

# SAN JACINTO NEWS-TIMES



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## Tax measure to keep students educated Coldspring-Oakhurst CISD Board to put tax rate before voters in November

By Tony Farkas  
news@sanjacnews.com

**COLDSRING** — Budget shortfalls and inconsistent state funding has left the Coldspring-Oakhurst school district in need of funds, and the Board of Trustees approved a measure to put a higher tax rate before the voters in the coming election.

Superintendent Dr. Bryan Taulton said they are looking to have a balanced budget, and will pursue the election, which was approved at a special meeting on Aug. 19.

Currently, the tax rate is .78226, or 78 cents per \$100 valuation on property, which at that time was the top rate before forcing an automatic election. The proposed rate is .8123, or 81 cents per \$100, above the auto-

matic election cap of .7834.

The increase will mean the district would receive just under a million dollars additional from property tax revenue, which Taulton said would help the district address teacher compensation and other budgetary challenges.

Taulton said the district has scaled back in its budget and plans to evaluate the budget for any other areas to cut, such as overtime pay; however, the district still will do all it can to meet student needs.

The proposed budget is just more than \$19.5 million.

In a related matter, the board approved a contract for election services from County Elections Administrator Cheri Walker.

Taulton said that during the Aug. 26

meeting, he reported that the district has shown improvement over the last two years after adopting a four-day schedule, particularly in the area of attendance.

He said that when he took over the district in May 2021, there were 49 new teachers on staff, and in a district of Coldspring-Oakhurst's size, that's considered a destabilized district.

In May of 2022, there were 40; after transitioning to four-day, there were 25; and only 17 in the current school year.

"This transition has had a tremendous impact, with the students having the highest attendance in years," he said. "Even the staff has had attendance improvement."

Taulton said this has gone a good way toward his goal to have the absolute best

teachers in front of students — the quality of teachers is better since they have been able to improve recruitment and retention.

In other business, the board:

- approved budget amendments to clean up last fiscal year's budget, as the new budget year starts Sept. 1. Taulton said the district has a superior rating for the state based on audit reports;
- approved committing the fund balance to transition to new fiscal year;
- approved a purchase of attendance credit;
- approved professional development plans; and
- approved numerous policy changes recommended by the Texas Association of School Boards.



A bluegrass concert was held at Rosalie's Cottage during the Christmas in August event. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD

## Christmas with air conditioning

By Charles Ballard  
SJNT correspondent

**COLDSRING** — During a misty and rainy day in San Jacinto County the Christmas In August event was not delayed for a second time.

The original Christmas in July was moved to August due to bad weather conditions.

The vendors came early and posted their goods for sale; Rick English of Talon Creations said. "I have been doing the event for 8 years, in several counties around the area. Rudolph's antlers were not used in the creations of any of the art work on display."

The traffic was light and between rain showers the visitors got a chance to enjoy the scene on the Square.



Rick English of Talon Creations assures everyone Rudolph's antlers were not used for his creations. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD

## Help available for damaged wells, septic systems

Special to the News-Times

Texans who lost access to water through a private well or damaged septic system as a result of Hurricane Beryl may be eligible for FEMA assistance.

What assistance is available?

For private wells and septic systems, FEMA may reimburse you for the cost of a professional licensed technician to visit your home and prepare an estimate detailing the necessary repairs or replacement of your disaster-damaged systems.

In addition to the technician's estimate, FEMA may also pay for the actual repair or replacement cost of your septic system or private well, which typically are not covered by homeowner's insurance.

If you have applied for FEMA assistance and have not had a home inspection, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. At the time of your inspection, let the FEMA inspector know you have a private well and/or septic system that may have been damaged by Hurricane Beryl.

If the damage is determined to have been caused by the disaster, you may be eligible for FEMA assistance.

If you have already had an inspection and damage to the well or septic system wasn't reported, contact the FEMA Helpline to learn how to amend your application.

Who May Be Eligible

Homeowners and renters in Austin, Bowie, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Walker, Waller, and Wharton counties with uninsured losses from Hurricane Beryl.

## Trinity River alligator gar harvest drawing opens

Special to the News-Times

**AUSTIN** — The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department opens its annual alligator gar harvest authorization drawing application process Sept. 1.

The random drawing authorizes anglers to harvest one alligator gar over 48 inches from a section of the Trinity River. From Sept. 1 through Sept. 30, anglers holding a valid

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## Wardens offer tips for safe, enjoyable dove hunt

Special to the News-Times

**AUSTIN** — Hunters preparing for the Sept. 1 opening of dove season have much to look forward to, with significant increases in both mourning and white-wing dove populations.

While hunters prepare to take to the field for their shot at the most popular game bird in North America, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Game Wardens have some recommendations for a memorable but safe experience.

Have valid hunting licenses, stamps and permits: Hunters

must purchase valid hunting licenses for the 2024-25 before hitting the field. Hunters must also have a Migratory Game Bird Endorsement (Stamp) and Harvest Information Program certification to hunt dove.

In addition to obtaining the above licenses and endorsements, purchasing an Annual Public Hunting Permit gives hunters access to more than one million acres throughout the year to hunt multiple species. This must be purchased in addition to a hunting license.

Have Hunter Education Certifi-

cation: Game wardens across the state say the number one problem they run into is the lack of hunter education, which is required for anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971. TPWD's Hunter Education certification is valid for life and is honored in all other states and provinces. Texas also honors Hunter Education certification obtained in other states, but hunters must be able to provide proof upon request. Hunters can find more information on requirements, exemptions or print a replacement card at no cost online.

"I highly recommend everyone

stepping into the field to hunt, whether they are exempt or not, obtain their Hunter Education Certification," said Roel Cantu Jr., Hidalgo County game warden. "Many of the safety issues and violations we run into are topics covered in the course that could have been easily prevented if the hunter had received that prior education."

Know your firearm and handle it safely: The safest practice when handling firearms of any kind is to treat them like they are loaded. Maintain muzzle awareness, avoid pointing at any accidental targets

and always have the safety engaged until you're ready to fire. It's also important to make sure you use the correct ammunition for your shotgun. Using the wrong size shell can result in accidents and injuries.

"Accidents can happen quickly and can result in very unfortunate outcomes," said Kevin Frazier, Frio County game warden. "I've seen things as simple as not being aware your shotgun is loaded while packing the ATV or falling while walking through the field

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LAKE LIVINGSTON DATA AS OF SEPT 1	
Current level .....	130.70 ft
Normal level .....	131.00 ft
Discharge .....	1798 cfs
Weekly rainfall total .....	0.25 in

TRINITY RIVER DATA AS OF SEPT 1	
Gauge Stage.....	5.20 ft
Category.....	Normal
Weekly rainfall .....	0.00 in



# Holiday cheer during a warm summer day

Christmas in August was well-attended, and the weather was, for the most part, sunny but not too hot. There were lots of vendors selling a great variety of goods and entertainment was supplied by singer C.J. Kerns. He has performed in local places though he lives near College Station. He sang some of his own compositions which he calls a brand of Texas Country music. You can find him on Facebook and his website or call (936) 242-2155.

We stopped to talk at the Coldspring Methodist Church booth where hard-working ladies were helping people to apply for SNAP benefits on behalf of Houston Food Bank. The volunteers at the booth said there will be meetings on the first and third Monday of the month at the church in Coldspring.

There, assistance will be given

## Did You Know

By Yvonne Cones



by navigators to help apply for the program. There are documents needed for this — ID, SSN, proof of income for last three months, proof of housing costs, and, if applicable, immigration documents. Call the Houston Food Bank for more information at (832) 369-9390.

Sheriff Capers and his wife Kay were also at this booth, and I asked about the state of the jail roof, since I knew it was severely damaged in the storm. He said he saw the roof lift off the building as did others at the Courthouse

steps. The ensuing flooding and damage means the jail is out of action till all is repaired. The planning and organizing for this are ongoing, but it will take a lot of work to put on a new roof.

•Christmas is on the minds of both Chambers in our county. Shepherd starts on Dec 7 with Coldspring the following Saturday. Vendors can sign up now. Forms are available on the appropriate websites or call the Chamber number. Shepherd also leaves forms at Shepherd Library.

This Library had a very popular meeting with the first Books and Banter meeting and will continue to hold these every fourth Friday at 4 p.m. The next one is on Sept. 27. Call (936) 628-3515 for more information.

•Coldspring Library is collecting for their fundraising garage sale set for Oct. 14-15. There will be an early-bird shopping oppor-

tunity on Oct. 13 for an entry fee of \$5.

There will be a booth for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library at this sale with the proceeds going to fund the Imagination Library. This is free for children 0-5 years old but libraries have to pay for postage and packing. So far, the libraries have registered a total of 240 children. Call if you would like to register your child who will have a free book every month till they turn 5 years old.

•The new business in Shepherd, The Brewtique, will hold a Farmers' Market on Saturday. There are places for 15 vendors, so call (832) 401-7965 for forms and information if you want to be part of this new venture.

This community market will run from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. It will be 100 percent local produce, preserves, fruit, eggs, etc. The Brewtique is by the railroad tracks and

sells a great variety of clothes (slightly used and some new), jewelry, home decor and more. Coffee is always available with seating for those who like to drink it there.

•Coldspring Garden Club will meet Sept. 5 at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Center by the Courthouse. This week the speaker will be Emmitt Eldridge of San Jacinto County Emergency Management. Emmitt will talk on emergency preparedness, and there will be refreshments supplied by members of the Garden Club. First-time visitors are welcome.

Contact the Shepherd Chamber of Commerce at (210) 995-7420 or the Coldspring Chamber at (936) 653-2184.

Yvonne Cones is president of the Shepherd Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Coldspring Chamber of Commerce.




Sheriff Capers with his wife, Kay, and Mayor Pro Tem Diane Griffith at the Christmas in August event. COURTESY PHOTO




C.J. Kerns sings at the Christmas event in Coldspring. COURTESY PHOTO



The Coldspring Chamber of Commerce holds a ribbon cutting for Hopestone Hospice in Shepherd. COURTESY PHOTO



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## DOVE

Continued from page 1A

carrying a gun with the safety off end in injuries to others or the hunters themselves."

