



# VFDs seek raise in funds

By Tony Farkas  
 editor@trinityconews.com

**GROVETON** — Given the disasters of the last few years and the uptick in calls, Trinity County fire departments are seeking additional funds from the County Commissioners Court. At a budget hearing at the July 9 meeting, Keith Johnson, Trinity fire chief, addressed the court on behalf of all fire departments in the county asked for increases in the subsidies the county pays. He said that over the years, the departments

have been left behind by the county. "Tax increases have been approved and income has gone up, but we haven't received much from that," he said. "We need an increase in funding. Our calls have increased, and costs in some cases have tripled. I asked the county to give us some consideration in the budget." Specifically for the Trinity department, Johnson said that in the last five or six years, 75 to 80 percent of its calls have been in the county. While Trinity has a good funding base, the city of Trinity shouldn't be funding firefighting for the county, he said.

Johnson said he has had numerous conversations with the other department chiefs, and then he approached the county and asked them to double what everyone receives, which would amount to less than 1 percent of the county budget. "Some of the smaller departments, I don't know how they make it, since they don't have a city to help them with funding," he said. No action was taken. In other business, the commissioners: •approved renewal of a bond for Justice of the Peace Carl Casey;

- approved a county credit card to be used for groceries purchased in connection with the grant for helping veterans;
- discussed a new private road called Light-house Loop;
- approved the replacement of a van for the county jail using insurance and ARPA funds;
- approved seeking bids to revise subdivision regulations; and
- approved bids for tax resale properties.

See COUNTY, Page 3

## Robertson named top teacher

TCNS staff

**FORT WORTH** — Groveton ISD cosmetology teacher Victoria Robertson was named Teacher of the Year at the recent Texas Industrial Vocational Association conference.

The TIVA Summer Conference was held July 14-19 in Fort Worth. TIVA is a professional organization for Career and Technical Educators certified in trade and industrial education.

Robertson said she wanted to make it known that she owes it all to God.

"I give God all the glory for this huge achievement," she said. "Without his help none of this would have been possible. I am truly honored to have been nominated by an amazing educator and friend, Shawndelle Harrington, who has been a cosmetology educator for 20 years."

Robertson was touched to have a respected cosmetology instructor such as Harrington notice the work she has done throughout the seven years teaching at Groveton.

"I will never forget the feeling I had when my name was called and walked across the stage accepting the teacher of the year award," she said. "I hope I have made Groveton ISD proud and I will continue providing the best education to all of my students."

Also at the conference, CTE instructors attend classes that help the attendees prepare for the new year. These are the only classes held for CTE teachers before the new school year begins.

"The beauty industry is constantly changing, and with these classes we learn new techniques from presenters at this conference that help us before school starts," she said.



Victoria Robertson (right), the cosmetology instructor at Groveton ISD, was named TIVA teacher of the year at July conference. COURTESY PHOTO

## Tigerettes win awards at annual dance camp

TCNS staff

**TRINITY** — The Trinity High School Tigerettes Dance Team has successfully completed their 2024 dance camp in Dallas, returning with numerous awards and recognition.

The team earned individual recognition with the Honor Roll Award, All American Award, Double Tap Award, and Legendary Leadership Award.

Additionally, the team received the Wonderful Work Ethic Award, Awesome Attitude Award, and Superior Award.

The Honor Roll Award went to Karissa Musachia, Lexi Woytek, Kanya Bostic and Kadie Yeager.

The All American Award went to Karissa Musachia, Sierra Travis, Valerie Cleveland, Savannah Breaux, Lexi Woytek, Kanya Bostic, Morgan Catrone, Kierra Hopkins and Kadie Yeager. They have received an invitation to dance in the 2024 Macy's Thanksgiving Parade.

The Double Tap Award went to Kadie Yeager, Lexie Woytek, Karrisa Musachia and Sierra Travis.

The Legendary Leadership Award went to Capt. Karrisa Musachia, Co-Capt. Kayna Bostic and 1st Lt. Sierra Travis.



The Trinity ISD Tigerettes won numerous awards at a recent dance camp. COURTESY PHOTO

## Vehicle repair, replacement available

Special to the News-Standard

Texans impacted by the storms and flooding April 26-June 5 may be eligible for FEMA assistance to repair or replace a vehicle.

FEMA provides financial help after a disaster for eligible expenses not paid by insurance or other sources. This may include repair or replacement of a vehicle. The damage to the

vehicle must have been caused by the disaster and the vehicle must no longer be operable or safe to drive. Cosmetic repairs will not be covered. Other conditions include:

- Assistance is usually limited to one vehicle. If there is a second functional vehicle in the household, the applicant must certify in writing that the damaged vehicle is essential

See VEHICLE, Page 3

## Work to shore up Livingston Dam continues

Special to the News-Standard

Work and repairs on Lake Livingston Dam continue. Last week, the lake level is at 129.81 feet above mean sea level. It is anticipated that the lake level will fluctuate between 128.0 and 131.0 msl for the next three weeks.

The damage to the facility that still needs to be repaired is below the spillway apron on the downstream side of the dam. There is no damage or leakage on the lake side of the dam.

The work is to put stronger fill material below the dam where original clay fill was washed out by high flows. Construction activities will require lowering the lake level to allow for the gates on the dam to be closed for several hours at a time.

Progress is being made daily to help ensure that the dam will continue to function as designed, and divers are inspecting the work as it goes along. The dam performed as needed during the recent hurricane, and it is important to continue the work.

For more information, check the TRA website at [trinitytra.org](http://trinitytra.org), or call 877-352-3247.



### A JOYFUL NOISE

The Made New band representing Calvary Tabernacle of Trinity, which includes Trinity County Treasurer Orrin Hargrave on bass, sing songs of praise and worship during the Reaching Outside the Church Prayer in the Park event on Saturday at the Trinity Community Center. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



VOLUME 119 • ISSUE 29

USPS 641-061

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RIVER & RAINFALL DATA AS OF MAR 12

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Discharge .....       | 14,500 cfs |
| Gauge height .....    | 18.18 ft   |
| Weekly rainfall ..... | 0.00 in    |



# Christ takes lead in weekend events

This past weekend the ROTC held its Summer Conference with Prayer in the Park, and the event was awesome. Music, food and fun were had by all. The children's events and puppets were a big hit, and the school supplies and backpacks were much appreciated. Thank you, Karen Dixon and friends, who sponsored this event.

Lone Star Missionary Baptist Church is hosting its Back-to-School Supply Drive on Saturday. The event starts at 10 a.m. and ends when all school supplies are gone. Free backpacks and school supplies are to be given to pre-K through eighth-grade students.

Donations or money can be dropped off at the church on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. or Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. at the church on West Main Street. Please help to make this a successful endeavor.

For more information, please call Charolett Clayborne, (936) 662-5947, Pastor DeBose, (936) 355-

## Julia's Tidbits

By Julia McMichael



1987, and Lula English (936) 355-3973.

•First Methodist Church of Trinity has returned to its monthly schedule of Dinner with Friends, but the event this month will take place before this article hits the stand. Watch this space for the next dinner and menu in August.

•The SAAFE House annual Denim & Diamond Purse Bingo Gala Fundraiser has been rescheduled for August 10. The fundraiser will still take place at The Manor on Pinecrest Road in Trinity from 6-10 p.m. Ten games of Bingo with fabulous prizes, a live and silent auction, door prizes and a dinner, is what the Bingo Gala guarantees for your

night of food, fun, and laughter.

Call SAAFE House at (936) 291-3529, Shelby at (936) 284-5580 or Tammy at (936) 284-5547 to purchase tickets or tables, to donate, or to become a sponsor.

•The Houston Food Bank will be at the Blanche K. Werner Public Library of Trinity on Saturday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. This is to furnish children under 18 years of age with food supplies. The Houston Food Bank will also be here on Aug. 3.

Each child will be given 5 meals that include breakfast and lunch until supplies run out. You must bring your child to receive this program or proof of guardianship if they are not able to attend. For more information call Sophia at (936) 594-2087.

