify a judge if a defendant has served 75 days. This doesn't apply to those convicted before Sept. 1, however. This notice could be used by a judge during sentencing, as time served is granted to a convict as a credit against their sentenced time in prison.

If you're a company that makes insulin ... Senate Bill 241 cracks down on companies that make insulin, forcing transparency over generic versions of the product. Name-brand insulin manufacturers must give written notice if no generic option is available. This law only applies to manufacturers that are part of the Medicaid vendor drug program formulary.

If you're a state agency or public college ... House Bill 4510 changes how and when agencies and public colleges report financial information to the government, specifically when annual reports must be submitted.

If you're a mountain lion in Texas ... In a significant win for wildlife advocates in Texas, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department took the first step to actively manage the state's mountain lion population after granting protections for the large cats in May. Commissioners unanimously voted to ban canned hunting of mountain lions and to require that live mountain lions not be held in traps for longer than 36 hours. Canned hunting involves trapping a lion and releasing it in an enclosed area for hunting. With the historic ruling, Texas now stands with all 16 states home to breeding mountain lions in regulating the hunting and trapping of the species. To help manage the state's populations, TPWD will prepare materials on mandatory mountain lion harvest reporting – a standard hunting practice and wildlife management tool used in other states. It would begin to fill the significant gap in scientific data on the animal's abundance, mortality causes and population trends.

GROCERY

Continued from page 1A

According to the Labor Dept., prices this April were up by 3.4% from the same time the year prior, and the cost of living had risen by 0.3% between March and April, however, the rise in prices for rent and gasoline at that time were offset by decreasing grocery prices, including those for eggs, milk and bread.

Although federal agencies do not control food prices, actions from them

can indirectly have an effect, such as relaxing regulations.

No one factor can explain why groceries are still more expensive than they were in 2020, but the combined impacts of higher production costs, supply chain disruptions and other types of incidents have led to many consumers feeling the hurt in the supermarket aisles.

One of the most often-cited items of price increases is beef. At press time, a 5-lb. roll of 80/20 ground beef was priced at \$19.94 in the Woodville Walmart store, or \$3.99 per pound.

That price, locally, is lower than the 2020 national average of \$3.95 per pound, and the current national average of \$5.49/lb.

This is one area where cause-and-effect relationships have led to skyrocketing prices, nationally. Years of drought conditions, as well as increasing feed costs have made cattle farming more expensive, so many farmers have thinned out their herds to cut costs.

Just like the rising cost of food, a number of factors will go into whether or not those costs show a decrease.

ROTARY

Continued from page 1A

He said the facility currently has 33 kennels and 60 dogs on site, which he said is not safe and can lead to medical issues.

"We're having to turn down the community, but we're going to keep pushing, trying new things. It's not that we don't want to, it's that we don't have

space for them," he said.

Hornsby said they opened a spay/neuter/wellness clinic last September and they are going to try to establish microchip and vaccine clinics. He said they can fund this with minimal costs, and it gets their name out there.

He said the next mission is to keep pushing adoptions, open a retail space and improve transport.

The SPCA of Polk County's animal shelter is a no-kill facility that is located

at 802 S. Houston Ave. in Livingston, with 10,000 square feet on two levels. Presently, the total number of animals onsite and in foster care is 148.

"It's a rewarding challenge. I see problems and try and find solutions. We'll keep working to do what we can to keep the population down," Hornsby said.

For additional information, go to the website at spcapolk.org. All donations are tax-deductible.

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LIFE TRIBUTES

Maria De Jesus Perez

Maria was born March 8, 1961, in Salamanca, Guanajuato, Mexico to Reynalda Medina Ramirez and died on August 31, 2024, in Cypress, Texas at the age of 63.

Being the firstborn child, Maria grew up taking care of her siblings and helped raise them. Her and her family's life was hard but she worked diligently to better hers and her siblings' lives, making sure they were all cared for and fed.

She moved to Texas and met her husband, Jesus, in 1982. They fell in love and started a new life and family together.

With the loving care and patience of Betty and John Trayer, she became an active member of Jehovah's Witnesses in 1985, working with the Spanish congregation for many years to help many others cultivate a relationship with God and find hope for an everlasting life.

She loved to be outside and tend to her garden, but most of all, she loved to feed and take care of her family. She always made sure anyone who came to visit her home would feel like family with a plate of food in hand. Many who met her appreciated how she made them feel seen and welcomed. She will be remembered fondly for her infectious laughter and bright smile. Despite all the hardships, she never lost hope for a better future for her family.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Reynalda Medina Ramirez; stepfather, Martin Ramirez; and her brother, Jose Luis Ramirez.

he will be greatly missed by her devoted husband, Jesus; her loving children, Candy,



Maria De Jesus Perez
Memorial to be held Saturday

Jessie, Dina, David and April; her adoring grandchildren, Brazil, Athalia, Isaiah, Guillermo, Jose and Diego; her ardent siblings, Felicia, Gonzalo, Alex, Enriqueta and Martin; as well as her extended family and friends she made throughout her life.

A memorial in Maria's honor will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 7, 2024, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 160 Pinckard Road, Livingston, Texas. David Gallegos will be officiating the service in Spanish.



Eva Dawn Rogers Wiggins
Celebration of life held Wednesday

Eva Dawn Rogers Wiggins was born January 31, 1963, to Harvey and Margaret (Gandy) Rogers, in Beaumont, Texas. She passed away on August 31, 2024, in Livingston, Texas, at the age of 61.

Eva retired from the Livingston post office after a fulfilling career as a dedicated mail carrier. She loved spending time outdoors, hunting, fishing, and trail riding. Beyond her adventurous spirit, Eva held a special place in the hearts of her loved ones. She was a loving wife, mother, Nana, and a true friend to many. Eva's memory will forever be cherished, and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her loving husband of 41 years, Barney Wiggins; children, Jeffery Wiggins, Britni Wiggins, Brian Wiggins and wife Rana, Byron Wiggins Jr. and wife Tye; sister, Angela Cranford and husband Bob; brother, Trevor Rogers and wife Samantha; grandchildren, Hailey, Chance, Robert, Nick, Peyton, Nathan, J.R., and Olivia; as well as many other loved ones and a host of friends.

