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POLK COUNTY ENTERPRISE

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 See Page 2
 Pd. Political Ad by Democratic Club of Polk County

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 YOUR BEST NEWS AND ADVERTISING SOURCE IN POLK COUNTY SINCE 1904 75 CENTS

Public input sought on local hazard mitigation plan

By Emily Banks Wooten
 editor@polkenterprise.com

Polk County has completed the process of updating its multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan – which in addition to the county, also includes the cities of Livingston, Onalaska, Goodrich, Corrigan and Seven Oaks – and is now seeking input on the draft.

What is hazard mitigation?

Any action taken to reduce or eliminate

“Extreme weather – it’s going to happen. If we plan ahead, then we reduce the magnitude of the events. The future belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

the long-term risk to life and property from natural hazards which are sources of harm or difficulty created by meteorological, environmental or geological events.

Why is hazard mitigation important?

The rising number of natural disasters and increasing reliance on federal assistance are key sources of increasing costs for the federal government and the American taxpayer.

“According to FEMA, hazard mitigation reduces loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. Having a hazard mitigation plan increases awareness of hazards, risks and vulnerabilities; identifies actions for risk reduction; and focuses local

resources on the greatest risks while communicating priorities to state and federal officials. FEMA requires that we address natural hazards in this plan. We are now seeking public comments on this plan,” Polk County Emergency Management Coordinator Courtney Comstock said.

Polk County hired Langford Community Management Services Inc. to help guide the update process and submit the plan to FEMA.

See **PLAN** → Page 3A

Register now to participate in amazing race

For suicide prevention, awareness

By Emily Banks Wooten
 editor@polkenterprise.com

It’s not too late to register a team to participate in the Suicide Prevention Amazing Race slated for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sept. 28. The cost is \$30 per person with a T-shirt and \$25 per person without a T-shirt. However, for a limited time, you may register for 25% off with the promo code YouMatter.

Hosted by the Mental Health Advancement Foundation, the event will begin at The Inspired Heart at 340 Pan American Dr. in Livingston and will progress to various places in the community as team members complete exercises to gather clues at each stop.

“We want them to learn the facts, but it’s also about fellowship, as a part of a feeling of connection,” Shawna Munson said, adding that it will be a day of excitement, mystery, learning and fun. To register your team, go to mhaftx.org.

The Mental Health Advancement Foundation is a new 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to educating and supporting the community in mental health. Co-founded by Munson, who serves as executive director, and Director Kelly Rice, the foundation aims to raise awareness about mental health issues, educate the community on mental health, provide support to those in need and advocate for improved mental health services in the area.

See **RACE** → Page 3A

LISD looks to save on energy costs

From Enterprise Staff

The Livingston ISD school board heard an energy audit, as well as a college and career ready update at the September regular meeting Monday in the high school library.

Grace Smith, Brett Hoelting, and Matt Lombardo with Schnieder Electric was hired to provide an audit for the district’s energy costs. Tuesday, they presented the 50% development update.

“The project goals are to reduce energy costs and consumption with guaranteed savings, enhance district buildings through updated lighting and comfort, and improve aging mechanical systems and infrastructure,” Smith said. “The key outcome is to fund needed upgrades that otherwise might not be afforded or professionally engineered, improve building comfort with new HVAC systems, building envelope sealing, and building automation.”

Smith said Schnieder would transform learning environments with energy-efficient LED light to enhance aesthetics, safety, and uniformity. They would proactively address deferred maintenance throughout the district to avoid costly future repairs. All repairs would be made while showing fiscal responsibility, efficiency, and innovation to the community.

See **LISD** → Page 6A



Young and old alike enjoyed the variety of booths, information and things to see and learn about at the East Texas Conservation Expo Saturday at the Polk County Commerce Center and Pedigo Park. Hosted by the Piney Wood Lakes Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists, the expo will become an annual event. There was a wide variety of conservation-focused exhibitors and workshops, along with food trucks and vendors. COURTESY PHOTO

Over 200 attend East Texas Conservation Expo

From Enterprise Staff

The Piney Wood Lakes Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists welcomed more than 200 attendees to the first ever East Texas Conservation Expo Saturday. With the event’s wide variety of conservation-focused exhibitors and workshops, along with food trucks and vendors, attendees were able to learn more about land and water management, wildlife, Texas na-

tive plants, invasive species, pollinators, hunter education and more.

The expo was held in the Polk County Commerce Center and the pavilions at Pedigo Park. The successful inaugural event, which will become an annual event, also attracted attendees from other regional Texas Master Naturalist chapters, who now want to bring similar events to their own communities. The Texas Master Naturalist mission is to

“provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas.”

For anyone interested in becoming a conservation advocate, the next PWL classes will be held on Saturdays from February 22 through June 7, 2025. Visit <https://txmn.org/pineywoodlakes> for more information.



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easttexasnews.com

LAKE LIVINGSTON DATA AS OF SEPT 17

Current level.....	130.51 ft
Normal level.....	131.00 ft
Discharge.....	1,796 cfs
Weekly rainfall total.....	0.14 in

TRINITY RIVER DATA AS OF SEPT 17

Location..Goodrich - Gauge GRIT2	
Condition.....	No Flooding
Discharge.....	N/A
Gauge height.....	5.02 ft

CMYK

University women hear about advocating for children

By Emily Banks Wooten
 editor@polkenterprise.com

Natalie Thornton, executive director of CASA of the Pines, presented a program for the September meeting of the Polk County branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

CASA is the acronym for Court-Appointed Special Advocate and the mission of CASA of the Pines is to train community volunteers to advocate on behalf of abused and neglected children involved in the court system so that each child is placed in a safe permanent home.

CASA volunteers get to know the child and everyone involved in the child's life to advocate for the child's best interests while in the foster care system. They also speak up for the child in court, as a voice making a difference at a critical point in a child's life.

CASA of the Pines was formed in Lufkin, Texas in 1995 to serve the children and families involved in the child welfare system due to allegations of abuse or neglect from Angelina County. The program expanded to Houston County in 1999 and to Polk County in 2003. Since 1996, CASA of the Pines has worked with more than 1,500 children and their families in Angelina, Houston and Polk counties.

CASA of the Pines is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization governed by a volunteer board of directors and is a member of the National and Texas CASA Associations. There are more than 1,000 CASA programs nationwide and 72 CASA programs in the state of Texas.

"When a child is placed in foster care, the judge appoints a CASA who is considered a guardian ad litem. The first thing the CASA does is read the case. There are a lot of legal things – to protect a foster child – in a

foster child's case. The case is presented, and the judge makes a decision," Thornton said, commenting that locally, the CASA cases are heard in court on Fridays and the judge handling them is Polk County Court at Law Judge Tom Brown.

"Probably 97% of the time, the child stays in care," she said, adding that the reason is usually drugs, typically meth, but sometimes poverty.

"Probably over half are placed with family members. There's been a shift. When I started in 2009, that wasn't the case," she said, adding that family members are more likely to stay in the area and they also provide familiarity for the child.

"Just as everybody's childhood is different, every situation is different. Sometimes the parents are intellectually delayed. That's more common than just a child being abused," Thornton said.

CASA advocates go through 30 hours of training initially and an additional 12 hours annually. She said the time commitment is probably six to 10 hours a month.

CASA volunteers commit to at least one year of advocacy and must be at least 21 years old. They must pass criminal and CPS background checks, be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing and participate in an in-depth training program.

To learn more about becoming a CASA, go to <https://www.casapines.org/become-a-casa>, call 936-634-6725 or email admin@casapines.org.

The Polk County branch of AAUW meets at 11 a.m. on the third Monday of the month at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall at 910 N. Washington Ave. in Livingston. Its mission is to advance equality for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.



Natalie Thornton, executive director of CASA of the Pines, tells members of the Polk County branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) about the CASA program. COURTESY PHOTO



A herpetology booth was available for people to learn more about amphibians and reptiles. Green Star Wetland Plant Farm provided information on locally sourced native wetland plants for use in flood control basins, conservation and mitigation projects. COURTESY PHOTO



Texas A&M AgrLife hosted a workshop on managing fish in ponds and understanding the different species and interactions in pond ecosystems. COURTESY PHOTO



The pollinator booth offered tips on using native plants and grasses to attract pollinators to your garden or yard. COURTESY PHOTO



Free oak tree seedlings for children were also available at the pollinator booth. COURTESY PHOTO



The Texas Invasive Species Institute offered information on invasive species that grow or reproduce and spread rapidly, establishing over large areas, and persisting. This includes a wide variety of plants, insects and animals from exotic places. COURTESY PHOTO



The Texas Forest Service also had a booth with information on fire protection, wildlife management, forest conservation and other services. COURTESY PHOTO

Democrats Care About Infrastructure

DID YOU KNOW...

The American Rescue Plan funded CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) Devices for the 11 ambulances serving Polk County and its aging population?

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LIFE TRIBUTES

Sandra Rae Hilland

Sandra Rae Hilland of Livingston, Texas passed away September 15, 2024, at the age of 75. She was born May 8, 1949, to Louis and Gertrude (Brown) Opiela in Amsterdam, New York.

Sandra was born prematurely, weighing only 2 pounds, and was a fighter her entire life. She graduated in 1947 from Wilbur H. Lynch High School in Amsterdam, New York. She began work as a candy striper and worked as a school nurse in St. Stanislaus Catholic School in Amsterdam, New York after getting her nursing degree. Sandra started work with the Planned Parenthood Clinic in Catskill, New York before later moving to Texas.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees at the University of Texas Medical Branch. After earning her degrees, she worked in nursing home admissions in Llano, Fredericksburg, Cleveland and Livingston, Texas before retiring early from Timberwood Nursing Home to care for her

loving husband, Richard Hilland.

She was very active in the Episcopal Church as an organist in Cossackie, New York. Sandra enjoyed reading, cooking, playing the piano and she loved the New York Yankees.