•TISD school starts soon, and the yellow buses will hit the road on Aug. 7 for the graduating class of 2025. Football, volleyball, cheerleading, dancing and club activities

will start anew for the 2024-2025 school term.

The Trinity High School Band continues to sponsor their Flag subscription fundraiser, as well as the Trinity High School Tigerettes hosting their Flocked Fundraiser. Both group's fundraisers are fun, but necessary to promote their extracurricular activities outside of their campuses to compete in competitions elsewhere.

I appreciate the TISD electronic sign on the corner of Jefferson Street that gives you up to date information on school events. This weekend I no longer had to call about Meet the Tigers Night. The sign says we can meet the athletics on Aug. 8 in the evening. The TISD 2024-2025 School Calendar is online now, as well as the TISD school supply lists for student's pre-K through eighth grades.

•Main events to look forward to during the coming months are the Trinity Community Fair, Home-

coming, Halloween Treats on the Street, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Break, and the Christmas holidays.

•Speaking of signs. Have you seen the beautiful painted angel sign painted on the wall of the old Edward Jones Building downtown? The sign is for residents to take a picture of themselves and enjoy the beauty of modern art displayed in your community.

The young entrepreneur who sponsored this artistic work is near and dear to my heart. He promised me to make Trinity great again before I go to meet the real angels. He has done more to beautify Trinity downtown in two years than others in 20.

A tidbit of information, not important, but his father was born in Trinity, in a little green building across the street from the Trinity Post Office 80 years ago. The building is gone, but not the memories. See you around town.

# Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick forms committee on weather issues

Special to the News-Standard

AUSTIN — Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick announced the creation of the Senate Special Committee on Hurricane and Tropical Storm Preparedness, Recovery, and Electricity.

Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, will serve as Chairman, and Sen. Phil King, R-Weatherford, will serve as Vice Chair. Schwertner's district includes San Jacinto County, and member Sen. Robert Nichols represents Trinity County.

Upon forming the committee, Lt. Gov. Patrick issued this statement:

"Texans are rightfully upset with the overwhelming failure of electric utility companies to restore power in a timely fashion following Hurricane Beryl. The electric utility companies' failure cannot be tolerated, especially when it was so obvious a storm was headed toward Texas. I am appointing this committee to review what happened and establish why certain electric utility companies appear to have been woefully unprepared for Hurricane Beryl. The Texas Senate will work

to ensure electric utility companies respond more effectively to future storms."

Upon being named chair, Sen. Schwertner said in a statement:

"As Chairman of the Special Committee, I will focus on why electric utility companies failed to provide timely power restoration to millions of Texans and the decisive actions these companies will take to ensure this type of catastrophic failure never happens again."

The Senate Special Committee on Hurricane and Tropical Storm Preparedness, Recovery, and Electricity includes:

- Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, Chairman
- Sen. Phil King, R-Weatherford, Vice Chair
- Sen. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston
- Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston
- Sen. Brandon Creighton, R-Conroe
- Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen
- Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston
- Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham
- Sen. Morgan LaMantia, D-Palm Valley
- Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston
- Sen. Borris Miles, D-Houston



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| 2019 Chevrolet Trax | \$17,995 | 2015 Toyota Tundra 2WD     | \$19,995 |
| 2017 Buick Lacrosse | \$17,995 | 2020 Hyundai Santa Fe      | \$20,395 |
| 2016 Buick Enclave  | \$17,995 | 2020 Chrysler Pacifica     | \$20,588 |
| 2019 GMC Acadia     | \$18,995 | 2017 Ford Mustang          | \$21,995 |
| 2019 Buick Encore   | \$19,995 | 2022 Kia Sportage          | \$21,995 |

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# BIG RIVERS

## WATERPARK & ADVENTURES

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| TRINITY COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR JULY 25-31                                   |  |  |   | Information sourced from weather.com   |   |  | Forecast Fire Danger<br>twc.tamu.edu   |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | <b>FRIDAY</b>  | <b>SATURDAY</b>  | <b>SUNDAY</b>   | <b>MONDAY</b>  | <b>TUESDAY</b>  | <b>WEDNESDAY</b>   | <p>Fire Danger Rating<br/>                     Low Moderate<br/>                     High Very High<br/>                     Extreme</p> |
|  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |
| Scattered Thunderstorms<br><b>87°/72°</b><br>Chance of Rain 58%<br>Wind SSE 5mph | Scattered Thunderstorms<br><b>87°/73°</b><br>Chance of Rain 58%<br>Wind SSE 6mph | Scattered Thunderstorms<br><b>89°/74°</b><br>Chance of Rain 48%<br>Wind SSE 7mph | Scattered Thunderstorms<br><b>91°/74°</b><br>Chance of Rain 49%<br>Wind SE 7mph | Scattered Thunderstorms<br><b>90°/74°</b><br>Chance of Rain 37%<br>Wind SSE 7mph | AM Showers<br><b>92°/74°</b><br>Chance of Rain 33%<br>Wind S 6mph | AM Showers<br><b>92°/74°</b><br>Chance of Rain 30%<br>Wind SW 6mph |  |

# OBITUARIES

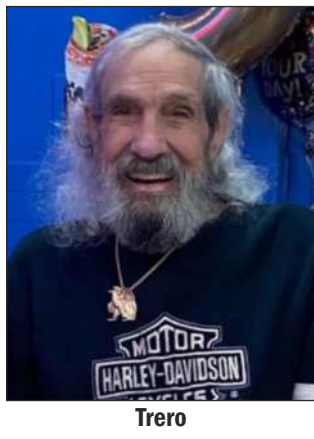
**Malcom Trero**  
Nov. 12, 1932-July 15, 2024

Malcolm "Maxie" Eugene Trero, 91, of Trinity, passed away on Monday, July 15, 2024. He was born on Nov. 12, 1932, to William and Susan Trero in Birmingham, Ala.

In high school he joined the United States Marines. During his enlistment, he boxed with the Marines and played the drums for the Merchant Marines. Once he was honorably discharged, he moved to Houston, Texas. He continued his professional boxing career for 10 years. He was a member of VFW post 4709 in Conroe for numerous years. He also was known as "Dr. Maxie Trero," professional tree surgeon.

Maxie was the life of the party wherever he went and more than often knew someone everywhere he went. He enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle and deer hunting. He loved Jesus and prayed every day. Maxie was a charismatic, generous and loving man with a heart of gold.

Maxie leaves behind his loving wife of nearly 35 years, Mary Anne; children, Ramona Isabell and husband, David, Barbara Ann Kolasky,



Trero

Robert Trero and wife, Tracy, Peggy Trero Goetz and husband, Steve, Stacy Trero, Tony Trero and wife, Jennifer, David Trero and wife, Amy, Shawn Carlisle and wife, Vena, Scott Carlisle, Rebecca McManus and husband, Ralph, and Jack Carlisle; and 27 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Susan Trero; sons, Gary and Billy Trero; sisters, Martha Jo Hayden and Mary Rose Browning; brother, William "Billy" Trero; and great-granddaughter, Isabella Trero.

Funeral services were held Saturday, July 20, at Cashner Funeral Home, with Maxie being laid to rest in Garden Park Cemetery in Conroe.



## Looking Back

By Marlena Stubblefield  
grovetonnews@gmail.com

### 10 years ago

DA'S office hosts ALERT training seminar; Speed limits, re-plating

on Commissioners Court agenda; Stolen RV found, owner notified of theft. No obituaries for the week.

### 20 years ago

GISD board makes several policy changes; Rep. Turner introduces Preparedness Act Bill; Polk County Judge John P. Thompson elected Sr. Vice President of NARC. Obituaries for the week: Elsie

Davis, 75, of Houston; and Debbie Jean Goodin, 42, of Trinity.

### 30 years ago

Russians visit Trinity Co. during Farm Bureau Tour; New forester assigned to Trinity County; Jury rules Outland deaths domestic violence. Obituary for the week: A.H. "Houston" Maddoux, 84, of Pennington.

## ARREST INFORMATION

The following people were arrested by Trinity County law enforcement officials through July 22. All suspects are innocent until convicted in a court of law.