Eva is preceded in death by her parents and brother, Brandon Rogers.

A visitation for Eva was held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, from 5-8 p.m. at Pace Funeral Home, in Livingston, Texas.

A celebration of Eva's life was held at

noon on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at Pace Funeral Home, in Livingston, Texas, with Pastor Mitchell Murphy officiating. Interment followed at the Wiggins Home Place Cemetery in Livingston, Texas.

Brian Keith Koppinger

Brian Keith Koppinger, 55, of Huntsville, Texas passed away June 25, 2024, in Huntsville, Texas. He was born September 19, 1968, in Detroit, Michigan.

He worked in several industries throughout his life, including repairing pipes to transport oil products. He worked 24 years in the prison system and was honored for his long-dedicated service.

Brian is survived by his mother, Ann Charanza of Onalaska, Texas; stepson, Travis Koppinger of Onalaska, Texas; his sister Charlene Eggli of Traverse City, Michigan; as well as numerous other family members and a host of friends.

He is preceded in death by his father, John Keith Koppinger.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, September 5, 2024, at Pace Funeral Home with Pastor Chris Borden officiating.

Brian will be missed by his family and friends.



Brian Keith Koppinger
Memorial Service Today
(Thursday)

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Frank

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Thunderstorms 82°/74° Chance of Rain 84% Wind NE 8mph	Partly Cloudy 87°/72° Chance of Rain 23% Wind NNE 10mph	Sunny 87°/63° Chance of Rain 12% Wind NNE 10mph	Sunny 84°/62° Chance of Rain 1% Wind NE 8mph	Sunny 84°/64° Chance of Rain 2% Wind NE 7mph	Partly Cloudy 87°/68° Chance of Rain 13% Wind NE 6mph	Partly Cloudy 87°/68° Chance of Rain 19% Wind NE 7mph

Information sourced from weather.com

Forecast Fire Danger
twc.tamu.edu



OPINION

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.



Keeping things simple is hard

By: Alexandra Paskhaver

Simplicity, simplicity. If I was really practicing it, I would have said it once.

I've been trying to cut down on the clutter in my life, mostly because I keep stubbing my toes on it. But also because people say it helps you focus on the things that matter.

Well, not stubbing my toes matters to me. So I've been donating or throwing out every unnecessary thing I own.

It's out with my presidential bobbleheads, my chess set with the missing pieces, and my refrigerator.

When you think about it, you don't technically need a refrigerator. People have practiced simplicity long before they discovered food poisoning.

One of the foremost pioneers of simplicity didn't have a refrigerator. He didn't have electricity, either, but that's just trivia.

Ralph "Waldo" Emerson was a big name in the simpler times before "the simpler times" was an idea.

He was mainly known as an essayist. He probably could have done well as a talk show host, too, but the television hadn't been invented yet.

In one of his notable essays, "Nature," he wrote that it should be everyone's goal to become a transparent eyeball.

Of course, people didn't understand that in his day. They didn't understand electricity either, but that's beyond the point.

"Ralph, I thought this essay was about nature," said Emerson's contemporary, Henry David Thoreau (or words to that effect). "Where does the transparent eyeball business come in?"

At this point, Emerson probably showed him two angry eyeballs.

"People might think you're selling glass eyes or something," continued Thoreau (and I think he had a point). "You have to say it more simply."

"You're one to talk," shot back Emerson (or so I have been informed). "Nobody can even spell your last name."

Despite the tiff between these two, they succeeded in chumming up long enough to make a whole movement about reconnecting with nature.

They also wrote about 827 complicated essays that this writer had to read in high school. The only nature I saw during those days was in National Geographic.

Still, the simplicity idea has stayed popular. In Emerson's time, the people who wanted simpler lives were called Transcendentalists. A little while ago, they were called Marie Kondo fanatics.

Now they're probably called something else. But if you look for them, you'll find them.

At least, you will if you don't own so many things that you've given up being able to locate other people through them.