Hunt with a legal firearm: A shotgun is the only legal firearm for hunting migratory game birds. It also must not be larger than 10-gauge, and if applicable, must be plugged. When purchasing a new shotgun, pay attention to what is in the box, wardens caution. While manufacturers sell shotguns with plugs, they may not be installed in the gun.

"Because our very mission statement is to conserve wildlife resources for present and future generations, many of our laws and regulations are based upon the 'fair chase principle,'" said Drew Spencer, Lubbock County game warden. "One such example pertaining to dove hunting is that shotguns cannot be capable of holding more than three shells at any given time, including one in the chamber."

Know your target and what's behind it: Stay within your lane of fire so you aren't shooting toward anyone else. Don't shoot toward people or homes and know how far your shot can travel. While not required on private property, Fraiser recommends wearing hunter orange clothing if hunting in a group for high visibility.

"With many of our area properties being rural and unfenced, I occasionally see hunters getting lax regarding shooting over or across our many dirt county roads," said Spencer. "Those are still public roadways and still a public safety issue. We want to encourage mindfulness when it comes to shot angles and direction."

Don't trespass: Hunters are responsible for knowing property boundaries and making sure they have landowner consent. This applies to hunting and retrieving birds from neighboring properties. If pellets cross onto another property, that is considered trespass by projectile, which is a violation and potentially unsafe.

"If you are invited on a hunt or book one online, do your homework first," said Frazier. "I've run into instances where hunters book a hunt online, believing they have landowner consent to hunt a property when in fact, it was a scam neither the landowner nor hunter were aware of. I recommend doing some research to make sure things are legitimate."

Follow state and federal regulations, including daily bag and possession limits: Be aware of what zone you're hunting in and what the daily bag and possession limits are. Hunters must also keep their birds separate and identifiable from other hunters' birds. This will make interactions with wardens smoother and faster and is required by law while in the field and absent proper documentation.

Hunters in the South Zone should be aware of dates for the special white-wing dove days, which can be found in the Texas Outdoor Annual. Additionally, hunters are responsible

for knowing whether they're hunting a baited area or not. Hunting over a baited field is prohibited by federal and state law.

"A fairly common violation we run into is hunters trying to 'double dip,'" said Cameron Ramsey, Coleman County game warden. "Fifteen birds per day means 15 birds per day. Not 15 birds every time you go out to the field. If you reach your limit in the morning, you can't hunt again until the next day."

Bring the kids: Involving children in hunting is vital to continuing the hunting heritage of Texas. Wardens recommended eye and hearing protection for children and adults.

"I love to see people take their children hunting," said Cody Buckaloo, Medina County game warden. "We want future generations to get involved and the best way to do so is by making that a safe and memorable experience for them and setting a good example through ethical hunting practices and adherence to safety."

Be weather aware: Elevated temperatures will likely continue through the first part of dove season. Being aware of temperatures, staying hydrated and taking proper precautions is vital. If you feel dizzy or begin to exhibit signs of heat exhaustion, let someone know and find a spot to cool off. You should also always make sure someone knows your plans for the hunt like where you'll be, when you'll be done, etc.

Don't forget about your four-legged friends. If you are hunting with dogs, make sure to bring plenty of water for them and monitor them closely for signs of heat stress.

Leave the alcohol at camp: Alcohol and firearms don't mix. Consuming alcohol while hunting can lead to careless actions and potential accidents. It's best to avoid it.








At the end of the day, the best tip is to practice common courtesy.

Wardens enjoy getting out in the field, engaging with hunters and want every contact to be positive. Having your license and other documentation readily available, leaving heads or fully feathered wings attached for bird identification, and unloading your shotgun before handing it over for inspection go a long way.

"I always appreciate when everyone in the group stops hunting while I'm doing a compliance check," said Calvin Atkinson, Cameron County game warden. "It can make things difficult and even unsafe if you continue hunting while a warden is checking your hunting partner's information. Pausing to get your stuff together will make the entire contact go quicker so you can get back to hunting and I can hit the road to the next field."

Many of the tips above focus on regulations and the issues wardens commonly come across in the field. All hunting regulations for this year's hunting season can be found in the Texas Outdoor Annual mobile app or at OutdoorAnnual.com. Being aware of the specific regulations for the county you are hunting in and the species you are pursuing will likely alleviate many of the above problems.

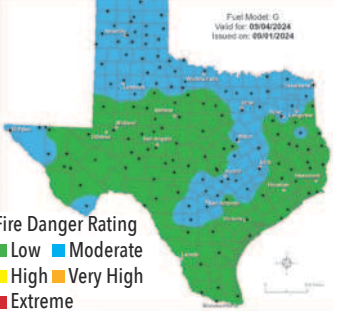
### SAN JACINTO COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR SEPT 5-11

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
						
Scattered Thunderstorms <b>85°/72°</b> Chance of Rain 54% Wind NNE 7mph	Mostly Sunny <b>88°/70°</b> Chance of Rain 13% Wind NNE 8mph	Mostly Sunny <b>86°/65°</b> Chance of Rain 6% Wind NNE 8mph	Sunny <b>82°/62°</b> Chance of Rain 3% Wind NE 6mph	Sunny <b>86°/63°</b> Chance of Rain 4% Wind ENE 5mph	Sunny <b>86°/67°</b> Chance of Rain 5% Wind ENE 5mph	Partly Cloudy <b>87°/69°</b> Chance of Rain 22% Wind ENE 5mph

Information sourced from weather.com

#### Forecast Fire Danger

twc.tamu.edu



Fire Danger Rating  
■ Low  
■ Moderate  
■ High  
■ Very High  
■ Extreme

# Nominations open for volunteer awards

Special to the News-Times

AUSTIN — Nominations are now being accepted for the 41st Annual Governor's Volunteer Awards.

Administered by the OneStar Foundation, the Governor's Volunteer Awards are an opportunity for the State of Texas to honor exemplary individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to improving their communities through outstanding service and volunteering.

"Texans recognize that the heart of our communities lies in the selfless acts of service rendered by countless volunteers," said First Lady Cecilia Abbott. "Greg and I are inspired by the unwavering dedication and profound impact of organizations and individuals across the state who keep making a difference in the lives of so many Texans, and we are honored to recognize them through the Governor's Volunteer Awards. The work of all Texas volunteers inspires us all to build a better, brighter future through one act of kindness at a time."

"As we embark on the 41st Governor's Volunteer Awards in partnership with the Govern-

nor and First Lady of Texas, we will continue shining a spotlight on individuals and organizations whose commitment to service illuminates the resilience and compassion that is the essence of Texas," said OneStar President and CEO Chris Bugbee.

- Nominations are open in nine categories:
- Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award
  - First Lady's Rising Star Award
  - Volunteer of the Year Award
  - Volunteer Family of the Year Award
  - Community Champion Award
  - Education Champion Award
  - Corporate Champion Award
  - Rebuild Texas Disaster Impact Award
  - AmeriCorps Legacy of Service Award

To submit a nomination and view detailed descriptions and criteria for each award category, visit [onestarfoundation.org/governors-volunteer-awards](http://onestarfoundation.org/governors-volunteer-awards).

Nominations will close on Sept. 30. Awardees will be honored during National Volunteer Month in April 2025 at the Governor's Mansion during an awards ceremony hosted by First Lady Abbott, Honorary Chair of the Governor's Volunteer Awards.

## SENIOR MENUS

Sept. 9-13

Menus Subject to Change

• **Senior Citizens of San Jacinto County** | (936) 653-4175

Call by 10:30 a.m. to reserve a meal.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday is Texercise. Tuesday is line dancing. Thursday is bingo. Friday is karaoke.

**MONDAY:** Ham and macaroni and cheese casserole, sweet potatoes, cup salad, rolls.

**TUESDAY:** Fish planks, steak fries, salad bar, rolls.

**WEDNESDAY:** Sausage jambalaya pasta, green lima beans, salad bar, cornbread.

**THURSDAY:** Steak fingers, mashed potatoes and gravy, greens, rolls.

**FRIDAY:** Mesquite chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, rolls.

• **Shepherd Senior Citizens Center** | (936) 628-3733

Second Tuesday of each month includes birthday cake for dessert.

Bingo is Sept. 4, 11, 18 and 25. Bag Days are Sept. 13 and 27. Craft Days are Sept. 5, 12, 19 and 26.

**MONDAY:** Chicken and dumplings, pea salad, cornbread, fruit.

**TUESDAY:** Lasagna, spinach, garlic bread, birthday cake.

**WEDNESDAY:** Liver and onions, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash, banana pudding.

**THURSDAY:** Smothered pork, rice and gravy, cabbage, ice cream.

**FRIDAY:** Fried catfish, French fries, coleslaw, hush puppies, brownies.

## GAR

Continued from page 1A

license-year or year-from-purchase fishing license can use the Texas Hunt & Fish mobile app or online to enter the drawing, either as an individual or as part of a small group. Winners will be notified by Oct. 15, and authorizations will be valid from the date issued through Aug. 31, 2025.

Anglers can use any legal means or method to take qualifying alligator gar day or night from a section of the Trinity River from the I-30 bridge in Dallas downstream to the I-10 bridge in Chambers County. This section includes Lake Livingston and the East Fork of the Trinity River upstream to the dam at Lake Ray Hubbard. This includes the following counties: Anderson, Chambers, Dallas, Ellis, Freestone, Henderson, Houston, Kaufman, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Navarro, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity and Walker.

"Fishing for alligator gar on the Trinity River is world renowned and truly a bucket list item for any angler," said Tim Birdsong, Director of TPWD's Inland Fisheries Division. "With this drawing system, we are able to offer 150 anglers the opportunity to harvest the fish of a lifetime while also fulfilling our resource management goal of conserving this unique resource for current and future generations of anglers."