- Dallas Troy Hurley, 21, failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- Alexander Cory Whitworth, 23, warrant for failure to appear on a charge of burglary of a habitation.
- Savanna Lynn Barton, 31, possession of a controlled substance; unlawful carrying of a weapon; possession of marijuana.

•Charles Ray Morning, 57, possession of a controlled substance; tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.

- Mario Aytoc Tuazon, 35, no driver's license.
- Ronnie Lee Grimes, 61, prohibited substance in a correctional facility; warrant for theft of property.
- Dusty Joe West, 39, driving while license invalid with previous convictions.
- Stefan Bertron Dennis, 49, two warrants for failure to appear on a

charge of possession of a dangerous drug.

- Kevin Wade Currie, 55, possession of a controlled substance, unlawful carrying of a weapon.
- Latoya Kannette Rolling, 58, possession of a controlled substance; warrant for failure to appear on a charge of failure to identify.
- Casey Noel Rainwater, 40, warrant for motion to revoke parole on a conviction for burglary of a habitation.
- Justin Robert Trevathan, 39, warrant for assault causing bodily injury.

## GRAND JURY INDICTMENTS

The following people were indicted by a Trinity County Grand Jury in the month of July. All suspects are innocent until convicted in a court of law.

- John Collier, credit or debit card abuse, a state jail felony.
- Tanner Golian, possession of methamphetamines, a third-degree felony.
- Kevin Kelly, theft, a third-degree felony.
- Rhonda Loyd, possession of methamphetamines, a state jail felony.

•Michael McAller, four counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, second-degree felonies.

- Britt Merchant, evading arrest, a third-degree felony.
- Daniel Morning, possession of methamphetamines, a state jail felony.
- Shona Pugh, possession of methamphetamines, a state jail felony.
- Stephanie Sechelsk, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, a state jail felony.

•Mark Spiva, unlawful possession of a firearm, a third-degree felony.

- Zachary Tatom, attempting to take a weapon from a peace officer, a state jail felony.
- Garrett Taylor, third or subsequent offense of driving while intoxicated, a third-degree felony.
- Shannon Taylor, assault on a public servant, a third-degree felony.

## SENIOR MENUS

July 29-Aug. 2  
Menus Subject to Change

• **Martin Senior Center | 936-594-2625**

All meals are \$6. A limited fruit and salad bar is available, and drinks include lemonade, tea, water or coffee. Dessert is served with all meals.

MONDAY: Boston pork butt, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, beans.

TUESDAY: Barbecue baked potatoes or chopped barbecue sandwich, baked beans, corn on the cob.

WEDNESDAY: Chicken and dumplings, carrots, cornbread.

THURSDAY: Gumbo, rice, crackers.

FRIDAY: Fried fish or chicken tenders, okra and tomatoes, dirty rice, deviled eggs.

FRIDAY: Fried or baked catfish, French fries, potato salad, coleslaw, pinto beans, hush puppies.

• **Apple Springs Senior Citizens Inc. | 936-831-2671**

Meals served with dessert and fruit and a choice of drink.

MONDAY: Chicken and dumplings, baby lima beans, cabbage, cornbread.

TUESDAY: Barbecue on a bun, baked beans, potato salad.

WEDNESDAY: Sausage and potatoes, pinto beans, greens, cornbread.

THURSDAY: Beef tips and noodles, reads carrots, tossed salad.

FRIDAY: Hamburgers or cheeseburgers, French fries.

## COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

Following Hurricane Beryl's landfall, Trinity County Judge Danny Martin signed a disaster declaration on July 10; the Texas Governor's Office issued a disaster declaration for Trinity County, and President Biden's disaster declaration approved 67 counties for federal disaster assistance which includes Trinity County.

However, Trinity County was not one of the 17 counties approved for individual assistance.

However, residents are encouraged to complete the iSTAT survey. This information helps emergency management officials assess the damage and determine if communities meet federal disaster assistance thresholds. Filling out the survey is not the same

as filing a claim with FEMA. If you sustained property damage as a result of Hurricane Beryl — submit an online damage report to TDEM at [damage.tdem.texas.gov](http://damage.tdem.texas.gov). Choose July 7th - Ongoing Hurricane/Tropical Storm

Beryl If you are needing help with food, you can call 211 to apply for SNAP benefits. Ladies in Action, Liberty Christian Center Food Pantry, & Burning Hope Baptist Church all offer food assistance.

• **Groveton Senior Center | 936-642-1541**

Bread, dessert, fruit, tea, coffee and milk are available.

MONDAY: Chicken fried steak and gravy, new potatoes, green beans, rolls.

TUESDAY: Barbecue sandwiches, ranch style beans, potato salad, onions, pickles.

WEDNESDAY: Steak fingers, mashed potatoes and gravy, purple hull peas, cornbread.

THURSDAY: Chicken strips, seasoned rice, mixed vegetables, rolls.

## VEHICLE

Continued from page 1

for household's daily use.

•The vehicle must comply with state registration and insurance requirements.

•The vehicle must be owned or leased (not a rental) by the applicant, co-applicant, or household member.

•The damaged vehicle must be an approved vehicle type, such as a car, truck, SUV or van.

To find out if you are eligible, you can apply to FEMA in several ways:

•Go online to [disasterassistance.gov](http://disasterassistance.gov)

•Download the FEMA App for mobile devices

•Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service, such as video relay (VRS), captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA your number for that service.

•Visit any Disaster Recovery Center. For locations and hours, go online to [fema.gov/drc](http://fema.gov/drc).

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**9 acres, Hwy. 94/Bill Jones Rd**, corner acreage with county road and paved frontage, new survey, utilities available, great location.

**Home on 2 acres**, Turner St., Groveton, 2/1, 1580 sq.ft, shop/equipment area, guest quarters, chicken area, no city taxes.

**Home near Lake Livingston**, off FM 356, recently remodeled, 4/2, water view, boat ramp, subdivision.

**2/2 Home in White Rock Estates** off FM 356 near Lake Livingston. Lots of storage for all of your toys and walking distance to the lake.

**Two vacant lots** in Harbor Point Subdivision, electrical and water lines already on property, patio and storage building. Ready for your RV.

**3/2, DWMH on 2 acres** and barn, in the Helmic community on Sullivan Rd.

**Church Building**, located on hwy. 287 S. in Groveton one acre, can be remodeled for home or business.

**2 Nice Lots, Harbor Point**, Trinity, water, electrical and sewer already established, storage bldg. and patio.

**3.49 Wooded Acres**, FM 233, public water and electrical available.

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## LETTERS POLICY

It is the policy of The Trinity County News-Standard 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 Trinity County, from a resident of Trinity County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Standard.

Examples of content that will not be accepted: 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 Standard 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 Standard will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

Letters may be submitted by mail to "Letters to the editor," Trinity County News-Standard, 134 E. 1st St., Groveton, TX 75845; in person at the same address; sent by fax to (936) 642-1195 or sent via e-mail to [tony@polkcountypublishing.com](mailto:tony@polkcountypublishing.com).

## CONTACT LIST

### Elected and Appointed Officials Representing Trinity County

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b><br>Joseph R. Biden<br>The White House<br>1600 Pennsylvania Ave.<br>NW<br>Washington, DC 20500   | <b>TX SENATOR</b><br>Senate District 3<br>Robert Nichols (R)<br><a href="mailto:robert.nichols@senate.texas.gov">robert.nichols@senate.texas.gov</a><br>(C) 512-463-0103<br>(D) 903-589-3003 |
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# Joe Bident



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## Democracy thing a placebo

One of the "so good it's bad" movies I enjoy is "War of the Gargantuas," which is a Godzilla-adjacent flick and one that in my head I was equating to the upcoming presidential election (it happened to be playing when I heard the news. Go figure).

That is until Sunday, when President Joe Biden, the presumptive Democratic nominee, up and quit, calling the move as one that was in the best interest for his party and for the country.

Odd phrasing, that, putting party ahead of the country, but then again, only the most steadfast of sheep believe that the government actually cares about what happens to the country.

Before things get indignant, good intentions do not make good policy, and most policy decisions coming down the pike have been solely for the purpose of retaining power, irrespective of party.