Sandra is survived by her children, Shelley Rena and her husband Joe, and Tracey Rogers; stepchildren, Jeff Hilland, Jere Hilland and wife Jennifer; grandchildren, Ashley Rae Suescun, Sabrina Nicole Rena, Courtney Rogers, James Rogers-Baer and Thomas Rogers-Peck; great grandchildren, Amber Rogers, Coral Rogers, Harlen Rogers and Marshall Rogers-Baer; numerous other family members and a host of friends.

She is preceded in death by her husbands, Robert Hilland, Vincent Vanlynn and James F. Rogers. A celebration of Sandra's life will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, September 21, 2024, at Pace Funeral Home in Livingston, Texas with Brother Mike Loftin officiating.

Calvin Theodore Hefley

Calvin Theodore Hefley was born on July 15, 1961, to T. H. and Elsie Hefley. He passed away on September 13, 2024, in Humble, Texas, at the age of 63.

He is survived by his sons, Jeffery Brown, Jamie Hefley and wife JoAnn and James Childress; daughter, Crystal Townsend and husband David; grandchildren, Kaydence Brown, Matthew Hefley, Savannah Metcalf

and Keith Perry.

Calvin is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Barbara Childress; brothers, Tommy Jones and Shelton Hefley.

A graveside service for Calvin was held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at Jones Prairie Cemetery in Leggett, Texas with Brother Raymond Harrington officiating.

Ervin Chris Herrmann

Ervin Chris Herrmann of Livingston, Texas passed away September 12, 2024, at the age of 85. Ervin was born July 11, 1939, to Ervin and Blanche (McDermaid) Herrmann in Sturgis, South Dakota.

Ervin was a proud United States Army veteran. Ervin retired from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, leaving a lasting impact on the community he served. He was a faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church of Livingston. He will be missed deeply by all that knew his love.

He is survived by wife, Patricia (Atkins) Herrmann; children, Theresa Nelson and husband Steve, Bonnie Champagne and husband Wayne, James Herrmann and wife Jennifer, Jerry Powell and wife Paula, Gary Smith and wife Chelsey; siblings, Ronnie Herrmann and wife Pam and Lanny Herrmann; grandchildren, Ashley Herrmann, Emily Herrmann, Dillon Powell and Asher Smith; as well as numerous other family members and a host of friends.

Ervin is preceded in death by his parents, brother, Billy Ray Herrmann and daughter, Frances Ann Herrmann.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, September 20, 2024, at Houston National Cemetery in Houston, Texas.



Ervin Chris Herrmann
Graveside service Friday

Albert Byrel Scott

Albert Byrel Scott passed away at his home in Livingston, Texas on September 13, 2024. Born in Boulder, Colorado on September 19, 1941, to the late Albert Scott and Kenova (Sandy) Scott, Albert spent most of his childhood in Guernsey County and bravely served the United States in the Air Force.

He leaves behind four sons, Mike Scott,

Matt Scott, Mark Scott and Jerry Scott; several grandchildren and great grandchildren; along with many nieces and nephews.

Albert is preceded in death by four brothers, Eugene Scott, David Scott, William Scott and Lee Scott, and one sister, Jeanette (Annie) Scott.

No arrangements will be held.





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Walker County Fair Grounds

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RACE

Continued from page 1A

"We believe that mental health is an issue that affects us all, directly or indirectly. By working together, we can make a meaningful impact and create a more supportive and understanding community for individuals dealing with mental health challenges," Munson said.

Some of the foundation's goals include mental health education, therapy grants, provider scholarships and fundraising and community events.

"We want to reduce stigma and increase community awareness through educational opportunities. We want to offer therapy grants to community members that would otherwise not be able to access therapy services. We want to provide scholarships

to graduate students seeking a degree in a mental health field who commit to practicing in Deep East Texas upon graduation. We want to hold an annual mental health walk-a-thon and an annual suicide prevention amazing race," Munson said.

The first mental health walk-a-thon was held in June at Pedigo Park and raised about \$3,000. One hundred percent of all donations go to the foundation.

The foundation is always looking for donations and volunteers. Those interested in potential sponsorship opportunities are encouraged to contact the foundation via email at info@mhaftx.org or to leave a voicemail at 936-247-6423 (MHAF) and a board member will return your call within 24-48 hours.

For additional information about the foundation, go to www.mhaftx.org.

PLAN

Continued from page 1A

A workshop was held in June to stress the importance of widespread participation. Key stakeholders include hospitals, school districts, electric service providers and others interested in providing their input. Public input was considered crucial during the plan update process.

Senior Project Manager Patty Swords with Langford Community Management Services Inc. addressed those attending the workshop.

"Multi-jurisdictional planning is jointly prepared by more than one jurisdiction or local government. The plan requires input from elected officials, city managers, emergency management coordinators and the public. Other stakeholders are also included," Swords said, adding, "A complete, up-to-date plan must be adopted by all jurisdictions. It is required for eligibility to apply for FEMA grants. By working together, we'll be so much stronger."

Swords said that according to FEMA, in July 2022, severe storms in Illinois re-

sulted in extensive flooding which cost \$29 million. In December 2019, several earthquakes shook Puerto Rico, costing \$1 billion and in September 2022, Hurricane Ian caused catastrophic damage in Florida, costing \$5.5 billion.

She said the four pillars of hazard mitigation planning are capabilities, critical facilities, natural hazards and mitigation actions. There are 13 natural hazards of concern. These are: drought, flood, extreme heat, hailstorm, lightning, severe winter storms, tornado, windstorms, earthquake, expansive soils, wildfire, dam failure and hurricanes, tropical storms and depressions.

"Extreme weather – it's going to happen. If we plan ahead, then we reduce the magnitude of the events. The future belongs to those who prepare for it today," Swords said.

To review the plan, visit the Polk County Emergency Management website at www.PolkCountyOEM.com.

To send comments, email Polk County Emergency Management at emergency-management@co.polk.tx.us.

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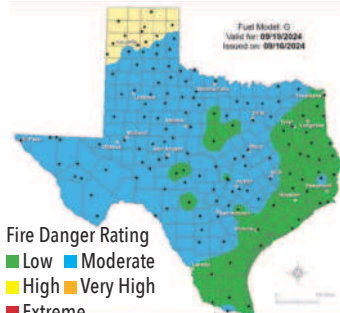







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POLK COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR SEPTEMBER 19-25							Information sourced from weather.com	Forecast Fire Danger twc.tamu.edu
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	 <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Fire Danger Rating ■ Low ■ Moderate ■ High ■ Very High ■ Extreme</p>	
 Partly Cloudy 93°/73° Chance of Rain 9% Wind S 2mph	 Sunny 95°/73° Chance of Rain 9% Wind SW 2mph	 Sunny 94°/72° Chance of Rain 8% Wind S 4mph	 Partly Cloudy 93°/72° Chance of Rain 8% Wind SSE 4mph	 Mostly Sunny 93°/73° Chance of Rain 8% Wind S 4mph	 Mostly Sunny 91°/71° Chance of Rain 23% Wind SE 5mph	 Mostly Sunny 89°/68° Chance of Rain 24% Wind N 5mph		

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.

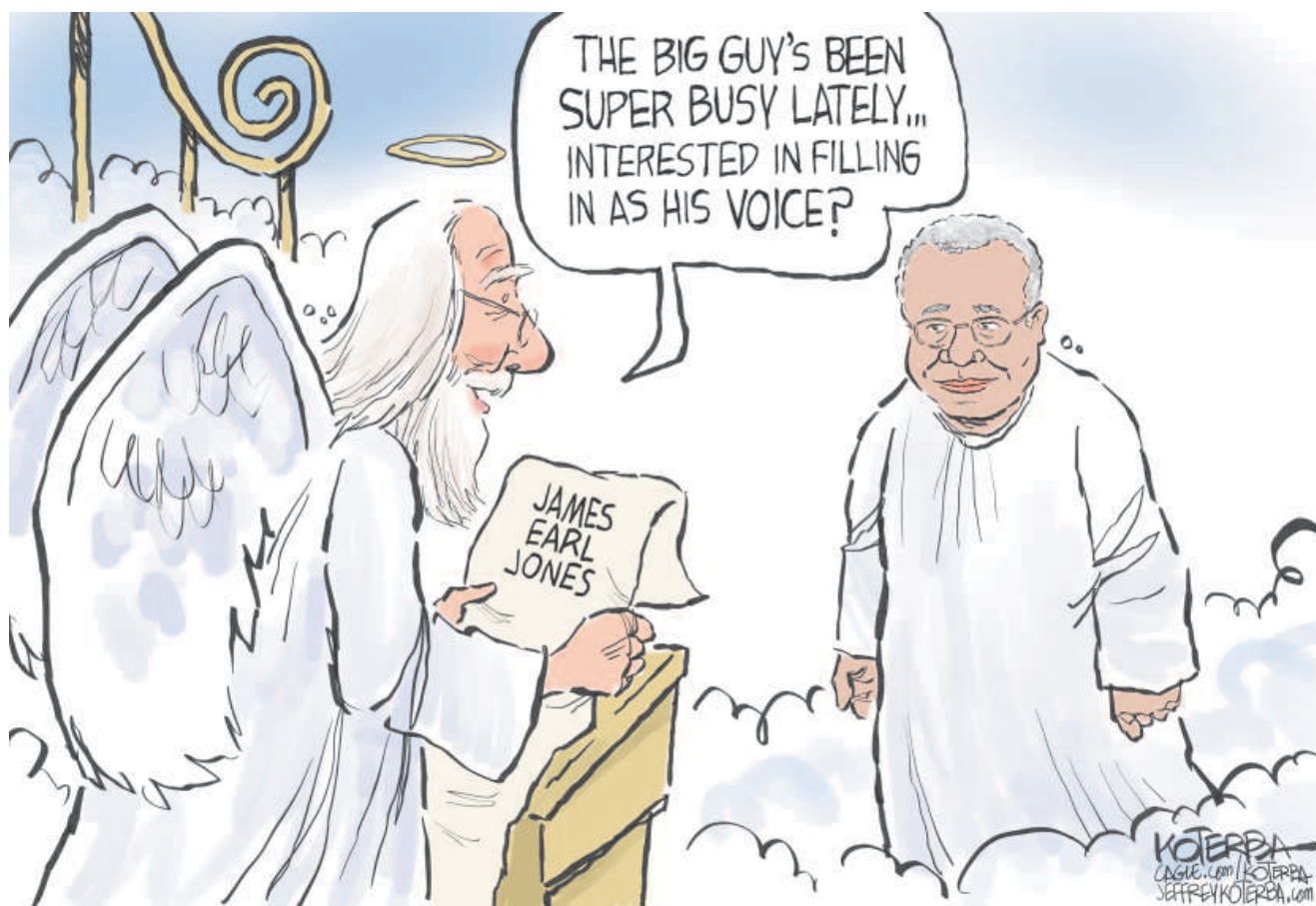
- **ONALASKA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** 6 p.m. third Monday of the month at the OISD Administration Building, 134 North FM 356.