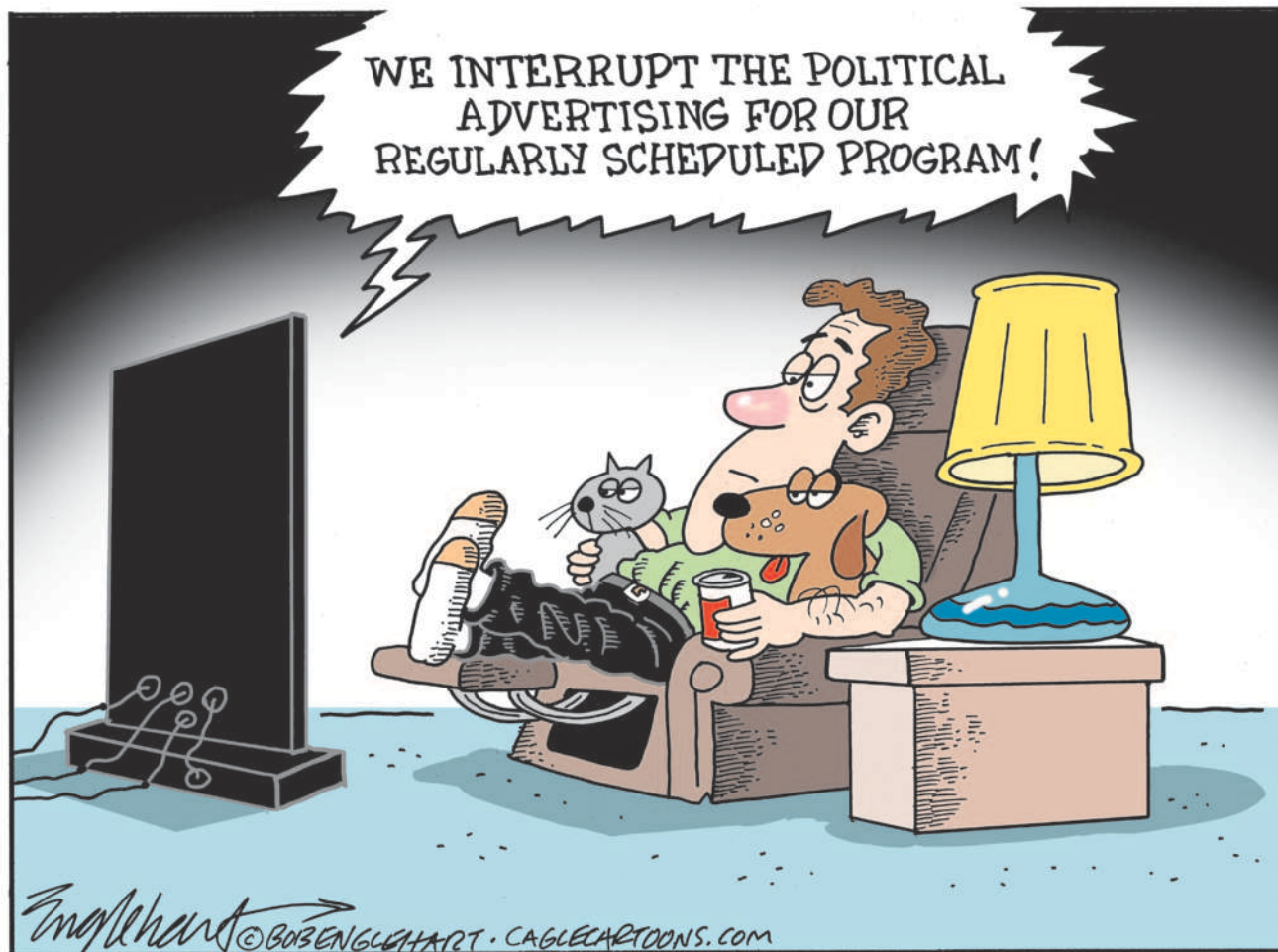
I haven't yet approached the state where I can't find my fellow human beings among my stuff. But I do have mixed feelings about returning to nature.

After all, nature lacks more or less everything pleasant. There are no comfy armchairs. No remote-controlled cars. Not a single presidential bobblehead.

On the other hand, without all those, there's a heckuva lot fewer things to bang your toes into.

So maybe Emerson had a point. Maybe being a transparent eyeball just means that you look at the world more clearly, without letting anything clutter your vision.

Or it could mean you need a new refrigerator. People think funny when they eat bad food, you know.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

It is the policy of The Enterprise to encourage reader participation on its Opinion page. Diverse and varied opinions are welcomed. Because of space limitations, we must limit all contributors to one letter per person per month. Letters of 400 words or less will be published unless they contain language or content that the editors feel is inappropriate.

Letters must either be about Polk County, from a resident of Polk County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in the Enterprise.

Examples of content that will cause letters to be rejected include the following:

- Confusing or unclear points.
 - Crude language.
 - Poor taste.
 - Disrespectful comments regarding a group's or individual's ethnicity, gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation or race.
 - Other incendiary language or remarks.
 - Endorsements for or complaints about individually named commercial products or services.
 - Poetry.
 - Personal attacks.
 - "Thank You" letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid "Thank You" advertisement.
- During periods ahead of an election, the Enterprise

does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections.

Endorsements should be displayed in political advertising. In light of this policy, we reserve the right to reject or edit letters for references to candidates and whether or not they should be elected. The Enterprise will accept letters expressing views on bond measures, constitutional amendments and other such issues. Letters will not be accepted once early voting has begun.

The Enterprise will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.


Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published. Letters to a third party or those written to more than one newspaper are not accepted. "Wallpaper" - submissions that are in large part copied-and-pasted from another author or organization - will not be published.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's street address or route address telephone number, which will be used for verification purposes only.

Letters may be submitted by mail to "Letters to the editor," Polk County Enterprise, P.O. Box 1276, Livingston, TX 77351; in person at 100 E. Calhoun St., Livingston, TX; sent by fax to 936-327-7156 or sent via e-mail to editor@polkenterprise.com. Further questions may be directed to Editor Emily Banks Wooten, 936-327-4357.

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www.pcc.tsus.edu

East Texas Conservation Expo

The Piney Wood Lakes Chapter Texas Master Naturalists will host an East Texas Conservation Expo from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 14 at the Polk County Commerce Center located at 1015 Hwy. 59 Loop North in Livingston. The event is free to the public and will include inside and outside exhibits, booths, speakers, workshops, demonstrations and vendors. There will be planned programs on forestry and timber management, pond management and water quality, wildlife management, pasture restoration, prescribed fire, integrated pest management, cost share programs, conservation agencies, fish habitat, pollinator protection, land management planning, native planning and youth activities. For more information, email etconservation-expo@gmail.com.

Gospel Concert

Great Beginnings Preschool presents a gospel concert featuring Christian recording artist and ICMA award-winning artist Bruce Hedrick at 6 p.m. Sept. 28 at First Methodist Church of Livingston. The concert is free and the public and all denomi-

nations are welcome. First Methodist Church is located at 2801 US Hwy. 190 West.

Multiple blood drives available

The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center has multiple nearby blood drives scheduled. You may schedule your donation by going to commitforlife.org. Mobile drives will be held at the following places:

- Livingston-Polk County Chamber of Commerce located at 1001 U.S. 59 Loop North in Livingston from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. today (Thursday).
- Eastex Telephone Cooperative Inc. located at 1704 Hwy. 59 Loop North in Livingston from 8:30 a.m. to noon on July 22.
- Onalaska Volunteer Fire Department located at 181 Old Groveton Rd. in Onalaska from 1:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. on July 26.
- Walmart located at 1620 W. Church St. in Livingston from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on July 27.
- Pedigo Furniture located at 3785 Hwy. 190 W in Livingston from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on July 27. All donors will receive a free Olympics T-shirt. Go to www.giveblood.org to make an

appointment.

