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County rejects TxDOT route proposals

By Chris Edwards
 news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – In a special-called meeting of the Tyler County Commissioners Court last Friday morning,

the county's governing body voted to reject both of the proposed routes for the Warren-Colmesneil relief route project.

The resolution, which is the commissioners' word on the project, on behalf of the residents of the county, cites several factors as to why both of the currently proposed routes are unacceptable. Tyler County Judge Milton Powers read the resolution aloud, and concerns ranging from failure to adequately use the railroad right-of-way, which was long touted as the path of any project, to an unnecessary taking of homes, were spelled out in the document.

The impact to the county's ad valorem tax base was also addressed, and that factor's trickle-down effect on law enforcement and other services.

In addition to the resolution that rejects the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)'s two current projected route options, the commissioners also adopted a resolution of support on the suggested alternative route, which was mapped by Steve Pittman and Greg Adams.

That alternate route, which utilizes the railroad right-of-way, would affect 12 homes in total, across the county. With TxDOT's two routes, at present, the eastern route, which uses the railroad route, which is already owned by the State of Texas, 60 homes and 46 other types of structures would be affected, and seven businesses. The other route, which would run to the west side of the county, would displace 15 homes.

The work done by Pittman and Adams to study and map the route alternative has come at no cost to the taxpayers.

The commissioners also accepted a donation of time and service from attorney Brad Elrod to complete and submit the suggested alternative proposal to TxDOT.

When the commissioners voted unani-

mously to approve the resolution, Pct. 1 Commissioner Joe Blacksher called the route "the most viable option for the people of Tyler County."

"It's still a bypass," Blacksher said, but added that it would probably provide more options for businesses coming into Tyler County with the route.

Pittman said that he and Adams worked closely with each of the four commissioners to address concerns and to see what potentially be affected within each respective precinct, and to best remedy any takings of land or homes.

During the public comments portion of the meeting, both Scott Yosko and Robert Smith spoke. Yosko, who served for more than 30 years as the Chief of Police for the City of Woodville, expressed concerns with the western route, by TxDOT's proposal, as it pertains to emergency evacuation.

Yosko cited evacuation efforts during Hurricane Rita, which he worked, and said that a more efficient thoroughfare for this purpose would be the route using the rail-

road ROW.

Smith, who has developed commercial real estate throughout the state, and owned property in the county for three years, said he did not believe the validity of TxDOT's numbers, as far as the potential number of cars passing through Colmesneil, Woodville and Warren at present and the projections for 2027.

He said that one number that was alarming was if the bypass route went west of Woodville and if 28,500 cars per day bypassed the city, the impact to the city's budget, from sales tax revenue alone, could be in excess of \$4.2 million per year.

Smith also cited "tremendous" environmental impacts to wetlands if that route were utilized, and how that issue would likely double TxDOT's budget for the project.

Smith also congratulated the commissioners on their work ethic and praised the efforts of Rep. Brian Babin, who was present at the last commissioners' workshop on the project, and voiced concerns.



"I hear America singing, the varied carols I hear," wrote Walt Whitman many years ago. This Independence Day, have a safe and fun celebration of the greatest nation on earth. IMAGE SOURCED FROM ADOBE STOCK PHOTO LIBRARY

Chester prepping for Independence Day celebration

By Michael G. Maness

CHESTER – Mayor Robert Poynter moderated a lively discussion over Chester's preparation for their July the Fourth celebration at their Monday evening meeting on July 1.

Councilman Bryan Davis nearly waxed poetic in recalling how iServe365 has helped so many and how Kim Clawson and her team was responsible for the first Fourth celebration. This has grown to now include other leaders, the city, Chester Volunteer Fire Department, Peachtree Community Church, and others.

Councilman Cris Cocco will be cooking hotdogs at the city park on the Fourth. Mayor Poynter will be mowing the park, to free up city Director of Public Works Ivan Coronado to get a host of other items done. Water slides, kiddie pools, games, and later after dusk fireworks will light the sky.

Chester resident Kevin Powell came and voiced a common concern, of big 18-wheeler trucks speeding through town. Poynter noted how he facilitated local Pct. 2 Constable Casey Whitworth getting a vehicle-based radar from Woodville, to aid him in his patrolling Pct. 2 in which Chester sits nearly in the center. Some of these trucks, they say, hit town at 80 mph, slowing to only 60 through the town's 40 mph speed limit.

City Secretary Balela Weaver outlined the need for her to have a professional to consult as she mastered QuickBooks. After a substantial consult, the city voted to secure the services of Jim Gremillion, founder of Cajun Tax Service in Woodville. Balela researched several options and Gremillion's local availability and willingness seemed to be a perfect fit.

Council also voted to increase the budget for purchasing a gas line locator.

Babin weighs in on Biden debate performance

By Chris Edwards
 news@tylercountybooster.com

Following last Thursday's presidential debate between presumptive Democratic nominee, President Joe Biden and presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump, many commentators noted the poor performance of Biden.

Rep. Brian Babin (R-Woodville) issued a statement following the debate, stating that, as President, Biden has "failed miserably" on a battery of duties during his term.

"If anyone came away from last night still somehow under the guise that Joe Biden is mentally sound, they are living in a fantasy world," said Babin.

During the debate, which was hosted by CNN, moderators asked 20 questions, which focused on the economy; foreign policy; immigration; abortion and other hot-button topics.

After the debate, CNN reported that Biden went off-topic about 30% of the time, while Trump went off-topic about 50% of the time. Both men made personal attacks against each other, but most of the media attention was focused on Biden's performance, and how he appeared to lose his train of thought at points.

For example, after a question about the national debt, Biden said "...making sure that we're able to make every single solitary person eligible for what I've been able to deal



with, the COVID, excuse me, with dealing with everything we have to do with," and appeared to freeze as he searched for the word "Medicare."

Biden's voice was also hoarse, and in reports following the debate, some sources stated that the President was suffering from a cold.

Babin, in his statement, used the debate performance as an example as to "why we've been pushing for cognitive tests for Biden since he first came into office."

"It should be clear to everyone now that his team of radical advisors – not the president himself – has been pulling the strings in the White House," Babin said.

Reports have emerged of calls for Biden to drop out after Thursday's debate performance. One report stated that Biden's family has encouraged him to stay in the race, despite his campaign being thrown into turmoil.

A second debate, which is to be sponsored by ABC, is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Clean audit for Ivanhoe

By Chris Edwards
 news@tylercountybooster.com

IVANHOE – In a brief special-called meeting last Thursday evening, the Ivanhoe City Council received its fiscal year 2023 financial audit.

Ronnie Herrington, of Goff and Herrington, spoke before council to present the audit report, and admitted that although he is "a tax guy" and not an auditor, he was tasked with presenting the information and, above all, the city received an "A," in layman's terms.

Herrington went over the process, and said the firm performed procedures and analytics on the city's financial statements. An example he cited was that the city's variance was less than \$2,500 for the reporting period, which, for its budget of \$400K, amounted to less than one percent. "That's pretty good," he said.

He also noted there were no findings in the audit process that necessitated any further investigation, or further work issues.

Herrington said that Ivanhoe's City Secretary Hailey Williams did a great job of getting all needed documents to the firm in order to conduct the audit.

The council unanimously voted to approve the audit.

Woodville, Texas
 75 CENTS

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LAKE LEVELS

B.A. Steinhagen Lake Level:
 • As of 7-2: 83.05 feet
 • 100 % full

Sam Rayburn Reservoir Level:
 • As of 7-2: 170.96 feet
 • 100 % full

INSIDE

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- Real Estate.....8B



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LIFE TRIBUTES

Charlotte Eaves

Charlotte "Mim" Eaves, 85, of The Woodlands (formerly of Woodville), passed away Monday, June 24, 2024 at VITAS Healthcare in The Woodlands, Texas.

A Celebration of Charlotte's Life will be held at a later date.