In addition, all alligator gar harvested, including those using a harvest authorization, from public freshwater and saltwater

waterbodies (other than Falcon International Reservoir) must be reported on the Texas Hunt & Fish mobile app or online within 24 hours of harvest.

"Gathering data on alligator gar harvest through the Texas Hunt & Fish app and online enhances our understanding of their distribution, sizes and numbers, and helps us maintain the best possible fishing opportunities into the future," said Birdsong.

Other Trinity River alligator gar regulations remain in effect include a 48-inch maximum length limit from the I-30 bridge in Dallas downstream to the I-10 bridge in Chambers County, including Lake Livingston and the East Fork of the Trinity River upstream to the dam at Lake Ray Hubbard (see above for list of affected counties).

Additionally, a ban on the take or possession of an alligator gar by means of lawful archery equipment or crossbow is in effect on the same section of the Trinity River between one half-hour after sunset and one half-hour before sunrise (unless using a harvest authorization through the drawing system).

A one-fish-per-day bag limit remains in effect for alligator gar statewide except for Falcon International Reservoir, where a daily bag limit of five fish and possession limit of 10 fish remains in effect.

The Texas Hunt & Fish app can be downloaded free from the Apple App Store and Google Play. For more information about alligator gar fishing regulations, visit The Outdoor Annual online and the Alligator Gar Harvest Restrictions and Harvest Reporting website.

## AREA DIGEST

### Chamber seeks help

The Coldspring Chamber of Commerce is seeking donations for goodie bags to be given to car show contestants at this year's Wolf Creek Car, Truck, and Bike Show.

Only the first 250 contestants to register get a goodie bag filled with these items.

Contestants travel from all over to attend our car show, and this is a great opportunity to advertise a business; there also are many area residents who participate in the event.

Items that are car-related, as well as pens, notepads, air fresheners, key chains, lanyards, stickers, chip clips, magnets, etc. are examples of the things that can be used.

The chamber needs 250 of each item. To donate items, drop off items at the Chamber office during our hours, Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

### Fundraiser set

The SAAFE House annual Lures & Lace bingo fundraiser has been delayed until Aug. 23, 2025.

Organizers feel that in light of the serious weather events of the last several months, it is better that the community focus on rebuilding.

The event will be held at the San Jacinto County Storm Shelter, 255 Live Oak Drive, in Coldspring, to support SAAFE House and its endeavors in San Jacinto County. Money raised at the event stays in the county to help residents in need.

Call SAAFE House at (936) 291-3529, Shelby at (936) 284-5580 or Tammy at (936) 284-5547 for information.

### Certification training offered

San Jacinto County's SJC Master Gardeners is offering master gardener certification classes to interested individuals.

The 10 classes, which provide 50 required class hours, cover a wide range of gardening topics such as soil characteristics, trees, earth-kind landscaping, insects, roses, rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation, native grasses and weeds, veggies and herbs, lawn care and propagating plants.

The classes are held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., including lunch, at the new Innovations Center, 220 Live Oak St., in Coldspring on Tuesdays beginning Oct. 1.

There will be a meet-and-greet luncheon for students to pick up books and materials on Sept. 24 at 80 Berry St. in Coldspring.

The club, an education-oriented organization certified through Texas A&M AgriLife Extension comprised of about 65 members, works together to provide educational opportunities to residents and property owners based on research and effective, sustainable practices on all matters related to gardening.

Registration is open to people regardless of county of residence. To register or for more information, contact Dianne Chrestopoulos at [diannelmusic@gmail.com](mailto:diannelmusic@gmail.com).

### Association offers assistance

The Community Assistance Program offered by the Houston Food Bank provides application assistance for SNAP, Medicaid, and other state benefits. The Referral Partner Program goes a step further with assistance in finding resources beyond food assistance.

The goal is to help the individuals avoid sacrificing healthy nutritious food just so they can pay for their other expenses.

To apply, bring identification (driver's license, passport, work permit, residency card, or state ID), Birth certificates, Social Security cards and address verification (such as apartment lease, rental agreement, rent/mortgage payment receipt, utility bills, landlord letter) and income verification (last 3 paystubs, letter from employer, income tax, self-employment letter stating your weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly income, or award letters from child support, retirement, Social Security or disability).

For more information, call Houston Food Bank at (832) 586-8579 or visit [www.houstonfoodbank.org/cap](http://www.houstonfoodbank.org/cap).

### Libraries seeks donations

The Coldspring and Shepherd public libraries are partnering with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to provide free, high-quality, age-appropriate books to children from birth through 5 years.

To build a strong culture of reading for young children and increase early literacy in San Jacinto County, the library is seeking donors to contribute to our project.

For a \$25 annual donation, the Coldspring Library and the Imagination Library will mail 12 books directly to a registered child's home. The child must reside in San Jacinto County and be registered by an authorized adult.

Since launching in 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become the pre-eminent early childhood book-gifting program in the world. The flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has gifted more than 182 million free books in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and The Republic of Ireland.

For more information on the program, please visit [imaginationlibrary.com](http://imaginationlibrary.com). To register, visit either library.

### Veterans museum hosts events

HEARTS Veterans Museum hosts HAM radio class/testing at the Walker County Storm Shelter on the second Saturday of every month from 9-11 a.m.

For more info email [festival@heartsmuseum.com](mailto:festival@heartsmuseum.com) or call (936) 295-5959.



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# OPINION

## Income taxation without representing income

In my 40 years of dancing around the halls of journalism, I have one story that when people ask me what my favorite interview was, I relate the story of the Szalows in Quay County, N.M.

The old man was the son of one of the original homesteaders of that area, around the turn of the last century, and his recounting of the events he lived through were riveting and peppered with humorous phrases.

One of the events in the early 1900s was a snowstorm that lasted for days, which for people at that time was very dangerous. The family had prepared by cutting firewood, but the storm was so bad and so long that they burned through their stockpile.

He then said, "After we burned all the firewood, we looked at the fence-



**My Two Common Sense**  
By Tony Farkas  
tony@polkcountypublishing.com

posts we had cut. At first, we burned only the crooked ones. Pretty soon they were all crooked."

The upshot was that at that time, what they had wasn't enough, at that has been the problem with the federal government for decades. Their spending habits have been out of control for so long that there seemingly is never enough cash around for them to fund everything they claim needs funding.

Or, as Margaret Thatcher said, "The problem with socialism is you eventually run out of other people's money."

So in the latest bid to elect an overspender (Kamala Harris), a tax plan has come to light with is supposed to fix the money flow — the unrealized gains tax. In a very tiny nutshell, it's a tax on income that you could have made.

The income tax started in 1861 during the Civil War, a 3 percent flat tax on incomes over \$800, which was repealed 11 years later. In 1913, the 16<sup>th</sup> amendment gave the government power to levy taxes on income, since the money coming in from tariffs and excise taxes were not enough to cover the growing needs of the country. From there, the fenceposts started

to become crooked; initially, sales from stocks didn't qualify as income, but the money pit that Washington, D.C., has become needs to be fueled, so things were changed. Soon, anything that could remotely be considered as income — interest on bank accounts, rental income (if you own property), even the swag bags given to presenters at the Oscar celebrations.

In short, if you received it via any means, it was income — you know, crooked wood for the fire.

Of course, government's appetite for money has only grown exponentially (while our income hasn't), so now the definition is changing again.

Harris is touting the 25 percent unrealized capital gains tax, which would be placed on personal and business assets, nominally for people with \$100 million or more in wealth. We all know, though, that once the foot is in that particular door, it's only a matter of time before that changes, because the money must flow.

How it works is you own a piece of property that costs \$500,000 (a value, of course, set by the government as well). If the value of that property goes up \$50,000, then you own the feds \$12,500, whether you sold the property or not.

Guess what happens if it goes up again the following year?

If you can't pay, then of course, you can take out a loan, and if you can't, you lose the property. Simple, huh?

At no time, that I can see, has a plan been put into place to address debt, budget deficits or any government overspending; just more promises of giveaways in order to buy votes, which in turn creates an even greater need for money, and the beat goes on.

The Founding Fathers wanted to protect private property rights. Our current leaders want to protect your private property from, well, you.

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



## Texans need a water path to self-reliance

By Sid Miller  
Texas Agriculture Commissioner

Water is the lifeblood of Texas agriculture, and nowhere is that more critical than in the Rio Grande Valley. For too long, we've been at the mercy of Mexico, waiting on them to deliver on empty promises stemming back to a water treaty negotiated in 1944 — 80 years ago.

Mexico has now fallen behind, once again, in providing more than 900,000 acre-feet, or about 1.1 billion cubic meters of water they owe to Texas and the U.S., and again, they've shown they can't be trusted as reliable partners. It's time to stop whining about it and act. Texans need to pull themselves up by their bootstraps, take charge, and secure our water supply.

While I've called on the Biden-Harris Administration to put the heat on Mexico to hold up their end of the 1944 Water Treaty, we all know better than to count on them to get the job done. The last sugar mill in Texas shut down due to water shortages, and our citrus industry is barely hanging on.

We can't let this continue. It's time to bring some "cowboy logic" back to the situation and start taking smart, decisive action on water management. Our farmers, ranchers, and cities depend on us doing so if we are going to continue to help feed and fuel our nation.

To fully maximize our water resources, we must prioritize capturing stormwater, reusing treated wa-

ter, upgrading the efficiency of our delivery systems, increasing storage capacity, and ensuring long-term water movement across Texas.

All of this costs money. How do we pay for it? We pay for it by accessing funds already paid by Texas taxpayers from places like the Texas Water Development Board, various federal infrastructure programs, and accessing Texas Department of Agriculture grants. By doing that, we can tackle aging infrastructure, boost existing water supply projects, and kick-start new ones.

Our irrigation systems in Texas are among the oldest in the nation, and they're way past due for an upgrade. In the Rio Grande Valley, irrigation districts lose up to 40 percent of their water due to a myriad of reasons. And it's not just rural areas — our urban infrastructure is crumbling too, with water losses reaching as high as 30 percent. Just last year, outdated systems caused six major cities to lose a staggering 88 billion gallons of water, costing us millions and putting a serious strain on our already limited supply.