It's that retaining power stance that perplexes me now.

For years, particularly in the Trump era, we've been told that our democracy is under attack, and that the only way to keep it viable and keep the American dream alive was to not vote for neo-fascists. We've also been told that voting is sacrosanct and inviolate, and how can anyone mistreat people of color by requiring an ID to vote?

Except now, that no longer seems to



### MY TWO COMMON SENSE

By Tony Farkas

matter.

Most states by now have either caucused or held primary elections, and those results have followed both Trump and Biden to their conventions. While the Democrats will not hold theirs until August, it was pretty much assured Biden was a lock.

That, I believe, presents several problems; several states have already locked their ballots, meaning changes now shouldn't be made; but the worst is that everyone that cast a ballot for Biden in the primaries have been told their votes are immaterial.

As in, yeah, you wanted Joe, but since you didn't read the fine print, you get (insert name here).

In his surrender letter, Biden threw his weight behind Vice President Kamala Harris. Other names that have been floated is Gov. Gavin Newsom of California, former presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, and former First

Lady Michelle Obama.

While I'm sure that's name dropping to gin up some kind of interest, it not only speaks to the lack of care for the will of the people (which is the founding principle of our republic), it speaks to the need for the current "powers that be" to not become the "powers that was."

I've even heard that in order to force the acceptance of whatever candidate is called from the bullpen, the lawsuits will fly fast and furious.

Even in a democracy, that kind of underhanded bait-and-switch is frowned upon. But since voting rights are only a matter of discussion to keep the other guys out of office, it really isn't a surprise.

At the end of his statement, Biden claims he will focus on the remainder of his presidency. While the debate on whether he is fit to lead since he is not fit to run for re-election is not part of this right now, it is yet another example of governmental disconnect with the people.

Let's hope 2025 is the great reset.

Tony Farkas is editor of the San Jacinto News-Times and the Trinity County News-Standard. He can be reached at [tony@polkcountypublishing.com](mailto:tony@polkcountypublishing.com).

## Assassination attempt on President Trump

Last Saturday, I was horrified as I watched the events in Butler, Penn. I am so thankful that President Trump was spared by the grace of God.

I join in mourning with our country, those who were harmed, and the family of Corey Comptore, who lost his life protecting his family. Following this tragedy, I hope to see a shift in political dialogue to fix, not fight.

This is the time to unify as Americans, and political violence is decidedly un-American.

This week, I was to be questioning the director of the United States Secret Service, Kimberly Cheatle, who testified before the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability. Director Cheatle needs to answer for this un-

### Fireside Sessions

By Robert Nichols



acceptable failure.

While I am grateful to the Secret Service agents that acted quickly after shots were fired, many questions remain about the lapse in security leading to an unprotected rooftop within 147 yards of President Trump.

Congressional veterans commendations

My office is extending the deadline for nominations to receive a Congress-

sional Veterans Commendation to Aug. 15. The CVC program is an opportunity to recognize veterans local to the 17th District of Texas that stand out as worthy of special recognition.

This award is for veterans who not only served honorably during active duty, but continue to serve their communities, making a positive impact on those around them. All nominations will be reviewed by a CVC Board.

For more information, visit my website or contact Tori Magers at [tori.magers@mail.house.gov](mailto:tori.magers@mail.house.gov).

Pete Sessions represents District 17, which includes Trinity County, in the U.S. House of Representatives.

**TRINITY COUNTY News Standard**  
(USPS 230-680)  
ALVIN HOLLEY, OWNER | KELLI BARNES, PUBLISHER  
Entered as Periodical Matter at the Post Office in Groveton, TX

**Groveton Office:**  
Phone: (936) 642-1726  
P.O. Box 730 • 134 E. First St.  
Groveton, Texas 75845

**News Editor** - Tony Farkas - email: [trinity.standard@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.standard@gmail.com)  
**Office Manager** - Marlena Stubblefield  
**Advertising** - Marlena Stubblefield  
**Graphic Designer** - Brandy Jones • **Page Design** - Amanda Barker  
**Print Shop** - Jessica Corwin (936) 327-4357  
**Contributing Writers** - JoAnn Beken, Gary Allen Burns, Cathy Czajkowski, Julia McMichael, Martha Meride, Neil Kemper, Scott Womack

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CAGLE CARTOONS

# PUC outlines consumer protection rules

As the dog days of August approach and electric bills soar, the Public Utility Commission is reminding consumers of rules in place to protect them from having their power disconnected due to financial difficulties, especially during extreme heat.

"Ensuring the power stays on for all Texans, regardless of their financial situation, is a top priority for all of us at the PUCT," Executive Director Connie Corona said.

Several utilities have suspended disconnections to allow customers to recover from Hurricane Beryl, which caused widespread outages, particularly in the Houston area.

Consumer protection rules require electric providers to offer bill payment assistance programs, though electric cooperatives and municipally owned utilities in Texas are not subject to this rule; however, most offer some form of bill assistance. Options include a payment arrangement or a deferred payment plan.

Customers seeking assistance should start by contacting their electric provider. They can also learn what assistance programs are available in their area by dialing 211.

## Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders



### Migrant apprehensions drop to 2021 levels

The number of migrants apprehended by federal officers in June was at its lowest level in more than three years, according to figures released by the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol and reported by The Texas Tribune. Border Patrol agents apprehended 83,356 migrants in June across the southern border, down from 117,901 in May and the lowest since January 2021, the month President Joe Biden took office.

"Recent border security measures have made a meaningful impact on our ability to impose consequences for those crossing unlawfully," acting CBP Commissioner Troy A. Miller said in a statement. "We are continuing to work with international partners to go after transnational criminal organizations that traffic in chaos and prioritize profit over human lives."

Biden issued an executive order, effective June 5, that essentially ended granting

asylum to migrants.

Gov. Greg Abbott in previous statements has credited the state's multibillion-dollar mission, Operation Lone Star, for the decline in migrant apprehensions, The Tribune reported.

### Texas second-worst state for women's health

A new report from a national women's health nonprofit concludes Texas is among the lowest performing states for women's health outcomes, Texas Public Radio reported.

Only Mississippi ranked worse in the study by the Commonwealth Fund, which analyzed data on maternal mortality, insurance access and other factors in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

One major issue is the lack of maternity care centers or obstetricians in many rural Texas counties, with 46 percent defined as "maternity care deserts." The state also ranked last in the country for health care access and affordability.

"It means that women enter their pregnancy having had less access to health care, particularly if they're poor or low income, and in a poorer health situation than they would have been in had they

had health insurance coverage," said Sara Collins of the Commonwealth Fund.

### Feds OK SNAP hot-food purchases

Federal food assistance recipients in 36 counties affected by Hurricane Beryl can use their benefits to buy hot foods and ready-to-eat meals, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission announced last week.

The approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture applies to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients in Angelina, Austin, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Houston, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Lavaca, Liberty, Madison, Matagorda, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Polk, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller, and Wharton counties.

"The ability to purchase hot food is a necessity for SNAP recipients who are still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Beryl," said HHSC Deputy Executive Commissioner of Access and Eligibility Services Molly Regan. "Many families still cannot prepare meals due to power

outages.

No action is required of SNAP recipients to receive this additional benefit. To find local resources, such as food and shelter, dial 211 and select Option 1.

### Experts: Power outages likely to continue

Experts say widespread outages such as that caused in July by Hurricane Beryl, and in recent years by other weather-related events, are likely to continue in the future because the state's massive power grid is unprepared for severe weather events, The Tribune reported.

The state had 210 weather-related power outages from 2000 to 2023, according to data from the U.S. Department of Energy — more than any other state. In July, Beryl knocked out power to 2.6 million customers in Southeast Texas. That came on the heels of a mid-May windstorm, known as a derecho, that hit the Houston area with 100-mile-per-hour winds and knocked out power to 1 million customers.

"It's like the big, bad wolf: huff and puff and blow the house down," said Michael Webber, an energy resources professor at the University of Texas at Austin. "And I don't think any utility or city

designs for weather like that, at least not weather that frequent."

"The state's stand-alone power grid will need decades of public investment in order to make it more resilient against storms, which down poles and power lines."