Charlotte was born February 27, 1939 to Alfred Narlon and Ruby Cleo Walker Tucker in Livingston, Texas. She was a longtime resident of Woodville and had lived in Montgomery for the past 5 years. Charlotte was a 1957 graduate of Warren High School. She married Dearl Foxworth soon after graduation and they were married for 20 years. She later married Billy Frank Eaves in 1980 until his death in 2008. She enjoyed fishing, hunting, cooking, especially making banana pudding and being with her family. She was a member of the Jehovah Witness Kingdom Hall Church of Woodville.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Narlon and Ruby Tucker; husband of 28 years, Billy Frank "Buzz" Eaves; sister, Patricia Evans and husband James "Sonny"; and nephew, James Todd Evans.

She is survived by her



daughter, Darlene Taylor and husband Ronnie; grandchildren, Danielle Park, and Dan Marquez Rawls IV; great grandchildren, Emilee Park, Parish Park, Jaylen Rawls, Cali Rawls, and Danny Rawls V; nieces, Dale Gardner and husband Randy, and Loriann Ellis and husband Gary; and a host of other family and friends.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741 or St Jude Children's Research, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Services are under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville.



Charles Miller

Charles Eugene "Gene" Miller, 97, of Colmesneil, passed away Friday, June 28, 2024 at his residence.

Visitation will be held 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., Friday, July 5, 2024 at Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville, Texas.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, July 6, 2024 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Woodville, Texas with Branch President Milton Odom officiating. Burial will follow at Mt Hope Cemetery in Chester with U.S. Navy Military Honors. Serving as Pallbearers will be Bryce Bushman, Adam Miller, Jared Miller, Jonathan Miller, Larry West and Kaleb Smith. Serving as Honorary Pallbearers will be Carter Riley and Edgar Riley.

Gene was born May 24, 1927 to Ira Leon Miller and Ella Dill Miller in Houston, Texas. He was a longtime resident of Colmesneil. Gene was an Honorably Discharged US Navy WWII veteran where he piloted landing craft on five landings in the Philippines and one in Japan. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints where he had served as the Branch President in Woodville in the past. After 35 years of service, he retired as a Foreman with Houston Lighting and Power. He was a loving husband and father and a Great



grandfather. Gene loved all his family. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, cross stitching, woodworking, riding his tractor and spending time with his dog Tucker.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 72 years, Ellen Miller; his daughter, Trudy Jennings and husband Jack; daughter-in-law, Sarah Miller and two great grandchildren, Rebecca Reynolds and Charles Jennings.

He is survived by sons, Michael Miller of Sealy, Texas and Stephen Miller and wife, Reta of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; twelve grandchildren, thirty-six great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a host of other family and friends.

Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Rd, Suite 300, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

Services are under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville. 330



Douglas Blackwell

Douglas Terrell Blackwell, 79, of Woodville, Texas, passed away on June 28, 2024, at the Woodville Health and Rehab Center.

Douglas was born April 11, 1945, to Boyd and Doris Blackwell in New Mexico. He graduated high school in Grand Prairie, Texas and worked as a butcher by trade. He loved fishing, his family dogs and he loved to travel. He especially loved the Colorado Mountains.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Boyd and Doris Blackwell; brother, Michael Blackwell; sister, Sharon Curry; children, Theresa Blackwell and Kevin Blackwell.

Douglas is survived by Kathryn Birch of Woodville; grandson, Blake Blackwell of Keller, Texas;



granddaughter, Maegan Garza and husband, Jacob, of New Braunfels, Texas; and by niece, Sherri Day-Bruce and husband, of Fort Worth, Texas.

Private burial will take place at Southland Memorial Park in Grand Prairie, Texas.

Cremation services are held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville. 150



Theresa Broussard

Theresa Broussard, 73, of Colmesneil, passed away Thursday, June 27, 2024 at Mid Jefferson Extended Care Hospital in Beaumont.

Visitation was held 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville with Rosary to be 6:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Funeral services were 2 p.m., Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church in Woodville with Father Jim Ahern, Deacon David Luther and James Broussard officiating. Burial will follow at Colmesneil Cemetery in Colmesneil. Serving as pallbearers were James Broussard, Kyle Broussard, Dekotah Christian, John Horton, B.J. Glaze and John Paul Phillips. Serving as Honorary Pallbearer was Justin Horton.

Theresa was born January 16, 1951 to Murphy Pinder and Patricia Spillers Pinder. She married the Love of Her Life, Ray Broussard, on March 3, 1970 and they were married 54 years at the time of her death. Theresa worked for many years as a clerk at Davis Grocery in Colmesneil and as a legal clerk with the Zellesky Law Firm in Lufkin. She enjoyed shopping and traveling with Ray in their motorhome and watching her grand and great grands play sports. She was strong willed, but caring, loving and generous.

She was preceded in death by her parents,



Murphy and Pat Pinder and her brother, Dale Pinder.

She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Raymond Broussard of Colmesneil; son, Dewayne Broussard and wife Cathy of Fannett, Texas; daughters, Tammie Christian of Colmesneil and Terri Horton and husband John of Livingston; brother, Greg Bennett and wife Shannon of Crockett, Texas; sister, Roxanne Shumate and husband Shawn of Anahuac, Texas; seven grandchildren, Tye, Dekotah, Shelby, Lynzie, Kyle, Samantha and Justin and nine great-grandchildren, Michaela, Brayden, Hannah, Jaxon, Jordan, James, Lyla, Ivy and Emily. She is also survived by a host of other family and friends.

Memorials may be made to Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church, 1601 North Pine Street, Woodville, Texas 75979.

Services are under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville. 337



Y.G. Durham

Y.G. Durham was born 6-12-1937 in Dies TX. to C.H. and Mary Durham. He departed this life on June 21, 2024 in Knoxville, Tn.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, C.H. Durham, Mary Durham, Brothers and sisters - C.H. Durham Jr. (Jackie), Louise Durham Barnes, V.L. Durham. And Rosie Mary Durham.

He is survived by A.T. Durham and Elijah Durham of the immediate family.

On June 15, 1956, he and Anna Lois Blackmon of Silsbee, Tx were married. From this union, four children were borne. Mike Durham (Vickie) of Knoxville, Tn, Leslie Durham, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Fairie Durham/Heath, Houston, Tx, Jackie Lynn Durham, Ft. Pierce



Fl. Also survived by a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren other family and friends.

A graveside service was held June 27, 2024, at Bethany Cemetery in Colmesneil.

Services were held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville. 147



Tricia Brackin

Tricia Brackin, 55, of Thicket, Texas (formerly of Woodville), passed away Monday, June 24, 2024 at her residence.

A Celebration of Tricia's Life will be held 2 p.m. Saturday, July 6, 2024 at First Baptist Church in Saratoga, Texas.

Tricia was born October 12, 1968 to Travis Leon and Priscilla Joan Nay Johnson in Houston, Texas. A former resident of Woodville, she had lived in Thicket for the past 5 years. She was a retired teacher from Warren I.S.D. Tricia was a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend to many. She loved the Lord with all of her heart, mind and soul and was a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Saratoga.

She was preceded in death by her father, Travis Leon Johnson; mother-in-law, Joan Periman; and father-in-law, Wayne Brackin and wife Billie.

She is survived by her husband of 25 years, Bill Brackin of Thicket; daughters, Meagan Brackin of Asheville, NC, Penny Brackin of Den-



ton, and Willa Brackin of Thicket; mother, Priscilla Dalton and husband James of Corpus Christi; brothers, Travis Johnson of Tulsa, OK and Daniel Johnson of Austin; aunt, Candy Stanley of Katy; and father-in-law, Lyman Periman of Woodville; and numerous other family and friends.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society, Attn: Melanoma Research, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741.