- **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.



Keep information laws working as intended to help all Texans

When it's time to take a hard look at our public officials and decide which ones to re-elect – or reject – we need information.

A major source of that information is the government itself. Access to public records and meetings is essential for us to know the facts and speak out about how government is run, during election season or any time.

Among the tools at our disposal are the Texas Public Information Act, the Texas Open Meetings Act and the federal Freedom of Information Act along with transparency provisions in other Texas laws and the state constitution.

As strong as these tools are, we must be vigilant about keeping them sharp.

Our information laws at times require legislative updates to reflect how records are created, stored and used in the modern world. For example, providing easy-to-find online information and searchable-sortable spreadsheet data when it exists, instead of old-fashioned copies, should be the norm. Unfortunately, not all governments do this voluntarily.

Just as important is the need to overcome barriers some governments intentionally use to block information access. Loopholes in the laws must be closed. Enforcement should be finetuned.

The nonprofit Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas explored these transparency issues and protection of First Amendment rights during its annual conference Sept. 13 in Austin.



FOIF of Texas

By Kelley Shannon

The FOI Foundation also hosts regional training sessions to help Texans learn to use the Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act. The next seminar is Oct. 16 in Edinburg in the Rio Grande Valley.

Open records and meetings allow us to go beyond government officials' spoken words or spin and let us see how decisions are truly made and how governing is carried out.

How is taxpayer money spent? Are contractors who are building roads and bridges meeting deadlines and ensuring safety? Do school districts, cities and counties effectively manage programs and budgets?

Government information belongs to the people, and in almost all cases it needs to flow freely, without delay.

The "public's right to know does not depend on the whims of officials, elected or non-elected," former Texas Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, who held office when the state's open records law was enacted in 1973, once explained at an FOI Foundation gathering.

"Winning an election or getting a government job doesn't make anybody smarter than they were before, or less subject to the law. In fact, public of-

ficials not only have to obey the law like everybody else, they have an even higher duty," he said.

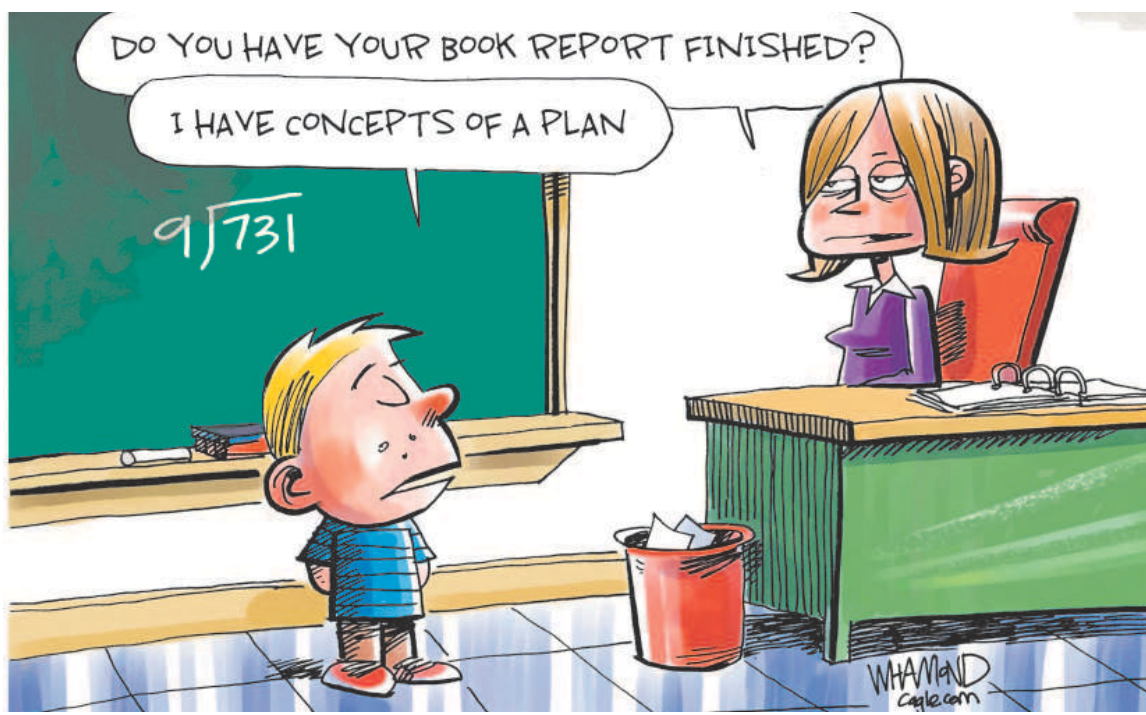
The Texas Public Information Act presumes documents are open unless there's an exception in the law to releasing the record. Even then, in most instances a governmental entity must ask the Texas attorney general's office for permission to withhold it. That's a safeguard that provides oversight and can deter the entity from acting in bad faith toward a requestor.

The Open Meetings Act, meanwhile, makes the meetings of many governmental bodies open to everyone unless there's a specific exception allowing a closed session, such as deliberation on a pending real estate transaction or personnel matter. But no action can be taken behind closed doors; the public has a right to know about and observe the body's decision-making.

These major transparency laws place power in the hands of the people. That's something we should treasure and use.

Making this state and nation a better place is our responsibility as Texans and Americans. Demanding change when necessary – and soaking up all the information we can along the way – helps get the job done.

Kelley Shannon is executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, a nonprofit organization based in Austin that advocates for open government and free speech. For more information go to www.foif.org.



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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.

EAST
TEXAS

EVENTS

Walk For Recovery

In recognition of September being National Recovery Month, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas will host a Walk For Recovery at 9 a.m. Sept. 26. The starting point will be at the Alabama-Coushatta Cultural Center located at 571 State Park Rd. 56. The walk will be approximately one mile, beginning at the cultural center and going to the lake circle and back. All participants are encouraged to wear purple.

Kids Fishing Frenzie

The City of Livingston Parks & Recreation Department along with the Texas Game Warden Association will host the annual Kids Fishing Frenzie from 9 a.m. to noon on Sept. 28 at the pond toward the back of Pedigo Park with registration starting at 8:30 a.m. The fishing frenzie is open to children from birth to age 16. The annual event is fun for the whole family with a stocked pond, food and drinks, trophies and prizes. For additional information, call 936-327-3656.

The History of Livingston

Discover the cultural history of the area by listening to two local experts talk about the history of Livingston at 5 p.m. Sept. 26 at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall located at 910 N. Washington Ave. in Livingston. Clarke Evans and Gary Davis will provide the program. Evans is a fourth-generation Polk Countian. His grandparents moved to the area via wagon train soon after the Civil War. He has been in local real estate since 1978. Davis' family has been here for three generations. He is now retired and spends his time investing in real estate and writing about the rich history of Livingston and Polk County. The event is free and open to the public.

Gospel Concert

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

- Onalaska Volunteer Fire Department located at 181 Old Groveton Rd. in Onalaska from 1:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 20.
- Pedigo Furniture located at 3785 Hwy. 190 W in Livingston from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sept. 21.
- Sam Houston Electric Cooperative located at 1157 E. Church St. in Livingston from 12:30-5 p.m. on Oct. 2.
- Eastex Telephone Cooperative Inc. located at 1704 Hwy. 59 Loop North in Livingston from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 9.
- Polk County Sheriff's Office at 1733 N. Washington in Livingston from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 10.
- CHI St. Luke's Health Memorial located at 1717 U.S. 59 Loop North in Livingston from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 14.

National Night Out

Meet the local first responders and visit some informational booths when the City of Onalaska hosts National Night Out from 5:30-7 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Onalaska Volunteer Fire Department located at 181 Old Groveton Rd. in Onalaska. Family, friends and neighbors are welcome. There will be hot dogs, apple pie and ice cream. For more information, visit www.cityofonalaska.us.

First Methodist Church Pumpkin Patch Official Opening

First Methodist Church will host its annual Pumpkin Patch Oct. 4-27 at its campus located at 2801 US Hwy. 190 West. The Pumpkin Patch will be open from 4-6 p.m. Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and from noon to 6 p.m. Sundays. The official opening of the Pumpkin Patch will be celebrated from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 5 with a hayride, pinatas, a wet sponge toss and more.

Onalaska Annual Fall Cleanup

The City of Onalaska will host its annual fall cleanup starting at 7:30 a.m. on Oct. 5.

"The Great Jungle Journey" Vacation Bible School

Pine Forest Baptist Church will host "The Great Jungle Journey" Vacation Bible School from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 11 and from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 12 at its campus located at 10537 US Hwy. 190 West. Pre-registration is available now. Dinner will be served both days and lunch will be served on Saturday

Suicide Prevention Amazing Race

It's not too late to register your team to participate in the Suicide Prevention Amazing Race slated for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sept. 28. Hosted by the Mental Health Advancement Foundation, the event will begin at The Inspired Heart at 340 Pan American Dr. in Livingston and will progress to various places in the community as team members gather clues at each stop. It will be a day of excitement, mystery, learning and fun. To register your team, go to mhaftx.org.