• Polk County Sheriff's Office at 1733 N. Washington in Livingston from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on July 30.

Saddle, Buckle Playday Series

The Polk County Youth Rodeo Saddle and Buckle Playday Series for 2024 has begun. The series will be held Sept. 21, Oct. 12 and Nov. 16. The events start at 9 a.m. and are held at Barney Wiggins Memorial Arena at 101 Fair St. in Livingston. Events featured are mutton bustin', dummy roping, leadline, cloverleaf barrels, straight away barrels, spur, poles and goat slappin' flip-pin' and tying. Admission is free. Come on out and watch the youth have some fun. Follow the Polk County Youth Rodeo Association Inc. on Facebook.

Livingston Lions Club

Where there's a need, there's a Lion. Livingston Lions Club is committed to serving and supporting the community and charitable organizations. Its weekly meetings are noon Wednesdays at Camp Cho-Yeh at 2200 South Washington. For additional information, contact President Paula Harvey at 832-401-1594 or at paula202a@yahoo.com.

AA Groups

AA meets from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursdays in the family center at St. Joseph's Catholic Church located at 2590 U.S. Hwy. 190 West in Livingston. For more information contact Carlos at 936-566-5765.

AA also meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays and Fridays at the Holiday Lake Estates Community Center in Goodrich. For more information contact Chuck at 936-433-0763.

Al-Anon Groups

Al-Anon meets from noon to 1 p.m. Thursdays in the family center at St. Joseph's Catholic Church located at 2590 U.S. Hwy. 190 West in Livingston. For more information contact Ed at 713-443-3140 or Denise at 936-933-2603.

Al-Anon also meets from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays at the First United Methodist Church of Onalaska located at Hwy. 356 South in Onalaska. For more information contact Lottie at 713-291-3388.

Reading Encourages Advanced Development Fundraising

Fundraising efforts are always underway for R.E.A.D. (Reading Encourages Advanced Development), the Polk County sponsor for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. To make a contribution, send a check to R.E.A.D., 2810 U.S. Hwy. 190 West, Ste. 100, PMB 167, Livingston Texas 77351 or donate online at www.readpolkcounty.com. Since its inception, R.E.A.D. has provided over 100,000 books for children in Polk County.

Open Mic Singing

Indian Springs Chapel hosts an open mic singing at 5 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month at its location at 11386 U.S. Hwy. 190 East in Livingston. Following the singing, there is fellowship and then supper. Music Director Troy Riddle invites everyone to attend.

You Can Ministries

You Can Ministries has a new project for at risk youth in the county in which the ministry will serve supper for ages 6-18 from 5-7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Youth may come as early as 3 p.m. as there will be arts, crafts, painting, reading and assistance with homework. You Can Ministries is located at 908 S. Washington in Livingston. For additional information, contact Carline Daniels at 713-412-8301.

HUNTIN' THE EASY WAY



Since I began writing this weekly column almost 40 years ago, I've always tried to 'take you with me' each week, regardless what I might be doing in the outdoors. I've recounted my adventures fishing in Japan and shared my trips up in the wild of Canada with you.

I've shared my North Dakota bow hunting adventure and detailed the days when I guided for elk and bear in the mountain states. But I've also shared my day-to-day adventures right here in Texas close to home, sometimes catching sunfish from a neighbor's pond or shooting ducks and geese along the Texas coast.

I've been sticking pretty close to the homestead the past couple weeks but there's lots of fun things to do in the outdoors that don't include travel if we look for them. There's some of the best hog hunting I know of within a mile of my house and I have some great friends that allow me to hunt their land. In the winter after the wild porkers have devoured all the acorns in the wood, I've been awakened many times by hogs as close as 20 feet from my bedroom window, feeding under the big oak by the house. During the period of January through March, acorns under the 10 or so big oaks in front of our home pulls hogs in by the scores. But right now, hogs are in the woods feeding on green pecans, hickory nuts, persimmons and acorns the squirrels knock out of the trees.

Through the years, I have devised many ways to hunt my close to home hogs, everything from bow hunting in my yard to using thermal scopes at night on the larger tracts of land owned by my neighbors. A couple weeks ago, I decided I wanted to use my Seneca 50 caliber Dragon Claw air rifle topped with an AGM Global Vision thermal scope to put some pork in the freezer. My plan was to smoke the choice cuts of meat and make a huge pot of chili and freeze it for use at upcoming hunting camps this fall. I usually decide just how I want to prepare the pork before each hunt, sometime the dish is a Mexican stew or chopped barbecue and sometimes it's smoked chili. I love the flavor of fresh pork that has been slow smoked with hickory in chili.

Needless to say, it's been hot lately and my plan needed to facilitate a quick way to chill the meat. It would also be nice to get up off the ground and away from the swarms of mosquitoes common this time of year. But I didn't want to hunt at night in one of my tree stands. After much thought, I devised a plan to use my truck bed as a hunting stand. I found a spot about 50 yards from my feeder where I could pull my truck between two big trees, with heavy cover of

brush on either side the outline of my pickup was all but hidden from view. The hogs were coming to the feeder around 9 p.m. each evening and by then it is pitch dark. They would never see me and hopefully never smell me with the truck parked to the west of the feeder. No chance of a south or possibly north wind carrying my scent to approaching porkers.

