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Assault suspect caught after four-day manhunt

By Valerie Reddell

TRINITY COUNTY — A Trinity man who was on the run from law enforcement for more than four days was caught Monday evening.

Justin Hanson, 23, had been at-large since last Thursday before he was found and surrendered himself to law enforcement without incident. He was wanted for aggravated

assault, kidnapping, unlawful possession of a firearm and evading arrest.

The warrants for kidnapping and aggravated assault stem from an altercation Hanson had with his former girlfriend. Witnesses saw him force her into his vehicle where he drove her around the Glendale area and struck her several times, including one blow with a flashlight to her

head that caused significant injury.

Hanson then returned to a store in Trinity and went inside for a drink. Once he was out of sight, the victim jumped from the car and escaped.

She reported the incident to law enforcement. Trinity County Chief Deputy Tommy Parks said Hanson used meth frequently and

See **SUSPECT** → Page 2A



Justin Hanson is put into handcuffs after he surrendered to law enforcement without incident.

ASISD renews teacher contracts

By Jason Chlappek

APPLE SPRINGS — Teacher retention can be a difficult situation, especially for smaller districts who often lose teachers to larger districts with more resources.

But Apple Springs ISD is doing everything it can to retain the staff currently in place. The school board approved the renewal of several teacher contracts during its monthly meeting March 19 at the Apple Springs school board office.

“Hopefully all of our staff will be intact next year,” ASISD superintendent Cody Moree said.

The board of trustees also recognized a group of Apple Springs Elementary School students who recently participated in a UIL competition.

“We also had a neat presentation from our Elementary UIL team, who finished second in district,” Moree said. “They did a show called, ‘Are you smarter than an Apple Springs Fifth-Grader?’ And we all found out that we’re not. They had some really tough questions and that put us in the right frame of mind to start the meeting to remind us what it’s all about.”

The board also received reports from the Apple Springs Booster and Buyers clubs as well as a report from the Trinity County Fair. Moree also talked about issues that are going on in the state legislature that revolve around education.

“The bill that made it out to the senate calls for a \$5,000 raise for classroom teachers,” Moree said. “The encouraging news right now is they’re also funding the retirement benefits. The house hasn’t voted on it yet and the bill will probably change 2-3 times though.”

Next month’s ASISD meeting is scheduled to take place at 6:30 p.m. April 8.

SUCCESSFUL DEBUT One Act Play reaches bi-district in first year

By Jason Chlappek

APPLE SPRINGS — As a superintendent of a Class A school, Cody Moree wears many hats.

He is the superintendent/athletic director and head football coach at Apple Springs. Prior to that, he coached football at Huntington from the late 1990s to 2004, and during that time he became something else - a play writer.

“In the late 1990s, I was doing one-act play and we had a pretty big program at that point. We didn’t find anything that we actually wanted to do so the kids approached me and said, ‘Coach, why don’t you write a play?’ So I did, we won district and it was first published in 1998.”

The name of the play is, “Her Senior Year.” Two decades later, Moree passed his play down to students at Apple Springs High School, who performed it as the school’s inaugural one-act play piece at the District 28-A competition earlier this month and last Thursday at the bi-district competition in Abbott.

The premise of “Her Senior Year” revolves around a high school senior named Blaire Parker in the fictional town of Clearwater, Texas.

“Some like comedy, some like drama and I wanted to do something that had both in it just to cover our bases. There was no personal story behind it. I thought if we come make some people laugh then have somebody die, maybe we can pull at some heartstrings.”

CODY MOREE | AS Superintendent



Apple Springs High School performed “Her Senior Year” at district and bi-district one-act play competitions earlier this month. The play was written by Apple Springs superintendent Cody Moree in the late 1990s.

Clearwater is similar to Apple Springs or other small towns in Texas.

Blaire is the typical all-around student - the presumptive Valedictorian, homecoming queen and really all-around good

student. During the course of her senior year, Blaire contracts leukemia and passes away prior to graduation.

“At that point (when I wrote the play), I had done enough one-act play

directing to know that the judges are human just like anybody else,” Moree said. “Some like comedy, some like drama and I wanted to do something that had both in it just to cover our bases. There was no personal story

behind it. I thought if we come make some people laugh then have somebody die, maybe we can pull at some heartstrings.”

Apple Springs teacher Cori Head directed the play. See **SUCCESSFUL** → Page 2A

Game warden speaks to Groveton Lions

By Jason Chlappek

GROVETON — Sam Shanafelt is living the dream.

A graduate of Groveton and Sam Houston State, he and his high school sweetheart, Nancy (Due) Shanafelt, returned to their hometown where they are raising two sons. Nancy manages the County Seat Cafe, while Sam is a game warden in Trinity County.

Sam spoke to members of the Groveton Lions Club last Thursday during the club’s meeting at the Groveton Senior Citizens Center.

“As game wardens, our mission statement is, ‘Conservation for future generations,’ to make sure your kids and grandkids have opportunities to hunt and fish,” Shanafelt said.



Trinity County Game Warden Sam Shanafelt (left) gave a lecture at the Groveton Lions Club last Thursday. Presenting him with a Certificate of Appreciation is Groveton Lions Secretary Betty Sellers.

Shanafelt works in special operations, which requires him to travel across the state. In addition to him, Anthony King and Randy Watts are

the game wardens in Trinity County.

Shanafelt also talked about requirements to become a game warden and duties

performed in the job.

“To become a game warden, you have to have a bachelor’s degree then you have to apply for the academy and pass the T-COLE exam,” he said. “After that you get placed in a county. A lot of our guys are being sent down to the border because that’s where a need is now. We also make arrests and help out other agencies. Our focus in Trinity County is on the lakes with the spring and summer months approaching. There’s certain levels of punishment for certain offenses. Fishing without a license will result in a citation. You need a license to fish if you’re an adult. Poaching will result in seizure of the weapon used or vehicle used.”



Member of the Month
Lansberry Elementary School first-grader Case Robinson is the Trinity Boys & Girls Club Member of the Month.



WEATHER
This is your local 7 day forecast

THU 3/28
71/45

FRI 3/29
73/51

SAT 3/30
67/56

SUN 3/31
73/63

MON 4/1
74/54

TUE 4/2
68/48

WED 4/3
72/52

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Baseball: See how Indians fair against Eagles. Page 1B

Young attends 2019 TASA/TASB Conference



Representative Trent Ashby, member of the House Public Education Committee, and Apple Springs ISD Master Trustee Audrey Young.

From Staff Reports

The Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) and the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) hosted the TASA/TASB Legislative Conference on Feb. 26, in Austin.

School board members, School Administrators and superintendents gathered to receive an update on legislative activities and proposed bills. The more than 450 attendees learned about education issues currently being considered in the Texas Legislature from Texas House Speaker Dennis Bonnen, Senate Education Committee Chair Larry Taylor, House Public Education Committee Chair Dan Huberty, Senate

Education Committee Member Sen. Royce West, Texas Commissioner of Education Mike Morath and Texas Tribune Executive Director Ross Ramsey.

Bonnen focused on the momentum behind and resources available to address school finance this session and stressed the importance of giving school leaders the resources to serve students. Chairmen Taylor and Huberty talked about their respective, highly anticipated, school finance bills.

Representing Apple Springs ISD, Master Trustee Audrey Young attended the conference (at no expense to the district). TASA and TASB prepared attendees to meet with legislators and staff later

that day.

Young testified before Representatives Hubert and Ashby at the House Public Education Hearing in support of several House Bills relating to providing adequate support for Public Education. Since the conference, the Texas House of Representatives unveiled House Bill 3, a school finance reform proposal that promises to transform the way Texas public schools are funded, and the Texas Senate filed Senate Bill 4, a placeholder school finance bill.

TASA/TASB encourages members to take every opportunity to communicate local district needs and priorities to legislators.

Looking Back

10 YEARS AGO

MARCH 26, 2009 — Grand Champion steer goes for \$3,600;

Prescription drugs seized; Missing woman found apparently drowns as



By Marlena Stubblefield

pickup goes into pond; Council discusses sewer system at meeting Monday evening; Centerville student trailer project stolen at stock show; April is Child Abuse Prevention month. Obituaries for the week: Mary Paulette "Polly" Larsen, 66, of Apple Springs; Billie Jo Bowman, 81, of Pennington; Johnny Clamon, Jr., 70, of Trinity; and Porter Morris Reed, 87, of Trinity.

20 YEARS AGO

April 1, 1999 — Burglary ring broken up by sheriff's department; Florida Boys tossing in Groveton; Local kids make it to finals in nationwide talent contest; Help wanted by VFD-EMS; Jail conditions topic at Lions meeting. No obituaries for the week

30 YEARS AGO

March 30, 1989 — Candidates set for city, school and hospital board races in county; City discusses water well; Public School Week Forum held at Groveton Schools; Winners announced at Timber Fest; Drug lab confiscated. Obituaries for the week: Sarah Clark Holley, 72, of Port Arthur.

Text-to-9-1-1 services now available in Trinity County

The Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) Regional 9-1-1 Program is pleased to announce the availability of Text-to-9-1-1 service in Trinity County.

Text to 9-1-1 is a service that allows citizens to send a text message directly to 9-1-1 for assistance in the event they are unable to make a voice call. Simply send a text as you would normally. In the recipient field enter 9-1-1, compose the message and push send.

Once your text is sent, the 9-1-1 system will send an automated message asking the individual texting

for the address of the emergency. This starts the text session between 9-1-1 and the individual needing emergency help.

In 2018, the Trinity County Sheriff's Office received 7,783 9-1-1 calls. An estimated 240 million calls are made to 9-1-1 in the U.S. each year, and approximately 80 percent of 9-1-1 calls are from cellular phones.

It is important to remember that text to 9-1-1 services should only be used in an emergency situation, when someone is unable to speak. Examples include if the person is deaf, hard-of-hearing, speech

impaired, or when speaking out loud would put the individual in danger.

Text-to-9-1-1 also provides a silent alternative in cases such as a child abduction, active shooter or domestic abuse. When texting 9-1-1, you need to know your exact location and the nature of your emergency.

Use simple language and no abbreviations or slang. Please do not text and drive.

Pull over to a safe location before sending a text to 9-1-1. If you are able, please call 9-1-1.

It takes longer to get all the information when communicating

through text messages. Currently you can only Text-to-9-1-1 with the four major wireless carriers: AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon Wireless™.

If you are in an area where texting service is not available to 9-1-1, you will receive a 'bounce-back' message telling you to make a voice call. If you would like more information about Text-to-9-1-1, please contact Van Bush, DETCOG Director of Regional 9-1-1 Network, at 409-381-5263 or email at vbush@detcog.org.

You can also visit DETCOG's website at www.detcog.org.

SUCCESSFUL

continued from page 1A

Despite not having any prior directing experience, she embraced the role.

"Mr. Moree approached me about One-Act Play last year and this is first time in a long that Apple Springs has done this," Head said. "We decided to go for it. I never really thought about it, but I teach art so (One-Act Play) is kind of in my wheelhouse. We have some very talented kids who performed very well."