**First Methodist Church Pumpkin Paws in the Patch**

SPCA of Polk County will host a pet adoption, chipping and custom dog tag engraving during Paws in the Patch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 12 at the Pumpkin Patch at First Methodist Church located at 2801 US Hwy. 190 West. A Halloween Pet Costume Parade & Contest will be held at 11 a.m.

First Methodist Church Fall Festival

Children and youth games, activities, hayrides and more will be available at the Fall Festival hosted by the First Methodist Church from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 19 at First Methodist Church located at 2801 US Hwy. 190 West.

First Methodist Church Trunk or Treat

Dress in costume for the Trunk or Treat hosted by the First Methodist Church from 4-6 p.m. Oct. 28 at its campus located at 2801 US Hwy. 190 West.

Trunk or Treat

The Polk County Peace Officers Association will host a Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat from 4-8 p.m. Oct. 29 at Pedigo Park in Livingston. Social distancing will be practiced during the event so everyone may remain in their vehicles.

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' flippin' 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.

AAUW Bridge Luncheon

The 11th annual AAUW Bridge Luncheon and Silent Auction benefitting the memorial scholarship for young women in Polk County is slated for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 7 at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. Gather your foursome and mail the names and \$120 per table to Barbara Alexander at 190 Northwood Park, Livingston, Texas 77351 by Oct. 31.

Polk County AAUW

The Polk County branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) meets at 11 a.m. on the third Monday of the month at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall at 910 N. Washington Ave. in Livingston. Its mission is to advance equality for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

The Happy Hookers Lake Livingston Fishing Club

The Lake Livingston Fishing Club, also known as The Happy Hookers, meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the First Presbyterian Church located at 910 N. Washington in Livingston. The mission of the club is to enhance the enjoyment of fishing and the outdoors. The group is free and open to all. For more information, email mbischoff1089@outlook.com

Livingston Lions Club

Where there's a club, 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.

Georgia-Pacific modifies lumber operations in Texas, South Carolina

From Enterprise Staff

Georgia-Pacific announced recently it is modifying lumber operations at two of its lumber facilities located in Camden, Texas and Prosperity, South Carolina. Over the next couple of months, these sites will be discontinuing lumber production from logs while maintaining plywood core saw-

ing operations. The modification will not have an impact on Georgia-Pacific's plywood facilities located within the same complexes as these lumber operations.

"Georgia-Pacific has an excellent workforce at both Camden and Prosperity Lumber, and our employees should be commended for maintaining competitive facilities for many years," Georgia-Pacific

Lumber President Fritz Mason said. "However, in the past year we have experienced historically challenging market conditions. As a result, the decision was made to modify our current operations at these two facilities."

"Our goal is to effectively run the current lumber operations at Camden and Prosperity to give us time to adequately

address employee transfers and potential relocations," Mason said. "After the allotted run time, the sites will only saw plywood cores."

As one of the largest manufacturers of building products in North America, Georgia-Pacific operates production facilities in over 30 communities across the United States and Canada.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

JUSTICE COURT Precinct 1

Judge Terri L. Mayer presiding.

Criminal Docket

Savanha Carr Maddox, debit card abuse elderly.

Brandon C. Wright, criminal trespass.

Teresa M. Cooper, disorderly conduct.

Grangel H. Oroncio, no driver's license (when unlicensed).

Ryan Donelan, public intoxication.

Robert Alan Plaster, no driver's license (when unlicensed).

Bonds set

Michael Lloma Hughes, theft of property, \$1,000.

Stacy Ann Messer, possession of controlled substance, \$30,000.

Stacy Ann Messer, possession of marijuana < 2 oz., \$1,000.

Denadia L. McDuffie, assault causing bodily injury/family member, \$2,500.

James Willard, possession of controlled substance, \$30,000.

James Willard, possession of marijuana < 2 oz., \$1,000.

Kessel Dean Pineda, DWI, \$2,000.

Dominguez A. Lopez, theft of property, \$7,500.

Stephen Davis Scott, DWI, \$2,000.

Paul A. Thornhill, bond forfeiture - burglary of vehicle, \$1,000.

Paul A. Thornhill, assault family member, \$5,002.

Paul A. Thornhill, fail to identify police officer false information, \$101.

Ronald Lee Love, assault causing bodily injury/family member, \$2,500.

Patricia L. Mosher, driving while license invalid without financial responsibility, \$500.

Justin Lynn Morgan, criminal trespass, \$1,000.

Jacob Joe Kolojaco, violate bond/protective order, \$2,500.

Chilly Emanuel Wade, assault, bond not determined.

Denise Rose Kolojaco, violate bond/protective order, \$2,500.

Denadia L. McDuffie, violate bond/protective order, \$2,500.

Ryan Donelan, public intoxication, bond not determined.

Edrex G. Gonzalez, possession of marijuana < 2 oz., \$1,000.

John Spaulding John, possession of controlled substance, \$10,000.

John Spaulding John, unlawfully carrying weapon, \$2,500.

John Spaulding John, possession of marijuana < 2 oz., \$1,000.

Nolan Keith Reeves, parole violation, no bond.

Shawn Allen Kervin, driving while license invalid with previous conviction, \$500.

David Owen Barrow, bond surrender - false statement to police, \$500.

Derek Monroe Hughes, unlawful possession of firearm by felon, \$10,000.

Derek Monroe Hughes, fail to identify fugitive, \$2,500.

Sammy Joe Hughen Jr., assault family/house member, \$15,000.

David A. Mattingly, violate bond - assault family/house member, no bond.

David A. Mattingly, theft of property, \$15,000.

Ashley Nicole Doss, probation violation - burglary of habitation, no bond.

Blaine Eugene Marciniac, possession of marijuana < 2 oz., \$1,000.

Lindsay Ann Short, theft of property, \$10,000.

Cody Daniel Morris, bond forfeiture - assault family/house member, \$3,000.

Cody Daniel Morris, driving while license invalid, bond not determined.

Rebecca Lynn O'Bannon, bond forfeiture - injury to child/elderly/disabled, no bond.

Rebecca Lynn O'Bannon, bond forfeiture - possession of controlled substance, no bond.

Rebecca Lynn O'Bannon, bond forfeiture - possession of marijuana < 2 oz., \$1,000.

William Malcolm Bearss, bond forfeiture - possession of controlled substance, no bond.

William Malcolm Bearss, bond forfeiture - possession of controlled substance, no bond.

Bryanna Lynn Reed, DWI, \$1,000.

Bryanna Lynn Reed, resist arrest, search or transport, \$2,500.

Gary Steven Ruddle, Walker County theft of property, \$10,000.

Chyna Kailey Turner, Nacogdoches County warrant - motion to revoke probation possession of controlled substance, no bond.

Chyna Kailey Turner, Nacogdoches County warrant, \$1,500.

Gary Gerald Chapa, no driver's license x 3 and open container, bond not determined.

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POLK COUNTY ENTERPRISE

LISD

Continued from page 1A

Hoelting said there would be annual guaranteed utility savings of \$220,000. LED lights have savings over maintaining an inventory of bulbs and the cost of labor in replacing the bulbs. The recommended improvements would be the district-wide LED conversion of approximately 9,000 fixtures across sites through a mix of new LED door kits, LED lamps, retrofit fixtures, and new fixtures. LED lamps provide superior color quality with considerable energy savings. A lamp life of 50,000 hours is more than double that of standard T8 lamps, allowing for a considerable reduction in the labor of relamping.

A new automation system would be installed at Creekside Elementary and Livingston High School. It would be controllable from a central workstation on the district's network and provide continuous web access to the system. All HVAC units would receive new controllers and be integrated into the new building automation systems. Mechanical improvements would include replacing the highest priority HVAC units that are utilizing R22 refrigerant and equipment to properly condition the heat load and better control humidity. The proposed upgrades to the HVAC systems are designed to improve occupation comfort, energy efficiency, and system reliability, but most importantly, they will remove the burden from the maintenance staff.

Improvements made district-wide would include roof-wall intersection air sealing, exterior door weather stripping, overhang and wall sealing, overhead door weather stripping, and roll-up door weather stripping. The baseball and softball field lighting will include LED fixtures with factory-aimed assemblies. A control and monitoring system would provide remote on/off and dimming control and performance monitoring with 24/7 customer support. There would be product assurance and warranty program that covers materials and on-site labor, eliminating 100% of maintenance costs

for a minimum of 10 years.

"Solar improvements at Livingston Junior High and High School campuses would offset usage expenses by 50%," Hoelting said. "Any overuse would not be beneficial, because there are no buyback programs in your community."

Tax credits are available ICT as a reimbursement or rebate check with warranties for 25-30 years. Once the installation is complete, the district is eligible to apply for the rebate. As electric rates continue to rise, many more school districts are turning to solar to cut their costs in electric bills.

"Schneider Electric would guarantee a \$220,000 annual savings or a \$13.4 million savings over the life of the project," LISD superintendent Dr. Brent Hawkins said. "We can look at how much of the fund balance we want to use. We know that solar panels are expensive, but they generate the most savings."

The board decided to take part in a budget workshop next Monday to prioritize the necessary expenses for the project.

The meeting Monday opened with comments from Hawkins.

"I have given you the data and the estimated accountability for the district. There is a website called 'School Digger,' which takes into account the National Center for Education statistical data as well as the Texas Education data and ranks the schools across the state of Texas. If you look at the accountability, you see how students perform at a higher rate, but at the same time, the state accountability moved backward."

"This site does a good job of comparing districts and shows that there actually is progress going on in the state of Texas. In our progress, you saw that the 2023 and 2024 data reflected an increase of nine percentage points, so we moved past 105 districts ahead of us, 506 out of over 1,000 districts in the state of Texas. That's remarkable based on the outcomes of our students and staff and the highest we have ever ranked as a district. It has a tremendous impact on the social and emotional of our students. I still think that

within two years, we have the potential to become an 'A' district."