"The current distribution infrastructure isn't adequate apparently for the job at hand," Michael Skelly, CEO of Grid United, said. "What level of reliability do we want to try to get to and what are we prepared to invest?"

Both CenterPoint and Oncor have proposed investing billions to strengthen poles and wires, and install underground wires, but that will likely come at a cost to consumers.

"Ultimately, the bill is going to get loaded onto the backs of the customers, whether or not they were pleased with how [the power outage] was handled," Sandra Haverlah, president of the Texas Consumer Association, said.

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@texaspess.com.

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**Fundraiser set**

The SAAFE House annual Denim & Diamonds bingo fundraiser set for Saturday has been moved to Aug. 10 because of the damage from Hurricane Beryl.

The event this year will be held at the Manor on Pinecrest Drive, but as always, it is being organized to support SAAFE House and its endeavors in Trinity County. Money raised at the event stays in Trinity to help Trinity County residents in need.

The bingo fundraiser will take place from 6-10 p.m. and includes 10 rounds of bingo with prizes for the winners, as well as food, silent and live auctions and door prizes.

Call SAAFE House at (936) 291-3529, Shelby at (936) 284-5580 or Tammy at (936) 284-5547 to purchase tickets or tables, to donate, or to become a sponsor.

**Genealogy event scheduled**

The Walker County Genealogical Society and Huntsville Public Library are hosting the annual Summer Genealogical Weekend and Silent Book Auction.

The SGW is scheduled for Aug. 2-3 beginning at 10 a.m. each day at the HPL Staggs Community Room.

With nine different genealogical presentations offered starting with the basics, SGW is proud to have among its presenters Faye Jenkins Stallings, Jim Thornhill, Michele Bailey, and internationally known Lisa Louise Cooke.

During this same time frame, a silent book auction is held in the library from noon Monday through noon Aug. 3.

More than 800 books are for auction, representing all genres with all proceeds going to the HPL Johnnie Jo Sowell Dickenson Genealogy Room. Both events are free to the public and everyone is welcome. Registration is requested but not mandatory.

For more information, see the WCGS website (wgcstx.org) or the HPL website (https://www.huntsvilletx.gov/171/Public-Library) or contact Mary Kokot at HPL 936-291-5471.

**Hunting course set**

TCSO is sponsoring a Texas Hunter Education Course on Aug. 17 at the Courtroom Annex in Groveton.

Lunch is included and will be provided by Taco's by the Trax. Instructors will be Sheriff Woody A. Wallace, Game Warden Randy Watts and Game Warden Anthony King.

For additional information contact Felicia at 936-642-0761.

**Revival to be held**

Rose Hill Baptist Church will be holding a three-night revival July 31-Aug. 2 beginning at 7 p.m. each night.

The evangelist will be Bishop Augustus Moore III. Everyone is welcome.

For information, call the church at (936) 642-1880.

**VBS set**

First Baptist Church of Groveton will hold Vacation Bible School July 29-Aug 2 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. each night.

The classes are for children 4 years of age through the sixth grade.

For information, call the church at (936) 642-1478.

**Revival scheduled**

Paul and Vanessa Cherry of Cherry Ministries will lead a three-service revival meeting at First Baptist Church of Friday.

The Cherrys home base is in Wolfe City. They average 40 revivals each year, plus concerts. Their goal during their revival meetings is to challenge Christians to live a life that exemplifies Christ every day. The music, and messages are aimed at lifting up Christ, so He may draw men to Himself.

The music service consists of a blending of praise choruses and traditional hymns.

The event is set for Aug. 2 and 3 at 6:30 p.m. each night, with a light meal at 6 p.m.; and at 11 a.m. Aug. 4 with a covered dish after service.

**No-cost meals**

The Houston Food Bank will be at the Blanche K. Werner Library in Trinity on several Saturdays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Those days are July 27 and Aug. 3.

This is for all children 18 years and younger. If your child is not present, you must bring proof that you are the parent or guardian. Examples of this are an official letter or email from school enrollment, student ID cards, report cards, attendance record, birth certificate, or state ID.

Each child will be provided with a bundle that includes breakfast and lunch for 5 days, while supplies last.

**Veterans event set**

The Huntsville Elks Lodge 1981 is hosting a veterans' barbecue and bingo to raise awareness of suicide and post-traumatic stress disorder.

The event is set for 2 p.m. Aug. 17 at the Huntsville lodge, 3206 Elks Drive.

The event is an educational opportunity to help veterans and their families.

For information, call (936) 296-2881 or text Irene at (281) 928-8382.

**Conservation expo set**

The Piney Wood Lakes Chapter of Texas Master Naturalist is presenting an East Texas Conservation Expo, set for 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Polk County Commerce Center in Livingston.

Topics include forestry, pond management, wildlife management, pasture restoration, native planting and youth activities, among others.

There will be boots, workshops, demonstrations and speakers, as well as vendors both inside and outside of the exhibition hall.

The event is free to the public; however, Texas Parks and Wildlife will offer a hunter education course for \$15.

For information, email etconservationexpo@gmail.com.

# Cooking out with the latest

By Luke Clayton  
Outdoor columnist

The phrase cooking out often equates to applying heat to steaks or burger anywhere other than in the kitchen, often outside on the patio using a gas or charcoal grill. My first memories of outdoor cooking goes back a long, long way to the late 50s when as a young boy, I watched my dad grill chicken halves over a pit he dug in the ground, with an expanded metal grill over a hot hickory fire. Later, he used a homemade smoker.

Daddy was an inventor of sorts. I remember all types of gizmos he thought up and constructed. He raised broiler chickens — 14,000 at a time — and he once drilled a hole in the flipper on a light switch, hooked a copper wire to it and attached the other end to a wind-up alarm clock. He would set his makeshift timer to turn the light on very early in the morning in order to give the chickens a few more hours to eat and put on weight before market. When the clock wind-up piece began to turn, it took up slack in the wire and pulled the light switch on.

One day he decided to turn a 55-gallon oil drum into a smoker— no more digging pits in the ground for cooking. Alas, he had no torch to cut the barrel in half or cut a hole for the stove pipe on top. I watched him use a quarter inch drill bit and drill hundreds, probably thousands of holes along the center of the drum and then meticulously take a hacksaw blade and completely cut the barrel in half, lengthwise.

My uncle owned a small club aluminum smoker about 2 feet long. I believe it was made in Little Rock, Ark., back in the day. I watched him smoke turkeys on his little smoker, using a small charcoal fire with pecan wood for smoke on one end and the turkey completely filling the other end of the smoker. My uncle spent many hours tending the little smoker; he would begin smoking the turkey at daylight and slow smoke it 10 to 12 hours. I can taste that pecan-smoked turkey meat to this day.

I remember as a young boy taking some pork ribs and a grill out in the woods with some friends and grilling ribs on an overnight campout. My buddies and I thought the ribs were superb but what do 12-year-old boys know about barbecue other than the need for food and lots of it. So, I get this outdoor cook-



This little rocket stove is the newest addition to Luke's outdoor cooking arsenal. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

ing habit honestly. Through the course of a year, it usually fuels several of my columns and many meals at hunting camps.

My cooking arsenal consists of everything from a little mini smoker (you see them in the front of Buc-ees) to a big wood smoker mounted on a trailer. I have several homemade grills and cooking racks out in front of my little cabin behind the house where I do a great deal of my outdoor cooking. But my go-to piece of outdoor cooking gear for serious slow smoking has for years been my Smokin' Tex electric smoker. Through the years I've used my Smokin' Tex to cook hundreds of pounds of both game and domestic meat. Set at about 190 degrees and given 12 or so hours of slow smoking with a few ounces of pecan or hickory wood, it will turn a wild hog ham into a mouth-watering delight.

I watch a lot of YouTube videos and saw several 'how to' videos on cooking with what is called Rocket stoves. With a couple of Amazon gift cards burning a hole in my pocket, I decided to order one of these stoves a few weeks ago.