Services are under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville. 232



**City of Woodville
2023 Annual Drinking Water
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www.woodville-tx.gov/2023ccr**



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Tuesday 7/9: Pork roast, broccoli-cauliflower-carrot, macaroni and cheese, cornbread, German chocolate cake

Wednesday 7/10: Sloppy joes, tater tots, salad, bread pudding. Exercise 9:30 Bingo 10:00

Thursday 7/11: Grilled veal cutlet, egg noodles with gravy, green beans, roll, root beer float pie. SETX Food Bank 10:00

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**POLITICAL
CALENDAR**

**STATE
REPRESENTATIVE**
Trent Ashby (R)

**TYLER COUNTY
SHERIFF**
Bryan Weatherford (R)

Names within this calendar will appear in this column until election date. Candidates wishing to have their names appear in the calendar must contact the Tyler County Booster in person. Names are listed under each office according to the order in which candidates apply with the newspaper.

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Skinner awarded for investment education commitment



TYLER COUNTY AUDITOR JACKIE SKINNER

Special to the Booster

IRVING — Tyler County Auditor Jackie Skinner was recognized recently by the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) for five years of outstanding dedication to county investment education.

The honor was presented during the 2024 Conference of the County Investment Academy held June 10-12 in Irving.

Skinner stood out as one of 30 officials in the state to be honored for five years in the program. A special luncheon was held June 11 to commemorate this pursuit of excellence in investment education, where 50 other officials were also recognized for their own milestones of five, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years.

The Texas Public Funds Investment Act requires county commissioners courts to appoint a county investment officer to invest county funds. These officers and their investment staff need to possess a comprehensive understanding of sound investment policies and adhere to the Act's stringent requirements.

Since 1992, TAC has been providing formal education for county investors through its County Investment Academy, formerly called County Investment Officer training. Participants become members of the Academy by completing the Basics of County Investing Course.

The County Investment Academy provides for the needs of officials and staff involved in public funds investing at the local level by hosting the June conference and the Texas Public Funds Investment Conference in November.

TAC is a nonprofit organization that since its creation in 1969 has played a crucial role in supporting the efforts and needs of counties across the state.

JAIL BOOKINGS

Jail Report for June 24-30

Jose Juan Bernal, 42, of Beaumont — Criminal trespass; Possession of drug paraphernalia

James Dylan Lee, 21, of Woodville — Reckless driving

Richard Robert Miller, 51, of

Beaumont — Possession of controlled substance PG 1/1-B >=1G<4G/failure to appear

Rachel Marie Ross, 50, of San Augustine — Theft of property

Jason Scott Spell, 50, of Fred — Felon in possession of firearm/parole violation



Warren food pantry hosting open house

By Jacob Spivey

WARREN — In the 1737 edition of Poor Richard's Almanac, Ben Franklin writes "Well done is better than well said." I've often thought that the very best thing we can do in life, is to be more concerned about others than we are ourselves. About 10 years ago, these virtues were put into action with the founding of the Warren Community Food Pantry.

Offentimes people talk about doing something to help others, but all too often, talk is where it stops. That's not the case here. The Warren Community Food Pantry was founded with the goal of reaching community members in need of supplemental food with the resources they need.

In the past 10 years, thousands of people have been helped with a hand-up by distributing food boxes once a month. fresh produce, often multiple times a month, and provide emergency needs when possible and needed.

In 2023, the pantry provided more than 34,000 lbs of food to residents in the Warren area, but these needs aren't magically met. It requires significant time and investment to meet these needs. With support from larger food banks the pantry is able to purchase food for less than \$0.20 a pound, that cost as well as the labor necessary to prepare boxes

is primarily provided by volunteers.

These volunteers give of their time, effort, and often their own pockets to fill in the gaps in our community. Over the last several years, the needs of the pantry have increased, and the frank truth is, the pantry needs your help and support.

Supplying 28,000 meals a year is a big job, and every dollar donated, or hour volunteered, today can be the difference between someone in our community having enough to eat tomorrow.

On Tuesday, July 16, some of those volunteers would like to showcase to the community the work they are doing. From 4-6 p.m., the community is invited to the Warren Community Food Pantry Open House. The Food Pantry is located next door to the Methodist Church in Warren.

If there ever was a time to take the words in Poor Richard's Almanac seriously, it's time to consider, when it comes to serving in our community, are we doing what it takes to hear "Well-Done" or is it as simple as hoping for "well-said" without any real skin in the game of helping others.

If you are interested in more information or supporting the Warren Community Food Pantry, donations can be sent to the Warren Community Food Pantry at 11774 S US 69 HWY Warren, Texas 77664 or contact Cindy Spivey at 912-656-3139.

Tolbert retires after 24-year Army career

Special to the Booster

Col. Jason Tolbert has retired after 24 years in the US Army. A retirement ceremony was held at his current duty station at Fort Sill, OK on June 21.

Tolbert was born and raised in Woodville. He attended Texas A&M University and was commissioned as a Field Artillery officer in May of 2000 through the ROTC program there. His first duty assignment was at Fort Polk, LA where he served as Troop Fire Support Officer, Battery Fire Direction Officer, Platoon Leader, and Squadron Fire Support Officer with the Second Squadron, Second Cavalry Regiment. It was with this unit that Tolbert served his first 12-month tour in Iraq.

Following his assignment at Fort Polk, Tolbert served as Battalion S4 at Fort Lewis WA before taking command of C Battery, Second Battalion, 12th Field Artillery Regiment.

As a Battery Commander, he deployed again to Iraq from 2007-2008. He returned to Fort Polk as a Battery Senior Observer Coach/Trainer and then Chief of Operations at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

As a Major, Tolbert was stationed at Fort Hood, TX where he was assigned Squadron S3 for Steel Squadron and then as the Regimental XO for the Third Cavalry Regiment. During his tenure as the Regimental Executive Officer, he deployed to Afghanistan for six months in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Tolbert was then assigned to the Army Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, KY where he served as Chief of Plans for the Officer Readiness Division.

Tolbert commanded the Second Battalion, Third Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Bliss, from October 2017 to June 2019.

Upon completion of command, Tolbert attended the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, PA where he received a Masters of Strategic Studies followed by appointment as Pre-Command Instructor at Fort Leavenworth, KS. Tolbert subsequently deployed again as the Director of Operations for the United States Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority at the U.S. Embassy, Jerusalem. Tolbert's final assignment was the Director for the Directorate of Training and Doctrine for the Fire Centers of Excellence, Fort Sill, OK.

Tolbert's military awards and decorations include three



COL. JASON TOLBERT, U.S. ARMY (RET.)

Bronze Star Medals, five Meritorious Service Medals, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement Medals, the Legion of Merit Medal and various other unit and service medals. He also earned the Combat Action Badge and Parachutist Badge

Tolbert is married to the former Sara Jacobs of El Paso, and they have three children.

Allan Shivers Library & Museum

Don't miss the Summer Reading Program - register on our website and Facebook page! Scholastic Book Fair is happening now!

Upcoming Events

- July 4 (Th): CLOSED
- July 5 (Fr): Used Book Sale; 9am-4pm
- July 5 (Fr): Dungeons & Dragons 3.5; Noon-5pm
- July 5 (Fr): Summer Reading-Search and Rescue; 2-3pm
- July 6 (Sat): Dungeons & Dragons 5e; 10am-1:45pm
- July 8 (Mon): TDC Recruiting; 9am-3pm
- July 8 (Mon): Summer Reading-Make a Bag; 2-3pm
- July 9 (Tu): Senior Reading Group; Noon-2pm; new members welcome
- July 9 (Tu): Women's Study Club; 2-6pm
- July 9 (Tu): Summer Reading-Trail Mix; 2-3pm
- July 10 (Wed): Story Time/Creative Zone; Build-a-bug; 10am
- July 10 (Wed): Summer Reading-Ranger Katy; 2-3pm
- July 11 (Th): Summer Reading-Geodes; 2-3pm
- July 12 (Fr): Used Book Sale; 9am-4pm

We offer book checkout, ebooks, hotspots, DVDs, children's room, story time, and more. Use our computers, send a fax, print and copy documents, or relax with a book or magazine. For information, visit the Library, call (409) 283-3709, email ashivers.library@yahoo.com, view our website at www.allanshiverslibrary.com or see Facebook at "Allan Shivers Library and Museum". Support our programs through volunteering and donations.