Rainwater harvesting is a time-tested solution that's as old as Texas itself. It's not just for gardeners — it's a smart move for all of us. We pour millions into managing stormwater every year, only to watch it go to waste.

Instead, let's turn that runoff into a valuable resource by capturing and storing it. Investing in rainwater harvesting during heavy rains

can capture runoff before it reaches the Gulf of Mexico and develop off-channel storage to ensure we're making the most of every drop.

There's real hope for progress if we take charge of the problem instead of just complaining about it. Cities like Alice, Big Springs, and El Paso are already leading the way. Alice is set to open its brackish water treatment plant this year, providing 2.7 million gallons of fresh drinking water daily.

Meanwhile, El Paso has cut its reliance on the Rio Grande River by half with its wastewater treatment plant and reduced water losses by 475 million gallons in the past year, thanks to smart investments in pipeline replacements. All three of these cities are now or soon will be generating new sources of fresh water. Others need to follow their lead.

We also need to promote water-smart landscaping. Investing in community education on xeriscaping and promoting native grasses like buffalo grass can help reduce the strain on our water supply from urban areas.

Let's consider the potential for using brackish water instead of fresh water for fracking. We can treat it, use it, and then recycle it for another round of fracking. It's a smarter way to conserve freshwater supplies while still getting the job done and not harming our important oil and gas industry.

From hitting Mexico with sanctions to holding back State Depart-

ment funds and boosting United States Department of Agriculture relief, Texas lawmakers are stepping up to help our state recover from this relentless drought.

The Texas congressional delegation, including Sens. Ted Cruz and John Cornyn, and Rep. Monica De La Cruz, have joined me in calling out Mexico's total disregard for honoring the 1944 treaty. But let's be clear — Texans can't sit around waiting on Washington, D.C., or Mexico. It's time for Texans to roll up our sleeves and take charge of developing our own water-generation solutions across our great state.

The bottom line is this: Texans have the know-how, the technology, the grit, and the financing to secure our water future. But we must quit complaining, get off our tails, and act. Let's not leave the future of Texas agriculture — and our state's economy — to the chance that someday Mexico might uphold its end of the bargain.

We've waited long enough. The time for action is now, and it's up to us, as Texans, to determine our own destiny.

An eighth-generation Texas farmer and rancher, Sid Miller is the 12th Commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). A twenty-six-time world champion rodeo cowboy, he has devoted his life to promoting Texas agriculture, rural communities, and the western heritage of Texas. Commissioner Miller will be available for live television, zoom, and phone interviews.

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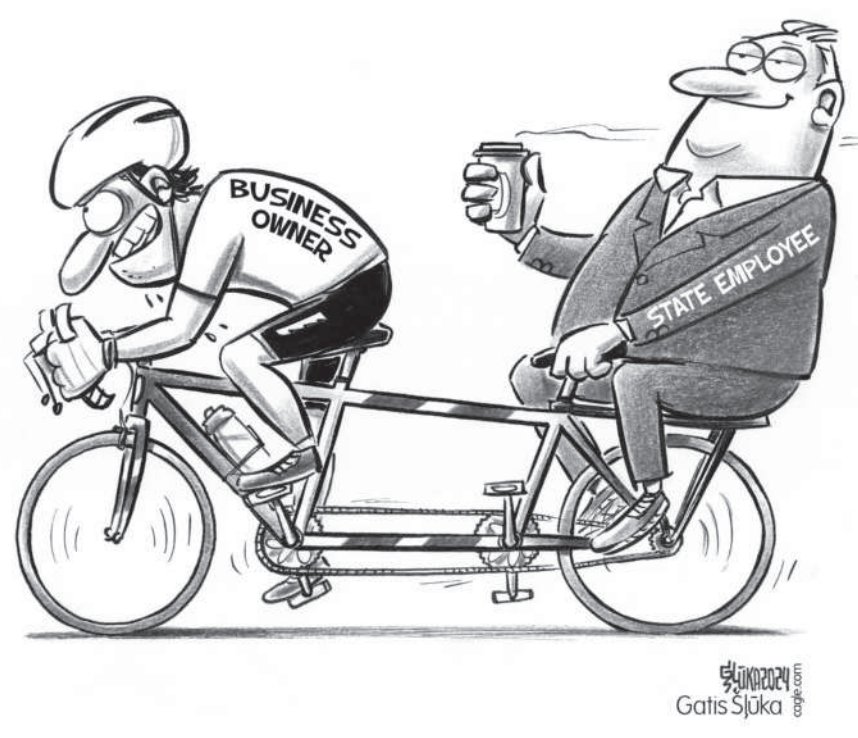
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#### State Representative

**EARNEST BAILES**  
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Austin, TX 78768  
(512) 463-0570  
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Shepherd, TX 77371

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audrey.young@tea.texas.gov

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co.san-jacinto.tx.us  
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www.co.san-jacinto.tx.us/page/  
sanjacinto.Sheriff

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roy.rogers@san-jac.us

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Shepherd, TX 77371  
(936) 628-1439  
ray.atchley@san-jac.us

#### SAM HOUSTON

Precinct 3 Constable  
Animal Control Officer  
6311 FM 945 S.  
Cleveland, Texas 77328  
(281) 592-0919  
sam.houston@san-jac.us

#### BRIAN A. COSME

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227 Boat Launch Rd.  
Point Blank, Texas 77364  
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bcosme@san-jac.us

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1-888-256-2231

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1 State Hwy. 150, Room 21,  
Coldspring Tx., 77331  
936-653-2601

# EMPATHY

A few decades ago, sheep ranchers in the Western United States had a problem. In the early winter months, they would send the mother sheep with their lambs out to pasture.

Sometimes a cold front came through and snow began to fall. The mother sheep in their well-insulated coats did not feel the drop in temperature and continued to graze further and further from the barn despite the wind and falling snow. The lambs, however, were not as well insulated and would freeze to death with their mothers totally unaware of the peril at hand.

Finally, the ranchers came up with a solution. Before releasing the sheep from the corral, they sheared between the ears of the mother sheep, removing that little patch of fleece. With their heads exposed, the mothers felt the cold that their lambs



**Dan's Divinities**  
By Rev. Dr. Dan Darby

were feeling and led them back to the shelter of the barn.

The root word of "empathy" is "pathos," which means suffering. Empathy is the ability to "suffer with" someone else. This is not an ingrained ability, for we naturally want to avoid suffering ourselves, and certainly don't want to participate in the suffering of others. Our inclination is to insulate ourselves from suffering, rather than participate in it.

However, others around us desperately need the healing presence of others willing to feel their pain and stand with them through their trials and

difficulties. To provide this kind of support, we need to let the Good Shepherd symbolically shear the wool between our ears so that we can learn the gift of empathy.

I ran across the following story that I think tells us something about empathy. The author is unknown: A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the four pups and set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard. As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of a little boy.

"Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies."

"Well," said the farmer, "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money."

The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a

handful of change and held it up to the farmer.

"I've got 39 cents. Is that enough to take a look?"

"Sure," said the farmer. Then he let out a whistle. "Here, Dolly," he called.

Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly, followed by four little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse.

Slowly another little ball appeared, this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up.

"I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt.

The farmer knelt at the boy's

side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would."

With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers. In doing so, he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe. Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands."

With tears in his eyes, the farmer picked up the little pup. Holding it carefully, he handed it to the little boy.

"How much?" asked the little boy.

"No charge," answered the farmer, "There's no charge for love."

*Dr. Dan Darby is a retired United Methodist pastor.*

## Attend the church of your choice SAN JACINTO COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Worship Service ..... 10:45 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wed. Night Service ..... 7:00 PM

**PEACE TABERNACLE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
FM 2025  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 AM  
Worship Service ..... 10:45 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Night Service ..... 7:30 PM

**BAPTIST**  
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10001 FM 1725 Cleveland, Texas 77328  
Pastor Johnny Whittiker | 214-986-8606  
Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship 11 AM  
Evening Worship 6 PM  
Wednesday Prayer 6 PM

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816 N. Blair @ FM 2025 Cleveland, Texas Pastor:  
Rev. Carl Williamson | 281-593-1751  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:30 PM  
Wed. Evening Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH COLDSRING**  
65 Petroleum Road Coldspring, Texas  
Dr. Frank M. Minter | 936-653-3960  
Sunday Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Morning Service ..... 11:00 AM  
Sunday Night ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Night ..... 7:00 PM

**CENTER HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
110 Center Hill Rd., Oakhurst  
Pastor Jim Southern | 832-302-0229  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
A.W.A.N.A.S Wed ..... 6:30 PM  
Wednesday Prayer Service ..... 5:00 PM

**CHINA GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
6420 FM 3081 Willis, TX 77372  
Pastor Johnny Dowell  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening ..... 7:00 PM

**DREW'S LANDING BAPTIST CHURCH**  
161 Thomas Castleberry Rd • Shepherd  
Pastor: Joshua Whitmire  
Morning Worship ..... 11 AM  
Wed. Evening Worship ..... 6:30 PM

**EVERGREEN BAPTIST**  
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Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Sunday Worship Service ..... 8:30 & 11 AM  
Wednesday Choir Practice ..... 7:00 PM

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Bible Study each Sunday at 10 a.m.  
Preaching at 11 a.m.