The cast was as follows: Emily Brister - Blaire, Layla Powell - Ami, Kaci Northcutt - Shelby, Drayden Tullos - Kyle, Zachary Lumpkin - Todd, Tristan Turner - Aaron, Emma McMullen - Mavis, Kylie Green - Kellie, and Neveah Hernandez and Shy'Linn Lee as customers.

Blayne Coleman was the stage manager, Saige Forrest was sound tech, Ethan Hollis was light tech and Juan Rangel was crew.

"We all read the script together," Head said. "The girls read ahead to see what happened because it leads you to think one thing in one scene then another thing happens. We were very eager and began to see how we fit these people and this play was a good fit for us. We fell in love with it. Everytime they act it, it makes me cry."

Apple Springs qualified for bi-district when it finished second in the 28-A competition. While reading the script made Head and some of her students weep, it took Moree a little more than that to earn his tears.

"I cry only when we mess up," he quipped.



To catch a calf

Haden Coleman of Trinity FFA recently competed in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Calf Scramble on March 4. He succeeded in his efforts and caught a calf. Haden will be raising a Charolais Heifer with the sponsorship he received from Tyson Kennedy. Haden is a freshman at Trinity High School and is the son of Barry and Misty Coleman, and grandson of Debbie Ogden and the late Wayne Ogden and Maurice and Dana Coleman. He is under the direction of Ag Teacher Trinity Pedersen.

SUSPECT

continued from page 1A

was considered armed and dangerous.

Trinity County Sheriff Woody Wallace, Trinity Police Chief Steven Jones and other law enforcement officials were involved in the manhunt for Hanson. Wallace said in a live video posted to his Facebook page last Thursday that Hanson has been binging on meth for several days.

Jones reported that Investigator Cole was checking locations in the Trinity area looking for Hanson in connection with a reported kidnapping and aggravated assault. Details

on that offense were not immediately available.

During that initial search, Jones said another male caught sight of Cole and immediately fled. "Running at the mere sight of a police officer creates reasonable suspicion and probable cause," Jones explained.

The fleeing man fled to a location where Hanson was hiding, Jones said. When the second suspect entered that location, Hanson took flight.

Wallace said Hanson was wearing blue jeans and a red tank top at that time. When the search began, Hanson was believed to be in the Milltown area of Trinity, but he also listed Trilady Park Road and Little Mexico as possible areas where Hanson

could be hiding.

More details on this arrest can be seen in the April 4 edition of the News-Standard.

Here's a look at other arrests made throughout Trinity County last week:

Arrest Information

March 17-23, 2019

March 17

Lionel Deon Johnson, 34, driving while license invalid and possession of a controlled substance.

Rachel Ann O'Hare, 30, Limestone County warrants for forgery and theft.

March 18

David Anthony Scott, 42, Trinity County warrants for endangering child and

unlawful restraint.

Scott Albert Evans, 36, Trinity County warrants for endangering child and unlawful restraint.

Daniel Wayne McKnight, 42, DWI.

Donald McAfee, 37, driving while license invalid.

Travis Lee Roberson, 30, injury to a child and falsifying a drug test.

James Earl Emmons, 50, warrant for burglary.

Jimmy Ray Groze, Jr., 53, displaying fictitious license plate.

Antonio Devonte Ponder, 18, unlawful carry of a weapon and reckless driving.

March 19

Corey Austin Yeager, 20, failure to maintain financial responsibility and displaying

an expired license plate.

William Raymond Stewart, 46, injury to a child/elderly or disabled person.

Jason Alan May, 28, warrants for assault and theft.

Aubrey Jerone Thomas, 38, driving while license invalid and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Michael Everett Turner, 41, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, tampering with identification numbers and driving while license invalid.

March 20

Raymond Dewayne Shank, 43, driving while license invalid and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Antonio Devonte Ponder, 18, possession of a controlled substance.

March 21

Chandler Wade Nichols, 22, evading arrest.

Rachel Delphia Montgomery, 26, possession of a controlled substance and public intoxication.

DeAnn Michele Montgomery, 56, public intoxication.

Dalia Maria Cuellar, 36, unknown capias warrant.

March 22

Lindsay Nicole Overmyer, 36, DWI.

Justin Allen Isbell, 26, possession of drug paraphernalia.

Rachel Rayne Barclay, 18, disorderly conduct.

March 23

Clayton Brice Parish, 17, possession of marijuana.

Misty Lynn Wood, 38, possession of a dangerous drug and possession of a controlled substance in a correctional facility.

Calvin Rose Millican, Jr., 35, possession of a controlled substance.

Lauri Kathryn Hicks, 43, driving while license invalid and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

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Rise

counseling & wellness

Rise provides counseling services for individuals, families, and children. Rise accepts most insurance plans and offers reduced rates on a sliding scale basis for individuals without insurance.

107 W. Main St., Trinity, TX.

936/661-1233

936-642-1687

The Groveton Housing Authority
located on FM 2912-169 M.L. King is accepting applications for housing. We have 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apts. Office hours are Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 9 a.m.

SENIOR MENUS

April 1-5 — Menus subject to change

Martin Senior Center | 936-594-2625

MONDAY
Pork Roast
Potatoes and Carrots
Corn, Wheat Bread
Dessert

Gumbo, Rice
Green Beans, Cornbread
Dessert

TUESDAY
BBQ Chicken
Cheesy Potatoes
Pinto Beans, Cornbread
Dessert

THURSDAY
Hot Dogs, Chili & Cheese,
French Fries, Dessert

WEDNESDAY
Chicken and Sausage

FRIDAY
Battered Fish, French Fries
Coleslaw, Okra
Garlic Bread, Deviled
Eggs, Dessert

Each lunch includes fruit/salad bar and drink for \$5. Call before noon Monday through Friday for more information.

Groveton | 936-642-1541

MONDAY
Salisbury Steak
Scalloped Potatoes
Green Beans, Tossed Salad
Dessert and Fruit
Tea/Coffee/Milk

Broccoli, Rolls
Dessert and Fruit
Tea/Coffee/Milk

TUESDAY
Hamburger, Cheeseburgers
Tater Tots/Baked Beans
Lettuce Tomato Pickles
Dessert and Fruit
Tea/Coffee/Milk

THURSDAY
Beef Enchiladas
Cheese Sauce/Salsa
Mexican Rice, Tossed Salad
Chips, Bread, Dessert and
Fruit, Tea/Coffee/Milk

WEDNESDAY
Oven Fried Chicken
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy

FRIDAY
Fried/Baked Fish/Gumbo
French Fries/Potato Salad
Cole Slaw, Pinto Beans/
Hush Puppies, Dessert and
Fruit, Tea/Coffee/Milk

Apple Springs | 936-831-2671

MONDAY
Chicken Spaghetti
Green Beans, Toss Salad
Garlic Biscuits, Dessert
Milk or Tea

Roasted Potatoes
Garlic Butter Noodles
Rolls, Dessert, Milk or Tea

TUESDAY
Beef Tips and Rice
Corn Casserole
Lima Beans, Cornbread
Dessert, Milk or Tea

THURSDAY
Lasagna, Green Beans
Toss Salad, Garlic Biscuits
Dessert

WEDNESDAY
Salmon Patties

FRIDAY
Fried Catfish, Pinto Beans
French Fries, Hush Puppies
Cold Slaw, Dessert
Milk or Tea

CAPSULES

The Capsule column is available to promote non-profit organizations on a space available basis. Please email your capsule article to grovetonnews@gmail.com or trinity.standard@gmail.com BEFORE noon Mondays

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Happening at the Senior Citizens Center each second Saturday night (April 13) the Ketch'n Keep'em Band. On the fourth Saturday night (April 27) the Clean-Cut Country Band will be performing. The events begin at 6 p.m. Everyone welcome. **Help** is available for community members in the midst of a substance abuse addiction. The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Deep East Texas (ADAC) is here to help guide and support anyone struggling with substance abuse. If you believe you may need assistance, call and arrange an appointment to be scheduled with our Outreach, Screening, Assessment, and Referral Program (OSAR) to find the best support for you. Call ADAC at 936-634-5753 to schedule.

Effective April 1, Trinity Loaves & Fishes will be open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the second and fourth full weeks of each month. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. If any questions call the pantry 936-594-0977 and the hours each month will be posted on the answering machine.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

The Trinity County Commissioners Court meets in the Trinity County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom, at 162 W. First St., Groveton, on March 26 and April 9, at 9 a.m.

The Groveton City Council meets on the fourth Monday of each month at City Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Trinity City Council conducts its regular meeting the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Apple Springs ISD School Board meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Apple Springs School.

Centerville ISD School Board meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Centerville School.

Groveton ISD School Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Administration building at 7 p.m.

Trinity ISD School Board holds its regular meeting the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Administration Building Board Room.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Blanche K. Werner Public Library holds its regular meeting the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the library.

Trinity Hospital District meets the third Monday at the ETMC Conference room at 5:30 p.m.

The Trinity County Historical Commission meets the first Monday of March, June, September and December at noon at the Trinity County Museum, 490 W. First Street, Groveton. Contact Susanne Waller at 936-642-0242.

The Trinity County Fair & Youth Livestock Show Association regular meeting will be held Tuesday, March 26, at 7 p.m. in the Farm Bureau building, David Woods Annex. Parents, grandparents and guardians of all Trinity County 4-H and FFA exhibitors are encouraged to attend the meeting. Everyone is invited. For further information contact Bill Wagner at 936-642-2039.

ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

VFW Post 6899 AND Auxiliary meets every month on the first Tuesday at 400 E. Caroline. Dinner at 6 p.m. Bingo every Thursday and Friday at 6 p.m. Monthly dance every second Saturday at 8 p.m.

Joe Werner Masonic Lodge #553 Called meetings are scheduled on the first, second, and third Tuesdays of the month. Stated meeting is the fourth Tuesday of each month with dinner at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m. For information, 936-661-2101; 281-787-8995 or 594-2459.

Trinity Chapter #186, Order of the Eastern Star, meets each third Monday of the month with dinner at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m. 936-639-7770.

Trinity Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Board meets the first Tuesday at 6 p.m. 936-537-8171.

American Legion Post #314 meets every second Monday and Auxiliary every second Tuesday at Two Bucks, 936-661-7211.

Groveton Lions Club Meeting the first and third Thursday of each month at noon in the Groveton Senior Center. Please come visit.

Trinity Lions Club meets the first, third and fifth Wednesday each month at noon at the Chamber of Commerce building. 936-581-2951.

Knights of Columbus Council #13136 meet the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

See CAPSULES → Page 5A

Air pollution from tank fire sparks lawsuit

AUSTIN — Images of a stream of billowing dark smoke drew the nation's attention last week to a fire that engulfed 11 petrochemical storage tanks at the Intercontinental Terminals Company about 15 miles southeast of Houston in Deer Park.

On March 17, Gov. Greg Abbott ordered that all state resources be made available to local and industry officials and urged residents to heed the warnings of local officials. Governmental bodies in nearby affected areas ordered residents to shelter in place because of concerns about unhealthy air quality. Deer Park Independent School District and other districts canceled classes for several days.

The fire was extinguished on March 20. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on March 22 announced that his office, acting on behalf of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, had filed a lawsuit naming the tank storage company as the defendant. The lawsuit alleges that the fire caused air pollution from benzene, xylene, toluene and other contaminants, in violation of the Texas Clean Air Act.