Free Museum admission for individuals, families and small groups. Self-guided tours available Tues-Fri 10am-3pm; Sat 10am-2pm. Fee charged for docent-led and group (over 10 people/reservation required) tours. Donations accepted.

We hope to see you soon!

TYLER COUNTY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Formally St. Paul's Episcopal School

"Where everybody is somebody"



PRE K through 5th GRADE

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TYLER COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST								AccuWeather. Visit AccuWeather.com	WEEKLY ALMANAC
THURSDAY	THU NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Statistics through 6/30	
								Temperatures	
Partly sunny and humid	Mainly clear, warm and humid	Mostly sunny	Humid; a t-storm around in the p.m.	Very warm with sun and some clouds	A t-storm around in the afternoon	A strong morning t-storm in spots	Cloudy with a thunderstorm or two	Daily ranges — Normal high — Normal low	
HIGHS: 91 to 96	LOWS: 74 to 79	93 to 98	92 to 97	94 to 99	92 to 97	90 to 95	88 to 93	95 95 95 93 95 97 95	
RF: 104 to 109	RF: 81 to 86	RF: 104 to 109/79 to 84	RF: 102 to 107/76 to 81	RF: 104 to 109/76 to 81	RF: 105 to 110/79 to 84	RF: 94 to 99/74 to 79	RF: 98 to 103/74 to 79	73 73 72 72 73 77 75	
POP: 25%	POP: 20%	POP: 25%	POP: 40%	POP: 25%	POP: 40%	POP: 55%	POP: 65%	Precipitation (in inches)	
								Daily totals — Normal amount	
								0.16	
								0.02 0.02 0.06 0.00 0.02 0.05	
								6/24 6/25 6/26 6/27 6/28 6/29 6/30	
								Month to date/normal 4.35 / 4.44	
								Year to date/normal 47.27 / 23.32	

RF: The AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. Shown are the highest and lowest value ranges for each day. POP: Probability of Precipitation. Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather.com ©2024

OPINION

Reading between the chirps won't reveal substance

Many of you by now have formed an opinion on what happened in last week's debate between Joe Biden and Donald Trump.

You've either watched that slow-motion train wreck, or you've been inundated with social media posts and phone/email spam on who won, who lost and who was or wasn't coherent.

While on the surface, the performances left a lot to be desired (like an actual leader), underneath there was even less, unless you count golf game handicaps and the obvious dislike of each other.

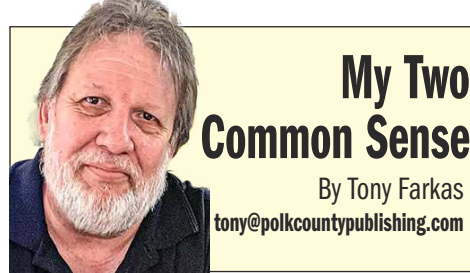
There was one phrase, uttered off-hand by Biden, that was particularly telling and encapsulates the current mindset — and current problem — with government, and possibly the main one that has shaped my disappointment with our country's leaders.

Biden, in talking about assisting people of color, said the quiet thing out loud when he said, "we need to do more."

While he was talking in terms of race relations, this is exactly what the mindset is for everything and why the government has grown to its current behemoth size.

If somebody somewhere has a problem, they talk with legislators or their aides, which starts the ball rolling on legislation or regulation (more on that in a bit). Got issues with too many people dying in car crashes? Have the government make seat belt use mandatory, and arbitrarily create a point where a driver is considered impaired.

Have an issue with being denied health care procedures? The government can pass universal health care and dictate what can and can't be done, and how much it will cost.



My Two Common Sense
By Tony Farkas
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Climate change making you hot under the collar? Convince your leaders that climate change is the "greatest existential threat to the planet" and create rules to reverse it, or whatever.

Our fearless leaders have taken that attitude toward every aspect of our lives. Homes must be built to government standards, children must be educated to government standards, parks can be enjoyed by government standards, television and radio broadcasts must meet government standards, and so on and so on and scooby dooby dooby.

The useless sheeples do nothing but exclaim how the government cares, and the large media conglomerates toe the line and spin everything to make it palatable. It doesn't make a difference what brand of politician is in charge, since these days there's no real difference.

Several things occur to me about this, not the least of which is underscored by the word "more." It tells me that all of the efforts into control "for the good of the country" and "our democracy" have not been effective. This has been the fed modus operandi — patch after patch, law after law that have been applied to fix something fails till the government takes over completely.

Problem 1 is that has yet to work, and problem 2 is that many of these things — education, energy, banking, the marketplace, etc. — are not under the scope of government responsibility, at least not constitutionally.

There are remedies, such as trying to vote out the swamp dwellers and the courts, but that takes time and perseverance, such as actually getting people out to vote or having the funds and actual time to run things through the gauntlet of government-appointed judges.

Recently, though, there was a bright spot: The Supreme Court last week gutted a "government doctrine" that allowed federal agencies to regulate business and industry into the ground. Seems the judges felt that actual laws need to be passed by Congress before a federal agency can issue regulations, instead of what was being followed for the last 40 years.

The Chevron deference doctrine allowed that in cases where law wasn't specific enough, a federal agency can interpret the law and courts were bound to uphold it. The new ruling puts the question of interpretation back in the hands of the courts.

Will it help? Probably, in the long run. But ultimately, unless the inexorable appetite of the government for control is ended, pretty soon there will be no freedom except what is granted to us by government, not endowed to us by the creator.

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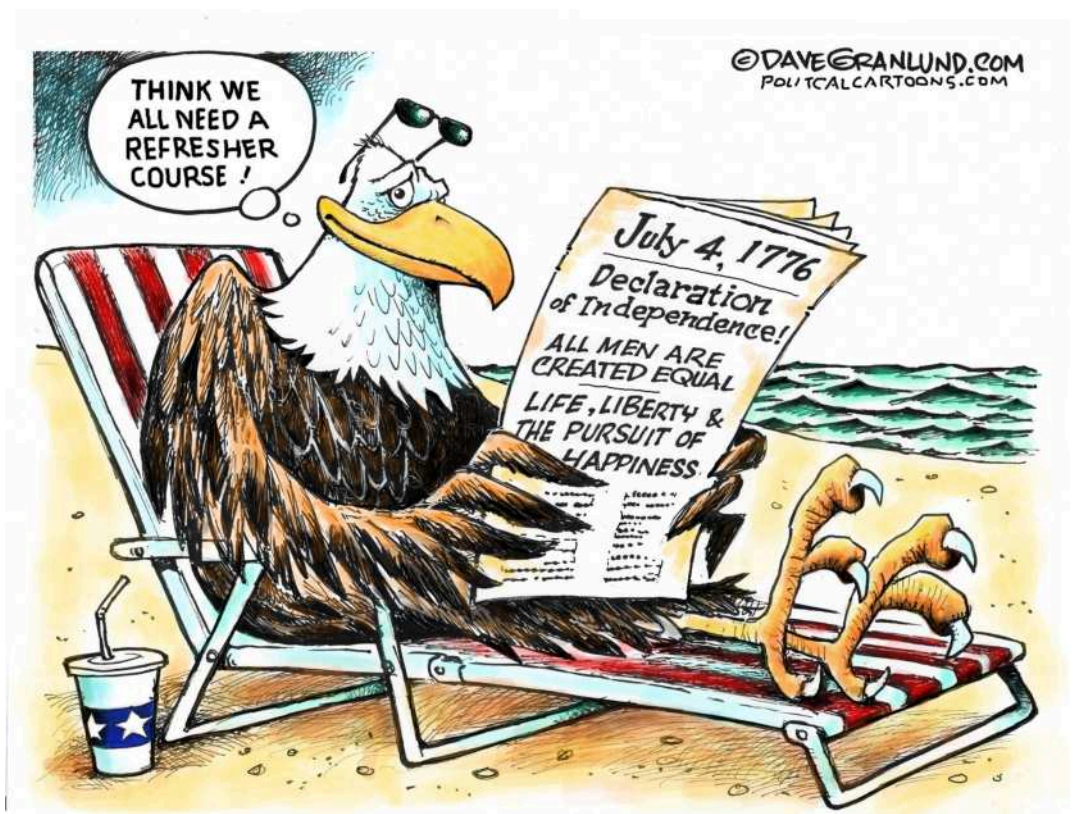
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2nd Monday • 10am
CITY OF CHESTER
1st Monday • 6pm
CHESTER ISD
2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF COLMESNEIL
2nd Tuesday • 7pm
COLMESNEIL ISD
2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF IVANHOE
3rd Thursday • 6pm
SPURGER ISD
3rd Thursday • 7pm
WARREN ISD
4th Monday
CITY OF WOODVILLE
2nd Monday • 6pm
WOODVILLE ISD
3rd Monday • 7pm