The Career, College, and Military Report (CCMR) was presented by Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator Blake Thornton.

"We put forth a concentrated effort to live up to the goals of the district, which is to improve our certification rate, our dual credit opportunities, and to increase our CCMR across the board. Last year, we had seven students who received their cosmetology license before graduation. We had 238 graduates in the Class of 2024. We have 33 students who were college-ready only, 119 students who were work-ready only, and 48 students who were both college and work-ready. We had 33 students who still needed to test, and we ended the year with 200 out of 238 who were CCMR complete, which gave us an 84.75%."

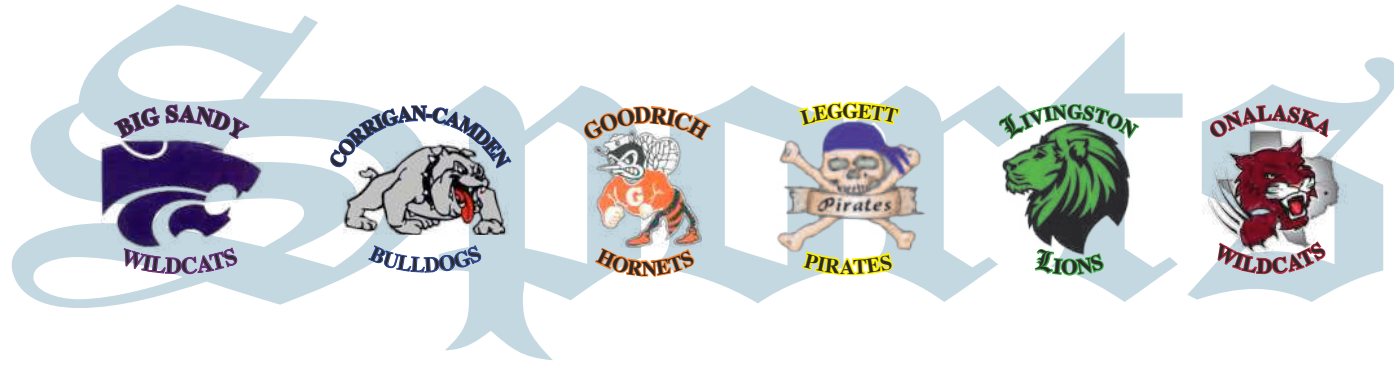
"Our data on Aug. 21 reflects 1,137 or 91% of the LHS students are enrolled in a CTE class. Thirty-eight students are college-ready only, 60 are work-ready only, and 21 are both college and work-ready. We currently have 125 students who need to test, which makes our total of 120 students who are CCMR compete. This is 49%, and we're only one month into the new school year. Our data shows that 96% of our senior class are targeted to meet the CCMR requirements by the end of the school year."

The 2024-2025 CTE dual credit courses approved with Lamar Colleges include criminal justice, hospitality, healthcare, welding, and cosmetology. An advanced animal science course with Tarleton State University has been added this year as an additional CTE dual credit course.

Under the consent agenda, the board approved a copier contract. It is a 60-month lease with Sharp through Texas Imaging for 14 workroom copiers and one office copier for \$2,175 per month or \$26,100 per year. Also approved was a quarterly investment report. The district's interest earnings totaled \$674,592 during the June 2024 - August 2024 quarter and \$2,626,055 for the September 2023-August 2024 school year.

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Fighting for home field

Livingston's District 10-4A to participate in experimental program for football playoffs

By Brian Besch

A conversation at the district track meet in Huffman last spring may produce a different look to future football postseasons in the state of Texas.

Livingston's District 10-4A Div. I and District 9-4A have agreed to take part in a trial program that would have the higher seed host. The two districts are pitted versus one another in the first round of the UIL football playoffs. The district champion and second-place finisher of each will have the ability to play that bi-district round at home.

"We were at the district track meet last year," Livingston athletic director and head football coach Finis Vanover explained. "Dr. (Joel) Nolte, the assistant superintendent at Huffman, and I were talking about it, and he said the superintendent at Palestine had spoken to him and his superintendent at a meeting about the possibility."

Vanover and the new athletic director at Palestine, James Reyes, also spoke of the possibility when he was at Lumberton last year.

"We had a conversation about it the year before, about all the trouble we were having with acquiring those stadiums for playoffs up this way," Vanover said. "Nobody else seemed to really have those issues, but we sure did. There's just not many things to pick from, unless it's a 6A or a college, and they are using theirs still. Dr. Nolte got all the information, and he is really tied in with (UIL executive director) Dr. Breithaupt and those people before they all (decided to) retire this past year."

"(Nolte) said, 'Let me do some checking, if you think everybody would be interested in it.' I said, 'I know they are interested in it. We have all talked about it a million times.'"

Vanover said in the past, the UIL has made it known that they do not wish to resemble surrounding states that have byes and home games during the playoffs.

"We don't want to be like them,"

LION VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 31	at Fort Bend Austin	L 24-14
Sept. 6	Needville	L 42-8
Sept. 13	at Nacogdoches	L 34-24
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.

Vanover said. "Sometimes you take the best of what other people do, and playing for home field advantage should be a benefit of a district championship. Even with four teams going, you take the top two and give them home field advantage. We're not talking about a bye, which they all do. Just let us play at home, whoever wins the thing. Make it something besides a picture and a trophy - which is important - but then you still have to fight and go all over the country to find a place to play."

The UIL agreed to move forward, with the stipulation that each school in the two districts had to agree to it, with a contract signed by all.

"That is kind of how it got rolling, over at Huffman High School at the district track meet. It took off from there and we had two Zoom meetings and made the presentation. We took a couple of straw votes and went back to the superintendents with, 'Here is what we are all saying that we are all for, if you guys are.'"

Vanover said the only hiccup was that District 9-4A wanted the host teams to keep all gate receipts.

"We said, 'No, we will kill the

deal. Absolutely not. It is not just another game. The regular season is over with. It is a playoff game, and by rule, both schools share in the revenue for playoffs. I said, 'If we do that, we have to buy our own hamburgers or chicken or whatever it is. At least if we split the gate, whatever little bit it is, at least both teams can feed their kids off ticket sales. The luxury or benefit is not having to travel.'"

After expenses, the revenue split is 50-50.

There's also a stipulation that if the home school wishes to play at a neutral site of their choice, they have that option. Vanover feels the exception was put in for schools with older facilities.

"They did it without spelling it out, I will say it that way. Especially the district north of us that we are dealing with, they all have really nice places. Liberty has fabulous parking, but they have a grass field like us. They were trying to get away from that, if at all possible."

The coach said he thinks the two districts are the only in Texas participating, which he hopes will serve as a pilot program for future considerations.

District 10-4A Div. I	W-L	PF	PA
Bridge City	3-0	132	13
Huffman Hargrave	3-0	144	49
Hardin-Jefferson	2-1	63	45
Vidor	1-2	69	95
LC-M	1-2	66	66
Livingston	0-3	46	100
Liberty	0-3	56	78
Lumberton	0-3	40	99

Last Week
Bridge City 28, Orangefield 7
Hardin-Jefferson 35, Buna 12
Huffman Hargrave 61, Splendora 27
East Chambers 42, Liberty 23
LC-M 46, Iowa (La.) 26
Jasper 43, Lumberton 24
Hamshire-Fannett 53, Vidor 27
Nacogdoches 34, Livingston 24

This Week
District bye week

"Everybody I talk to looks at us like, 'What are y'all talking about?' They are all excited for us and they kind of want to share in that pie too. I don't know if it has been pursued or pushed for from the other folks, but I know they are jealous as heck about it. It should have been done 10 years ago."

The first few rounds of the playoffs can be a rainy part of the year, meaning most wish to play on a turf field with nice facilities, ideally at a halfway point between the two participants. That criteria can be difficult, with so many schools participating in the first round of the playoffs. The process of securing a neutral site becomes easier through each round of elimination.

Other than difficult field conditions during a storm, Vanover said he could not foresee a downside to a school hosting in bi-district. Even with a muddy field, teams can be

subject to similar conditions just the week prior.

"That is the hope you can have. What greater thing you could have than the first week of the playoff season to host a playoff game in your hometown? I think it is a great thing that our coaches and administrators of the two districts had the common sense, intelligence and character to appeal and push the UIL. They (the UIL) had the wherewithal to agree to some common sense and allow us the opportunity to try this out. Everybody has the chance to host at home, and that is all you can ask for. I think it is good for the sport, for the districts, and I think it will catch on and take off all around the state. It is just logical; it makes sense. It is kid-driven, it is program-driven and community-driven. What more could you do than bring a playoff environment to a hometown?"

Hunting Season

By Albert Trevino

The (1-2) Corrigan-Camden Bulldogs will host the (1-2) Elkhart Elks in a non-district match this Friday.

After a two-game losing streak on the road, the Bulldogs will need to limit many of the unforced errors that have affected them so far, as they face the Elks at home.

Bulldog head coach Brett Ratliff highlighted the team's progress and emphasized the need to improve overall execution. Despite the weekly grind, Corrigan is looking to turn in a high-level performance Friday night when it counts.

"We are faster and stronger, but now we need to put our technique into place," said Ratliff. "We continue to work on that every day at practice. When the bullets are flying in a game, they will have to perform at that level. I think they will rise to the occasion."

Corrigan is coming off a 34-28 road loss versus the Kirbyville Wildcats. The Bulldogs trailed for most of the game and struggled with offensive turnovers at key moments.

Ratliff stressed the importance of winning the turnover battle and third-down conversions in short-yardage situations. Last week at Kirbyville, many of those turnovers also led to swift scoring plays against the Bulldog defense.

"We have to secure the football, and I would also like to see us do better on crucial third downs. Right now, third-and-short is

BULLDOG VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug 30	Tarkington	W 27-24
Sept. 6	at Hardin	L 26-6
Sept. 13	at Kirbyville	L 34-28
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.

rough on us when we need those conversions," Ratliff said. "On defense, first downs after a turnover [hurt us] last week. They would immediately take a shot down the field, and we gave up bigger plays than needed."