In a statement accompanying the lawsuit, Paxton said, "No company can be allowed to disrupt lives and put public health and safety at risk."

The Chemical Safety Board, an independent federal agency charged with

State Capital HIGHLIGHTS



by Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

investigating industrial chemical accidents, announced March 21 that an investigation into the fire would be opened.

Jobless rate stays low
Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held at 3.8 percent in February, according a March 22 news release by the Texas Workforce Commission.

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded February's lowest unemployment rate with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.2 percent, followed by the Odessa at 2.7 percent and Amarillo at 2.9 percent.

Growth in the Texas economy continued in February, with 17,700 seasonally adjusted non-farm positions added over the month.

TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughes said her agency "is committed to engaging with all employers across Texas to strengthen our economy and to create and expand opportunities for all."

TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez added, "To ensure positive growth, we must continue to invest in necessary training and education for subsequent generations."

Ticketing system targeted

Photographic traffic signal enforcement systems would be banned under Senate Bill 653 by Sen. Bob Hall, R-Edgewood.

Hall seeks to prohibit municipalities and other local jurisdictions from using red-light cameras as a means of issuing traffic tickets.

In laying out his bill before the Senate Transportation Committee, Hall said that under the redlight camera enforcement, "the innocent owner has then the burden of proof and often great expense of proving that they did not commit the alleged violation. This turns our judicial system completely and utterly upside down by requiring the accused to prove their innocence."

More than two dozen people testified for or against the bill in a March 20 Senate Transportation Committee hearing.

Regents to examine policies

Gov. Abbott on March 18 sent a letter to all Texas public university boards of regents following the U.S. Department of Justice's investigation into an alleged college admissions bribery scheme.

In his letter, Abbott called for governing boards of Texas' institutions of higher education "to examine and investigate admissions policies and procedures to ensure that no university employee engages in

fraudulent schemes, quid pro quo arrangements or improprieties of any sort." He added that Texas parents and students "must have confidence that the system is not rigged."

Busby joins high court

Brett Busby of Houston on March 20 was confirmed by the Texas Senate and sworn in as the newest member of the Supreme Court of Texas for a term set to expire on Dec. 31, 2020.

Gov. Abbott nominated Busby on Feb. 21 to fill the opening left by Justice Phil Johnson of Amarillo, who retired at the end of December.

Busby is a former justice of the Fourteenth Court of Appeals, having served from June 2012 through December 2018. He previously was a partner at Bracewell & Giuliani LLP, an adjunct professor at The University of Texas School of Law and a U.S. Supreme Court law clerk.

New lawmaker sworn in

State Rep. Christina Morales, D-Houston, was administered the oath of office on March 17.

Morales won a March 5 special election runoff to fill the vacancy created when former longtime Texas House District 145 Rep. Carol Alvarado was elected to the Texas Senate to succeed Sen. Sylvia Garcia, who was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in November.

Ashby seeks input from district superintendents

By Rep. Trent Ashby

Spring has officially arrived and so has county fair season.

Like many of you, I love spending time at our county fairs supporting our youth and visiting with friends and neighbors from parts near and far. These events build such a sense of community and provide a unique opportunity to observe the hard work of so many of our youth as they bring their projects and talents to the fair.

Also, I hope you've noticed the wildflowers starting to dot the landscape along our highways. It's a great time to be out and about in East Texas.

With that, here's the latest update from your State Capitol. . .

Legislative Update

After another productive week in Austin, I wanted to give you an update on some recent legislative developments. I had a bill pass on the first day the House could officially vote on legislation this past week.

The bill, House Bill 1244, eliminates the high-stakes end of course U.S. History exam for high school students and replaces the test with the civics portion of the U.S. citizenship test. A big win for students, parents, teachers, and every Texan who shares the belief that students need to grasp basic, foundational information about America's rich and proud history.

As a refresher, once a bill is passed out of the House of Representatives, the bill will go through the entire legislative process again in Senate. The legislation will be referred to a Senate committee, the committee will consider and vote on the bill, then it can be presented to the entire Senate for a final vote.

Should the legislation make it through this step of the legislative process in both chambers without substantive changes, the bill will be sent to the Governor, who can either veto the bill or sign it into law. Another piece of legislation that passed this week was a 'Sunset' bill for the Texas Military Department.

Sunset bills are the product of an extensive review process conducted by the State to ensure that state agencies are still efficiently performing the functions for which they were originally created. The Sunset Commission, which is comprised of ten members of the Legislature - five from the House, five from the Senate, and two appointed members of the public - reviews each state agency every 6-12 years and makes a recommendation as to whether the agency is still needed or how an agency can improve.

As a member of the House Committee on Defense & Veteran's Affairs, I was proud to vote in favor of this bill, as I support the Commission's recommendations to not only

continue the Texas Military Department, but also their recommendations on how to improve their efficiency and programs. I wrapped up the week by having a conference call with several district superintendents to seek their input on a number of issues facing the Public Education Committee.

We talked about the importance of equitable state funding, school safety, and the unique needs of each

district across the state. It's always helpful for me to hear directly from those entrusted with educating our students about what's working and what's not.

Whether it's education, or any other industry or field for that matter, it's always best for legislators to hear directly from those who might be impacted by bills making their way through the legislative process.

Crockett Area Chamber of Commerce Piney Woods Fine Arts Association presents Davy Crockett Music and Arts Festival
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TRINITY COUNTY News Standard
Serving the area since 1905

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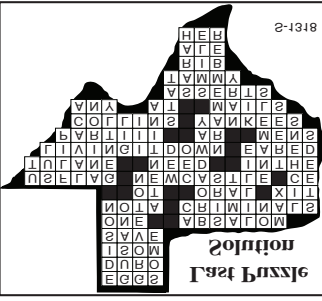
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GARAGE SALES

B-I-G YARD Sale at the Martin Senior Center, 400 Walker Street. Saturday 4/5 7AM - ??? (P)
MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale. April 5, 6, 7. 471 Port Blvd, Port Adventure, 9 miles from Onalaska. Furniture, antiques, clothes & lots of misc.. (P)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Keith Garland McBride, Deceased, were issued on March 20 2019, in Cause No. 5200, pending in the County Court of Trinity County, Texas, to: Jereme Morris.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Shelly Sitton Attorney for Jereme Morris. P.O. Drawer 1617Livingston, Texas 77351. Shelly Sitton Attorney for Jereme Morris. P. O. Drawer 1617 Livingston, Texas 77351. DATED this the 21st day of March, 2019. /s/ Shelly Sitton Attorney for Jereme Morris P.O. Drawer 1617 Livingston, Texas 77351 (936)327-7181 Fax No. (936)327-3798 State Bar No. 24058005 shellysitton@livingston.net

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: The Unknown Heirs of Mose Murphy, Deceased:

On January 9, 2019, Applicant, Yolanda Ward, in cause number 5232, styled In the Estate of Mose Murphy, Deceased filed an Application to Determine Heirship in the County Court of Trinity County, Texas. Said Application may be heard and acted upon by said court after 10 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of publication of this citation.

All unknown heirs in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said county by filing written answer stating their interest in said estate should they desire to do so. Given under my hand and seal of office in Trinity County, Texas the 5th day of March 2019. Shasta Bergman, Clerk County Court of Trinity County, Texas P. O. Box 456 Groveton, TX 75845

(official seal)
/s/ Janette Vasquez
Janette Vasquez, Deputy

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ACROSS

- steak and _____
- Palo _____ Canyon
- this Mareik is a forward for 2016-17 UT BB team
- Sam Dyson's goal when he closes a Ranger game
- TX Kristofferson co-wrote "Day at a Time"
- title name in UT's original manuscript of Faulkner novel
- TXism: "_____ lick of" (none)
- persons residing in TX prisons
- extra playing time for Spurs, Rockets, or Mavericks (abbr.)
- spoken, not written
- once a massive TX Panhandle ranch
- it's raised when a TXn gets an Olympic medal
- in Young County on U.S. 380
- Clint of 1984 film "City Heat" with TX Rip Torn (init.)
- alma mater of former Cowboy kicker Eddie Murray _____ville, TX in Fort Bend County
- TXism: "big frog _____ pond" (VIP)
- 1976 hit for TX Freddy Fender
- TXism: "stubborn as a long-_____ mule"

DOWN

- inventor, Thomas
- TX mescal must have this worm in the bottle
- Trinity County seat
- TXism: "turn _____ clogs" (plov)
- summer cooler (abbr.)
- major street in San Antonio or Tyler
- gentlemen

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- Kenny Rogers as The Gambler, _____: The Legend Continues" (1987)
- Jerry Jones was raised in this state (abbr.)
- _____ Room
- this TX Jim wrote songs for Kenny Chesney
- NY baseballers
- TX Quaid 1999 film: "_____ Given Sunday"
- TX band: "Asleep the Wheel"
- posts
- declares
- TX George Jones was married to this Wynette
- Bar-B-Que tasty
- British beer
- TXism: "no flies on _____" (good looking)
- "welcome" rug (2 wds.)
- TX Judge Roy Bean loved this British actress, Langtry
- TXism: "dab it _____"
- TXism: "hard as putting up _____ windstorm"
- rock fungi
- war horses
- Austin univer.
- _____ Ross State University in Alpine
- tumbling movement
- Port _____ TX in Calhoun County
- used to hit golf ball short or medium distance (2 wds.)
- TXism: "treat it with kid gloves"
- get "hitched"
- TXism: "big biscuit in the pan"
- oil-based paints
- mesquite & pecan
- "Flawhide" trail boss, Favor
- TX Willie's "Farm Aid _____" was in Lincoln in 1987
- TXn who belongs to gun rights group
- RBI is this for Astro and Ranger hitters
- TXism for "not _____ and caboodle"
- former VP candidate, Palin
- TXism: "stretch your lips"

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Julia's Tidbits

Harlem Wizards versus Trinity Misfits game to be April 29

On Saturday, March 23, and I went to a Chili Cook Off in Westwood Shores Subdivision at the Westwood Shores Country Club.



By Julia McMichael

I was hoping the rain would hold off until the evening, because there was another event that happened west of us that I wanted to attend and I will tell you about it down the road. I planned to spy on this event and bring back new ideas for fundraisers in Trinity.

The tickets are here. You can go on line to purchase tickets to the Harlem Wizards Basketball Tournament versus the Trinity County Misfits on April 29, at the Trinity High School Gym at 7 p.m.

The website is www.harlemwizards.com. You can also purchase tickets at various locations downtown and at two TISD school campuses.

Ticket locations are: State Farm Insurance, First National Bank, Trinity County News-Standard, Julia's Tidbits Store, the Boys and Girls Club, Lansberry Elementary School and Trinity Middle School. If you purchase tickets in advance of game night you save \$2 on each

ticket. For more information, please call me at 936-537-8171 or David La Vassaur at 936-594-0778, Trinity Lions Club

President. Now for a sneak preview of the Trinity County Misfits who have volunteered to play or help entertain the Trinity Community and play against the Harlem Wizards.