ESCAPE or ENDURANCE (Part 7)

Pertaining to last week's article, I overlooked a couple of verses in 1Cor15 that are crucial to proving there is no pretribulation rapture/resurrection. I would like to develop that now before we continue in Thessalonians. I want to talk about the "last trumpet" that will sound just before or as the rapture/resurrection happens and the completion of a mystery:

Mat 24:31 And he shall send his angels with a great SOUND OF A TRUMPET, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

1Cor 15:51 Behold I show you a MYSTERY; we shall not all sleep (die), but we all shall be changed.

1Cor 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, AT THE LAST TRUMPET: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with THE TRUMPET of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

See OPINION → Page 5A

Ready for the bathroom of tomorrow?

Bathroom floor tiles that weigh you, analyze your gait and evaluate your fall risk. Bathroom mirrors that initiate telehealth conferences based on your complexion or facial tics. Toilet seats that check your vitals (temperature, heart rate, oxygenation).

According to the Wall Street Journal, these marvels (and others — such as self-cleaning capacities and soothing infrared light) could be commonplace in upscale homes within the next decade.

If so — and if the restraining orders expire so I can actually visit some upscale homes — I will have experienced astounding progress in the world of indoor plumbing just in my own lifetime.

Our rural church building has had modern bathrooms for the past 50 years or so, but we still retain the heirloom concrete-block privy around back. The only fall risk it helped you measure was the likelihood of squirrels tumbling out of their nest.

In coming years, built-in chemical tests, downward-facing toilet bowl cameras and artificial intelligence will produce a wealth of information about urinary tract infections, glucose levels, vitamin levels, ovulation timing and the like.

Too Much Information, perhaps — especially if the AI expounds upon why your teenage son spends so much time in the shower.

Some manufacturers even envision electronic-nose technology to detect smells that could warn of disease. Hopefully, the AI will be programmed with a good bedside



Tyrades!
By Danny Tyree

manner. ("You're welcome to a second opinion; but in my estimation, something has crawled up inside you and died!")

High-tech home spas will boast bathtub fog machines, aromatherapy capabilities, heated toilet seats and personalized bidet settings. ("Don't invest in old-fashioned bidets from our competition. Ours are so customizable, you can clean out your ear wax while you're at it!")

I hope scientists don't overthink one of life's simple pleasures. Who wants to wrangle with cantankerous software just to wash their hands? ("Turn on the faucet? I'm sorry, Dave. I'm afraid I can't do that. You have to prove you're not a robot first. I don't want you short-circuiting and suing my makers!")

Even worse, faraway faceless bureaucrats could hack into the Internet of Things to enforce their edicts. ("Low-volume toilet flushes are a thing of the past. We're going with micro-volume flushes now! Work up a good sweat — or two or three — and that should provide enough moisture to do the trick. Probably.")

Proponents of smart-bathroom technology insist that we will keep our privacy, but data does have a way of traveling around the world.

I can just imagine Chinese President Xi Jinping telling a subordinate, "Joe Blow has read the same magazine five times without even realizing it! We have got to launch an invasion of these American bozos!"

It's a good thing the well-to-do are the initial marketing targets. It's bad PR if a

one will act preemptively to stop the creation of another category of "haves" and "have nots." Seriously, could Uncle Sam resist meddling? Inevitably, there will be a plethora of tax breaks and subsidies. We'll even see the technology foisted upon the homeless population, although the test conditions could be chaotic.

"We got your lab results from the high-tech fire hydrant, Mr. Clancy.



customer whines, "I've fallen and I can't get up — the money to keep this system working!"
On the other hand, maybe some-
Your diabetes has mysteriously disappeared and you are going to be the proud mother of purebred puppies! Congratulations!

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OPINION

continued from page 4A

Rev 10:7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded (the trumpet); and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever (compare 1Cor15:24).

And what is finished? Whatsoever mysteries God has revealed to the prophets and apostles concerning the propagation of the gospel, the ruin of the antichrist and the end of the age (Matthew Poole's commentary). AT THE LAST TRUMPET OF GOD.

One coming: At the end of the age. Scripture interpreting scripture. Harmonizing perfectly. How anyone could see a pretrib resurrection in these scriptures is beyond me.

Continuing from last week with the exposure of the false doctrine of a Pretribulation Rapture/Resurrection of believers, let's look at some more scripture used by the theorist in the fabrication of this false teaching found in 2 Thessalonians.

2Ths2:1, "now we beseech you brethren, by the coming of our Messiah, Yashua, and by our gathering together to Him"....

To make the pretrib rapture/resurrection theory fit their narrative, theorist teach that the coming of our Messiah Yashua is the Second Advent and our gathering together to Him is the rapture/resurrection described as "the falling away" in Vs 3. Two phases. We proved in last week's article this is impossible. This is the preconceived bias I am talking about. They have to misconstrue verses to make the doctrine fit. How anyone can logically reason this verse is describing two events at separate times is a really strange interpretation to me. Consider this: If "the falling away" is the rapture as is taught and not a defection from the truth, then the scripture would mean this: "our gathering together unto him cannot happen until our gathering together unto him happens first, then the antichrist is revealed. Makes no sense. Again, injecting conjecture to fit the narrative. Not allowing scripture to interpret scripture.

Paul, in writing to the Thessalonians (and to the church today), was reassuring them that the resurrection day was not yet "at hand" when he wrote:

2Th 2:2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Messiah is at hand". Why was he so sure the "day of Messiah" was not at hand? Because the great falling away and son of perdition had not been revealed yet. Just curious but does anyone reading this not know that the "day of Messiah" is speaking about the "last day" or the "day of the Lord"? Then Paul says something very remarkable; he tells them (as he is telling us today) two things will happen FIRST before the day of Messiah

comes.

2Th 2:3, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day (the day of Messiah or "last day" or the "day of the Lord") shall not come, except there come a falling away (apostasia) first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition (the Antichrist)".

These two things will happen FIRST before the resurrection. However, another error that is taught by theorist who believe in a pretribulation resurrection is that the term, "falling away", means the departure of the church and then the Antichrist is revealed. Again, trying to make scripture say something it doesn't, to prove a preconceived bias towards a particular belief. The wording "falling away" in the Greek is "apostasia" meaning: defection from truth, to forsake, a defection revolt (this is why some bible translations say "rebellion instead of falling away"). In Acts21:21 it is translated "to forsake" ("thou teachest apostasia from Moses"). If there was actually a departing of the church (rapture/resurrection) at this point in the timeline, one would think Paul would declare it plainly at this time, but he didn't and for this reason; Paul writes to Timothy about the same thing:

1Tim4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall "depart" (aphistemi) from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils". Yashua referred to this in Mt 24:5,11. But Paul used "depart" in 1Tim4:1 to clearly show he was talking about defecting from the truth. The greek word "depart" is ahistemi - it means to remove, instigate revolt, to desert, depart, draw away, fall away (1Ths2:3), refrain, withdraw self. But never depart from earth !!