The Elks are coming off a 39-16 road loss against the Kerens Bobcats last week. However, Elkhart had a 51-7 blowout victory at home over the Warren Warriors in week two.

Last season, Elkhart finished with a 1-4 district record, missing the playoffs. The Elks' one district win came at home against Florence Buffaloes.

The Bulldogs have had overall success versus Elkhart during Ratliff's time as coach, scoring an average of 28 points in four games.

Elk senior quarterback Trysten Tidrow will return to help lead this

year's offense, with sophomore receiver Dalton Walker as a key offensive weapon.

"We are 3-1 so far against Elkhart, but they have a strong team with a seasoned quarterback in Tidrow. He spins it well and definitely runs the ball effectively. We will have to contain that in their spread attack," said Ratliff. "Walker is also very dynamic at receiver and possibly their best player."

In last season's match, the Bulldogs fell to the Elks 22-6 on the road. Despite efforts to open up the passing game, Corrigan struggled to execute on key drives and was overpowered by Elkhart upfront.

Corrigan's defense kept the game close, but gave up late touchdowns that sealed the Elks' victory.

Ratliff noted the team's youth in several positions in that previous meet, but thinks his returning play-



Elkhart Elks at
Corrigan-Camden Bulldogs
at Bulldog Stadium 7:30 p.m.



District 12-2A Div. I	W-L	PF	PA
Jewett Leon	2-1	78	36
Centerville	2-1	128	73
Corrigan-Camden	1-2	61	84
Normangee	1-2	26	79
Hearne	0-3	14	34
Groveton	0-3	44	120

Last Week
Wortham 20, Jewett Leon 18
Groesbeck 37, Centerville 34
Kirbyville 34, Corrigan-Camden 28
Brazos Christian 15, Hearne 8
Lovelady 59, Groveton 0
Normangee 20, Snook 12

This Week
Crockett at Centerville 7:30 p.m.
Elkhart at Corrigan-Camden 7:30 p.m.
Groveton at Grapeland 7:30 p.m.
Marlin at Hearne 7 p.m.
Jewett Leon at Cross Roads 7 p.m.
Normangee at Bruceville-Eddy 7 p.m.

ers have gained valuable experience to respond with a victory this time.

"Last year, we were still very young in many places. Our young guys now have some experience," Ratliff said. "I feel confident that we

can move the ball against Elkhart if we limit turnovers and convert on third down."

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

So close



Bra'Niyah Wyatt gets it over while falling back.



Aaliyah Wright gets the point with a spike.



Brianaly Resendez leaps for the spike.

By Brian Besch

pcnewsroom@gmail.com

The match was theirs. Goodrich lost the first set, but had won two straight and was closing in on a third with a 24-18 lead.

However, the Anderson-Shiro junior varsity had other ideas. They scored six straight to tie it, and would eventually win 29-27, sending the match to a deciding fifth set. There, they were able to take a 25-17, 19-25, 18-25, 29-27 and 15-10 victory.

"This is the first time that we have played and looked like a team," Goodrich coach Pinellafie Johnson said despite the setback. "That's what I just had to compliment them on. Our only weakness in all the sets we played was the serve. We missed entirely too many serves, because they did the job of getting

the passes, serve reception was good, setting was good, the hitting, the blocking and defense was good. It was just that serve, we missed too many of them."

Indeed, the Lady Hornets missed plenty of serves in what was a tight and winnable match Tuesday.

"I've got those that can serve over and under, and when they went back to the line, I told them it is all about the point. We are just learning how to hit it, but you know how to hit it under. They chose to still go over, and ended up missing. When I say it is all about the point, they know what to do. Serve that ball and find a hole. I was pleased with the effort. They did an outstanding job tonight."

The coach said serve reception had been a weak point in a few of the recent games. She cited a set in Kennard where the opponent served 17 straight.

"We are spending all of practice on serve reception and

serving."

Johnson said her arm is sore from all the serves she has delivered in practice.

Goodrich is now 6-21, but still has not played many Class 1A schools, often punching above their weight. Johnson's focus is not on the record, as much as it is her team's effort. The district games that are most important are just a week away.

"We have played more already than probably the entire year last year. We didn't play this many games last year. By the time we get finished, we will play close to 40 matches. We had a good talk today about them staying focused and not doing the exact same thing over and over. What is the point of playing 26 games if you're doing the same thing? You have to improve and get yourself a goal and find out what you need to work on."

The girls will work toward that goal in the final two non-district games, both at home. They challenge Spurger Friday

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Natalie Norris lines up a shot.



Aaliyah Wright, (l to r) Brianaly Resendez and Liseidy Balbuena chasedown a ball near the bench.

Border Patrol faulted in Uvalde school shooting

A 200-page report from the Department of Homeland Security faulted U.S. Border Patrol agents who rushed to the Uvalde school shooting in 2022, concluding they "failed to establish command and had inadequate training" in one of the deadliest classroom attacks, The Dallas Morning News reported.

A lone shooter killed 19 students and two teachers inside a classroom during a 70-minute standoff before a tactical team led by the Border Patrol went inside and killed him.

"The failure of arriving law enforcement personnel to establish identifiable incident management or command and control protocols led to a disorganized response to the Robb Elementary School shooting," the report stated. "No law enforcement official ever clearly established command at the school during the incident, leading to delays, inaction, and potentially further loss of life."

Two Uvalde school officers have been indicted for allegedly failing to act promptly and have pleaded not guilty. The victims' families have filed a \$500 million federal lawsuit against those who responded to the shooting.

Vehicle inspections end in 2025

Texas car safety inspections will no longer be required in 2025, after HB 3297 passed the Legislature in 2023. The Austin American-Statesman reported inspections end Jan. 1, though drivers living in and near major Texas cities will still be required to take their vehicles in for emission tests.

Although actual inspection is ending, all noncommercial vehicles in Texas still will be charged a \$7.50 inspection fee when the vehicle is registered with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

Counties requiring emission tests to comply with federal clean-air requirements are



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

Brazoria, Collin, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Ellis, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Johnson, Kaufman, Montgomery, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, Travis and Williamson. Costs range from \$11.50 to \$35.50, depending on what tests are required.

Diesel vehicles and motorcycles are exempt from emissions testing.

Deer disease threatens state's breeding industry

Texas deer breeders say their livelihoods are threatened by steps being taken by the state to limit chronic wasting disease, The Texas Tribune reported.

The easily transmissible disease has been detected in Texas since 2012. As of August, 387 cases have been reported this year in 31 of the state's 254 counties. This includes cases in 34 captive breeding facilities. The disease gradually erodes a deer's neurological functions. It is not known to infect humans.

"This disease is literally eating holes in the deer's brain," Kip Adams, a wildlife biologist with the National Deer Association, said.

Breeders in areas where CWD has been reported can't sell or transport their deer outside the state-declared containment zone. Breeders have complained that having a facility inside a containment zone has hurt business. Breeders who have a deer with CWD are required to either euthanize their remaining deer herd or perform additional testing in order to segregate deer who test

negative.

PUC secures refunds, credits

The Public Utility Commission has secured refunds and bill credits totaling \$502,982 for Texas electric, water and telecommunications customers for fiscal year 2024, which ended Aug. 31. Nearly 13,000 complaints were filed by consumers during the fiscal year.

"Protecting consumers is the first commitment listed in our agency's mission statement, and our staff works every day to make sure Texas utility consumers are treated fairly and receive high quality service," Chris Burch, with the PUC, said.

The bulk of refunds and credits were for electric customers.

Customers who believe they were unfairly charged can file a complaint at puc.texas.gov/consumer/complaint.

Bitcoin plant expansion faces backlash in North Texas

A proposal to build a new 300-megawatt power plant next to two existing neighborhoods in Granbury drew about 150 angry residents to a public meeting hosted by the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality last week.

Marathon Digital, a Florida-based cryptocurrency company, operates a 300-megawatt bitcoin mine on property owned by Constellation Energy, according to the San Antonio Express-News. Residents have complained about the constant noise coming from thousands of fans used to cool the banks of computers processing bitcoin transactions.

Constellation hopes to erect eight new turbines powered by natural gas to generate additional electricity and has applied for air permits to release nearly 800,000 added tons of carbon dioxide each year. Residents near the plant objected.

"It's not right. Y'all moved in on top of us. We didn't move in on y'all," said Nick Browning, who lives about 800 feet from the property.

Texas leads the nation in bitcoin mining, which is an electronic payment system that forgoes use of banks and credit card companies and requires vast amounts of computing power. TCEQ officials have not decided whether to grant a permit for a new plant. Constellation says the new plant would only operate about 40% of the year and "would be prohibited from directly serving industrial load," such as bitcoin. However, opponents say the new plant would allow existing plants to be used for more bitcoin mining than being done now.

Texting scams target TxTag customers

Toll customers in Texas are being targeted by scammers claiming the customer has a balance due or past due, according to the Texas Department of Transportation. The agency is working to have fraudulent websites taken down.

While TxTag does communicate with customers via email, text and phone, it does not send text messages concerning final payment reminders or past-due balances. Customers can report messages they believe to be fraudulent by calling 1-88-468-9824 or going online to TxTag.org.

"TxTag takes customer account security and verification very seriously," the news release said. All customers are required to confirm their account information and verify their identity upon contacting TxTag.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Frog gigging-fast becoming a lost art



If there were a frog gigging tournament series back in the sixties, my dad Fred Clayton of Red River County, Texas would have been the Bill Dance of the gigging world! I remember vividly standing behind him on a remote pond bank shining that big four cell silver flashlight into the eyes of a hapless bull frog. Dad with gigging pole in hand, poised like a great blue heron, ever so slowly eased the gig within striking range of what would soon become the centerpiece of some of the best eating in freshwater.

So many folks today have never eaten fresh frog legs dusted with flour and deep fried in hot lard until they were a golden brown and fork tender. I've eaten frog legs at some very fine seafood restaurants but the frozen 'legs' they prepare are tasty are no comparison to those freshly caught and cooked!