They are TISD Superintendent Dr. John Kaufman, Steven Jones, James Hester, Rich Scott, Dominic Diamond, George Kane, Patrick Ross, Ivan Juarez, Colton Ray, Tom Hester, George McMichael, Latamara Simmons, Serafin Gonzales, Bennie Schiro, Rocky Wren, Jackie Goodall, a teacher from the Middle School, and seven coaches from Trinity High School to be announced later as a surprise. It will be a surprise to them as well.

We held a Harlem team five years ago and people were angry that they missed it. No excuse now, the seating capacity was maxed out last time, so if you don't want to stand up to watch the game,

you will have to be there when the doors open at 6 p.m. or purchase your tickets in advance and save two dollars.

I love April. April Showers bring May Flowers, right? What I like about April is all the Spring-like activities and the rebirth of everything from trees, to flowers, to tomato plants, to even house cleaning. The first week of April in Trinity is all about selling everything old, so we can buy new stuff.

Listed below are all of the garage sales and food banks that will take place the first two weeks in April. First, the Westwood Shores Subdivision garage sale is April 5-6 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

You have to stop at the guard shack and check in if you are not a resident, but you do not have to pay to get in. Maps are given at this time so you can navigate through the neighborhood and fine the designated homes hosting the sales.

Most home owners have outdoor signs leading to their homes to help the welcome shopper find them. Remember they want to sell their treasures.

If you get lost, call the

security guard at 936-594-5755 and they will come to help you out. Also April 5-6 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., the Wildwood Sisters are hosting their Antique and Vintage Sale at their shop on Highway 19 South next door to the car wash and across the street from Dairy Queen.

They always have new "old" interesting and fun items. If you need it, they have it.

Come see for yourself. Another event that also takes place April 5-6 is at The Gathering, an antique store on Highway 19 South (in the previous Archie's Restaurant building) located before the Veteran's Memorial Bridge. The last known business to occupy this space was the Catfish Kitchen.

It starts at 8 a.m. and lasts until the evening hours. Robin, the owner, is inviting any vendor or resident of Trinity to come set up a table "free" to sell their wares on both of these days.

Please call Robin for more information.

There will also be a sidewalk and clock sale at Julia's Tidbits Shop on April 5-6 at 101 Brantley Street, Suite 4, next door to the Changez Hair Salon from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Harry Bauder

who does repairs to clocks and changes batteries will be there from noon until 5 p.m. Friday, and 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Time and Time Again is the name of Harry's business and he has his clock room in Julia's Tidbit Shop on Brantley Street. In addition to his clock business, he also sells beautiful nick-knacks, glass figurines, unique candy jars and glassware.

Come see the new stuff for spring and taste our items on "Sweet Friday."

And lastly, Soloman's House, will be open April 5-6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on FM Highway 356 next to the Burning Hope Baptist Church.

If these sales make you hungry, then save up your taste buds for the grand finale on Sunday, April 7, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. to attend the Trinity Volunteer Fire Department's Annual Fish Fry fundraiser. You can eat in, take out or drive through to pick up your dinner.

The cost is \$10 a plate. The menu is fried fish, french fries, coleslaw, beans and hush puppies. Come support Trinity's finest and wind up the first weekend in April with good food, good

fellowship and good service. Now for the fun activities for the second week of April. They are:

another rummage sale for the community to attend is April 13. The first yard sale scheduled for the First United Methodist Church is to be held at the Little House located on Elm Street across the street from the Church's main entrance at 131 Elm Street. I don't know the time so call Mrs. Wyble at the Church office, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

That evening on April 13, at 5:30, the Kalin Center will hold their annual Steak and Stomp Fundraiser at the Trinity Community Center next to McDonald's. Call Kathy Page of Bennie Schiro for more information.

Included in the ticket price is dinner, a silent auction, a cake auction and a live auction. So come out and support another worthy cause for children.

The only thing I did not mention about Easter that I love is the Easter Egg Hunts and the Easter Egg Coloring Contests. Hopefully I will have the time and place of all these events in the next issue, so bye for now. JM

Letters to the Editor A successful opening day

I would like to thank everyone involved in working so hard to get the Trinity Youth Baseball season started with a very successful opening day Saturday.

It was a beautiful day for baseball and the fields were in great shape. Hats off to the Board of Directors, the City of Trinity and Trinity County Sheriff's Office for making this a great day for our children to enjoy baseball.

Keith Johnson | Trinity

Trinity Day of Fun

I want to inform people of an event I am wanting to host right here in our lovely town of Trinity. In this day and age, there is so much hatred

and so many people who get looked over or forgot about because they are different.

The event I am wanting to host is going to be a day of fun for the amazing children of Trinity and its surrounding areas. My reason for wanting to do this is to help raise awareness about bullying and to allow the children to meet and be around children with special needs so that they will learn to become friends instead of making fun of someone for being different.

I know I can't change the world with just one day but if during this event it brings smiles and joy to kid's lives who might be going thru something that we don't know about. There is so much going on in the world today that a lot of us have lost our way on how we treat each other.

More people make fun

of, talk down too, or belittle others instead of taking the time out of their day to check on someone, help a stranger, offer assistance without expecting anything in return. Us as adults should be showing our children that it is still good to be kind and have manners.

It is our job to raise them to be respectful men and women. We should want to be examples for our children but if us as adults aren't being good examples, what exactly are we teaching our children.

One of my main reasons for wanting to put on this event is because a lot of young children don't ever have a chance to be around children with special needs. In turn, they aren't taught about it or most don't even know about it and it's the kids that don't know different who would be more likely to not want to

be friends with them because they are different from them, they aren't as popular as they are, or they don't get picked for teams because nobody takes the chance to see the good in everyone.

People now a days are so quick to judge a book by its cover instead of opening it and learning something new. I want this day to include games that kids of all ages, size, or any disability can play.

I want to have stations to make slime and Mother's Day Cards so that the kids will be more likely to say Hello and who knows might grow a wonderful long-lasting friendship. Activities where they have to interact with each other will help them learn about the differences we all have.

I am going to try to have Kid's Karaoke, so we can hear all of the beautiful amazing

voices of our children. I have a couple of people who want to speak about their experience being bullied and to show the ones who are still bullied that it does get better, that there is always somebody around to talk to.

I am tired of hearing of all the precious babies that take their lives behind a bully because that means they felt they had nobody and that is not fair. I remember growing

up and always smiling and saying hello to everyone I came across because you never know when a simple "Hello" can change person's day.

Now that I have filled you all in on why I am wanting to do this event, I hope it makes you all want to come out and meet some new people and maybe just maybe makes someone's day special.

Stephanie Shields | Trinity

CAPSULES

Continued from page 3A

Crimestoppers, Inc. meets each second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Mickey's House. Call 936-662-1502

Martin Senior Center is open Monday through Friday with bingo on Tuesday; 42 on Friday lunch is served Monday through Friday at noon. 936-594-2625.

Trinity Athletic Booster Club meets at 6 p.m. every second Monday of the month in the Trinity High School Library.

AA meets Monday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall of Riverside Methodist Church. 936-438-6647.

The Women's Little House Resale Shop at FUMC Trinity is open every Wednesday from 8-11 a.m. 936-594-3826.

Soul Soup Kitchen at Burning

Hope Baptist Church every Tuesday and Friday night at 6 p.m.

Third Cross Bible based 12-step program for drugs and alcohol recovery, Thursday nights at 6 p.m. Burning Hope Baptist Church.

Recovery Essentials AA Group meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. FUMC Trinity, 131 Elm St. Contact Randy 936-433-7246.

Republican Women of Trinity County meet the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Groveton Community Center at 1 p.m. Fellowship at 12:30 p.m. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.republicanwomen.trinityco.com> or follow us on Facebook at Republican Women of Trinity County.

GOSPEL SINGS

Josserand Independent Baptist Church, just outside Groveton toward Corrigan, have Gospel Singers on the First Saturday night of each month starting at 6 p.m.

Food and fellowship will follow the singing. Everyone is welcome.

Remnant Faith in Pegoda has its regular gospel sing every third Friday at 7 p.m.

Lakeway Baptist Church regular gospel singing is the first Saturday at 5 p.m.

BBQ FUNDRAISER

On Sunday, March 31, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Apple Springs Volunteer Fire Department will host a BBQ fundraiser. It's \$8 per plate that includes a chop beef sandwich, chips, drink and dessert.

This event will be held at the fire station on Hwy. 94 in Apple Springs. Come join us and help support your community.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Ellis Prairie Cemetery Association in Friday will hold its annual meeting Saturday, March 30, at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Friday. All interested people are

welcome to attend.

CHICKEN SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

The Youth Department of First Baptist Groveton will host a Chicken Spaghetti Fundraiser after the morning worship service until all food is gone. Donations only.

At this time, there are 40 children signed up to attend Pinewoods Camp at Woodlake. All proceeds will go to assist the children to be able to go to camp

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AC presents “Extravaganza” Saturday in Temple Theater



LUFKIN – Take a trip through time with the Angelina College Singers, guests and alumni as they bring down the house with songs and dances from the 20s through today during “Extravaganza,” Saturday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Temple Theater on the Angelina College campus. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for seniors, students, and children.

The AC Singers are directed by Beckie Compton and include Nicholus Trusclair of Lufkin, Raquel Rothschild of Nashville,

Tennessee; Quavious Johnson of Conroe, Robyn Adams of Nacogdoches, Caitlyn Hutson of Hudson, and Joyce Maranon of Lufkin. Stacy Dicks is the choreographer and Andrew Harper is the sound technician.

Special guest performers are Hannah Young of Lufkin, Caleb Perkins of Nacogdoches, and Niya Bryant of Apple Springs. Alumni performers are Jad O’Conner, Matthew Oliver, Monica Scurlock, Colin Wise, Kimberly Noble, Josh Robinson, Sarah Jackson, Keren Debose,

Kyree Anderson and Angela Isenblitter Cross.

Musical numbers will include “Turn the Beat Around,” “Soul Man,” “Shake Your Tailfeather,” “Love You I Do,” “Unchain My Heart,” “Great Balls of Fire,” “When Will I Be Loved,” “Proud Mary,” “Car Wash,” “Suddenly,” “Never Enough,” “Cry Me a River,” “Gimme, Gimme,” “A Bushel and A Peck,” “Summertime,” “Someone to Watch Over Me,” “You’re Nobody Till Somebody Loves You,” “Fools Fall In Love,” “Who You Say I Am,” and “I Can Only

Imagine.” There will also be a Frank Sinatra medley, a Dance Evolution group dance, a rousing Charleston number, and the group’s signature song, “Guiding Light.”

“We are so excited to have our special guests and alumni performing with us. It’s wonderful to see the students working together with other performers,” Compton said.

For more information about this event, call the Temple Theater box office at (936) 633-5454, 11 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Kissin’ Kuzzins | By Dickie Dixon

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Seminar to be April 6

Save the Date

Nedra Foster Townsend of Silsbee will discuss three topics, when she speaks to the Deep East Texas Archeological Society at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 1, at the Iris and Anne Howard Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton. They are: Our Spanish/Mexican heritage and its influence on our land systems, The Oklahoma/Texas dispute over the Red River boundary, and Lewis and Clark’s Expedition and the revelation of the western portion of our country.