My wife asked a viable question, "What do you need with something else to cook on?" She knows my love of outdoor cooking and really didn't wait for an answer. "OK," she said with a shrug of her shoulders, "guess I'm

in for breakfast cooked on a device that uses twigs for fuel rather than our electric stove like most people use."

"But what if the electricity goes out," I replied. "Remember a few years ago when the power was out and I cooked a couple days in the fireplace?"

Rocket stoves come in many designs. The principal that makes them so efficient is an upward draft of heat from a fire, much like a stove pipe on a wood burning stove or the updraft from a fireplace. Many of these stove designs have an angled pipe welded to a vertical pipe into which small twigs or pieces of wood are burned. The heat from the fire is directed up the vertical pipe and becomes intensely hot compared to; say a campfire burning on open ground.

Rocket stoves are often homemade by folks that are good with a welding torch, but there are also many commercial varieties available. After watching several videos I locked in on a unit that I thought would suit my needs best. It is of the vertical pipe design with an open chamber near the base to insert small pieces of limbs or twigs for fuel.

It's important to use the stoves on a flat surface to keep them stable while cooking, they are designed for frying in skillets or using pots for stews, chili, etc. They supply a very hot fire at the top of the vertical smoke stack with

a cradle that holds a skillet or pot. In the outdoors there is an unending supply of fuel in the form of dead branches or even pine cones can be used as fuel.

My first attempt at cooking with my little stove was a big success. I thought it best if I did a little solo test cook rather than risk disappointing a few guests. I amassed a good supply of dry twigs, used some crumpled paper to get the fire going and within five minutes, had a very intense fire at the top of the vertical pipe that in short order had the cooking oil up to temperature that was just right for frying the few catfish fillets I had reserved for this practice run.

Will my little rocket stove be the only device I use for outdoor cooking? Definitely not, but I think it will be ideal to set up along the creek when my buddies and I are catching some fresh catfish or crappie for a quick shore lunch. Now, I can have a roaring hot fire going from twigs in a matter of minutes rather than having to wait for an open campfire to burn down to cooking coals. It's just something new in my cooking arsenal that I'm having fun with. I love experimenting with new ways to enjoy the outdoors.

Listen to "Outdoors with Luke Clayton and friends" wherever podcasts are found or visit www.catfishradio.org.

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**ACROSS**

1 this Guthrie played at eight of TX Willie's "Farm Aids"

5 "ten" in Mexico

6 Eden newspaper

7 "\_\_\_ your keep"

8 TXism: "lonely as a \_\_\_ day"

18 Texas voted for this pres. four times

19 Texas flag being flown upside down (2 wds.)

21 "Oh, Pretty Woman" singer, TX Roy (init.)

22 \_\_\_ burnett, TX in Wichita County

23 Texas Rangers were first paid \$1.25 \_\_\_

24 pecan pie is \_\_\_ dessert

29 Texans must get this registration renewed each year

30 Texas-filmed "Two \_\_\_ Together"

31 hosp. nurse

32 Mexico's 9th month

34 TXism: "ramrod"

35 24-across is even better \_\_\_ mode

36 brother of Lee Harvey Oswald's killer (2 wds.)

37 Venetian blind part

38 con game: \_\_\_ flam

39 TXism: "\_\_\_ shorts in a knot" (calm down)

41 city where Pizza Hut is headquartered

42 Texan born between July 23 and August 22

43 TXism: "big enough to \_\_\_ an elephant"

44 TXism: "a \_\_\_ Jesse" (works good)

45 TX Willard Robertson was in "Along Came Jones" with this Loretta (init.)

46 Astro pitcher stat.

47 TXism: "\_\_\_ as a jaybird"

48 this TX Paul did 1st successful kidney transplant in Texas (2 wds.)

50 shirk duty

51 Texas group: "Little Joe \_\_\_ Familia"

52 TXism: "\_\_\_ as sin"

53 Texas' country (abbr.)

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
Copyright 2024 by Orbison Bros.

11 non game deer in West Texas

12 this Texan ran for president in 1992 and 1996 (init.)

13 before it was the "St. Regis Houston" it was "The Remington \_\_\_ Oak Park"

14 TXism: "I need that like a hog \_\_\_ a packing plant"

15 "\_\_\_ David's Deer" can be found at Valkyrie Ranch in Bastrop County

16 find a sum

17 a cow that's branded

20 energetic person

22 TXism: "\_\_\_ hatchet" (make up)

24 TXism: "old \_\_\_ dirt"

25 golf ball support

26 rasslin' cushion (2 wds.)

27 TX Tanya hit: "San Antonio \_\_\_"

28 this Bill was mayor of El Paso in 1990s

29 French abbots

30 lion's sound

33 large coffee cup

34 Texas-made "\_\_\_ Bell" ice cream

35 USA: "\_\_\_ of opportunity"

37 TXism: "\_\_\_ \_\_\_ can't find the nose on your face"

38 a pilot

40 lawns

41 TXism: "bought a pig in a \_\_\_"

44 fence opening

47 Las Vegas state

49 medicinal tablets

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# Committees deal with family

Our nation witnessed an unspeakable act of violence against former President Donald Trump when a deranged man attempted to assassinate the former president, wounding him and others and killing a father and fire chief.

I am immensely grateful that President Trump was not seriously hurt, and my thoughts and prayers go out to the victims of this senseless act of violence and their families. Let me say, in no uncertain terms, that political violence has no place in this country. As another national election approaches, let us remain civil in both our discourse and dealings with others.

For too long, our country has been too deeply divided by differing opinions and beliefs. While it is natural for people to disagree on specific issues, we must stop demonizing others who hold differing perspectives. It is time for us to turn back to the word of God and remember the teachings of our Lord.

1 John 4:20: "Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen."

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

## Juvenile Justice & Family Issues

The House Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues has jurisdiction over bills regarding juvenile delinquency, gang violence, juvenile criminal law, juvenile court proceedings, youth rehabilitation, and many other issues. The Committee also oversees state agencies such as the Texas Juvenile Justice Board, the Advisory Council on Juvenile Services, and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

Over the interim, the

## Capitol Update

By Trent Ashby



Committee will study the definition of "best interest of a child" in the Texas Family Code. The Committee will study the term to determine whether policy changes can better protect the rights and interests of children and parents.

The Committee also will evaluate the system for adjudicating and dismissing cases involving delinquent conduct and determine whether changes to the juvenile court system and planning for services to keep children in the juvenile justice system closer to home will lead to better overall outcomes for youth and public safety.

## Youth Health & Safety

The House Select Committee on Youth Health and Safety has jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to improving the ability of governmental entities to address the needs of Texas's youth through programs and services such as child protective services, mental health services, educational institutions, and the juvenile justice system.

Over the interim, the Committee will monitor the implementation of House Bill 3, which provides Texas schools with a new standard of emergency preparedness and ensures adequate state funding is provided to school districts to ensure that schools can implement these new standards.

The Committee also will monitor the implementation of House Bill 18, which prohibits an Internet Service Provider from entering into an agreement with a known minor without the consent of the minor's guardian and requires the ISP

to provide the ability for the parent or guardian to enable protective settings permanently. I was proud to coauthor HB 3 and HB 18 to protect our children.

The Committee also will evaluate current programs and services for children and families that are either in or at high risk for entering the foster care and juvenile justice systems. They will study the barriers to accessing community-based behavioral health services for children with intense behavioral health needs, with an emphasis on ensuring that parents do not have to give up custody of children to gain access to services.

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

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

Trent Ashby represents District 9, which includes Trinity County, in the Texas Legislature.