There are several methods of procuring your fresh frog legs from the wild but the most popular is gigging or spearing them with a gig mounted on a light weight but strong pole. There are two basic type gigs used; the 'grab' gig which cocks open and is spring loaded and the prong gig comprised of three of four sharp points. My dad used the grab gig and this is the only method I knew about until I was well into my teens. Position of the gig when striking the frog is very important. The trick is to strike the frog in the back so that the sides of the gig clamp tightly together and holds the frog. It's possible to catch the frog by the head but not nearly as efficient as a good body catch. A bit of knowledge of frog anatomy is necessary regardless the type gig one uses. When 'shining' frogs at

night, which is by far the best time to go after them, only their eyes and top of head are visible above waterline but after a bit of practice, it's easy to determine when the critter's body position underwater by the angle of the head. This sounds a bit technical I know but it really isn't, bit of practice and most beginner froggers quickly become proficient.

The prong gig is basically a spear with several very sharp prongs. Body position of the frog is still important when plunging the spear but not as important as with a grab gig. Most gigging is done very close to the bank or sometimes on the bank close to the water. The trick with a prong gig is to pin the frog to the ground before attempting to remove him from the gig. When gigging in water much over a foot deep, the grab gig is obviously more efficient, the tension of the spring loaded jaws usually grip the frog tightly and he seldom gets away. Keeping the light focused on the frog is key to getting within gigging range. I remember my dad instructing me to "keep that light on the frog, boy"! On the occasion when I moved the light from the frog to the ground, I was quickly reminded of the task at hand!

There was very little deviation from the way I was trained to gig frogs. Ole dad had a system that worked and he stuck to it. When I grew up and moved away from home, I carried my love of gigging and eating frogs with me. When I moved to the suburbs as a young man with a growing family, I found the ponds close to town loaded with uneducated frogs. My new friends were often reluctant to go out with me for an evening 'gig' but they usually got caught up in the excitement and once I fed them some of the fruits of our harvest, they became serious froggers!

I later learned there was more than one way to put frogs in the croaker sack! While in my early twenties, one of my neighbors was from Arkansas and he grew up catching and eating frogs, just like me but using a far different method. He used a boat paddle instead of a gig! When he first told me about



Fresh frog legs fried to perfection cannot be compared to the frozen, farm raised variety served in most restaurants. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

his system, I thought he was joking but after our first outing, I learned there was more than one way to put frogs in the skillet! We used a joh boat and after shining a frog, paddled quietly within a few feet, raised the boat paddle and came down, hard on Mr. Froggie. Just as my friend had said, the frog simply sprawled out the water surface and was promptly put in the bag!

I later learned that frogs have a weakness for a Texas rigged worm slowly twitched in front of their nose! My long time friend the late Bob Hood who enjoyed a long career writing about the outdoors and I were fishing a 10 acre pond near the Trinity River in Texas many years ago. Bass fishing was great on Texas rigged worms and Bob spotted a bullfrog setting within inches of the water. "Want some frog legs to go with our fish dinner, Luke?" Bob asked. He tossed the worm up on the bank a few feet about the frog and as soon as the soft plastic was within pouncing distance, the jumbo size frog made a leap, landing

square on the worm and engulfed it. Bob was then solidly hooked to a critter that made catching a bass seem boring! That frog jumped up on the bank then back into the water and made a couple of dives. My buddy soon had him in the boat and for the next couple hours, we both abandoned our quest for largemouth and proceeded to boat several big bullfrogs which were later the centerpiece for a frog leg/bass dinner fit for a couple of kings!

Don't think for a moment that only the legs of a bullfrog are edible. My dad always skinned the frogs from the head down and removed the back. The flavor of the meat is exactly the same as the legs, there is no 'dark meat' on any part of a frog, and it's all delicate white meat.

On one evening outing dad and I had a banner night our croaker sack was half full of frogs. My dad placed the bag in an ice cooler but forgot to close the lid. The cooler was put in our little outbuilding/tool shed with a dirt floor. The plan was to get some sleep and skin the

frogs in the morning. The next day when we opened the door to the shed to retrieve our frogs and begin butchering them, the sack was on the floor, empty and there was not a sign of a frog anywhere. The little shed was tight but did have a dirt floor. To this day, we wondered what might have stolen our frogs. There was no sign of a raccoon or other critter entering the building. Later we decided it had to be a snake or snakes that made away with what was to be a huge frog leg feed that evening.

In recent years, I have used my .25 caliber PCP air rifle to shoot frogs I spotted on the bank but avoid shooting them in the water for safety reasons. I'm sure if my dad was around to read this he would probably be reminding me gigging is the only accepted method of harvesting a frog dinner and... 'to keep that light on the frog!'

Listen to weekly podcast "Catfish Radio with Luke Clayton and Friends" wherever podcasts are found.



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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



COMBINED

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT (NORI) AND

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR TPDES PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

NEW

PERMIT NO. WQ0016513001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Rainbow's End Park, Inc., 100 Rainbow Drive, Livingston, Texas 77351, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for new Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0016513001, to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 60,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on March 29, 2024.

This combined notice is being issued to correct the proposed flow that was provided in the original NORI.

The facility will be located at approximately 0.33 miles southwest of the intersection of Care Center Drive and Highway 146, in the City of Livingston, Polk County, Texas 77351. The treated effluent will be discharged to a roadside ditch, thence to an unnamed tributary, thence to Copeland Creek, thence to Trinity River Below Lake Livingston in Segment No. 0802 of the Trinity River Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are minimal aquatic life for the Roadside ditch, the unnamed tributary and Copeland Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 0802 are primary contact recreation, public water supply, and high aquatic life use.

In accordance with 30 Texas Administrative Code §307.5 and the TCEQ's *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (June 2010), an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narrative criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. This review has preliminarily determined that no water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses are present within the stream reach assessed; therefore, no Tier 2 degradation determination is required. No significant degradation of water quality is expected in water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses downstream, and existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may Texas Commission on Environmental Quality be modified if new information is received. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-94.87206,30.63917&level=18> The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Livingston Municipal Library, Front Desk, 707 North Tyler Avenue, Livingston, Texas. The application, including any updates, and associated notices are available electronically at the following webpage: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/tpdes-applications>.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Any personal information you submit to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's record; this includes email addresses. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Rainbow's End Park, Inc. at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Travis Carr, Co-CEO, at 888-580-8444.

Issuance Date: August 30, 2024

Sale October 8, 10 a.m. - Self Storage Cube

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Asset Management, LLC as Agent for Owner to satisfy

a lien on October 8, 2024 at approx. 10:00 AM at www.storagetreasures.com: 447 Old Trinity Rd S, Onalaska, TX 77360. Jerry Falk, 10010 US Hwy 190, Point Blank, TX 77364. James Cain

Polk County bids for Onalaska WSC Plant due Oct. 15

ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS Polk County will receive bids for Onalaska WSC Plant 3 E.S.T TIE-IN-2021 ARPA-SLFRF until 11:00 AM on October 15, 2024 at Onalaska W.S.C. Office located at 1598 FM 3459, Onalaska, Texas 77360. The bids will then be publicly opened and read aloud at 11:05 AM on October 15, 2024 in the Onalaska W.S.C. Office Meeting Room located at 1598 FM 3459, Onalaska, Texas 77360. Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows: 1. Approximately 552 LF of 6" and 12" waterline, valves, and fittings 2. Related work 3. Additive alternate: Cut-in two 12" gate valves. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at GLS, 1609 South Chestnut, Suite 202, Lufkin, TX 75901. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file and may be reviewed at GLS, 1609 S. Chestnut, Suite 202, Lufkin, Texas 75901 (936) 637-4900. 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 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to Polk County or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. 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, or national origin. Polk County reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by Polk County 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 whose System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration is not active or 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. Polk County Sydney Murphy, County Judge.

Estate of Roben Lynn Lee

NO: 24-CC-PB-0132 THE STATE OF TEXAS NOTICE IN PROBATE SCHELANA HOCK, COUNTY CLERK 101 W. MILL ST. SUITE 265 LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351 (936) 327-6805. APPLICANT(S) ATTORNEY or APPLICANT: David L Froneberger; Leonor E Shukan 444 W Pasadena BLVD STE A Deer Park TX 77536; LEONOR SHUKAN ATTY AT LAW 109 West Abbey Street Suite 100 Livingston TX 77351. TO HEIRS AND/OR UNKNOWN HEIRS: IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: Roben Lynn Lee, Deceased. On August 22, 2024, Mason Lee, filed under Cause No.24-CC-PB-0132, in the County Court at Law Polk County, Texas, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in the estate of: Roben Lynn Lee, 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 5th day of September, 2024. Honorable SCHELANA HOCK, Clerk County Court at Law Polk County, Texas y: Paula Rinehart Paula Rinehart, Deputy.

City of Corrigan tax increase hearing September 17

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE A tax rate of \$0.563000 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Corrigan. PROPOSED TAX RATE \$0.563000 per \$100 NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE \$0.498362 per \$100 VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE \$0.536112 per \$100 DE MINIMIS RATE \$0.997822 per \$100 The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2024 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Corrigan from the same properties in both the 2023 tax year and the 2024 tax year. The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that City of Corrigan may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for City of Corrigan exceeds the voter-approval rate for City of Corrigan. The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for City of Corrigan, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for City of Corrigan. The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Corrigan is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 tax year. A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 17, 2024 AT 06:00 PM AT City Hall, 101 W Ben Franklin St., Corrigan, TX 75939. The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If City of Corrigan adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the City of Corrigan may petition the City of Corrigan to require an

election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the City of Corrigan will be the voter-approval tax rate of the City of Corrigan. YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS: Property tax amount= (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100 FOR the proposal: AGAINST the proposal: PRESENT and not voting: ABSENT: Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property. The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state. The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Corrigan last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Corrigan this year. 2023 2024 Change Total tax rate (per \$100 of value) \$0.513000 \$0.563000 increase of 0.050000 per \$100, or 9.75% Average homestead taxable value \$71,609 \$79,505 increase of 11.03% Tax on average homestead \$367.35 \$447.61 increase of 80.26, or 21.85% Total tax levy on all properties \$537,395 \$607,128 increase of 69,733, or 12.98%. For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Corrigan at 936-398-4126 or cityofcorrigan@sbcglobal.net, or visit www.cmcourt.us for more information.