Finger food and refreshments begin at 6:30. After a short business meeting, Nedra will speak—about 7:10.

For more information, contact Fred Gunden at (409) 384-6544, Kathy Knighton or Terri Woods at (409) 379-2109, or Dickie Dixon at (936) 240-8378. The public can email Fred at bilfre64@yahoo.com, Kathy at kathy.nche@gmail.com, Terri at terri@nchc@gmail.com or

Dickie at dickie.dixon@hotmail.com.

Registration is now open for the Cherokee County, Genealogical Society Spring Seminar. Brochures are now available by contacting the society.

The date is Saturday, April 6. The place is the meeting room of the Rusk Public Library (aka Singletary Memorial Library), 207 East 6th Street in Rusk.

Cost of the seminar is \$15 to cover morning refreshments and a catered sandwich lunch. Reservations to attend the seminar can be made in advance by contacting the society (contact information below) as seating is limited CCGS event planners said.

The first speaking session begins at 9:30 a.m. The speakers for the four-session event, two in the morning and two in the afternoon, are Gary Pinkerton of Houston, Nelta Nolen of Leesville, Louisiana, and Billie Grunden of Jasper.

Pinkerton’s topic will be Early Trails and Migrations into Texas. Pinkerton will have copies of his recent book on Trammel’s Trace for sale and autographing.

Nolen will be speaking about Researching in Louisiana. Grunden will be speaking about Online Research in Old Newspapers and will include information on researching in Mississippi.

More information about CCGS and the upcoming April 6 Genealogy Seminar can be obtained by contacting the CCGS via e-mail to ccgs@suddenlink.net or by calling 1-903-586-0135 and via regular mail at PO Box 1332, Jacksonville, Texas, 75766-1332.

The Third Annual Genealogy Workshop sponsored by the Texas Czech Genealogical Society and the Czech Heritage Museum in Temple is set for April 12-13, at the Czech Heritage Museum and Genealogy Center in Temple. For more information contact Carolyn and Henry Holub at cholub1088@gmail.com or (214) 577-0029.

The Camden Sawmill Reunion will be held on Saturday, April 13, at Pine Grove in Barnum from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please contact Dianne Amerine or Sharon (Shives) Coleman.

Andra (Ricks) Jay,

President of the LHS Class of 1969 Reunion Committee says: “Our 50th class reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 19, from 6-11 p.m. at the VFW with Glen Lenderman and his band for our entertainment. More information will be available at a later date.

If you have not joined our Web page, Lufkin High School Class of 1969, please do so with a good mailing address. Hope to see everyone there.

The public can reach Andra at Memawjayx5@yahoo.com at (936) 897-3518 or (936) 238-9009. The author adds: If you or your spouse graduated with the class of 1969 and served in the military, we want to honor you at our reunion.

Please contact me in the manners listed below.

For book reviews/notices please send a complimentary copy to Kissin’ Kuzzins, P. O. Box 151001, Lufkin, Texas 75915-1001. Send your queries to dickie.dixon@hotmail.com by mail to Kissin’ Kuzzins, P. O. Box 151001, Lufkin, Texas 75915-1001 or by phone to (936) 240-8378.

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Indians back on track after rout of Eagles

From Staff Reports

After a pair of one-run road losses at Cushing and Douglass, respectively, the Groveton baseball team got back on track last Friday.

The Indians exploded for 11 runs in the bottom of the first inning and never looked back in a 17-2 rout of Apple Springs in a District 22-2A contest at Groveton High School. The game was called in the bottom of the fourth because of the 15-run rule.

Groveton (7-6, 1-2 in 22-2A) was led by Braxton Terry (3-4, 3B, 4 RBI), Blake Hollis (2-2, HBP, 2B, RBI) and Trenton Torregrossa (2-2, HBP, RBI). Anthony Chavez (0-1, 2 BB, HBP, RBI), Kaleb Coats (1-2, BB, RBI), Cole Dewitt (BB), Chance Hart (1-2, BB, 2 RBI), Kaden Hollis (1-1), Ryan Luna (2 BB, 2 SAC, 2 RBI), Cade Steubing (1-1, 2 BB, HBP, 2 RBI) and Eli Stewart (1-2, BB, RBI) also contributed. Ryan Turner went the



Groveton baseball coach Wayne Williams (right) waves for one of his players to run toward home plate during a recent game.

distance for the Indians on the pitcher's mound. He surrendered two runs on four hits and a walk and struck out eight.

Drayden Hollis (1-2, 2

RBI) led Apple Springs (0-3, 0-3 in 22-2A) at the plate. Blayne Coleman (0-1, BB), Cameron Duke (1-2), Jacob Freeman (1-2) and Mason Suggs (1-2) also contributed.

The Indians visited Wells on Tuesday and hosts Kennard at 6 p.m. Friday. The Eagles hosted Douglass on Tuesday, will visit Alto at 6 p.m. Friday and host Cushing

at 6 p.m. next Tuesday.

In Groveton's 2-1 loss at Douglass on March 19, Chavez was involved in a pitcher's duel against Wyatt Tucker. Chavez surrendered two runs on four hits and three walks and also struck out five, while Tucker gave up a run on four hits, two walks and a hit batsman while striking out 12.

Torregrossa (2-4) led the Indians at the plate. Chavez (1-3), Hollis (0-2, HBP), Steubing (0-2, BB) and Terry (1-2, BB, RBI) also contributed.

Apple Springs lost to Kennard, 6-5, on March 19 as well. Statistics from this contest were not available at press time.

TRINITY

The Tigers suffered a pair of run-rule losses at the hands of Hempstead and Coldspring-Oakhurst, respectively, last week in 23-3A play. Trinity (3-12, 0-2 in 23-3A) managed just

three hits in a 28-1 loss to Hempstead on March 19 in Trinity.

Brady Bauer (1-2), Andrew Beasley (1-2) and Cole Caldwell (1-1) recorded the Tigers' hits. Conner Birkes (0-1, BB), Ethan Cheatham (0-1, BB, SAC), Nick Ford (HBP), Brayden Greer (0-2, BB) and Peyton Leftwich (0-1, SAC, RBI) also contributed.

In Trinity's 18-3 loss in Coldspring last Friday, Beasley (2-3) led his team at the plate. Bauer (1-3), Caldwell (0-1, BB), Cheatham (0-2, HBP), Greer (1-2, HBP, 2 RBI), Dustin Bogs (1-3, 2B), Sean Crabtree (0-1, BB, RBI) and Tanner Williams (0-2, HBP) also contributed.

The Tigers hosted Anderson-Shiro Tuesday night. They visit Onalaska at 6:30 p.m. Friday and New Waverly at 6:30 p.m. next Tuesday.



The Trinity softball team received new uniforms last week. The Lady Tigers wore those uniforms for the first time March 19 when they defeated Hempstead.

Lady Tigers split league contests

By Jason Chlapek

TRINITY — There are times where a loss can be a good thing.

At least that's the way Trinity softball coach Shaun Stout sees it. After suffering their first district loss since Stout's first season in his second tenure (2016) on March 11 against New Waverly, the Lady Tigers seem to be turning the corner.

"Going into the New Waverly game, we had some success in the past and I think it was very easy for the girls to become complacent with things," Stout said. "Coach (Cliff) Harmon and I saw this. The loss hit us hard and it was very emotional. One of my former assistants (Eric Drodgy) is now over there and it's always hard playing against a former coach. I

really believe complacency was a problem in that game. They say sometimes things happen for a reason and I think this was the best thing that ever happened to us. The girls really came together after that."

Trinity (6-10, 1-2 in District 23-3A) split its contests last week. The Lady Tigers blasted past Hempstead, 15-5, on March 19 in Trinity, but lost a 9-7 heartbreaker at Coldspring-Oakhurst last Friday.

"We worked really hard focusing on controlling the outcome at the plate hitting wise instead of being over anxious at the plate," Stout said. "We also worked on controlling the outcome by producing runs and hits. We had some things that we needed to fix defensively, especially with our small-ball

approach. When Hempstead tried to small-ball us, we were prepared. The loss really brought the girls to where they needed to be. We have no pressure on us now. We've had pressure on us for three years in being the team that everybody wanted to beat. It was a reminder of how easily things cannot go your way. It was a lesson in life. Not only are we learning lessons on the field, but also lessons that will help us out in life."

Junior left fielder Andriana Clay and senior shortstop Mallory Stout each had their takes on the Lady Tigers' first two games of 23-3A play. In the win against Hempstead, Clay was 2-for-3 with a walk, while Stout was 2-for-4 with a double and two RBIs.

"We had some good practices and Coach Stout made sure we were prepared

for our next game (against Hempstead," Clay said. "The New Waverly loss made us realize that we have to keep our head in the game at all times. We can't let the little

See LADY TIGERS → Page 2B



Final lift of the season

Trinity athletes Aundrea Holmes (left) and Trey Goodman competed in the Texas High School Powerlifting Association state meet last Saturday in Abilene. Holmes, a senior, finished sixth in the 132-lb weight class and Goodman, a sophomore, took 13th in the 148-lb class.

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Lady Indians split, Lady Eagles swept

From Staff Reports

TRINITY COUNTY — With the first half of District 24-2A softball play coming to a close, the Groveton and Apple Springs softball teams are battling to stay in the thick of the district championship race.

The Lady Indians trail Big Sandy by one game for first place in the league standings after dropping a 9-8 decision to the Lady Cats on March 19. The Lady Eagles also lost to Big Sandy, 19-

9, last Friday.

Groveton (8-8-3, 5-1 in 24-2A) closed out the week with a 7-2 victory at Zavalla, while Apple Springs (2-9, 0-3 in 24-2A) also lost to Colmesneil, 21-0, on March 19. The Lady Indians and Lady Eagles met Tuesday night in Groveton.

Groveton hosts Spurger at 6 p.m. Friday and visits Chester at 4 p.m. next Tuesday. Apple Springs hosts Chester at 4:30 p.m. Friday.

GROVETON

The Lady Indians exploded for

five runs in the top of the first inning and never looked back in a 7-2 victory at Zavalla last Friday. Shelby Arnold (3-4, 2 RBI), Chasity Blair (2-4, RBI) and Maicey Smith (2-4, 2B, HR, RBI) led Groveton at the plate.

Madison Castro (1-3), Eden Dillard (1-3, BB, 3B), Paige Helman (1-4, RBI) and Maddie Turner (1-3, 2 RBI) also contributed. Helman gave up two runs on six hits and struck out five on just 38 pitches.

The Lady Indians were unable to complete their comeback

attempt from a 6-0 deficit in a 9-8 loss at Big Sandy on March 19. Groveton tied the game in the top of the sixth and seventh, but the Lady Cats had the answer in both of their halves of those frames, which included a walkoff score in the bottom of the seventh.

Arnold (2-4, 2B, RBI), Castro (2-3, BB, 2B), Helman (2-4), Smith (2-5, 2B, RBI) and Paige Vander Stucken (3-4, 2 2B, 3 RBI) led the Lady Indians at the plate. Blair (1-3, 2 BB), Dillard (1-5, 2B) and Lena Taylor (1-3, HBP, 2B, RBI) also contributed.