I placed my most comfortable lawn chair in the bed to the truck and pushed it up against the toolbox which serves as a convenient table for my glass of cold tea, and resting spot for my rifle. I have a cooler with ice that serves as a footrest while I am waiting for the hogs. I kick my boots off and get comfortable, with Thermocell to deter mosquitoes, I'm all set to hunt in comfort. I'm always conscious of snakes when hunting at night and slip into my snake proof boots when I step out of my 'blind' to the ground. I usually take only the quarters and backstraps of wild hogs when hunting at night. The last thing I wish to do is shoot a hog and stay up half the night butchering the meat. I can remove the back straps and quarters in a matter of a few minutes, place them in the cooler and get back home in time so I don't miss too much sleep. I have the self-imposed deadline of 10 p.m. as time to fire up the truck and make the five-minute drive back home.

I could use my centerfire rifle with thermal scope and back away 100 or more yards from the feeder but I like getting close to hogs. I like to set up so that I can hear them coming through the woods long before I actually see them. I limit my shots to fifty yards with the big bore air rifle and prefer them even closer. I don't want to be traipsing around the woods after dark in attempts to recover a wounded hog. A close shot with precise bullet placement almost always drops the hog in its tracks.

My first hunt was last night from my truck bed blind and I thoroughly enjoyed sipping iced tea while setting out in the woods listening to the coyote serenade and the hooting of a couple barred owls that I spotted with the thermal



Luke has hunted wild hogs just about every way imaginable including this very comfortable "stand" in the back of his truck. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

scope in nearby trees. About 9 p.m., I heard the tell-tale sound of a big sounder (herd) of hogs approaching off to my right. My feeder is on the edge of a field and rather than head to the corn, the porkers went straight across the field, probably heading for the four-acre gravel pit to cool off and quench their thirst. No doubt they would be back at the feeder sometime during the night but I had no intentions of staying past 10 p.m.

I love trying to outsmart hogs and have learned a few tricks through my many years of hunting them. Tonight, I will string corn on the ground from the travel route the hogs use going to water back to my feeder. I am pretty sure they will smell the corn when they cross it and follow the kernels back to the feeder. I'm hoping they will eat first and hit the water later after all the corn is gone.

I will be able to film the entire hunt through the camera on my Rattler thermal scope. Wish me luck! Hopefully I can also 'take you with me' via our weekly TV show "A Sportsman's Life" on Carbon TV and YouTube.

Email outdoors writer Luke Clayton through his website www.catfishradio.org.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

COUNTY COURT AT LAW
Judge Tom Brown presiding.
Delinquent Tax Docket

Polk County vs Alejandro Lozano, doing business as Pueblo Viejo Mexican Restaurant, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Wanda Hogg, deceased, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Gissell Ahumada, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Humberto Moctezuma, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Mario Alberto Lopez, AKA Mario A. Lopez, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Jacqueline Amanda Bryant, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Marc W. Morrow, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Jerry Wayne Westbrook, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Tex Mills, AKA Texas C. Mills, deceased, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Ava Kruse, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Todd Wilkinson, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Evelyn M. Nettles, deceased, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Phillip Arthur Free, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Brittany Jade Dykes, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Peter B. Lewin, trustee of the Lewin Trust dated May 31, 1988, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs 4321 Mt. Vernon, LLC, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Billie Louise Cooper, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Team Properties Houston, LLC, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

Polk County vs Donna Faye Knight, AKA Donna Knight, et al, suit for delinquent taxes.

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Lion senior defensive back Deondrae Walker runs down Bulldog junior quarterback Koen Herrmann during a pass attempt.



Bulldog senior wide receiver Deondrae Walker is brought down for a short gain in the first quarter.



The Livingston Lions rush to the field at the opening of Saturday's match at Edward Mercer Stadium in Sugar Land.

Explosive plays lift Fort Bend Austin over Lions

By Albert Trevino

The Livingston Lions fell 24-14 on the road to the Fort Bend Austin Bulldogs in the season opener in Sugar Land on Saturday.

In the first non-district matchup of the season at Edward Mercer Stadium, the Lions let costly errors on both sides of the ball keep momentum in favor of Fort Bend Austin.

"We started giving up those big plays every time and it is inexcusable," said Lion head coach Finis Vanover. "Everybody going to sleep and not being aware of the down and distance. About eight terrible plays, on our part, they took advantage of."

Vanover emphasized the need to reduce turnovers and improve defense on key downs, noting that the team struggled with substitutions and conditioning. He believes that addressing these issues will lead to better performance in future games.

"We have to stop fumbling and giving up [long yardage] on third and fourth down. If we can clean that up, we will be fine," Vanover said. "They got tested by a lot of numbers and our subs were struggling. We will have to get in better shape moving forward."

Starting the first possession from around midfield, Lion senior tight end Deondre Johnson caught a pass up the middle to quickly reach the red zone. The play provided the offense with an early spark.

Livingston marched further down the field, and Lion senior quarterback Damorian Hill capped off the drive by punching it in for a three-yard touchdown, putting the team up 7-0 early.

A Lion penalty on a punt attempt during the first Austin drive kept a Bulldog possession alive. Austin would move the chains into Livingston territory, but later turn the ball over on downs. They would gain possession again at the end of the first quarter.

That led to a pass from Bulldog junior quarterback Koen Herrmann to senior wide receiver Chrishun Fitch for a 27-yard touch-

down pass, which tied the game.

Passing on a fake punt kept Livingston's next possession alive near midfield in the second quarter, giving them a fresh set of downs. Despite the slick play, the Lions could not capitalize with a score and were forced to punt again, missing an opportunity to extend their lead.

Instead, Herrmann later delivered another long bomb to Fitch to get into Livingston territory. From first-and-goal inside the five-yard line, Herrmann would punch it in for another touchdown to take the 14-7 lead.

The Lions immediately turned the ball back over on an interception, giving Austin another opportunity to score in the final seconds of the half. Bulldog junior kicker Justin Sosa made a midrange field goal to extend Austin's lead by three at halftime, 17-7.

In the second half, Livingston's offense got rolling with a handoff between the tackles to senior running back Jerren James going deep into Austin territory.