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Sunday School ..... 9:00 AM  
Refreshments ..... 10:00 AM  
Worship Service ..... 10:30 AM  
Tues. Ladies Bible Study ... 9:30 AM / 6 PM  
Wed. Awana (3yo - 5th Grade) ..... 5:30 PM  
Wed. FLYTE (6th Grade) ..... 5:30 PM  
Wed. Youth (7th-12th Grade) ..... 5:30PM  
Wed. Men's Bible Study ..... 6:00PM

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Morning Worship Service ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship Service ..... 6:00 PM  
Wed. Prayer Service ..... 6:00 PM

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Pastor Chester Holloway | 229-834-5563  
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Worship Service ..... 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Adult & Youth Bible Study ... 7 PM  
Childcare Provided for all services

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Rev. Larry Allbritton, Pastor  
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Morning Worship Service ..... 10:50 AM  
Evening Worship Service ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Worship ..... 7:00 PM

**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Hwy. 980 - 1 mi. N Waterwood Entrance  
Rev. Kevin Hindmon, Pastor | 936-295-5137  
Sunday Bible Study ..... 9:45 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Children's Church ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Prayer Service ..... 7:00 PM

**GRACEVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Pastor Lee Ainsworth  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 5:30 PM  
Wednesday Service ..... 7:00 PM

**HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1002 FM 223 | 628-3292  
Ben Cartwright - Pastor  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Prayer Service ..... 7:00 PM

**LAKE POOL BAPTIST**  
Rev. Mury Williams, Pastor | 628-3571  
Cell | 713-254-7423  
Sunday School ..... 10:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:45 AM  
Wed. Night Bible Study on Facebook  
..... 6:30 PM

**MAGNOLIA BAPTIST**  
Pastor David Parish | 281-592-1772  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Worship Service ..... 11:00 AM  
Sunday Night Service ..... 5:00 PM  
Wed. Night Service ..... 6:30 PM

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST**  
FM Rd. 2025, Coldspring Hwy.  
Pastor, Jack Therrell | 281-592-4824  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Sunday Evening ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Service ..... 7:00 PM

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH-BMA**  
3400 WEST FM 2693 (Pine Valley)  
New Waverly, Texas 77358 | 936-767-4742  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Worship ..... 7:00 PM

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - OAKHURST**  
Pastor: Raymond R. Rice | 936-377-5612  
Sunday School ..... 10 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6 PM  
Wednesday Worship ..... 6 PM

**PINE VALLEY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Pastor: Bob Hunt. FM 2693 | 409-377-4206  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Sunday Even. Wor. Serv. ..... 6:00 PM  
Sunday Youth Class ..... 4:00 PM  
Wednesday Service ..... 7:00 PM

**PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Robert Roth, Pastor  
8751 FM 945 S. | 281-592-5874  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening ..... 7:00 PM

**ST. GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH INCORPORATED**  
Hwy. 156 @ Reese St. Coldspring, Texas  
Pastor Michael Lee Darden Sr. | 936-653-2452  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:00AM  
Wednesday - Church School ..... 7:00PM

**CATHOLIC**  
**SAINT JOSEPH, NEW WAVERLY**  
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Saturday Mass ..... 7:00 PM  
Sunday ..... 7:30 AM/10:00 AM  
Spanish Mass 12 Noon Every Sunday

**SAINT MARY'S CLEVELAND**  
Father Andy Dinh Vu, S.V.D | 281-592-2985  
Saturday Mass ..... 5:00 PM English  
Sunday Mass ..... 8:00 AM Spanish  
..... 10:00 AM English  
..... 12:00 PM Spanish

**SAINT STEPHEN THE MARTYR**  
Hwy. 156 at Stagecoach Road  
Rev. Daokim Nguyen | 936-344-6104  
Saturday Mass ..... 4:30PM  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Saturday ..... 4:00-4:30 PM

**WESLEYAN CHURCH**  
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Sunday Worship Service ..... 10:30 PM  
Children's Church ..... 11:00AM  
Prayer/Bible Study/Wed ..... 7:00 PM

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Gary Bodine, Minister | 936-646-3517  
Bible Class ..... 9:00 AM  
Worship ..... 10:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Tues. Ladies Bible Class 10:00 AM Wednesday  
6:30 PM

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P.O. Box 460 Shepherd, Texas 77371  
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Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
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Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Worship ..... 7:00 PM

**MONTAGUE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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Sunday Morning ..... 10:30 AM  
Wed Ladies Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
Wednesday Worship ..... 7:00 PM

**COLDSRING CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
151 Pinto Ln., 3 miles out Hwy. 156 toward  
Point Blank, Coldspring, TX | 936-653-3447  
Sunday Services ..... 11:00 AM/2:00 PM  
Bible Classes ..... 10:00 AM  
Wednesday Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

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FM 1725 @ Hwy. 150, Maynard  
Pastor: Elder Jack Wilson | 409-967-8217  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM

**LAKE LIVINGSTON CHURCH OF GOD**  
Hwy. 350 S. of 190 | 936-967-0191  
Pastor: Kevin Kleinhenz  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
Worship Service ..... 10:50 AM  
Sunday Evening ..... 6:00 PM  
Wed. Ser. & Youth Service ..... 7:00 PM

**LILLEY MEMORIAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
Elder Cleveland Thompson | Hwy. 156 N.  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 11:30 AM  
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Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 AM

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Tuesday Bible Study ..... 7:30 PM

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Wednesday Services ..... 7:30 PM

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Wednesday Mid-Week Worship .... 6:00 PM  
Thursday Women's Missions ..... 6:00 PM  
Friday Youth For Christ ..... 6:00 PM  
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# Hundreds of new homes needed to cut costs

A 26-page report from the Texas Comptroller concludes that the state needs 306,000 additional homes, a shortage that has sent housing costs soaring, The Texas Tribune reported. Homebuilding hasn't kept up with the booming economy as millions of new residents have moved here over the past decade, leaving more than half of the state's homeowners and renters struggling to find and keep affordable housing.



**Capitol Highlights**  
By Gary Borders  
Texas Press Association

"Is it a crisis today? I wouldn't call it a crisis," Comptroller Glenn Hegar told The Tribune. "But if we don't find some more solutions, we're going to be in a crisis."

Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Dade Phelan have each indicated that addressing the state's housing affordability issues will be on lawmakers' agenda when they return in January for the next legislative session.

One suggestion drawing attention is reducing minimum lot size requirements. A bill to do so passed the Texas Senate last year but died in the Texas House.

Median home prices in Texas rose nearly 40 percent from 2019 to

2023, the comptroller's report indicated. Nearly 2 out of 5 Texas households are paying more than 30 percent of their income on housing. Texas is one of the toughest states for extremely low-income renters, with a shortage of nearly 700,000 units, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

**More than 1 million ineligible voters stricken from rolls**

Texas has removed more than 1 million people from the state's voter rolls, including people who have moved out-of-state, have died, or are noncitizens.

"Illegal voting in Texas will never be tolerated. We will continue to actively safeguard Texans' sacred right to vote while also aggressively protecting our elections from illegal voting," Gov. Greg Abbott said, touting a 2021 legislative overhaul of election laws.

However, some election experts point out both

federal and state law already required voter roll maintenance and that this is a routine process.

"Year after year, people are taken off the voting rolls for all manner of innocuous reasons," said Sarah Xiyi Chen, an attorney at the Texas Civil Rights Project.

Some watchdog groups are questioning whether the state is mistakenly removing voters it considers "noncitizens." In 2019, the state flagged 95,000 voters identified as such. Many of them turned out to be naturalized citizens, and the secretary of state at the time resigned, The Tribune reported.

The law that took effect in 2021 set new rules and penalties for assisting voters. The measure made it a felony for local officials to proactively distribute applications for mail-in ballots, gave partisan poll watchers increased autonomy inside polling places, and banned local attempts to expand voting hours and drive-through voting, among other practices.

**Record transportation investment announced**

The state plans to spend a record \$148 billion for transportation infrastructure over the next decade, the

Texas Department of Transportation and Abbott announced. That includes more than \$104 billion in a 10-year transportation plan to improve safety, address congestion and connectivity, and maintain roadways. It also includes more than \$43 billion for development and routine maintenance - a \$5.6 billion increase from the previous year.

"With a booming population and economy, TxDOT is meeting the moment with a record investment in our state roadway system to ensure Texas remains the preferred destination for families and businesses," said Texas Transportation Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg Jr.

Many of the projects in the 2025 Unified Transportation Program are roadways noted on the state's most congested roadways list. TxDOT is overseeing a record number of active projects this year.

**Regulators approve \$5.4 billion in gas plant loans**

The Public Utilities Commission has picked 17 companies to move forward with natural gas power plants financed with low-cost state loans,

The Dallas Morning News reported. PUC commissioners approved \$5.4 billion in proposals for plants capable of generating enough electricity to power 2.4 million homes.

The current \$5 billion fund is expected to double to \$10 billion as state leaders seek to address the power blackouts of the 2021 winter storm that killed more than 200 Texans.

PUC Executive Director Connie Corona said regulators favored power plant construction proposals that can be completed quickly, are spread throughout the state, and reduce strain on Texas' electricity transmission network, The News reported.

"The awardee must complete a rigorous due diligence phase, wherein they provide documentation similar to, you know, when you apply for a mortgage," Corona said last week.

**Hunters urged to prevent wildfires during dove season**

Dove hunting season began over the Labor Day weekend, and hunters are urged to be mindful of activities that could cause a wildfire, officials with Texas A&M Forest Service said.

Hot and dry conditions in August resulted in increased wildfires in North and Northwest Texas, with 281 wildfires burning 24,333 acres.

"Forecast rain will help to decrease wildfire potential across most of the state," said Jared Karns, Texas A&M Forest Service interim fire chief. "We encourage everyone to be careful with outdoor activities this holiday and throughout the fall."

Vehicles, trailers and all-terrain vehicles frequently used while hunting and camping are capable of inadvertently causing wildfires through sparks, hot mufflers and tow chains dragging along roadways. Nine of 10 wildfires are caused by humans, according to the forest service. Hunters are urged to be aware of burn bans across the state, which as of Sunday included 138 Texas counties. The bans cover much of the state except for East and Southeast Texas.

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

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# Pirates fall to Wildcats 34-14

By Charles Ballard  
SJNT correspondent

**SHEPHERD** — The Shepherd Pirates have improved their play in the new season, but not enough to stop the visiting Kirbyville Wildcats.

The Wildcats drew first blood with a 21-yard sideline pass, but

with 3:02 on the first-quarter clock, Pirate Landen Dillinger tosses a quickie pass from the 15 to wide-open Preston Stephens for the first TD of the night for Shepherd.