The Geneva Bible (1599) which pre-dates the KJ Bible says, "Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come except there come a departing *(aphistemi)* first, and that man of sin be disclosed, the son of perdition". Interestingly, footnotes to this verse (written some 300+ years before dispensationalism doctrine took over in this country) say this;

"The Apostle foretelleth that before the coming of the Lord, there shall be a throne set up clean contrary to Christ's glory, wherein that wicked man shall sit, and transfer all things that appertain to God, to himself, and many shall fall away from God to him". Christian, do you see anything in these verses that would indicate the rapture before the Antichrist is revealed? This interpretation is confirmed in 2 Ths 2:11, "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie". Scripture interpreting scripture.

Another error in interpretation of scripture theorist use to try and prove a pretribulation rapture/resurrection is 2 Ths2:6-8. They use these verses to prove that the "church" will not be here during tribulation because "He" (the Holy Spirit) is withholding the antichrist until "He" (the Holy Spirit) is taken out of the way so the antichrist can be revealed. The "reasoning" (if one can call it that) is that the "church" has the Holy Spirit in them and if the "church" is removed, it

stands to reason, the Holy Spirit is removed also. The antichrist can now be revealed. Unfortunately for the theorist, the scriptures "explicitly" say:

Verses 6-8: "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now lets will let, until he be taken out of the way.

And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming". One coming, at some time after the antichrist is revealed. Scripture interpreting scripture.

Christian, did you read anywhere in those scriptures the words "Holy Spirit" or "the Spirit" or any word that would allude to the Holy Spirit? Neither did I. But yet the whole doctrine is built around these verses. One has to think Paul would just plainly tell us who "He" is at this point. Paul had already told the brethren about this previously when he was with them (vs 5). To the Pretrib teachers, this has to be the Holy Spirit to make "falling away" make sense in verse 3. This is so misleading but if that's all one has ever heard, it's believable. "Why would my pastor and SS teachers lie to me", you ask? Well, more than likely that's all they've ever heard too, so it's not lying if you don't know what you don't know. I believed it for 46 years.

Now we can look at a scripture that proves the church will escape the tribulation. Or does it? Let's dig deeper.

Rev 3:7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write....."

Rev 3:10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will "KEEP" thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth".

When one reads Rev 3:10 with a pretrib rapture bias already instilled in their mind, it sure does sound like the "church" is going to escape this "hour of temptation" that is coming on the whole earth, doesn't it. This proves it right? Not so fast Christian. First, to whom did Messiah Yashua write the letter? To the angel of the church at Philadelphia. May I point out that this church is the only church Yashua said He would keep from the hour of temptation. He did not say that to the other six churches. So by the reasoning of pretribulation rapture theorist, we, today, would have to belong to the church at Philadelphia. All would be under their umbrella, so to speak. Seriously? This is a real stretch of scripture.

Let's look at the words of Yashua to see if we can shed some light on what Rev. 3:10 really means.

John 17:11 and 15:11 - "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, "KEEP" through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

15 - I pray that thou shouldst not take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst "KEEP" them from the evil".

In both instances (John 17:11,15 and Rev 3:10) the word "KEEP" in the greek is

"tereo". What does this word mean? From Strong's Hebrew and Greek Concordance, G5083 tereo means "a watch", akin to G2334; to guard (from loss or injury), properly by keeping the eye upon". What "tereo" does not mean is a taking away, or escape from temptation or depart from the earth. What this letter does say, and also the other six letters to the individual churches is the admonishment from Yashua to "overcome to the end".

Christian, why would Yashua encourage us to overcome if the rapture/resurrection is before great tribulation? It would have no meaning. Did the Apostles escape from loss or injury. Hardly. Many suffered martyrdom. Great tribulations and injury was had by all especially Paul (2Cor11:23-27). Again, Yashua's and the Apostle Paul's words:

Joh 15:20 "Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you"....

2Ti 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Messiah Yashua shall suffer persecution.

Christian, as I have said before, this is the number one reason there is no pretribulation rapture: the "church" of God, the body of Messiah, has been persecuted, suffered tribulation, and death since the day Yashua was taken down off the tree. To believe that the last generation of believers will escape this time of persecution is worse than ridiculous, it is misleading, and unknowingly by those who continue to teach it, this doctrine is setting up the great "falling away" / defection from the truth that is prophesied will happen. I have noticed a very substantial number of folks commenting on Post-Trib videos that if the church has to go through tribulation then they want nothing to do with such a vengeful God. Others have said it would be the "blasted hope", not the Blessed Hope. I have a real hard time understanding the mindset of those who believe that this last generation of believers is somehow different and much more special than those who have suffered and given their lives for the testimony of Messiah down through the centuries. Could it be this is the reason WE WILL go through tribulation? The refining fire upon us? I am reminded of two verses in 2Ths2:4,5:

4) So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

5) Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer.

Continue to pray for this country and those who rule over us. From President Biden down to our city and county officials, that we may live peaceable and honorable lives. Remain steadfast in the faith, abounding in His work.

Pray for our brothers and sisters around the world who endure persecutions, tribulations and even death as you read this. Grace.

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Fill out the form below and bring it (along with a photo) to our office at 205 W. Bluff in Woodville or email beth@polkcountypublishing.com.
Deadline for submissions is Thursday, July 18 at noon.

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Tell us how you are living your best life:

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

“The goal is not simply to ‘work hard, play hard.’ The goal is to make our work and our play indistinguishable.”

-- Simon Sinek

Texas Press Association Convention & Trade Show - Always time well spent!

I attended the 144th annual Texas Press Association Convention & Trade Show June 20-22 at the Hilton College Station Conference Center & Hotel in College Station along with several of my colleagues. We attended numerous informative sessions on current industry topics and participated in several Q and As. It's always a great opportunity to network, see what others in the field are doing and compare notes. I usually come away feeling rejuvenated and ready to work harder. This year was no different.

In fact, I came away from this year's convention more pumped up than ever, with fresh ideas and an eagerness to implement many of the things we learned. I can't speak to whether or not other fields are evolving at the same rate as ours, but I do know that the ways in which we report the news and keep our communities informed are evolving at what sometimes seems like breakneck speed. And that's okay. We're ready to accept that challenge and will continue to serve our communities.

I took Hubby and Daughter with me as I usually do. It's an opportunity to get them out of the house and allow them to mingle with a different set of people. As the Texas Press Association is a collaborator with the Freedom of Information Foundation, a Texas Open Government Seminar was added to the convention agenda with some bonus sessions offering refreshers on the Texas Public Information Act and Texas Open Meetings Act. These classes were slated to start promptly at 1 p.m. so we needed to grab some lunch before they dropped me off for class while they killed time until our hotel room was ready.

Just across a side street from our hotel was a place we had never heard of that looked interesting. It was called "Snooze an A.M. Eatery" and it was a fresh, updated take on a retro vibe that offered a dazzling array of creative breakfast, brunch and lunch fare.

Daughter selected "the snooze classic," which was three cage-free eggs cooked over easy, with bacon, hash browns and toast. Hubby ordered "habanero pork belly breakfast fried rice," which was jasmine-garlic fried rice with seared cider-braised habanero pork belly, sautéed red bell peppers, onions, poblanos, carrots and pineapple and topped with a drizzle of house-made Sriracha maple aioli, two crispy sunny-side up eggs, scallions and kimchi spice. I ordered chilaquiles, which were crispy corn tortilla chips layered with black beans and green chile and topped with house-made cilantro garlic aioli, two sunny-side up cage-free eggs, house-made pickled peppers & red onions, cotija cheese, cilantro and fresh lime. Every single bite was delicious, and it is safe to say that we will be on the lookout for "Snooze an A.M. Eatery" throughout our future travels.