APPLE SPRINGS

The Lady Eagles suffered a pair of run-rule losses to Colmesneil, 21-0, and Big Sandy, 19-9, respectively, last week. In the loss to Big Sandy, Sidney Faver and Layla Powell both went 2-3 with a pair of RBIs, while Brynn Davis (1-2, BB), Kylie Green (1-2, SAC, RBI), Erinn Grundmann (1-3, RBI) and Kayla Pickle (1-3) also contributed.

Kelsey Wesley had the Lady Eagles' only hit in the loss to Colmesneil.

LADY TIGERS

Continued from page 1B

things that happen control the outcome of the game."

"(New Waverly) was a hard game to lose," Stout added. "We normally have that situation (the bad game) come in the playoffs, but I think now that we've had it early in the season, we'll be very capable of how to handling it in the playoffs. I think that's how the loss will benefit us most. It also taught us how to fight. We never gave up and that's all that really matters. We've always gotten beat in the first round and this year we're hoping to get past that. We have that problem in a lot of sports here (losing in the first round), but I think if maybe

we can do it then the other sports will see that they can do it. Beating Hempstead put us back in our normal position knowing that we're still the team we were last year and we're still capable of the things we did. That loss won't affect our psyche. We just have to move forward, take it one game at a time and play to the best of our ability."

Sophomore outfielder/pitcher Cynthia Sizemore had a huge night against Hempstead as well. She was 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles, her first career grand slam and six RBIs, and also pitched the final two innings.

"I saw a high fastball right down the middle and I sent it over left field," Sizemore said. "I ate sausage before the game and I had a different

"One of the biggest things we always try to focus on is to score and produce runs quick in tournaments ... We use those games as practice for district. That way we can jump on our opponents real quick, shellshock them, get in their heads and control the game. When we get going, we just explode."

SHAUN STOUT | Trinity softball coach

hairstyle. I should stick with those."

Against Hempstead, the Lady Tigers produced a pair of six-run innings in the second and fifth. Their coach preaches the importance of scoring quickly.

"One of the biggest things we always try to focus on is to score and produce runs quick in tournaments," Shaun Stout said. "We use those

games as practice for district. That way we can jump on our opponents real quick, shellshock them, get in their heads and control the game. When we get going, we just explode."

Other standouts at the plate against Hempstead were Bailey Butcher (2-4), Peyton Robb (2-4, 2B, RBI), Kelly Simons (1-3, BB, RBI), Lilly Sizemore (0-1, BB, HBP,

SAC, RBI), Kori Smith (1-3, SAC, 2 RBI) and Raychel Thompson (0-1, BB, 2 HBP), and Emily Ancira earned the win in the pitcher's circle with four innings pitched.

"Getting past the first round is something we haven't done," Smith said. "I want to get past the first round. Our goal is to win state, but we have to at least get past the first round. I like the high and low balls. I look for those pitches and drive it."

In last Friday's loss at Coldspring, Trinity led 5-0 heading into the bottom of the sixth and Cynthia Sizemore had a no-hitter at that point before the Lady Trojans began their comeback. C-O used a pair of singles and two errors to score four runs and pull within one, 5-4, after six.

Stout and Sizemore each recorded RBIs in the top of the seventh to increase the Lady Tigers' lead to 7-4, and Sizemore struck out two batters after surrendering a leadoff double to move her team within one out of victory. But the Lady Trojans used two singles and a pair of walks to score twice and load the bases for Harlie Richey, who cleared the bases with a walkoff triple.

Sizemore struck out 10 batters in the circle and went 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles and three RBIs. Stout (2-3, BB, 2B, RBI) also had a multi-hit game, while Butcher (1-4), Robb (1-3), Simons (1-3), Smith (0-3, SAC, RBI), Thompson (1-3, RBI) and Lilly Sizemore (1-2, BB) also contributed.

Trinity hosted Anderson-Shiro on Tuesday. The Lady Tigers visit Onalaska at 6 p.m. Friday and New Waverly at 6 p.m. next Tuesday.

CORRECTION: In a story that was published March 21 about the Trinity softball team, the coach of the 2016 team was misidentified. The coach of that team was Shaun Stout.

East Texas Fishing Report

By Matt Williams
Outdoors Writer

LIVINGSTON - Water level is six inches high and stained to muddy. Water temperature in the upper 60s, low 70s.

Fishing guide Jeromy Francis say bass fishing is good to five pounds using Texas rig craws and lizards in skinny water around brush, stumps and other shore cover. Fishing guide Dave Cox says white bass are good up White Rock, Harmon, Nelson and Bedias creeks, hitting Roadrunners, Tsunami Cocktails and Traps fished slowly around sand bars. Crappie fishing is good in the same creeks from the bank out to four feet, Cox said.

HOUSTON COUNTY - Water level about two inches high and stained. Surface temp in the upper 60s.

Crockett Family Resort says black bass are good to 7 1/2 pounds using assorted soft plastics and square bill cranks in skinny water. Crappie are fair to 1 1/2 pounds on jigs and shiners under a cork. Some good quality bream reported on night crawlers and shiners. Catfish are fair to seven pounds on jug lines tipped with shad.

NACOGDOCHES - Water level is about three inches low and stained. Water temp in the upper 60s, low 70s.

Bass anglers reporting some solid fish to five pounds on soft plastics and swim jugs worked around shallow cover, 1-3 feet. Lots of buck bass roaming. Expect plenty of boat traffic.

TOLEDO BEND - Water level is one foot low and stained. Water temp in the upper 60s.

White bass guide Jane Gallenbach says anglers are still catching limits up the Sabine using Roadrunners tipped with crawfish, but the spawning run is winding down.

Rhonda Shavley at Bill's Landing says catfishing is good on cut bait. Seeing a few

See REPORT → Page 3B

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FAT CATS

Tawakoni rod and reelers score 67-pound youth state record, 78-pounder on same day

By Matt Williams
Outdoors Writer

Word travels fast when a youngster reels in a great big fish.

Just ask Brayden Rogers of Cisco. The 13-year-old angler caught a 67-pound blue catfish on March 16 at Lake Tawakoni. He's been bombarded by a media blitz ever since as news outlets all over the country — some from as far away as Maine — continue to pick up on a story built around the Cisco Junior High 7th grader and his kingsize whiskered fish.

"It's been unreal," said Amanda Rogers, the angler's mother. "The story is everywhere. Brayden keeps telling me 'but it's just a fish, mom.' I'm like, yeah, but it's a really big fish. He's a pretty humble kid."

Rogers' mom is right about the size of the fish. In fact, the fat cat is big enough that will likely dethrone Lane Ferguson's 66.20 pounder as the heaviest blue cat ever caught in Texas on a rod and reel by a youth angler. Ferguson caught his fish in Dec. 2011 at Lake Worth, a 3,500-acre lake located in Fort Worth. He was 12 at the time.

Rogers' paperwork on the 47-inch long fish has been submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. It is currently awaiting approval and certification through the state's Angler Recognition Program.

Land of the Giants

It's was a nice surprise to hear that a kid had caught such a big fish, but it wasn't much of a shock to learn that it was pulled from Tawakoni. The 38,000-acre reservoir



Photo courtesy Littlejohn's Guide Service
Stephen Nixon caught his 78-pound blue cat at Tawakoni while drifting a chunk of gizzard shad over the same area that produced Rogers' cat.

located 45 miles east of Dallas ranks among the best in the state for trophy-size catfish of all kinds. The lake record blue cat is 87.50 pounds and the record flathead is 88 pounds. The lake record channel cat is a 29.80 pounder.

TPWD fisheries biologist Jake Norman of Tyler says Rogers' catfish reflects the quality of fish Tawakoni is capable of producing in numbers. He suspects there are plenty of bigger ones in the lake, too.

"There's no doubt about about it," Norman said. "It's a great fish. It wouldn't surprise me to see some more water body records broken there in the next year or two. The guides up there are really good at catching these

big fish, the regulations are tailored towards making it a trophy fishery and the fish are growing."

Reeling in the Record

Rogers caught the big cat during a spring break fishing trip with his grandfather, Steve Billings, and cousin, Trent Huffman, both of Ranger. The anglers were fishing with Noel Ibarra, a full-time guide with Michael and Teri Littlejohn's Tawakoni Guide Service.

The guide had staged a drift over 22-25 feet of water at the north end of the lake using fresh gizzard shad heads for bait. Roughly 20 minutes into the first drift, something big gobbled up Rogers' bait. The youngster battled the

fat cat for about 10 minutes before Ibarra got a net under the big fish and wrestled it aboard.

Ibarra, 40, said he has been guiding on Tawakoni since 2000. He has seen dozens of whopper blue cats, including an 80 pounder that one his customers caught last year. He feels certain there are even bigger one finning around out there.

"Absolutely there are," he said. "There have been some 80 pounders released that could easily go in the 90s by now. Personally, I believe there is a 105-pounder out there right now. These fish are really fat and healthy."

Ibarra said he said he knew from the moment the fish grabbed Rogers' bait that it was a giant.



Courtesy Photo Steve Billings
Brayden Rogers (center) displays his 67-pound pending youth state record blue catfish. Rogers reeled in the big cat on March 16 while fishing at Lake Tawakoni with fishing guide Noel Ibarra (left). Assisting is Teri Littlejohn (right).

"You can tell by the take down on the rod," he said. "I could tell by the way the fish bent Brayden's pole over that it was 60 pounds or better. When I saw it come up beside the boat, I felt pretty certain it was a new record or really close to it."

Ibarra didn't waste any time finding out. The group cut the trip short and took the fish to Trotline Bait and Tackle shop in West Tawakoni, where it was weighed on certified scales. Rogers said the 67-pound fish was nearly double the size of any fish he had previously caught.

"My biggest fish before this was a 34-pound red snapper I caught deep sea fishing," Rogers said. "My pappy told me there are some massive catfish in Tawakoni, so I was pretty excited about the chances of catching one. It feels awesome to have the record."

Interestingly, Rogers wasn't the only Tawakoni angler who found the big ones biting that day.

Roughly six hours after the youth reeled in the 67 pounder, Stephen Nixon of Woodson boated a 78-pound

blue cat, also using a big fresh chunk of gizzard shad. He was accompanied by fishing guide Michael Littlejohn.

"Both of those fish came from exact same area, probably 50 yards apart," Littlejohn said. "It's a big flat the fish are using as they transition to spawn. Those fish are on the move right now."

According to Teri Littlejohn, Rogers and Nixon elected to donate their fish to the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens for live display in one of the facility's large aquariums. TFFC aquarium curator Wayne Heaton says the two catfish are currently in quarantine and undergoing treatment.

"They appear to be doing just fine right now, but it's still pretty early in the quarantine period," Heaton said. "They will probably be in quarantine for 30-60 days. After that we'll make the decision as to where we'll put them."

Matt Williams is a freelance writer based in Nacogdoches. He can be reached by e-mail, mattwillwrite4u@yahoo.com.

REPORT

Continued from page 2B

flatheads in the 20-40-pound range and blues to 50 pounds. Crappie and bass have slowed a little, still good in creeks and sloughs using jigs and shiners. Some crappie up to 2 1/2 pounds reported.