The teams traded TDs in the second quarter, with Shepherd taking the lead after a 2-point conversion.

The momentum shifted drastically in the second half, as Kirbyville held Shepherd scoreless while racking up three more touchdowns.

Head Coach Miles Robison said, "We need to get healthy and in shape; we just ran out of gas in the second half and Kirbyville took advantage of it."

The Pirates had 383 yards total offense, with Preston Stephens having 21 carries at 191 yards with rushing and receiving TDs. Javaris Marsh had 71 yards on 10 carries.

The Defense was led by Eduardo Jaime with eight tackles and Braydon White with seven. Jamil Butler had one interception dur-

ing the game.

Next Friday is the Battle of San Jacinto County, with Shepherd facing off against host Coldspring.

### Coldspring

The Trojans opened their season with a road win, downing Liberty 8-6.



Landen Dillinger follows his lead blocker for a big gain against the Kirbyville Wildcats. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD



Preston Stephens stiff-arms his way to a first down against the Kirbyville Wildcats. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD

# Coldspring edges Livingston on the court

By Charles Ballard  
SJNT correspondent

**COLDSRING** — It was a nail-biter on Aug. 27 as the Lady Trojans hosted the Lady Lions of Livingston — both teams were geared for a play-off atmosphere, and the fans were not disappointed.

After losing to Livingston 25-22, the Lady Trojans regrouped for back-to-back 27-25 wins. The Lions roared back in the fourth, 27-25, setting up the rubber match. Coldspring took that game 15-11.

"I am so proud of the team; it

was an all-out team effort," Senior Captain Ella Phillips said. "Every one of the team members put everything we had into this win."

Head Coach Dwain Anderson said, "I told the girls even when we were down by 7 points that we were not out of this game. They made everything work for themselves tonight."

On Friday and Saturday, the Lady Trojans went 4-2 overall at the Hudson volleyball tournament.

Coldspring downed Shelbyville 25-18 and 25-22; lost to Huntington 25-9, 20-25 and 25-27; beat

Latexo 25-22, 21-25 and 25-12; beat Corrigan-Camden 25-14 and 25-16; lost to Tarkington 24-26 and 21-25; and went 2-1 in a second round against Latex 22-25, 25-21 and 25-22.

"We finished third in the gold bracket, beating Shelbyville, Latexo twice and Corrigan," Anderson said. "We lost to Huntington in three sets during pool play and Tarkington in bracket play."

"The girls played hard, and several played through some minor bumps and bruises that you get during tournament season," he said. "It was a complete team ef-

fort, everyone stepped up and did their part to help us take third place."

Top producers in the tournament included Cali Crowder, a junior setter who had 153 assists and served at a 96 percent rate during the tournament; Ella Phillips, a senior hitter with 72 kills and 16 blocks; Tess Phillips had 22 kills and 70 digs; Ashlynn Holley with 62 kills, 60 digs and 6 blocks; and KeKe Nixon, a senior hitter with 15 kills and 6 block.

"She is our vocal leader on the court," Anderson said. "She is the player the other girls look to when

we are in tough situations."

### Shepherd

The Lady Pirates went 2-4 at the Hudson tournament last weekend.

Shepherd won 2-1 over Lovelady (25-18, 24-26, 25-20) and 2-0 over Onalaska (25-0, 25-0), but lost 2-0 to Splendora (11-25, 19-25), 2-0 to Normangee (18-25, 16-25), 2-0 to Huntington (20-25, 8-25), and 2-0 to Hemphill (21-25, 20-25).

Stats for the Aug. 27 game between Shepherd and Trinity were not immediately available.



Shepherd's Neaveh Murphy stretches for the dig during the Shepherd/Trinity match on Aug. 27. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Lady Pirate Jayci Wilson sets up the next kill for Shepherd. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Coldspring's Cali Crowder sends the ball deep into the Livingston court during the Tuesday Night volleyball game. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD



Lady Pirate Callie Dean lobs a ball over the net for the score. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Shepherd's Faith Montgomery gets the return. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

B.A. Steinhagen

FAIR. Water stain; 85 degrees; 0.55 feet below pool. Water is being released into the lake from Sam Rayburn Reservoir. Mayflies are hatching, so expect some top-water bass action. Bass are fair on soft plastics in the cuts, or with frogs over grass. Crappie are fair with jigs in flooded timber. Catfish are fair on juglines. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Bob Sandlin

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

Caddo

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



increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Conroe

GOOD. Water stained; 94 degrees; 0.29 feet below pool. Water temperature ranges from 91 degrees in the morning to 97 degrees in the afternoon. Catfish are good on baited holes and ledges near structure and shallow at night. Bass shallow early and chasing schools of bait after sun rises. Report by Brad Doyle with Bradley's Guide Service. Crappie are hit-or-miss in 13-21 feet. Hair jigs are producing better than plastics. Hybrids and white bass are schooling in 14-23 feet, using live shad and large minnows, or trolling with a deep diver with a pet spoon as a trailer, or vertically jigging white or chartreuse slabs. Always wear your life jacket and stay hydrated in this heat. Report by Mike Cason, Fishical Therapy. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Fork

GOOD. Water Stained; 81 degrees; 1.17 feet below pool. The early morning bass bite has been slow, but a few can be caught on windy points with spook type baits and chatterbaits in 2-5 feet. Offshore bite is best in 12-25 feet on humps, roadbeds, long points with flukes, and dingers. Deep crankbaits are still good over deep channel swings and brush piles in 20-25 feet. Report by Marc Mitchell, Lake Fork Guide Service. August brings in hot temperatures. Bass are feeding in 10-12 feet where the thermocline is not present. Look for schooling bass in the open water and creeks as shad hatch is in full swing. Also, check out the brush piles as big bass are using them to feed on crappie. Bream are excellent in the shallows, woolly buggers and small poppers should bring a strike. Report by Guide Alex Guthrie, Fly Fish Fork Guide Service. Crappie fishing on Lake Fork has continued to be excellent. We are seeing some big white crappie on timber in 18-28 feet along creek channels. Covering water and finding the areas holding lots of fish are the ticket. Lots of single fish on pole timber and some trees may have several fish in the branches. Brush piles, bridges and lay downs have been slow the last few weeks. For the best bite try to find a structure that has not experienced a lot of fishing pressure. Minnows are working well, but some anglers are having success with hand tied jigs and soft plastics. The catfish

bite is absolutely on fire on Lake Fork. We still have loads of fish in shallow trees around roosting birds. I'm also seeing a big migration of catfish moving into the 18-28 feet range along creek channels. Catfish may be following bait fish just like other fish will do as we head into the fall months. Baiting holes with cattle cubes or sour grains will hold fish to your area. Use any preferred catfish bait to load the boat once you get the fish stacked up. You can catch 100 fish in just a few hours right now. Report by Jacky Wiggins, Jacky Wiggins Guide Service. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Houston County

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

Lake O' the Pines

GOOD. Water stained; 90 degrees; 0.29 feet below pool. Solid summer pattern is holding steady for the bass. Bass are good with schooling activity starting to pick up. Follow the shad to find the bass. There is still some bass in the bushes along the banks pitching Texas rigged worms and jigs, or wacky rigs. Bass are good on brush piles on points on the south end of the lake in 15-25 feet of water with deep running crankbaits, jigs, wacky worms and Texas rigs. The north end of the lake is producing catches in the grass and bushes. Report by Mike Stroman, R & R Marine. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Livingston

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

Martin Creek

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

Nacogdoches

GOOD. Water stained; 87 degrees; 0.92 feet below pool. Large-mouth bass are good on standing timber and hard spots with a Carolina rig or deep crankbait in 15-20 feet of water. The size of bass are 2-4 pounds on average. Crappie are fair in brush with 1/8 ounce white or chartreuse crappie jigs. Catfish are poor on cut bait and live minnows. Report by Cal

Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Nacooniche

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 87 degrees; 1.00 foot below pool. Keep an eye on the thermocline because this tells you the exact depth to present your offering. Even over deep water, do not go below this line. The jerkbait Jr. Plus-1 got the most bites over the weekend. If you find them hugging the bottom in 8-10 feet, dragging a Texas rig Mag-worm can be effective. Crappie population is good. Catfish are slow. Report by Eric Wolfe, NacoTack Fishing Services. Largemouth bass are excellent on Carolina rigs and small paddle tail swimbaits in 8-12 feet of water. Fish might be suspended over 20 feet of water but they are 8-10 feet below the surface. Crappie are excellent with numbers around standing timber. Fish are 10-13 inch stacked up in large groups. Catfish are fair on cut bait and live minnows, especially near the pier. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Pinkston

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

Raven

FAIR. Water stained; 83 degrees. There is some rain and cooler temperatures in the forecast to help improve the bite. Crappie are fair on minnows and artificial grubs. Bass are fair on soft plastic artificials. Catfish are fair on worms fished off the bottom. Bluegill are excellent at the boathouse dock on crappie bites and worms. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Sam Rayburn

GOOD. Water stained; 87 degrees; 0.40 feet above pool. Water is off-colored like the lake is trying to turnover. Water is being released. Hydrilla is surfacing and could be a good place to cast for bass. Bass are slow in shallow water in brush with many smaller fish being caught on frogs, and spinnerbaits. Deeper bass bite is fair with Carolina rigs. Crappie are slow moving to and from the brush to timber. Catfish are all over the lake in 20 feet of water and in 12 feet of wa-

ter in the creek channels. White bass are on points in the south end of the lake near the dam. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service. Bass are feeling the heat as well. Lake level is fluctuating due to recent rains. Bass are biting on finesse baits, dropshot or jig head minnow or Carolina rig. Mid lake to north lake is the most productive area. Lots of fish schooling on main lake flats and ledges. Falling water creates current so fish congregate and now that the lake is risen again the fish are scattered. Report by Hank Harrison, Double H Precision Fishing. Anticipate increased boater traffic due to the Labor Day weekend.

Toledo Bend

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

Tyler

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

Welsh

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

Wright Patman

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

Last Puzzle Solution grid with crossword clues and answers.