Following classes on the second day, there was a luncheon in which new inductees to the Texas Newspaper Hall of Fame were recognized and honored, as well as the presentation of the Golden 50 Awards which recognize those who have worked in the newspaper industry 50 years or more.

The meal was your standard convention fare - grilled chicken breast, rice pilaf and steamed veggies. The star of the show, however, was the dessert, especially if you're a chocoholic like I am. It was an obscenely huge slice of a layered chocolate cheesecake with toasted sliced almonds, a caramel drizzle and a dollop of whipped cream. It was super rich, but decadently fantastic.

Following the afternoon classes, we were bused out to the Lucky B Bison Ranch in Bryan where we viewed the herd of majestic and beautiful creatures before being treated to a Chuckwagon meal consisting of brisket, sausage, ribs, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw and all the trimmings, followed up by a blackberry cobbler. It was all absolutely delicious.

The highlight of the evening, however, was a concert provided by Michael Martin Murphey. Widely referred to as America's Number One Singing Cowboy, Murphey is a legendary, award-winning singer, songwriter and artist. I'd had the opportunity to meet Murphey two years prior, when he, his wife and some of her relatives had been in

Livingston for a day of celebration.

The first of several events that day was the presentation of "One Feather: Walks in Two Worlds," a historical musical production about Chief John Blount, principal chief of the Apalachicola Indians, and an ancestor of Murphey's wife. Another was the unveiling of a historical marker for Blount near the newly restored Jonas Davis Log Cabin at Heritage Park. The culmination of the afternoon was the inauguration ceremony for Murphey's wife, Chief Cynthia Healing Woman Tune Murphey, the new chief of the Apalachicola Band of Creek Indians. I'd covered the event for the paper and had even written a feature story on it that ran in the Summer 2022 issue of East Texan, our full-color quarterly magazine. It was a joyful and educational day that we all enjoyed, and Hubby and I even got to have our picture taken with Murphey.

When I learned that Murphey would be performing for the convention attendees, I went to CVS and had an 8x10 printed of that photo, thinking maybe I could get him to sign it. I also gathered five or six copies of that issue of the magazine to take to him as well.

Murphey came out a little bit before the performance to greet people and sign merch. I was the second in line to speak to him and he was quite surprised when I pulled out the photograph, even asking if he could take a picture of it to send to his wife. "Sure. But if you like that, you're really going to like what else I brought," I said, pulling out the magazines and turning the top one to my feature story on his visit. He was shocked, and again asked if he could take pictures of it for his wife. "I brought these for you. You can take them all to her," I said. It was quite apparent that he was moved by it. As he excitedly texted his wife, I nervously looked at the lengthy line that was forming behind me. It was a nice exchange, the kind that leaves you feeling good, as I walked off to find Hubby and pick out some seats for the performance.

If you're familiar at all with Murphey, then you already know that he is a consummate storyteller and that he peppers wonderful stories and anecdotes in between his songs throughout the performance. I never in a million years expected him to give me a shout out during the show, but sure enough, he did. Spotting me in the second row, he waved and called me out by name, telling everyone in the audience that I'd written about the restoration of his wife's ancestor's log cabin and even brought him copies of the magazine. Thanking me, he said, "The big city papers would have never done that." That entire audience of newspaper folks looked at me, smiling and clapping. It was validation of the importance of the community newspaper, and I couldn't wipe the smile off my face the rest of the evening.

Following classes the final morning, we all gathered in the convention hall where the trade show and silent auction had just ended, eager to find out who the winning bidders would be. We ended up being the successful bidders when it came to snagging two galvanized metal buckets that were overflowing with all kinds of official UT swag that had been provided by Moody College of Communication, the School of Journalism at UT. As our daughter will be attending The University of Texas at Austin this fall, we knew we couldn't come home without it. It was replete with T-shirts, cups, tumblers, stickers, notecards, playing cards, a set of barbecue tools, bags and even a sock monkey-style longhorn among other things. We were all thrilled with it.

From there we reassembled for the final luncheon and awards contest. Lunch was quite a pleasant surprise, as it was steak topped with a caper and parsley-studded demi-glace, bacon and onion green beans and roasted potatoes, followed by a slice of strawberry cheesecake.

I've always enjoyed attending the annual Texas Press Association Convention because they do everything first class, but more importantly, it's a great group of people and I always learn so much. This year was no exception.





FLAG INSTALLATION

Woodville city worker Carlos Goodman installs a flag along West Bluff to prepare the city for the Fourth of July. MOLLIE LA SALLE | TCB

Classes offered for those who want to quit tobacco

Special to the Booster

LUFKIN – The Alcohol & Drug Awareness Council (ADAC), in partnership with The Coalition, Inc., are hosting free online tobacco cessation classes for adults who want to quit using tobacco.

There are many benefits for people who quit tobacco, including reduced risk of tobacco-related diseases and early death. With support and encouragement, you can double your chances of successfully quitting.

The Freshstart program can be your start to a new life without tobacco. This four-session program is free for all participants and all materials are included. Two online classes will be offered in July. Both classes will be on Tuesdays, July 9; 16; 23 and 20. Choose the time that works best for your schedule: 12-1 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. For more information, or to register, visit Project-Quit.org or call (936) 634-9308.

THE WBACK THURSDAY

Take a trip back in time through the Tyler County Booster

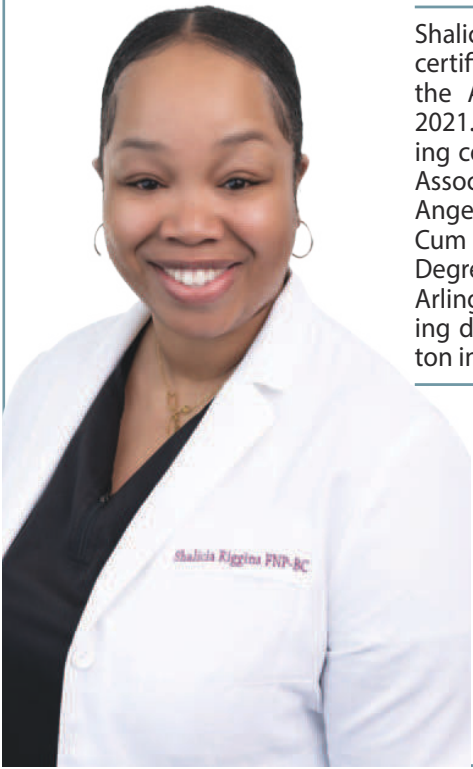


From nursing school graduations to kiddos at Dogwood Festival time, we have a wonderful archive of photos here at Booster HQ. We sure hope you enjoy these old photographs as much as we enjoy digging them up. As always, if you have a story about anyone or anything in these photos (or have a few of your own you'd like to share) contact us at news@tylercountybooster.com

A NEW FAMILY PROVIDER IS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

INTRODUCING:

SHALICIA RIGGINS MSN, APRN, FNP-BC



Shalicia Riggins MSN, APRN, FNP-BC is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner certified by the American Nurse Credentialing Center in 2021. She earned her Licensed Vocational Nursing certification from Angelina College in 2004, Associates of Science degree in Nursing from Angelina College in 2007, graduated Magna Cum Laude and earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from the University of Texas Arlington in 2016 and Master of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Texas Arlington in 2021.

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A NEW FAMILY PROVIDER IS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

INTRODUCING:

SEBRINA ALIVERNINI, ACNP, FNP-BC



Sebrina Alivernini is originally from the Southeast Texas area and will be relocating to this area. She has served the Beaumont area over the past twenty years as an Acute Care and Family nurse practitioner. She graduated in 1997 from Lamar University with her Bachelors in science of Nursing. She then earned her Masters with a focus in Acute/Critical Care in 2004 and went back for her post masters in Family Practice in 2012 both degrees are from the University of Texas in Houston. She is looking forward serving this community for many years to come.