Fishing guide Tommy Martin says bass anglers are reporting 20-25 fish per day using Texas rigs, Senkos and wacky rigs in skinny water. Several fish over 10 pounds turned in to the Toledo Bend lunger program.

PINES - Water level is two inches high and stained. Water temp in the upper 60s.

Local angler Jim Tutt says bass are good to 11 pounds on plastics and swim baits fished shallow in the backs of creeks and over grass up north. Crappie are excellent in shallow water on small spinners and shiners. Catfish are slow.

NACONICHE - Water level

about three inches low and clear. Water temp in the upper 60s.

Local angler David Russell says bass fishing has been hit or miss with most bites coming in skinny water using plastics and swim jigs tossed around lay downs. Some bedding activity reported. No report on crappie.

FORK - Water level is five inches low and stained to muddy. Water temp in the mid-60s.

Tony Parker says bass fishing has been good to 12 pounds on bladed jigs, spinnerbaits and Senkos worked in 2-10 feet. Not many numbers, but some excellent quality. Several in the 10-pound range reported. Fishing guide Gary Paris is picking up good numbers of crappie on long poles with shiners in shallow water. No report on catfish.

CONROE - Water level is at full pool and stained to clear. Water temp in the upper 60s, low 70s.

Fishing guide Butch Terpe says bass fishing has been fair to five pounds on black trick worms fished in 2-4 feet in the backs of protected coves. Most of the fish are wanting to be shallow. Crappie are on the banks in the backs of creeks and around marina boat docks. Catfish are good over baited holes in 20 feet using cheese bait on a sponge hook.

SAM RAYBURN - Water level is 3.51 feet high and stained to clear. Water temp in the upper 60s, low 70s.

Fisheries biologist Todd Driscoll says bass are good on plastics and jigs flipped in flooded willows and buck brush in 3-5 feet of water. Also, some fish taking Senkos and Texas rigs around outer edge of bushes. Spinnerbaits and swim jigs also producing a few fish. Crappie fishermen are picking up a few keepers in the backs of creeks in skinny water on minnows and shiners.



COUNTY VALUES SEE MARKED INCREASE

The Trinity County Appraisal District announced today taxable; values for Trinity County will be increasing for the 2019 Tax Year. The notices to individual taxpayers whose property has increased will be mailed in early May.

The Appraisal District has its back to the wall in setting values. If the values fall below the state values by more than 5 percent the local schools in the county will lose state funding. The state will be coming in to the Appraisal District later this summer and performing a Value Audit (Ratio Study) on the local district. The Audit done by the State Comptroller compares sales prices with the appraised values set by the Appraisal District. The composite totals of each school district must be at least 95% of sales prices or the Appraisal District fails the study said Gary Gallant, Chief Appraiser.

When a taxpayer receives their notice of value, the first question they should ask themselves is, "Could I sell my home this amount?" If the answer is yes then the Appraisal District has done their job. If the answer is no, then the taxpayer should call the District and discuss the issue with an appraiser first. If a resolution can not be met, a protest may be filed with the Appraisal District. The form will be on the back of the notice of value.

The taxpayer will have another opportunity to discuss the value of their home with staff again. Since the basis of the appraisal is an outside view of the property and comparable in the areas, there are sometimes things that are impacting the property that the appraisal district is unaware of. Through a discussion and sharing of information, including sharing information on which the value was based, and adjust;ld value may be offered if the facts warrant an adjustment. The taxpayer may accept the value offered by the staff appraiser or they may appeal to the Appraisal Review Board, a group of citizens who hear the appeals of property owners. This Board is an independent board separate from the Appraisal District. Good types of evidence that the taxpayer can present is a recent settlement statement showing the sale price of the property within the past two years, a fee appraisal performed recently, pictures of damage to the property the District may be unaware of along with cost estimates to fix problems, or cost of construction.

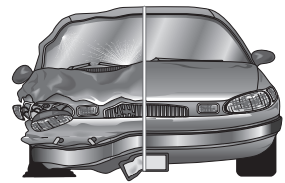
The Appraisal District expects a large number of calls this year due to increases, a large number of these can be fixed with sufficient evidence. We will work with all taxpayers to ensure that they get information they need and a hearing if they wish to have one.

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SCRIPTURES FROM NEIL

How about mixing Religions? *Deuteronomy 7:1-* God told His people-Don't intermarry with these other nations or they will introduce their religions or mix their religion with yours. *1 Kings 11:1-* Solomon loved many foreign women. As Solomon grew old his wives turned his heart after other religions. The Lord became angry with Solomon. Solomon had built other places of worship for his wives and "mixed" in their worship. VS. 10-Solomon did not keep the Lords commands.

Part II

Do We Bear a Family Resemblance?

Like I said last week, all professing Christians claim to be in the family of God, but do we bear a family resemblance?

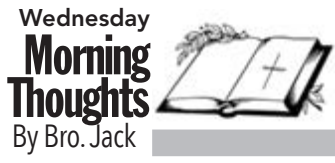
Our Christian faith is not just something we celebrate in our churches once a week; it is something we live every day. How can people really tell we are a Christian?

Well, they can tell when we live our life unselfishly; when we love people unconditionally; and when we trust God unreservedly. I often wonder what Jesus would think about the way we use power, the way we intimidate and manipulate to get our way all the time.

I think He would be turned off by our "me-ism" approach to life, because it goes so directly against the grain of everything He taught and stood for – to live life unselfishly. Jesus said, "The greatest among us is the one who serves."

And Jesus went unselfishly to the cross to give Himself up for you and me. And He wants us to imitate His gracious, generous, compassionate, merciful, loving ways! And trust – have faith – in Him completely.

As Christians, we can be courageous and confident because God is with us, and nothing – not even death – can separate us from Him. God wants us to do the best we can in the way we live each day and trust Him to



By Bro. Jack

bring the end result out right – in His own good time – which is always perfect.

God is trustworthy and He wants us to be trustworthy. God is loving and He wants us to be loving.

God is gracious and wants us to be gracious. God is merciful and wants us to be merciful.

God is compassionate and wants us to be compassionate. When we are a Christian, the whole world wants to see our spirit of humility, gentleness, patience, love, peace, trustworthiness, mercy, and compassion.

Can the world still see our resemblance to the family of God? And can the world see our dedication?

We live in a world where more and more people are arrogantly dedicating life to no higher purpose or cause than themselves. Is that not sad?

To whom – and to what – is our life dedicated? In the 21st chapter of John, when the Risen Lord commanded Simon Peter to "Follow Me," what did He mean?

Simply this: Jesus Christ is saying to Simon Peter, and to us, "If you love Me, dedicate your life to Me." If you love Me, dedicate your life to

continuing My ministry.

When Christ said, "If you love Me, tend My sheep," He meant, "If you love Me, dedicate your life to loving-kindness." That is what being a Christian means: dedicating our lives – our kindness, our courage, and our service – to Christ and His church.

Do we bear a family resemblance? If not, maybe it is time we start trying to live up to the truths of the Bible by influencing others for good, supporting our church, living our lives unselfishly, loving people unconditionally, trusting God unreservedly, showing our spirit of forgiveness, and dedicating our lives to Christ and His church.

But this is not the end ... it is to be continued next week.

This is Brother Jack, pastor at First United Methodist Church in Lovelady and Center Hill United Methodist Church in Kennard inviting all who are reading this article to join us in worshipping God through unconditional love, unreserved forgiveness, and unselfish service. And as we walk through this "fallen world," may we seek to fulfill the fruits of the Spirit in all of our relationships, whether friend or foe, as found in Galatians 5:22-23 – "Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control" – in all we do and say.

Social Security Column

Social security and small businesses

By Verlon Clifton
Social Security Operations Supervisor
in Lufkin TX



Running a small business isn't just a fulltime job — it can be a 24-7 endeavor. Managing employees, inventory, scheduling, and services, not to mention marketing, can be exhausting. Social Security can make your life easier with our suite of services that allows you to file W-2/W-2Cs online and verify your employees' names and Social Security numbers against our records.

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publication will give you more information about electronic wage reporting www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10034.pdf.

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Bass, Minister (936) 744-0093 Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM</p> <p>Trinity Church of Christ David D. Collier, Sr., Minister Bible Class 10 AM Worship 11:00AM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p>CHURCH OF GOD Campbell Memorial Church of God In Christ Elder Cleven V. Thompson, Pastor 600 W. Main Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11:15 AM YPWW- Sunday 6:30 PM</p> <p>Church of God Jack and Debbie Black, Pastors Hwy. 94 Adult Bible Study 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Wednesday Evening 7 PM</p> <p>Revival Center Church of God, Onalaska Gerald Reeves, Pastor Sunday School 9:45AM Morning Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Evening 5 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p>Westside Church of God in Christ Bernard Boston, Pastor 200 Israel Otis, Trinity, Sunday School 9:30 AM Morning Worship 11:30 AM Eveing Worship 7:45 PM</p> <p>FULL GOSPEL Lighthouse Cowboy Church Len Smith, Pastor Odessa St., Trinity 594-2228 Sunday Service 11 AM Wednesday Service 7:30 PM</p> <p>New Beginning Full Gospel Church David Horace, Sr., Pastor 522 Josserand Rd. (936) 675-2848 Worship 10 AM Wednesday Bible Study 6 PM</p> <p>The Risin' Sun Church Ron Conatser, Pastor FM 356, Trinity Sunday School 9 AM Sunday Service 10 AM Sunday Youth Church 7 PM Wednesday Service 7 PM Thursday Cowboy Church 7 PM</p>	<p>Word of Love Worship Center Travis & Rebecca Beakley, Pastors 594-8014 101 Filmore, Trinity Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Sunday Evening 6 PM Tuesday Bible Study 6 PM Thursday Worship 6 PM</p> <p>INTERDENOMINATIONAL Liberty Christian Center Kelly Barker, Pastor 101 W. Main, Trinity, Church 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Wednesday 7 PM Friday Youth Impact 7-11 PM</p> <p>LUTHERAN Faith Lutheran Church & School LCMS Rev. Travis A Pitlock Sr., Pastor Hwy. 30W. & Sumac Rd., Huntsville (936) 295-5298 Sunday School 9:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM</p> <p>Grace Lutheran Church Rev. Thomas St. Jean West Loop 304 at Hall's Bluff Rd., Crockett 936-544-3508 Sunday School 9 AM Sunday Worship 10:30 AM</p> <p>METHODIST First United Methodist-Groveton Keith Broyles, Pastor 155 Church Ave. (936) 642-1249 or (936) 707-4595 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Sunday Youth Worship 3:30 PM Sunday Bible Study 6:30 PM</p> <p>First United Methodist-Trinity Rev. John J. Goodwin, Pastor 131 N. Elm (936) 594-3826 Sunday School 9:30 AM Traditional Morning Worship 11AM</p> <p>Glendale Congreg. Methodist Barbara Campbell, Pastor 184 Glendale Church Road Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 7 PM Wednesday 6:45 PM</p> <p>Prairie View United Methodist Keith Broyles, Pastor 307 Denman Road (936) 642-1249 Sunday School 9 AM Morning Worship 9 AM Tuesday Bible Study 4:30 PM Wednesday Nogalus Quilters 8 PM</p> <p>Riverside United Methodist Max Nichter, Pastor Worship 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7:30 PM</p> <p>Sebastopol Community Church Michael & Sharon Schuetz, Pastors Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11 AM</p> <p>Trinity Chapel A.M.E. Church E. Sterling Lewis Jr., Pastor 908 S. Robb St., Trinity (281) 847-3414 or (713) 206-6134 Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p>NON-DENOMINATIONAL Living Word Outreach Church Lynn and Dana Gentry, Pastors (936) 594-8081 Sunday 11 AM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p>Open Door Outreach Ministry Billie J. Coleman Sr., Pastor 418 West Main St (936) 438-3923 Sunday Worship 11:30 AM Wednesday Bible Study 6 PM</p> <p>Remnant Faith Church of Pegoda Jimmie and Marynn Carrico Pastors 662-8496 or 662-8926 Sunday School 9:30 AM Morning Worship 10:45 AM Sunday Evening 6 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p>River of Life Mike and Suzanne Loftin, Pastors 594-6262 Sunday School 9:30 AM Sunday Morning 10:30 AM Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study Youth Ministry 7:00 PM</p> <p>The Gathering 301 Church Street 594-9559 Sunday School 10 AM Sunday Worship 11 AM Wednesday 6:30 PM</p> <p>Westwood Shores Chapel in the Pines A. Leroy Brown, Pastor Worship Service 9 AM</p> <p>PENTECOSTAL Calvary Tabernacle Apostolic P.C. Guy Hargrave, Pastor (Nelson Amaya for Spanish services) Highway 94/E. Caroline St. Morning Service 11 AM Sunday School 10 AM Spanish Service 2 PM Evening Worship 5 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p>Sebastopol Friendship Harbor Reagan Duncan, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Wednesday Service 7:30 PM Saturday Service 7:30 PM</p> <p>PRESBYTERIAN First Presbyterian Dan Alexander, Pastor (936) 594-5226 Sunday Service 8:30 AM Coffee & fellowship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10 AM</p>
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Please Call (936) 594-2126 for your church directory needs.