TexSCAN advertisement listing various services like Home Improvement, Medical, Oil & Gas Rights, and Water Damage.

State Farm advertisement featuring a crossword puzzle and a photo of agent Christopher Scott.

Printing advertisement for Preston Printing with contact information and a list of services like Business Cards and Envelopes.





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

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

*Our girl is ‘Deep in the Heart of*

# TEXAS’



Iceberg wedge  
 - Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill



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



Chorizo hash  
 - Phoebe’s Diner



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**FOR FUTURE REFERENCE:**  
[zombietacoaustin.com](http://zombietacoaustin.com)  
[phoebesdiner.com](http://phoebesdiner.com)  
[moonshinegrill.com](http://moonshinegrill.com)  
[kerbeylanecafe.com](http://kerbeylanecafe.com)

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

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

to cheese with a bacon gratin.

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

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

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

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

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



Cuban Benedict- Kerbey Lane Cafe



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



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

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



# Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Puzzle answers, recipes, videos and more at [www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

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**Kid Scoop Together**

## Missing Words

Replace the missing words in this article.



### Jesse Owens: Olympic Speed and Achievement in 1936

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

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

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

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

### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SPRINTER**

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

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

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

# On the Fast Track!

## What is the fastest animal?

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

Peregrine Falcon 14 3 50 50 50 \_\_\_\_\_ mph

Cheetah 30 9 30 1 \_\_\_\_\_ mph

Sailfish 30 15 8 15 \_\_\_\_\_ mph

Dragonfly 5 10 5 5 5 \_\_\_\_\_ mph

Pronghorn Antelope 20 20 20 \_\_\_\_\_ mph

Tiger Beetle 2 1.6 2 \_\_\_\_\_ mph

### What about humans?

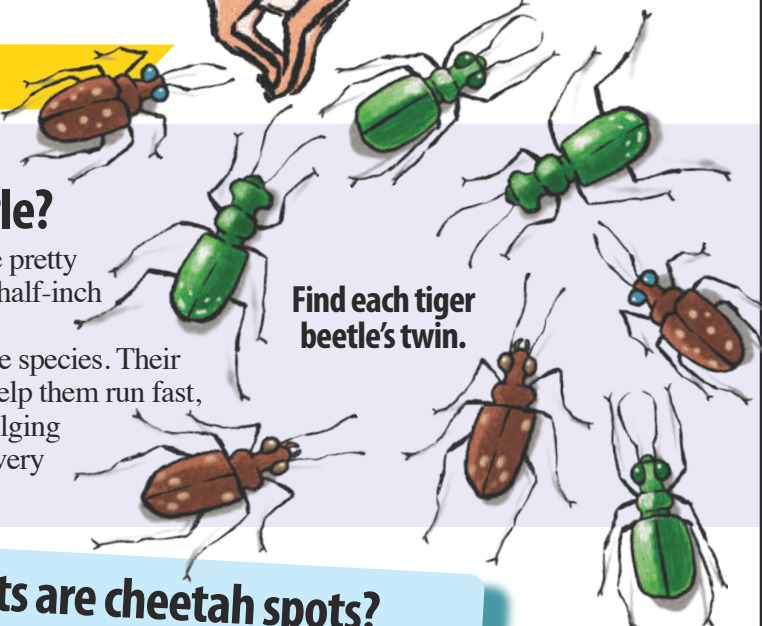
Running at top speeds of about 20 mph, human beings are one of the slower-moving animals on Earth.



### What's a Tiger Beetle?

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

Find each tiger beetle's twin.

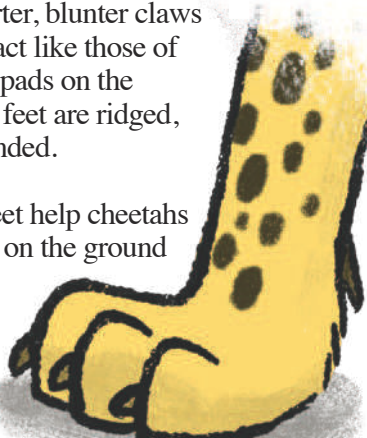


### Top Sprinter

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

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

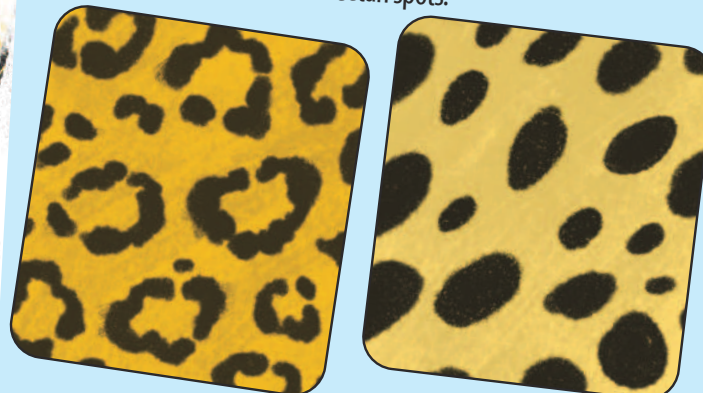
Their special feet help cheetahs get a good grip on the ground and push off firmly for the next bound. No wonder cheetahs can run so fast! But cheetahs can only run at top speed for a short distance.



Standards Link: Animals have special adaptations for survival.

### Which spots are cheetah spots?

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



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

Extra! Extra!

### Speed Grammar

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

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify parts of speech.

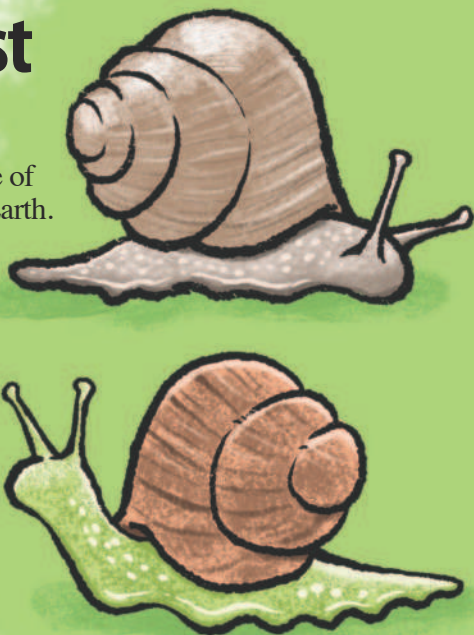
### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### The Slowest Animal

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

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

Find the differences between the two snails.



Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

### Double Double Word Search

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

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

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

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

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

#### Fast, Faster, Fastest

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

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



### What's harder to catch the faster you run?

ANSWER: Your breath!

### Write On!

#### Fast Animal Report

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

Standards Link: Recognize the difference between fact and opinion.



# E

## Brad Elrod

### Attorney At Law

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## The Super Says

By Jason Hewitt  
Superintendent Shepherd ISD

As we progress into the 2024-2025 school year, school attendance is critical to our student's success. Regular attendance creates opportunities to grow, learn, compete, and thrive. When students attend school regularly, they benefit from:

**Continuous Learning:** Every day counts in a student's educational journey. Missing school means missing out on valuable instruction and the chance to build upon previous lessons.

**Social and Emotional Development:** School provides more than academics; it's a place for social interaction and emotional development. Regular attendance helps students develop crucial social skills and form supportive relationships.

**Preparation for the Future:** Early attendance habits prepare students for future responsibilities in higher education and the workforce.

The converse is true for our students who do not attend regularly because absenteeism exacerbates achievement gaps between students from different income backgrounds. Missing school results in missed instructional time, making it harder for these students to keep up academically and achieve at grade level.

Missing a day of school here and there does not seem like enough time to make a difference. However, the following data

proves different. When a student misses two (2) days a month:

They miss 20 days a school year  
They miss 20-30 hours of each academic subject

By graduation, they will have missed an entire year of school

They miss interactions with their peers  
They jeopardize their ability to play athletics or participate in marching band

How do we overcome this issue of missing school?

**Supporting Our Students:** We understand that challenges may arise that affect attendance. Our school community is committed to providing support and resources to help students and families overcome these challenges and prioritize regular attendance.

**Partnership for Success:** Parents, guardians, caregivers, and community members play a vital role in promoting attendance. Your encouragement and support reinforce the importance of attending school every day and on time. Together, we can create an environment where students feel motivated and empowered to succeed.

**Our Commitment:** As school leaders, we are dedicated to creating an inclusive and supportive environment where every student feels valued and encouraged to attend school regularly. We will continue to monitor attendance closely, address concerns promptly, and celebrate improvements together.

Remember, please let us know when your student will be absent by calling the front office and detailing the reason for missed attendance. We ask that you follow up with a doctor's note or a note from home so that we can document the absence. Communication is key in the parent-school relationship!

### Legal/Public Notices

## Surplus, abandoned, forfeited property up for bids

**NOTICE OF SALE** Pursuant to Section 263.153 through 263.154 of Texas Government Code, notice is hereby given that San Jacinto County Commissioners Court has declared certain items as surplus, abandoned and forfeited property, together with property seized under Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. To obtain Bid Information and to see items placed for bid as Surplus, Salvage, Abandoned or Forfeited, go to Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. at <http://www.renebates.com>. The opening date of the sale will be August

29, 2024 and ending at 2:00 pm on September 27, 2024. If you have any questions, you may call Brandi Birdsong at 936-653-4461. All sales shall be finalized on an "as is, where is" basis and no warranties, either expressed or implied, shall be applicable to any property sold. The county reserves the right to withhold any item from sale and the Commissioners Court or its designated representative conducting the sale may reject any offer to purchase property if the Court or representative finds the rejection to be in the best interest of the County.