Lion senior running back Trenden Williams avoided a tackle on a huge gain that put Livingston inside the red zone.

Hill took a quarterback keeper inside the five-yard line for a fresh set of downs, then rushed again on a short second-and-goal for the touchdown. This cut the deficit to 17-14 late in the third quarter.

Livingston appeared to have momentum, as they marched again down the field on the next drive going into the final period.

Another touchdown would have given the Lions the lead, however, a crucial turnover occurred, fumbling on the snap.

Handing off on the first play from scrimmage, the Bulldogs scampered 62 yards for a touchdown. This extended the Austin lead to a two-score game late in the fourth.

Livingston turned the ball over on downs on their next possession, despite advancing into Austin territory once more. The missed opportunity allowed the Bulldogs to regain control of the ball. Austin would run out the clock and secure their win.



Lion senior tight end Deondre Johnson takes a pass up the middle for a first-down gain that helped set up the first score.

Another chance to catch Blue Jays

By Brian Besch
pcnewsroom@gmail.com

After a week of competitive football versus a Class 6A school, the Livingston Lions will try their luck with a consistent playoff team from 4A. The Needville Blue Jays will travel to Polk County Friday for the Lion home opener.

Livingston coach Finis Vanover was complimentary of his squad, saying the coaching staff has been able to learn a considerable amount in just one contest.

"What we told them is that for two and a half quarters, we won," Vanover said. "We played winning football, and (the game) was even for a half. They won one quarter of total time, where they took advantage of just terrible blunders that we made. Other than that, we had a good contest. We saw a bunch of good things from a bunch of young guys, and I was proud of the effort. I am disappointed in the final result, but we saw some really positive things."

Vanover said eight plays – five on offense and three on defense – were the difference Saturday. Otherwise, he feels his team can handle anyone on the schedule if a similar effort continues.

"We all feel like we lost to a lesser team. Even with who they are and the size and all of that, we were a better team and let them off the hook because of our own mistakes that they took advantage of. Hats off to (Austin)."

The head coach praised his young and inexperienced offensive line, but a few blocks missed later in the game proved to be costly. A quarterback-center snap exchange cost the team a turnover, and there were four fumbled exchanges total.

The passing game was also improved, connecting with seven different receivers overall. The Lions averaged 10.6 yards per catch. "That was a welcomed sign right there," the coach said. "If we can get

LION VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 31	at Fort Bend Austin	L 24-14
Sept. 6	Needville	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	at Nacogdoches	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 20	open	
Sept. 27	at Hardin-Jefferson	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	Liberty	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 11	LC-M	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 18	at Bridge City	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 25	Huffman Hargrave	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 1	at Lumberton	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 8	Vidor	7:30 p.m.

a first down every time we catch the ball, we've got things going pretty good. We are throwing it to four different positions. We gave them a little bit of everything. We completed two from the pocket, we completed three from play action, and two rolling out. The incompletions were almost identical. We wanted to come in and throw from all three. We did a great job of protecting."

Damorian Hill took the majority of snaps behind center, but that could change in the coming weeks. He has proved himself to be valuable on defense, and coaches are excited about the possibility of Tyler Soza and Brayden Carr at quarterback. Austin was held to 103 yards rushing and 150 yards passing, with much of that on a few long plays.

"We gave them some gifts and shouldn't have. We cannot let people make a living off our mistakes. We couldn't get our feet untangled a few times. I think it is going to be a good growing period for us and help us a bunch. We are going to need it, because this week it is the same

Needville that they have put on film for four years."

Last year, the Blue Jays held on for a five-point win over Livingston in Needville. They were 10-3 on the season and area champions, defeating Lumberton for that title. The 'Jays would eventually lose to the same Kilgore squad that knocked the Lions from the postseason. Last week, they defeated Columbia 21-7.

"The quarterback loves to drop back deep and throw it deep, because he can, down the sidelines," Vanover said of Needville's offense. "On first down or fourth down, or from their one-yard line, it doesn't matter. They have those big boys up front and they will power run you with a counter Trey. They will pull a guard and that slot back will come in and block on a power lead play, kind of like Lumberton always did."

Needville will mostly align with three wide receivers, with a running back and slot back. The Livingston defensive backs will once again be tested. Vanover said other than a few busted



Needville Blue Jays at Livingston Lions at Lion Stadium 7:30 p.m.



District Schedule

District 10-4A Div. I	W-L	PF	PA
Bridge City	1-0	54	6
Huffman Hargrave	1-0	49	16
Hardin-Jefferson	1-0	21	7
Livingston	0-1	14	24
Liberty	0-1	6	8
Vidor	0-1	14	28
Lumberton	0-1	0	37
LC-M	0-1	7	13

Last Week

Bridge City 54, Buna 6
Hardin-Jefferson 21, Kelly Catholic 7
Huffman Hargrave 49, La Marque 16
Coldspring-Oakhurst 8, Liberty 6
Hamshire-Fannett 13, LC-M 7
Nederland 37, Lumberton 0
Silsbee 28, Vidor 14
Fort Bend Austin 24, Livingston 14

Next Week

Bridge City at Kirbyville 7:30 p.m.
East Chambers at Hardin-Jefferson 7 p.m.
Huffman Hargrave at Houston Furr 7:30 p.m.
Liberty at Splendora 7:30 p.m.
Silsbee at LC-M 7:30 p.m.
Beaumont West Brook at Lumberton 7:30 p.m.
Santa Fe at Vidor 7 p.m.
Needville at Livingston 7:30 p.m.

assignments, he liked the way his secondary reacted to a spread offense in the first week of the season. "(Needville) will play in a 50 defense that they have always played. They will jump slide to try to mess up blocking assignments or (cause Lion linemen to) jump offsides. They play a four-spoke umbrella defense in the secondary. We have never had trouble scoring points on them, so it

ought to be fun and physical."