## Legal Notices

### Sheriff Sale at Trinity County courthouse August 6

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRINITY NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE By virtue of Tax Warrant issued out of the 411TH DISTRICT COURT of TRINITY County in the following cases on the 6th day of June, 2024, and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell at 10:00 AM on the 6th DAY OF AUGUST, 2024, which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the Official Door of the Courthouse of said TRINITY County, in the City of GROVETON, Texas, the following described property, to wit: Cause No: 5598 TRINITY COUNTY, ET AL vs. MICHAEL L. DAVIS Tract 1: LOT 19, BLOCK 1, DEER RUN SUBDIVISION, PID 26821 Tract 2: LOT 20, BLOCK 1, DEER RUN SUBDIVISION, PID 26822 Cause No: 5639 TRINITY COUNTY, ET AL vs. KURT BLACKBURN, ET AL Tract 1: LOT 11, BLOCK 5, SECTION 5 WESTWOOD SHORES SUBDIVISION, PID 28374 Cause No: 5640 TRINITY COUNTY, ET AL vs. JAMES BLANKENSHIP, ET AL Tract 1: LOT 15 AND 1/2 OF 14, BLOCK 5, SECTION 5, WESTWOOD SHORES SUBDIVISION, PID 21977 Cause No: 5641 TRINITY COUNTY ET AL vs. CORY L. MULLINS Tracy 1: LOT 6, BLOCK 9, SECTION A OF LAKE L. ACRES SUBDIVISION PID 30826 Cause No: 5642 TRINITY COUNTY, ET AL vs. GINNY L. ANGLIN, ET AL Tract 1: LOT 4, BLOCK 5, SECTION 2 TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION PID 13450 Tract 2: LOT 7, BLOCK 1, SECTION 1, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 27211 Tract 3: LOT 10, BLOCK 1, SECTION 1, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 23173 Tract 4: LOT 9, BLOCK 1, SECTION 1, TRINITY

FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 26117 Tract 5: LOT 37 (1/2 OF), BLOCK 5, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 27324 Tract 6: LOT 37 (1/2 OF), BLOCK 5, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID35696 Tract 7: LOT 23, BLOCK 5, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 17027 Tract 8: LOT 17, SECTION 3, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 17614 Tract 9: LOT 52, SECTION 3, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION PID 24091 Tract 10: LOT 8, BLOCK 1, SECTION 1, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 27212 Tract 11: LOT 3, BLOCK 1, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 27273 Tract 12: LOT 6, BLOCK 1, SECTION 1, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 27210 Tract 13: LOT 9, BLOCK 1, SECTION 4, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 16587 Tract 14: LOT 24, BLOCK 5, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 17028 Tract 15: LOT 5A, BLOCK 3, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 27296 Tract 16: LOT 16, BLOCK 2, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 27696 Tract 17: LOT 11, BLOCK 4, SECTION 2, TRINITY FOREST SUBDIVISION, PID 25649 Levied on the 18 day of June .2024. as the property of said Defendants to satisfy the judgements rendered in the above styled and numbered causes, plus all taxes, penalties, interest, and attorney fees accrued to the date of sale and all costs recoverable by law in favor of each jurisdiction. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND ON THE 18 DAY OF June 2024 Woody Wallace SHERIFF, TRINITY County, Texas By: DEPUTY TRINITY County, Texas.

### Request for qualifications for engineer services

TRINITY COUNTY RFQ 2024.07.11 REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEER SERVICES Trinity County invites the submittal of responses from qualified firm(s) interested in providing Engineer services for the update of the Trinity County Subdivision regulations. Specifications and required submittal information can be found under Bid Notices and Proposals on the Trinity County website [www.co.trinity.tx.us](http://www.co.trinity.tx.us) or obtained by contacting the Trinity County Auditor's Office, Trinity County Courthouse, 162 W. 1st Street, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 1030, Groveton, Texas 75845 (936-642-2233). A mandatory pre-response conference will

be held Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. to preview the current subdivision regulations and hear suggested updates and current problem areas. Responses must be sealed and identified on the exterior of the envelope per specifications and submitted to County Auditor not later than August 16, 2024, at 12:00 noon. Contract will be awarded by the Commissioners' Court on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 9:00 AM. Trinity County reserves the right to cancel the RFQ at any time, to elect not to award contracts cited in the RFQ, to reject any and all submittals and to award contract deemed to serve the best interest of Trinity County.

### Texas A&M Forest Service timber sale August 16

Timber Sale Sealed bids will be received by the Staff Forester, Texas A&M Forest Service, 513 TX-75, Huntsville, TX 77320, until 10:00 AM on August 16th, 2024, for: Complete Harvest of pine and hardwood timber

on the Hope Center General Land Office stand 8 near Groveton, TX. Sale information can be obtained by contacting TFS at 936-295-5688. The Texas A&M Forest Service reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

### First assistant auditor position open

TRINITY COUNTY JOB OPENING TRINITY COUNTY AUDITOR IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FULL-TIME FIRST ASSISTANT AUDITOR This position is responsible for assisting the County Auditor in directing auditing and accounting procedures, establishing internal controls, and auditing financial accounts for the county to ensure strict enforcement of the laws governing Trinity County finances and the integrity and accuracy of county assets. Bachelor's degree in account-

ing, finance, business administration, public administration, or a closely related area or combination of related education, experience, and training may be substituted. Applications and complete job description available online at <http://www.co.trinity.tx.us>, Employment Opportunities. Please send applications to Trinity County Auditor, Bonnie Kennedy, P.O. Box 1030, Groveton, TX 75845, or via email [bonnie.kennedy@co.trinity.tx.us](mailto:bonnie.kennedy@co.trinity.tx.us). Trinity County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### Land title, 1041 Shore Shadow Dr., Harris County

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I desire to confirm, certify, declare, convey and give notice of claim by this Land Title for the following parcel located at 1041 Shore Shadow Drive, Texas Republic, (Harris County) usA NON-DOMESTIC. Let the record show the Grantor grants this private property to: EL SHADDAI EXPRESS TRUST hereinafter called the Grantee for and in consideration of the sum of ten silver dollars (\$10.00) and no other valuable consid-

eration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hereby grants, bargains, sells, aliens, remises, releases, conveys and confirms unto the Grantee all that certain land situate in Harris County, Texas Republic. This land now titled, is FEE SIMPLE ABSOLUTE and also known as an Allodial title. Done under my hand and seal of my own freewill act and deed. Any party interested in viewing this claim can view the associated documents at <https://bit.ly/4bam1wY>.

### Land patent in Harris County

KNOW ALL MEN BY THE PRESENTS: We, Maricella Ana Benavente, Alan Ismael Pagan Perez; desires to confirm, certify, declare, convey and give notice of claim by this Land Patent for the following parcel located at 6039 Spring Creek Lane, Texas Republic, (Harris County) usA NON-DOMESTIC. Coordinates: Latitude 30.035708 and Longitude -95.507732. Let the record show the Grantors grant this private property to: DE

NOVO DYMANTE EXPRESS TRUST, hereinafter called the Grantee. Consideration of the sum of ten silver dollars (\$10.00) and no other valuable consideration was paid in full. This land, now patented, is FEE SIMPLE ABSOLUTE and also known as an Allodial title. Done under our hand and seal of our freewill act and deed. Any party interested in viewing this claim can view the associated documents here: <https://bit.ly/3VxUZlg>.

### Claim of ownership of certificate of title

AFFIDAVIT Claim of Ownership of Certificate of Title i, monique alexis richardson, state that i am familiar with the facts recited, i state that i am the party named in said Certificate of Live Birth, and i am the same party as one of the owners named in Certificate of Title; i woman; verify under penalty of perjury under

the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct; Executed on this second day, of July, 2024 by: Richardson, Monique Alexis, Not in Individual Capacity, Without the United States, Held in Trust. All Rights Under Reserve. Publication dates: 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1.

## Legal Notices

## FISHING REPORT

### Caddo

FAIR. Water stained; 80 degrees; 1.65 feet above pool. Another week and another rain event so the lake is muddy and the bite slow. When the water settles and clears a dropshot or Texas rig in the river will land a bass. Work flukes, top water plugs and buzz baits or frog type baits around the pads and grass line. The bite has been slow with all the rain but the good thing is we will have current on the lake all the way through September, so the bite should continue all summer. Lake is still beautiful and majestic to come look at even if the bite is slow. Caddo is a one of a kind lake that God spoke into existence and we get to experience. Report provided by Vince Richards, Caddo Lake Fishing & Fellowship.