## City of Coldspring accepting bids for improvements

**ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS** The City of Coldspring will receive bids for Pea Patch Lift Station Improvements (ARPA-CLFRE) until 11:00 AM on September 28, 2024 at City Hall located at 14211 S.H. 150, Coldspring, Texas 77331. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this location. Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows: 1. Removal of existing submersible pumps / motors and related appurtenances. 2. Provide and construct two (2) new submersible pumps / motors / controls / power wiring and lifting rails with related improvements. 3. Removal and relocation of the existing standby power generator. 4. Provide and construct a new three (s) phase standby diesel electrical power generator with matching automatic transfer switch and related electrical improvements. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at GLS, 1609 South Chestnut, Suite 202, Lufkin, TX 75901. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file and may be reviewed at GLS, 1609 S. Chestnut, Suite 202, Lufkin, Texas 75901 (936) 637-4900. Bid/Contract Documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge (with the option to purchase hard copies) at [www.civcastusa.com](http://www.civcastusa.com). A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable

surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to City of Coldspring or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin. City of Coldspring reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by City of Coldspring for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award. All contractors/subcontractors who's System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration is not active or that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project. City of Coldspring, John Benestante, Mayor, August 21, 2024.

### Legal/Public Notices

## Estate of Martha Gneane Wedergren

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CAUSE NO. P2024-94 THE ESTATE OF MARTHA GNEANE WEDERGREN TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MARTHA GNEANE WEDERGREN, DECEASED KYLE RYAN WEDERGREN, filed in the San Jacinto County Court of San Jacinto County, Texas, August 28, 2024 an KYLE RYAN WEDERGREN'S APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP OF MARTHA GNEANE WEDERGREN, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of MARTHA GNEANE WEDERGREN, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate. The Court may act on said Application and any opposition at any call of the docket on or after 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the San Jacinto County

Courthouse located at 1 State Highway 150, Coldspring, Texas 77331 in San Jacinto County, Texas. All UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS of this estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to said Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any contest, objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of San Jacinto County, Texas, on or before the above noted date and time. Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Coldspring, Texas, on August 29, 2024. Dawn Wright, County Clerk San Jacinto County 1 State Highway 150 Room 2 Coldspring, Texas 77331 By: Jessica Swords, Deputy /s/ Applicant's Attorney Kerry Hagan 90 Live Oak Street Coldspring, Texas 77331 (P) 936-653-4444 Email: [kerryhagan@gmail.com](mailto:kerryhagan@gmail.com)

## Estate of Kim Earnest Detlefsen

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Kim Earnest Detlefsen were issued on August 30, 2024, in Docket No. P2024-81, pending in the County Court of San Jacinto County, Texas, to Arnold W. Briscoe. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being ad-

ministered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows: c/o Greg Magee P. O. Box 156 Point Blank, TX 77364 Dated: August 30, 2024 /s/ GREG MAGEE Greg Magee Attorney for Executor of the Estate of Kim Earnest Detlefsen



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Visit [Naskila.com/promotions](http://Naskila.com/promotions) or see Players' Club for details.

# CLASSIFIEDS

We've Got You Covered in 4 Counties!  
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## Policy

PLEASE CHECK your ad the first day it appears. We will correct any error as quickly as possible. However, we cannot be responsible for errors beyond the first day of publication day.

Any error on a bordered ad must be brought to the attention of the classified department immediately. A correction will run in the following issue.

It is the intent and goal of this newspaper to have each advertiser who wishes to place an advertisement in the newspaper comply with Fair Housing laws. Any advertisement, which is perceived to contain language contrary to these laws, will be rejected or changed to remove the offending statement.

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

## Announcements

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

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

## Announcements

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

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

## Deer Hunters

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

## Auctions & Sales

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

## Auctions & Sales

HUGE MOVING SALE, Wednesday-Saturday, September 4-7, 7-5, 99 Forse Drive, Woodville. Blue Cobalt Glass, Porcelain China. Kilns, Crafts, Crystal, lot of Furniture, Household items, Fine Home Furnishings, Collectibles, TV's, Ladders, Fishing, Hunting, Seasonal Decorations, Tools, Kitchen, Glassware, paintings by Mrs. Glenda Nalley. Too much to list, something for everyone, everything must go, rain or shine. CASH ONLY, No refunds. (36-1t-p-TCB)

ESTATE SALE September 6th-8th Friday 9am-3pm, Saturday 10am-3pm, 158 Teal Circle, Livingston. Yard art, Coca Cola collectibles, telescopes, clock collection, radios, cameras, jewelry and more. (36-1t-cc-PCE)

MULTI FAMILY yard sale Friday-Saturday, September 6th-7th, 191 E. Dove, Livingston, Escapes. Too much to mention! (36-1t-cc-PCE)

A BOOKSTORE FOR CHARITY is located inside the Tyler County Booster newspaper office located at 205 W. Bluff in Woodville. All books are 25 cents each, or fill a bag for \$2. All proceeds benefit Tyler County non profits. Come shop with us for a good cause. (2-tfn-nc-TCB)

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

## Work Wanted

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

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

## Home Repair Specialist

Can repair any type of siding, piers, decks, stairs, ramps, and hurricane and weather damages. Can install windows, doors, ceiling fans, and flooring. Can build pergolas and room add-ons. No job too big or too small  
Call 903-330-9011 (ask for Jerry)  
(32-4t-cc-PCE)

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

## Vickery Dirt

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

## Vickery Propane

Tanks & Service  
936-327-HEAT  
(50-tfn-b-PCE)

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

**SAN JACINTO NEWS-TIMES**  
**936.628.6851**  
EASTTEXASNEWS.COM  
**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**  
PRINT & ONLINE EDITIONS AVAILABLE

## Work Wanted

**TLC**  
Toole's Lawn Care & Landscaping  
\*Drainage  
\*Retaining Walls  
\*Residential \*Commercial  
Year round full service maintenance- design, build & install flower beds, hydroseeding.  
Fully Insured  
Tree Removal, Irrigation  
Livingston, TX  
936-646-2661  
(1-tfn-b-PCE)  
J.W. COLE Construction and Renovations. We do it all! No job too big or too small. Call (936)200-1254 or email jamescole1982@gmail.com. (35-4t-cc-PCE)

## Field's Paint Contracting

PROFESSIONALS  
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www.fieldspaintcontracting.com  
(34-12-cc-PCE)

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Tree Service  
Trimming, Top Removal, Haul Off, Tractor Work. Now accepting credit cards.  
Call for Free Estimate  
Insured  
25 yrs experience  
936-223-9265  
or  
936-365-4955  
Livingston, TX  
(23-tfn-b-PCE)

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

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

**AMTEK**  
House Leveling  
Leveling-  
Water leveling-  
Beams- Pylons  
Concrete Blocks  
Roof Covers- Decks- Floors  
Senior Citizen Discount  
Serving the Lake Livingston and Tyler County areas  
936-328-1434  
(1-tfn-b-PCE)

**Vickery Lawn Service**  
\*Stump Grinding  
\*Land Mulching  
\*Land Clearing  
\*Tractor Work  
\*Driveways  
Fully Insured  
936-329-1653  
Livingston, TX  
(1-tfn-b-PCE)

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

## Services Offered

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

## Cleaning Services

**S & S Cleaning and Maintenance**  
  
Residential  
Commercial  
Construction  
936-714-6226  
(32-tfn-b-PCE)

**Rockin' Rhonda**  
Detail Specialist!  
Top to bottom deep clean!  
Trusted Reputation!  
25 Years in business!  
936-239-5466

  
Also specialize in remodeling cleanup and antique furniture!  
We will travel!  
(36-5t-cc-PCE)

## Employment

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

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

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

Notice of Position  
Opening  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICER  
August 19, 2024

The CITY OF LIVINGSTON is accepting applications for one (1) Telecommunications Officer position for the Livingston Police Department. Experience preferred but will train. Candidates must be willing to work nights and/or weekends and are subject to emergency call-in. This is a full-time position with benefits. Applications will be accepted at the Police Department, 208 W. Church Street, Livingston, Texas from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. The deadline for accepting applications will be Friday, August 30, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

For job description, starting salary, required knowledge and training requirements, please contact Trisha Patton, Telecommunications Supervisor, at 936.327.3117. No interviews will be scheduled until after the deadline. The City of Livingston is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. (34-2t-b-PCE)

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

## Employment

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

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

## For Sale

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

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

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

## Rentals

1-BEDROOM HOME available for rent in Leggett, DIRECTV/ water/trash pick-up included \$600/month plus deposit Call (832)277-3737. (49-tfn-cc-PCE)

2-BEDROOM home with lake view in Indian Hills, Livingston, large yard, \$810/month. For info call (409)256-8365 (31-6t-cc-PCE)

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

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

2-BEDROOM 1-BATH home with stove, refrigerator and window units. Located at 1005 Champ Street. Call (936)967-3546. (35-1-cc-PCE)

BRICK HOUSE in quiet neighborhood. 3/2/2, central AC, fireplace, office, big garage, 148 Cardinal, Livingston. No pets. No smoking. \$1,400/month (936)329-2213. (28-tfn-cc-PCE)

Darling 1+1 fully furnished cottage. Washer/Dryer, WIFI, all utilities included. \$1050 / month plus deposit. Short or long term lease. 956-279-8071 (33-4-cc-PCE)

HOUSE FOR rent in Woodville area, good references and deposit required. Call 409-283-8286. (43-tfn-b-TCB)

## Pets & Supplies

THREE MONTH old kittens, neutered, vaccinated and dewormed. Free to good home(s). (936)327-0014. (32-tfn-nc-PCE)

TWO MONTH old puppies, they look like lab mix. Free to good home(s). (34-2t-nc-PCE)

## Storage

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

## Employment/Medical

**TYLER COUNTY HOSPITAL**  
OPEN POSITIONS  
  
LVN-Med Surg. Nights-FT  
RN ED Nights-FT  
Clinic Medical Assistant/LVN-FT  
Environmental Services Technician-FT  
Administrative Assistant School-FT  
Admissions Clerk-PRN  
Maintenance Technician-FT  
Dietary Cook-FT  
Pharmacy Technician, CPHT-FT  
Equal Opportunity Employer. To inquire about positions at the hospital, check the employment section of our website at: www.tchospital.us  
Human Resources Department: (409) 283-6590 • 1100 West Bluff • Woodville

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