While the recent non-district series has been competitive, the Lions are looking for their first victory over the Blue Jays. In 2020, Needville came from behind for a 36-35 win. The 2022 contest in Livingston was decisive at 44-19. Yet, much of the current roster will recall last season's chance, a 33-28 final.

Corrigan-Camden taking on big dogs

By Alex Trevino

The Corrigan-Camden Bulldogs will visit the Hardin Hornets in non-district play this Friday.

After a hard-fought 27-24 victory at home last week over the Class 4A Tarkington Longhorns, the Bulldogs are working toward an even stronger performance on the road at Class 3A Hardin.

Head coach Brett Ratliff highlighted the returning players' dedication since the end of last season. Ratliff also commended the

players for staying composed throughout the first match, which has only boosted their drive moving forward.

"It proved to them that all the hard work in the offseason was worth it and it paid off," said Ratliff. "There was never a point in time where they panicked. They knew what their job was and they never had a doubt. They are definitely more motivated right now."

Ratliff emphasized the need for the team to improve their execution and positioning on the field. The focus during practice this week is refining their looks and adding new

plays to enhance their performance.

"We just have to get a little better on technique and being in all the right places," Ratliff said. "Our communication of offense, the quarterback and I want to make our audibles and checks where we need to. Overall, we are just cleaning up and adding a few things to our toolbox."

Hardin will be a fresh challenge, as the Bulldog staff has no recent history since Ratliff and Coach Rayford Sweats reportedly played against the Hornets in high school.

The Hornets, led by head coach Chad Taylor, are coming off a strong 27-6 win to start the season, visiting the Warren Warriors.

In recent years, Hardin has had some success during non-district games. However, they struggled versus tougher competition during the district schedule in games like Woodville, Kirbyville and East Chambers.

Last season, the Hornets had a 3-1 non-district record and finished winless in district.

Ratliff emphasized the importance of

maintaining the effort level versus the Hornets on the road this Friday, just as Corrigan did against the Longhorns.

"Hardin is always in a tough district, but I think they do a good job. Again, we will have to outwork and outthrustle them just like we did against Tarkington," said Ratliff.

The Bulldogs can expect to see familiar tactics on the field, according to Ratliff. The Hornets utilize comparable formations to focus on a strong running game, but are not afraid to air it out.

Hardin's offense will include quarterback Brady Barrier and running back Jonathan Smith.

"Similar to Tarkington, they will go flexbone, double-wing and try to hammer the ball. Although, they will throw the ball a lot," Ratliff said. "Some of those coaches also worked with Tarkington recently, so we will see a lot of the same things."

Kickoff for this Friday's non-district match is set for 7:30 p.m. at Hornet Stadium in Hardin.



Corrigan-Camden Bulldogs at Hardin Hornets at Hornet Stadium 7:30 p.m.



BULLDOG VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug 30	Tarkington	W 27-24
Sept. 6	at Hardin	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	at Kirbyville	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 20	Elkhart	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 27	at Joaquin	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	open	
Oct. 11	Groveton	7 p.m.
Oct. 18	at Hearne	7 p.m.
Oct. 25	Normandy	7 p.m.
Nov. 1	at Leon	7 p.m.
Nov. 8	Centerville	7 p.m.

District 12-2A Div. I	W-L	PF	PA
Corrigan-Camden	1-0	27	24
Jewett Leon	1-0	34	0
Centerville	1-0	67	15
Hearne	0-1	6	13
Normangee	0-1	0	21
Groveton	0-1	12	28

Last Week

Jewett Leon 34, Snook 0
Centerville 67, Buffalo 15
Corrigan-Camden 27, Tarkington 24
Chilton 13, Hearne 6
Alto 28, Groveton 12
Somerville 21, Normangee

This Week


Centerville at Crawford 7:30 p.m.
Corrigan-Camden at Hardin 7 p.m.
Trinity at Groveton 7 p.m.
Burton at Hearne 7 p.m.
Dawson at Jewett Leon 7:30 p.m.
Iola at Normangee


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Freshman Aaliyah Wright spikes the ball over the net.



Sophomore Brianaly Resendez lifts a shot over.

Goodrich volleyball growing

By Brian Besch

pcenewsroom@gmail.com

The Goodrich Lady Hornets fell in three sets Tuesday to Class 3A Newton, as they took a 25-15, 25-12 and 25-11 win.

Goodrich was able to remain competitive until about the mid-way point in each of the first two sets. In the final set, they surrendered 12 consecutive points after holding a 2-0 lead.

The Lady Hornets gave solid effort, with Liseidy Balbuena, Brianaly Resendez, Bra'Niyah Wyatt and Aaliyah Wright shining at different points of the contest.

The Goodrich volleyball program is expanding under Coach Pinellafie Johnson, adding a junior varsity squad that gave the Newton JV girls a game.

"The numbers are good, and they are working hard. It is a work in progress," Johnson said with a smile. "We have 13, with one out that will be back in October. Last year, we started off with nine and then we had seven.

An injury to the only senior, Arly Balbuena, has set the team back a bit.

"Right now, we have to adjust, and we are trying to get a setter. They're all afraid to set, because Arly was the only setter that I had. Now, I've got Tanyreauna (Criswell) and Liseidy and Natalie (Norris to set). All three of them are trying to work it out to get it together. Once they are not afraid

of doing it and know that they can do it, they are going to be OK."

The coach said hitting has been the strength of the team so far. She said improvement is needed on serve reception and serving. She also bragged on the team's hustle for the ball.

"Once they get in motion past the set, our hitting is strong. We've got to get the ball to the setter and get it set up, because they can swing. I've got about four or five of them that can swing on it."

The coach said Wright, a freshman, has been a bright spot on the court, picking up the varsity game quickly. With the injury to Balbuena, the Lady Hornets are now two each of freshmen, sophomores and juniors.