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Outdoors Briefs | *By Matt Williams*

DeFoe claims 'Classic title on home water

Tennessee bass pro Ott DeFoe put together a three-day total of 49 pounds, 3 ounces on 15 bass to win the 2019 Bassmaster Classic held March 15-17 on the Tennessee River in Knoxville, Tenn. Jacob Wheeler, also from Tennessee, closed out the event in distant second place with 45-5.

DeFoe, 33, topped a field of 52 qualifiers to walk away with pro fishing's biggest trophy and a plump pay day of \$302,500, including contingency bonuses. It was the sixth BASS win for DeFoe, who was among the dozens of Elite Series pros that defected to Major League Fishing's new Bass Pro Tour last fall.

Chris Zaldain of Fort Worth turned in a 12th-place performance, the best of four other Texas qualifiers including Todd Faircloth of Jasper (24th), Frank Talley of Temple (26th), Brad Whatley of Bivins (45th), and Alton Jones, Jr. of Lorena (48th).



Photo courtesy of Park Cities Quail Coalition
Bass Pro Shops founder Johnny Morris (right) recently pledged \$1 million over the course of 10 years to the Park Cities Quail Coalition. Here, Morris is presented with the T. Boone Pickens Lifetime Sportsman Award by Pickens himself during the 13th annual PCQC dinner and auction held March 7 in Dallas.

BPS Morris pledges \$1 million for Texas quail research

Bass Pro Shops founder Johnny Morris recently pledged \$100,000 per year for the next 10 years to the Park Cities Quail Coalition, a Dallas-based nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, restoring and maintaining upland game, youth education and improving hunting opportunities for area sportsmen.

Morris announced the \$1 million donation as part of his acceptance speech after being named the 2019 recipient of the T. Boone Pickens Lifetime Sportsman Award during the 13th annual PCQC dinner and auction held March 7 at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas. He made

the pledge in honor of his parents, John A. and Genny Morris, who shared a passion for quail hunting.

The prestigious award is presented annually to a sportsman or woman distinguished by a life of adventure, who demonstrates love of the outdoors, respect for natural resources, and a spirit of generosity that makes it possible for future generations to enjoy the sporting life.

Pickens, a legendary Texas oil tycoon, West Texas rancher and avid quail hunter, said Morris is a deserving recipient for award that in the past has gone to the likes of Tom Brokow, Ray Murski, Ted Turner and Ray Sasser.

"Nobody has made hunting, fishing and the great outdoors more accessible, fun and exciting to the American public than Johnny Morris," Pickens said. "He is a passionate sportsman, charismatic leader and an all-around great guy."

The event set all-time fundraising and attendance records with an additional \$1.3 million being raised before a sellout crowd of 1,100 sportsmen, according to Jay Stine, PCQC executive director.

"The enthusiasm generated by this event each year has now helped us raise over \$10 million over our 13 years as an organization," Stine said. "This funding has all been donated back to quail research entities programs involving youths and our veterans. Johnny Morris is the ultimate conservationist and sets an excellent example with his support of all facets of wildlife conservation. We are humbled and grateful for his \$1 million commitment to our mission on behalf of his parents."

State legislature passes halfway point of the session

While the Legislature has officially passed the 70th day, the halfway point of the session, most of the work is done in this last half of a long marathon.

Here are five things happening at your Capitol this week:

1. Individual Graduation Committees

During the 84th Legislative Session, SB 149 was passed which created a special graduation committee for students who have been unable to pass up to two of the five end-of-course exams currently required to graduate from high school. These individual graduation committees (IGC), made up of parents, principals, counselors and teachers, must consider a variety of factors to determine a student's eligibility for graduation, including grades, coursework, attendance rate and the scores on college entrance exams.

Students are required to pass all of the courses required to graduate in order to be eligible for the IGC process and must complete additional remediation and completion of a project in the area in which they failed the exam. When the bill was originally passed in 2015, it was set to expire in 2017, and then was moved to expire in 2020.

After four academic years, data shows that IGCs are being used judiciously for deserving students. SB 213 was recently heard in the Senate Higher Education Committee, which extends the sunset date to 2023 to ensure this opportunity remains available for deserving students.

2. Hunting Feral Hogs

Texas is currently home to one of the largest feral hog populations in the United States with an estimated 2-3 million hogs in the state, with a large part of that population being in East Texas. They can cause millions of dollars worth of damage on the land of farmers and property owners, as well as disrupt the natural patterns of other animals.

In an attempt to address this issue, the Legislature has previously passed legislation allowing individuals to hunt feral hogs from helicopters and hot air balloons, and passed laws allowing a landowner to kill a feral hog if they are destroying their property at that time, without a hunting license.

Senate Bill 317, by Senator Bryan Hughes, would allow a hog to be killed at anytime, whether they are destroying property

My Five Cents ...

By Robert Nichols
State Senator



at the time they are killed or not, without a hunting license. The hope of this provision is to enable landowners to further protect their property from damage.

3. Legal Age to Purchase Tobacco

National data shows approximately 95 percent of adult smokers began smoking before they turned 21, with many starting even younger. Currently, seven states and 380 cities have increased the minimum legal age of tobacco purchase to 21.

Supporters of increasing the age state that adolescents are particularly vulnerable to the addictive effect of nicotine and nicotine addiction, and that it can inhibit the development of the brain and its cognitive functions. Those against the increase don't believe it will stop those under 21 from accessing tobacco.

SB 21 has been filed and recently heard in the State Affairs Committee. This bill would raise the minimum legal age of tobacco distribution, possession, purchase, consumption and receipt of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and tobacco products from 18 years of age to 21.

4. Dogs on Patios

A few weeks ago, I wrote about SB 476, also known as the Fido-Friendly Outdoor Dining Act. This week it was passed off the Senate floor and is now on its way to the House. This bill would allow restaurant patrons to bring their dogs along with them to restaurants across Texas which have patios and sidewalk cafes.

Some of the requirements include a sign stating dogs are allowed should be posted; no food is prepared on patio; pets must be able to get to the outdoor area without walking through the restaurant interior, be on a leash and not sitting on a chair.

5. Battleship Texas

This week in 1945, the Battleship Texas supported the landings for the battle of Okinawa, which was the final great amphibious assault during World War II. This great ship, which also served in World War I, carried many soldiers and provided support during landings all throughout World War II. When it was retired, it was given to the State of Texas and now sits as a memorial at the San Jacinto Monument in Houston.

As part of the duties of the Senate Finance workgroup I currently chair, we are working to secure funding to ensure the battleship will be able to remain in tact and available for future generations to tour and experience.

State Senator Robert Nichols (R-Jacksonville) represents Senate District 3, which includes Polk and 18 other counties. He has served in the Texas Senate since 2007.

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Brick Home, metal roof, large lot, 3/1/1, storage bldg., built in 1972, Rainey St.

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Trinity County Appraisal District

Market values in Trinity County continue to rise. Trinity County taxpayers might see an increase in property values for 2019. The results of sales for 2017 and 2018 have shown an increase compared to the District's previous values. The Appraisal District is required to be at 100% of market value. If values are not at 100% each of the school district's in the county will lose considerable state funding. For 2019, the Property Tax Division of the Texas Comptroller's office will be performing a property value study for Trinity County. This study is performed to ensure market value and equitable values.

Chief Appraiser Gary Gallant said, "We have increased values, but the Texas market and more importantly the Trinity County market is rising rapidly and must match the values the Property Tax Division says the values should be in Trinity County. I want to assure the citizens of Trinity County that only Trinity County sales will be used in setting values for 2019. While it is never enjoyable having to increase these values, it is our job to ensure the Appraisal District appraises property at its market value so the local schools get full funding from the Texas Education Agency /State."

Mr. Gallant, the Chief Appraiser, emphasized that homeowners will be protected from the increases because homestead property can't be increased by more than 10% of their assessed values in one year. Also, the tax amounts of over 65 or Disabled Persons who have filed their exemptions are frozen on their school and county taxes.

State Law requires all properties to be appraised at market value or what a property will or has sold for on the open market. Values are continuing to rise in Texas as more and more people move here from other states. Taxpayers with an increase in value of over \$1000 dollars will receive a "Notice of Appraised Value" shortly after May 1, 2019. They will have an opportunity to call and discuss the adjusted value with an appraiser. If a mutual agreement can't be reached, the taxpayer, if they believe the value is excessive and above market value, can file a protest and be heard by the Appraisal Review Board. The ARB is a group of citizens who reside in the county. They are appointed by The Trinity County Appraisal District Board of Directors and are responsible for hearing and settling protests.

The Appraisal District encourages property owners to speak to Appraisal District staff before filing a formal protest, as some issues may be resolved informally. Come by the office anytime between SAM-SPM, Monday through Friday (closed 12PM-1PM for 1 unch) or call us at (936)-642-1502.

The law contains specific timelines and procedures for the ARB, CAD, and the property owners. The Texas Comptroller's publication, Property Taxpayer's Remedies, a reference guide addresses property tax basics, provides a step-by-step guide on preparing for an ARB hearing and what to do if dissatisfied with an ARB decision. Property Taxpayer's Remedies is available at the CAD office, or on our website www.trinitycad.net, or on www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax.

MAXEY'S SATURDAY AFTERNOON DANCE

★ April 6, 2019 ★

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