### Conroe

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 86 degrees; 0.11 feet above pool. Catfish are still good. Seems like the spawn is winding down as few fish have eggs in them now and not nearly as bunched up on spots. There are lots more little bitty catfish being caught with some good eaters, and you can expect this to continue until the water cools in the fall. Largemouth bass are still doing good offshore and on docks working monster worms slowly. Report by Brad Doyle with Bradley's Guide Service. Hybrids and white bass are scattered with some in schools in 18-26 feet of water. Fish are being caught with live bait, jugging a spoon, or trolling with a deep diver with a pet spoon as a trailer. Be sure to use a calmer jugging motion

to get more hits. Crappie are in or around structure 12-21 feet using minnows, jigs, or hair jigs. The bite has been very light, and shuts off as quickly as you get one in the boat. Always wear your life jacket and stay hydrated in this heat. Report by Mike Cason, Fishical Therapy.

### Livingston

GREAT. Stained; 88 degrees; 1.18 feet below pool. White bass bite is excellent in 10-20 feet of water with white and chartreuse Duck-tracker slabs. Report by Michael Richardson, Lake Livingston Adventures.

### Martin Creek

GOOD. Water normal stain; 101 degrees; 0.13 feet below pool. Martin Creek is at full pool, 101 degrees south of trestle and the clarity is clear. Bass are good along the hydrilla with swimbaits, watermelon red weightless senkos and Ribbit frogs. Crappie are excellent on deep brush and standing timber in 25 feet of water. The fish are suspended at 18-20 feet using minnows for best bite. When you find the crappie you also have found big catfish using live bait on rod and reel with



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**Policy**

PLEASE CHECK your ad the first day it appears. We will correct any error as quickly as possible. TO PLACE your classified ad in the Trinity County News- Standard call (936) 642-1726.

**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-b-PCE)

**Announcements**

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

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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)

**Auctions & Sales**

TWO FAMILY Moving Sale, July 26-27, 8-4, 255 CR 4264, Woodville. Furniture, antiques, dishes, scrubs, etc. (30-1t-nc-TCB)

**Auctions & Sales**

ESTATE SALE, 804 N Beech, Woodville, Aug 2-3, 8-3. Sound system, rifle scope, some furniture, kitchen items, blankets, generator, some tools. CASH ONLY. (30-2t-cc-TCB)

**Auctions & Sales**

A Gnome Christmas in July at Sassy Soul Boutique Numerous choices of Gnome decorations, all shoes 30% off, select clothing 20-30% off. 111 Hwy 59 Loop S Livingston, behind McDonalds Tues-Thurs 10am-4pm Fri-Sat 10am-5pm (29-4t-cc-PCE)

**Auctions & Sales**

ESTATE SALE July 19 - July 21. 652 East Taylor Lake Circle, Livingston. Vintage solid wood furniture, tools, men's clothing, books, computer desk and printer. (28-2t-cc-TCB)

**Work Wanted**

Fenced Yard or Field Stump Grinding Remote Controlled Precision Work Any Size or Amount Insured Free Estimates  
**David Holley 936-433-2371**  
(1-tfn-nc-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

HARD WORKING TYLER COUNTY WOMAN, Landscaping, fence line clearing, painting, clean out flower beds, ant outdoor jobs. Christal-409-224-5293. (27-tfn-p-TCB)

**Work Wanted**

Want to Buy Pine & Hardwood Timber Land clearing & tree service also available Insured Free Estimates  
**936-223-2595**  
(27-2t-p-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

PRESSURE WASHING: Mobile homes, roofs, driveways, vehicles, boats, decks, and businesses. Discounts: Senior and local churches (Polk County). Call/text (936)223-0953. (27-4t-pd-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

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(29-2t-cc-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

HOKE STUMP Grinding- No job too large or too small. Call (936)295-6089 or (936) 581-3781. Trinity, TX. (11-tfn-b-TCNS)

**Work Wanted**

Vickery Dirt Dirt, Clay, Sand Free Delivery Rock, Dozer Work, Land Clearing, Tractor Work, Driveways, House Pads www.vickerydirt.com  
**936-329-4159**

**Work Wanted**

Vickery Propane Tanks & Service  
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(50-tfn-b-PCE)

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

**Work Wanted**

**TLC**  
Toole's Lawn Care & Landscaping \*Drainage \*Retaining Walls \*Residential \*Commercial Year round full service maintenance- design, build & install flower beds, hydroseeding. Fully Insured Tree Removal, Irrigation  
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**Work Wanted**

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or  
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Livingston, TX  
(23-tfn-b-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

I WILL clean out your garage, barn, old building and/or haul off your old junk like cars, trucks, tractors, etc. (936)328-1679. (26-5t-pd-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

S & L Tree Service Tree removal, clean up, stump grinding New bucket truck Fully insured Serving the local and surrounding areas Call Richard  
**832-401-4081**  
(2-tfn-b-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

Plumas House Leveling w/Water Level & Concrete 20 Yrs Exp, Senior Citizen Discount Insured  
**936-433-6304**  
if no answer call for appt  
Livingston, TX  
**936-513-0783**  
(1-tfn-b-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

ENCLOSED BOAT STORAGE. Also climate & self storage. White Rock Storage. 6216 FM 356 Trinity (936)594-9283 or (713)249-1033. (25-tfn-b-TCNS)

**Work Wanted**

Storage

**Work Wanted**

FOR SALE Set of 4 20" rims and low profile tires. Fits 2016 Buick Regal or comparable. \$300 for all. 409-594-7408. (2-tfn-nc-TCB)

**Work Wanted**

2018 WINNEBAGO MINNIE, 2455BHS, bumper pull Curt hitch. Excellent interior, back-up camera, tire pressure system, \$15,000 (281)435-0359. (30-2t-pd-PCE)

**Work Wanted**

Rentals

**Work Wanted**

Pets

**Employment**

NOW HIRING; Local cleaning company looking for new hires, must have your own transportation and be reliable. Call or text (936)714-6226. (29-4-pd-PCE)

**Employment**

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

**Employment**

Notice of Position Opening  
**POLICE RECORDS CLERK**  
July 16, 2024  
The CITY OF LIVINGSTON is accepting applications for one (1) Records Clerk position for the Livingston Police Department. Experience preferred but will train. This position provides efficient record keeping, secretarial and clerical assistance to the Police Department. Duties include producing various documents, letters, and reports and maintaining appropriate files and records. Provides emergency relief to telecommunication operators to ensure constant coverage. Candidates must be willing to work nights and/or weekends and are subject to emergency call-in. This is a full-time position with benefits. Applications will be accepted at the Police Department, 208 W. Church Street, Livingston, Texas from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. The deadline for accepting applications will be Wednesday July 31, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. For job description, starting salary, required knowledge and training requirements, please contact Trisha Patton, Telecommunications Supervisor, at 936.327.3117. No interviews will be scheduled until after the deadline. The City of Livingston is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. (29-2t-b-PCE)

**Employment**

Now Hiring!  
Looking for honest, hard working, outgoing, self motivated individuals with a good attitude looking to build a career in the fast food industry. Looking for a Team Leader with one year experience and an assistant with 2-3 years experience. Must have good references, Livingston, TX. Apply at www.burgerworkshr.com (1-tfn-b-PCE)

**Employment**

LOOKING FOR A MANAGER for a world-famous restaurant, the Tyler County Heritage Society is looking for the right person to run our world famous Pickett House Restaurant, a mainstay of the Woodville community and a hot spot for tourists since 1965. The right person must have prior experience in restaurant management, current food manager certification within the state of Texas and the ability to supervise a diverse staff of kitchen workers and wait-staff. Ideally, the candidate will also be a great "people" person with enthusiasm about the restaurant and with new ideas to help market our brand further. For a list of job requirements and an application, please email: president@heritage-village.org or call 409-381-1151. (29-3t-b-TCB)

**Employment**

FOR SALE Set of 4 20" rims and low profile tires. Fits 2016 Buick Regal or comparable. \$300 for all. 409-594-7408. (2-tfn-nc-TCB)

**Employment**

2018 WINNEBAGO MINNIE, 2455BHS, bumper pull Curt hitch. Excellent interior, back-up camera, tire pressure system, \$15,000 (281)435-0359. (30-2t-pd-PCE)

**Employment**

Rentals

**Employment**

Pets