Storage unit sale October 6

Storage units to be auctioned October 6th Notice of public sale of property to satisfy a landlord's lien in accordance with Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. Home Town Mini Storage, LLC is located at 3495 State Hwy 146 S., Livingston, TX 77351. Sale to be held online at www.storagetreasures.com. Bidding will open September 30, 2024 at 10am and conclude October 6, 2024 at 10am. Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to remove the property from sale

at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to the highest bidder. Property includes the contents of units belonging to the following tenants. Shawnee Wilson: Refrigerator, furniture, kitchen ware, plumbing items, tools, boxed items. Kortni Wiegrefre: Refrigerator, furniture, garden tools, lawn chairs, rods and reels. Dawn Rodgers: Electric guitar, books, camping equipment, boxed and bagged items. Randi Moore: Toys, shelves, bed frame, boxed items

Public hearing Oct. 10; San Jac water well drilling permit

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all interested persons within San Jacinto and Polk County, Texas: The Lower Trinity Groundwater Conservation District will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 9:00 AM at the Polk County Office Annex, Room #150, located at 602 E. Church Street in Livingston, Texas. The public hear-

ing will take public comments on considering a new water well drilling and operating permit for the SAN JACINTO SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT. The well will replace an older well serving Coldsprings, TX. A draft copy of the proposed well application can be viewed at the District's office before the hearing.

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TO PLACE your classified ad in the Polk County Enterprise or the San Jacinto News-Times call (936) 327-4357 ext. 1002.

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. Kfconalaskatx.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.westrengththefamilies.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)

HUGE GARAGE SALE, Everything Must go, make offer, 12379 Hwy 190 E, Woodville (Dam B), Texas, 75979. Beginning this Wednesday, Sept. 17 through Saturday, Sept. 19, 8 am-5 pm each day. Tools, china, glass, all kinds of kitchenalia, home decor, furniture, toys, selection, rooster motif, lighthouse motif, books, CD's, and much more. Proceeds benefit the Restorative Justice Ministry Family Service Center, a 501 (3) C Non-profit as recognized by the IRS. (38-1t-cc-TCB)

YARD SALE Friday-Saturday September 20th-21st, 8am-1pm 3059 hwy 146 south. donations accepted (kidney transplant). (38-1T-PD-PCE)

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Equal Opportunity Employer. To inquire about positions at the hospital, check the employment section of our website at: www.tchospital.us
Human Resources Department: (409) 283-6590 • 1100 West Bluff • Woodville

Auctions & Sales

Canyon Park's Semi Annual Yard Sales
Friday-Sunday Sept. 27th-29 (38-2t-cc-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)

ESTATE SALE 891 W. 1st St. Groveton, TX. Thursday, September 19, 9am-11am-FLASH SALE. Friday, September 20, 8am-3pm and Saturday, September 21, 8am-3pm. Cash or Check only. Washer, dryer, sleeper sofa, maple table & chairs, china cabinet, queen bed, kitchen items, Fall, Halloween, Christmas decorations, trunks, rocker recliner and dresser. Sales by His & Hers Mercantile. David Carter, 936-707-9120. (38-1t-cc-TCNS)

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ACROSS

- 1 duck found in Texas
- 5 Texas singer B.J.'s birthplace: ____, OK
- 6 SMU & NFL great RB, Dickerson
- 7 Livingston's county
- 8 TXism: "fits like ugly on an ____"
- 9 TX Trini Lopez's "If I Had ____"
- 16 Ryan O' ____ was in "Wild Rovers" with TX Joe Don Baker near El Paso, oldest U.S. Catholic parish: ____ Sur
- 21 dir. to Edna from Gonzales (abbr.)
- 22 in 1967, TX A.J. Foyt won at Le ____
- 23 TXism for "your" ____
- 24 Cowboy 1993 Super Bowl ring has star- ____ diamond
- 30 TXism: "plain ____ on your face"
- 34 Vega h.s. class
- 35 Mexican husk food
- 36 TXism: "trying to ____ against the stream" (difficult)
- 37 amino ____
- 39 mother of singer in 5-across (2 wds.)
- 43 ____ Code
- 44 Texas silent film star, Ramon
- 45 slang for Texas-created soft drink
- 46 TXism: "I ____ that like an armadillo needs an Interstate"
- 47 TXism: "woodshed ____" (spanking)
- 49 TXism: "plain as the ____ mule"
- 52 in the Valley: Santa ____ National Wildlife Refuge
- 53 uncanny perception
- 54 said to waitress with the tea pitcher: "____ off"
- 55 TXism: "he's wound tighter than an ____ clock" (tense)
- 58 artist Oldenburg of "Stake Hitch" sculpture at Dallas Museum of Art
- 59 former parent co. of Texas-based American Airlines female deer
- 60 TXism: "____ of the trail" (completed)

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "a flash in ____" (briefly)
- 2 small but important continent
- 3 TXism: "____ snake on a hot road"
- 4 TXism: "____ stock and barrel"
- 9 TXism: "fat ____ a boardinghouse cat"
- 10 TXism: "ugly as ____ sin"
- 11 TXism: "packed like sardines in ____"
- 12 not stereo
- 13 historic home in Independence: ____ Houston House
- 14 TXism: "let '____ rip"
- 15 TX singer Orbison
- 17 early Texas novel by Reid: "The Head-____ man"
- 19 TXism: "he was around when the ____ was only sick" (old)
- 20 TXism: "wiped the slate clean"
- 24 ____ Jo, TX
- 25 Merle Haggard's nickname
- 26 prayer ending
- 27 Carthage's county
- 28 number on a football team, on the field
- 29 Cabeza ____ first described the Texas bison
- 31 TXism: "got ____ left feet" (bad dancer)
- 32 TXism: "pay ____ no never mind"
- 33 election issue
- 38 TX Ginger played this Castle in 1939
- 40 gallery piece
- 41 western: "____ Grit"
- 42 East TX windshield: ____ with bugs
- 48 Texas-based "Giant"
- 50 ____ and reels
- 51 therapeutic resort
- 56 ____ water, TX
- 57 TXism: "____ the hoof" (hog)

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Employment

Employment

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CITIZENS STATE BANK
Woodville, is hiring for a Branch Manager. Must have previous bank management experience. Send us your resume by email to: humanresources@citizensbank.net. (38-2t-b-TCB)

Employment

Nursery Worker
Part-time nursery worker wanted for Pine Forest Baptist Church 10537 US HWY 190 W Livingston Tx. Sunday AM & PM services and Wednesday PM services. Background check and drug test required.
Call 936-646-4803 or stop by for more information.
(37-2-cc-PCE)

The City of Groveton is hiring for the City Secretary position
Quickbooks and Microsoft Office Suite experience preferred. Applications may be picked up at Groveton City Hall, located at 115 W. Front St., Groveton, Texas. Please submit application and resume by 5:00 pm., September 30, 2024. Please call (936) 64201122 with any questions. The City of Groveton is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.
(37-2t-b-TCNS)

For Sale

1968 FORD MUSTANG, numbers matching, 289 motor, automatic transmission, factory AC. It has been sitting for a while, motor has been stored in a shed, \$3,500 OBO. Can be viewed in the Goodrich area. Call (936)252-1833.
(37-tfn-nc-PCE)

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(38-4t-b-TCB)

ADVANCED PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LLC is hiring a skilled laborer and operator. Call for an interview, 409-224-6674, Woodville.
(37-3t-cc-TCB)

THE CITY OF GROVETON is hiring for the Utilities Clerk position Quickbooks and Microsoft Office Suite experience preferred. Applications may be picked up at Groveton City Hall, located at 115 W. Front St., Groveton, Texas. Please submit application and resume by 5:00 pm, Friday, September 30, 2024. Please call (936)642-1122 with any questions. The City of Groveton is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.
(37-2t-b-TCNS)

Homes for Sale



4-BEDROOM 3.5-BATH home on large secluded lot, 4800sq.ft., \$795,000.00 w/owner financing available. Call (979)482-7273. Located at 1000 W. Polk St. Livingston.
(37-4-cc-PCE)

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(37-2-cc-PCE)

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EVENTS

Guadalupe County Fair & Rodeo, Oct. 4-13, Seguin Events Center. Carnival, parade, mutton bustin, bull riding, petting zoo, vendors, and more. BBQ cook off Oct. 4-5, PRCA Rodeo Oct. 10-12. Buy tickets online at gcfair.org.

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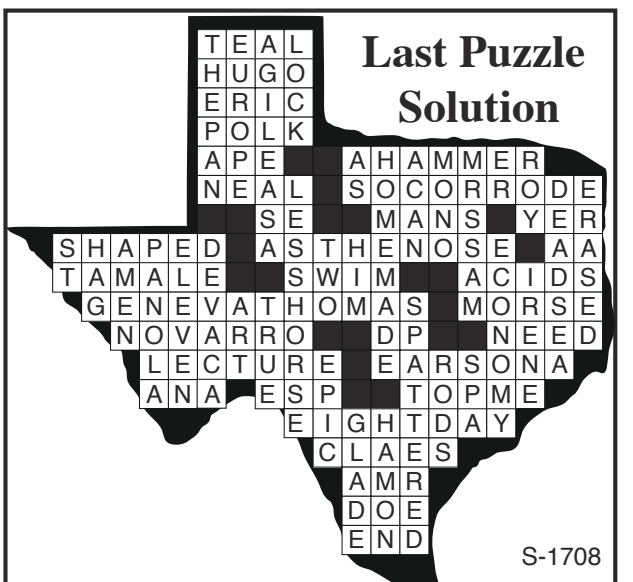
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