"It is a work in progress and they know that. I told them that I don't mind losing the game, but I want them out there playing every game and not standing around watching. It is the only way they are going to improve. We did really good in the Richards tournament and The Tarkington tournament."

Goodrich is currently 5-18, but has played only one other Class 1A school.

"We will be prepared. These games are just trying to get us ready for district. It will be tough. We will be fighting for first or second, and there are only four of us in it. With volleyball, you never know, you have to show up every day. Otherwise, you will be knocked out."



Sophomore Bra'Niyah Wyatt chases the serve.



The Lady Hornets prepare for Tuesday's game versus Newton.

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2024 Livingston Lions Varsity Schedule & Scores

8/31	Fort Bend Austin	24	Livingston	14
9/6	Needville		Home	7:30pm
9/13	Nacogdoches		Away	7:30pm
9/20	OPEN			
9/27	Hardin-Jefferson*		Away	7:30pm
10/4	Liberty* ^		Home	7:30pm
10/11	Cypress-Mauriceville* **		Home	7:30pm
10/18	Bridge City*		Away	7:30pm
10/25	Huffman*		Home	7:30pm
11/1	Lumberton*		Away	7:30pm
11/8	Vidor*		Home	7:30pm

* District Game ^ Homecoming ** Cancer Night/Pink Out

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Legal Notices

City of Corrigan seeks bids for water plant improvements; due September 26

ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS The CITY OF CORRIGAN will receive bids for the 2021 TDA WATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS TxCDBG CONTRACT NO CDV21-0300 until 10:00 AM on September 26, 2024, at the City Hall located at 101 W. Ben Franklin Corrigan, TX 75939. At said time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at City Hall. Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows: Base Bid Parts: Part A: Rehabilitate Interior of 55,000 Gallon Elevated Storage Tank and Related Work Part B: New 100,000 Gallon Ground Storage Tank and Related Work Alternative Bids: For Part A, Overcoat Existing 55,000 Gallon Elevated Storage Tank and Related Work For Part B, Construction of a New 50,000 Gallon Ground Storage Tank in lieu of 100,000 Gallons. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at GLS, 1609 S. Chestnut, Suite 202, Lufkin, Texas 75901 (936) 637-4900 (at which specifications can be obtained). Bid/Contract Documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge (with the option to purchase hard copies) at www.civcastusa.com.

A Bid bond in the amount of 5% of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. Cash currency is not acceptable as bid surety and is not to be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. Attention is called to the fact that not less than the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, age or national origin. Funding for this project is covered under Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968. All eligible bidders must comply with Section 3 requirements in regards to meeting or exceeding the required objectives for both hiring and subcontracting. In accordance with these objectives, contractors are required to direct their newly created employment and/or subcontracting opportunities to Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns. The CITY OF CORRIGAN reserves the right to

reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by the CITY OF CORRIGAN for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award. All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project. All contractors/subcontractors must have an active "System for Award Management" (SAM.gov) registration. The CITY OF CORRIGAN does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or disability. The CITY OF CORRIGAN is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Section 3 Residents and Businesses, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit a bid. CITY OF CORRIGAN, Darrian Hudman, City Manager, August 29, 2024.

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ACROSS
 1 John of 1954 "Shield for Murder" with TX Carolyn Jones
 5 Texas-based jeweler "____ Corporation"
 6 in Parker and Tarrant Counties on highway 199
 7 salacious, smutty
 8 Love Field abbr.
 9 "Affordable Care ____," (Obamacare)
 12 "Texas Health and ____ Services"
 17 Mavericks gave fans ____ of excitement by advancing to 2024 NBA finals
 19 TXism: "couldn't fight his way out of ____ bag" (weak)
 21 officially giving up land by a state
 22 in Palo Pinto County on highway 16
 23 framework or plan
 28 bronzes in the Texas sun
 29 TXism: "roosters crow, ____ deliver"
 30 Kermit has the last ____ oil derrick
 31 member of TX Don Henley's band
 35 grungy and dirty
 36 TXism: "____ sunburn a horny toad" (hot)
 42 TXism: "brave enough to eat in ____ cafe"
 44 "don't split ____" (quibble)

DOWN
 1 "Wild ____" trail near Newton
 2 Burnet newspaper: "Citizen's ____"
 3 some fanny packs fit ____ sizes
 4 this TX Jim was married to Belle Starr
 9 TXism: for "against"
 10 TXism: "____ government work"
 11 XIT stretched thru ____ Texas counties
 12 TXism: "he ____ a grip like a snappin' turtle"
 46 Cowboys kicker in 1993 Super Bowl (2 wds.)
 48 TX Farrah Fawcett had a red swimsuit ____
 49 hosp. trauma areas
 50 non-Texas primate
 51 TXism: "____ bien" (good)
 52 TXism: "haven't seen one in a coon's ____" (rare)
 53 ____-gallon hat
 54 cowboy covers
 56 "New Deal" pres. (init.)

13 TXism: "gave ____" (died)
 14 female horse
 15 used on a stovetop (2 wds.)
 16 publication: "Pampa ____"
 18 U.S. intelligence agcy.
 20 hosp. nurse
 23 dir. from Pampa to Canyon
 24 gear tooth
 25 Jewish circle dance
 26 okay to eat
 27 TX Jessica Simpson ____:
 "Open Book"
 32 TXism: "bend ____ elbow (drink)"
 33 TX George Strait's "Easy Come, Easy ____" (1993)
 34 Beaumont univer.
 36 TXism: "____ do til something better comes along"
 37 painted tinplate
 38 ____ lap (back and forth in a pool)

39 "____ makes waste"
 40 Nissan ____ truck will be discontinued after 2024 model
 41 ____ City, TX, in Upshur County
 43 TXism: "it belongs to ____ and the bank"
 45 TX George H.W. to TX George W. (abbr.)
 47 foot-powered lever to drive a machine
 48 TXism: "two ____ in a pod" (alike)
 55 "three" in cards

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