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LONG RANGE RIFLE ACCURACY MADE EASY



During the course of a year, readers of this column read about me shooting and hunting with all sorts of sporting arms. Part of the outdoor experience, at least for me, is learning about new methods and new tools for hunting. I thoroughly enjoy hunting with my bows but also muzzle-loaders, centerfires,

occasionally handguns and even big bore air rifles. Like most rifle hunters, I considered 300 yards a long shot at deer so for many years, I simply sight in my flat shooting calibers about an inch high at 100 yards knowing that I can hold center of shoulder on deer size game out to 300 yards and collect my venison. Until last week down in Houston County near Crockett, I never considered shooting much past 300 yards and shooting at yardages out to 1,200 yards with any accuracy was something accomplished at shooting matches by highly skilled shooters using very specialized rifles and scopes. Was I in for an eye opener!

Dr. John McCall is a noted eye surgeon and traveled big game hunter from Crockett that developed a line of state of the art rifle scopes a few years ago and formed a company called Stealth Vision. The good doctor and one of his partners, Joe Cunningham invited me to join a group of friends for the day and learn that any average shooter (me) with basic rifle shooting skills can, with a quality rifle, shoot accurately out to a thousand yards and a bit beyond. Describing the internal workings of the scope is way beyond my pay grade but I did learn how simple long range shooting can be with one of these scopes. The technology built into these scopes make them very easy to operate and use by the average shooter.

We met at the doctors hunting camp where targets are set at various yardages out to 1,200 yards. A shooting bench was constructed on the back porch of the lodge and even during a recent hot Texas summer morning we were shooting in comfort with a couple of shop fans keeping the air moving. My goal, other than to do some very long range shooting, was to have a new rifle scoped with one of the Stealth Vision scopes. Cunningham understands everything about long range shooting and gave us an introduction to what we could expect when we took our turn at the bench. At the start, he mounted one of the Stealth Vision scopes on my new CVA Cascade rifle chambered in 6.5 PRC, a very flat shooting round. It took only three shots to get the new rifle dead on at 100 yards and he set the rifle aside and informed me that he would need to 'break it in' with a bit of shooting the next few days. I was invited to come back when he had worked his magic on the rifle/scope combination.

In essence, he would shoot groups at various yardages out to 1,000 yards, record the data and then have a turret 'burned' to match the various distances. When I come back for a test shooting session, all I would need to do is dial in the yardage I wished to shoot steady the rifle and squeeze the trigger.

Our group set in the shade of the porch and one by one, each of us took our turn shooting various yardages with scopes mounted on quality precision rifles. I learned that Stealth Vision not only offers scopes but also rifle/scope combos that have guaranteed precision built in. Our group was shooting a 7mm PRC topped with a scope that had al-



Joe Cunningham with Stealth Vision setting up Luke's rifle for some long range shooting fun. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

ready been zeroed. I watched as each shooter shot targets ranging from 400 yards all the way out to 1,200 yards. All were veteran shooters and hunters and without exception, shooting from a good rest at the bench, all hit every target at all the yardages. Canting a scope affects accuracy, especially on longer shots. Each scope has a green light that comes on when the scope is level or very close to level. Green light on, you're ready to begin your trigger squeeze knowing your rifle is very close to level.

I had a bit of an advantage as the last one to shoot. I had watched each shooter shooting the 'closer' targets and then on out to 1,200 yards. In past years, I had shot out to 600 yards in what was then a long range shooting class but never twice that range. The sun was beginning to warm the ground by mid morning and I didn't want to miss the opportunity to shoot at the very long range target. Heat waves were just beginning to form which makes shooting long range accuracy challenging. I opted to bypass the closer targets and shoot long before heat waves made the most distant target impossible to sight accurately.

With a spotter using a spotting scope trained on the 1,200 yard target, I made my first shot and was happy to learn that my first and the next few shots were hitting the bull's eye, in a group about the size of a basketball. Granted, my CVA is a stock rifle and not a custom rig like we were shooting. I am anxious to see what kind of accuracy Cunningham can get

out of it. To be honest, if my 'stock' rifle consistently shoots a 10 or 12 inch group at a thousand yards, I will be overjoyed. I plan to use it mostly for hunting and regardless the long range capabilities, I can't see myself shooting game out much past five or six hundred yards. Target shooting is an entirely different proposition. It's a great deal of fun and very satisfying to know your rig can reach out to a thousand yards and beyond with accurate shot placement.

I wrapped up my morning of really long range shooting with a totally new prospective. Do I plan to harvest deer at a thousand yards this coming deer season? Probably not, in the majority of country I hunt, I won't be able to see a deer at half that distance but I did learn that I absolutely love shooting very long range. Now, if I'm out west on a mule deer or elk rifle hunt and the buck or bull of a lifetime appears on a hillside across a big canyon, I will have a rifle/scope that is up to the task, assuming I do my part. I'm counting the days until I return to Houston County and take delivery of my new rig after Cunningham works his magic. From now on, 'long range' shooting will have an entirely new meaning to me! This happens after you have punched a few holes into a relatively small target at almost three quarters mile away! Learn more about Stealth Vision at the website www.stealth-vision.com

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

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EAST TEXAS

Fishing Report

B.A. Steinhagen

FAIR. Water stain; 75 degrees; 1.00 feet below pool. Bass are good on soft plastics in the cuts, or with frogs over grass. Crappie are good with jigs in flooded timber. Catfish are fair.

Caddo

FAIR. Water stained; 80 degrees; 1.25 feet above pool. The bass bite is starting to heat up now that the water level has fallen to just above normal levels for this time of year and the clarity is improving. Some morning topwater action with frogs, buzz baits or choppos and as always a chatter-bait, fluke or senko around the trees are still a pattern to keep on your deck. The shaky head, dropshot or light Texas rig in the current and river spots should start really heating up when the current slows down some from what Pines is sending our way. This has been a tough year for consistency with the bite because of all the flooding but maybe we are done with all that and we can now just fish and enjoy this majestic lake that God spoke into existence. Report provided by Vince Richards, Caddo Lake Fishing & Fellowship.

Conroe

GOOD. Water stained; 87 degrees; 0.41 feet above pool. Largemouth bass offshore bite has been slow when there is no wind, but there are many of dock fish to be caught. Report by Roy Crush IV Fishing. Catfish are still spawning hanging tight to structures like rocks and tires on ledges. When you find them, you find a bunch. Stink bait, liver, catfish Bubblegum work well. Report by Brad Doyle with Bradley's Guide Service. Hybrids are schooling in 19-26 feet biting live bait, jigging with a spoon, or trolling with a deep diver with a pet spoon as a trailer. Crappie are in or around structure 12-21 feet using minnows or jigs. Always wear your life jacket & stay hydrated in this heat. Report by Mike Cason, Fishical Therapy.

Livingston

SLOW. Stained; 75 degrees; 0.04 feet above pool. White bass are great in 8-15 feet of water. Find clear water and good structure and you will find the white bass. Ducktracker slabs are the lures of choice. Catfish are good drifting flats with cut shad in 10-20 feet. Report by Michael Richardson, Lake Livingston Adventures.

Martin Creek

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 91 degrees; 0.18 feet below pool. Bass are good fishing down the dam with crankbaits and shaky head rigged worms in either redbug or watermelon red. Using Texas rigged weightless senkos over the hydrilla is working too, or punching the grass mats with 1 ounce weight Texas rigged creature baits.

Crappie have grouped together in deep brush and at railroad trestle on minnows. Catfish are good using live bait on jug lines, and drifting along the dam with nightcrawlers on rod-and-reel. Place 3/4 ounce weight on the end of line and hook about 16 inches above. Report by Hambone Guide Service.

Nacogdoches

GOOD. Water stained; 87 degrees; 0.41 feet below pool. Largemouth bass are excellent on chartreuse deep diving crankbaits, or Carolina rigs in 15-20 feet of water. Crappie are excellent on brush piles with live minnows or chartreuse colored crappie jigs. Catfish are slow on cut bait and live minnows. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service.

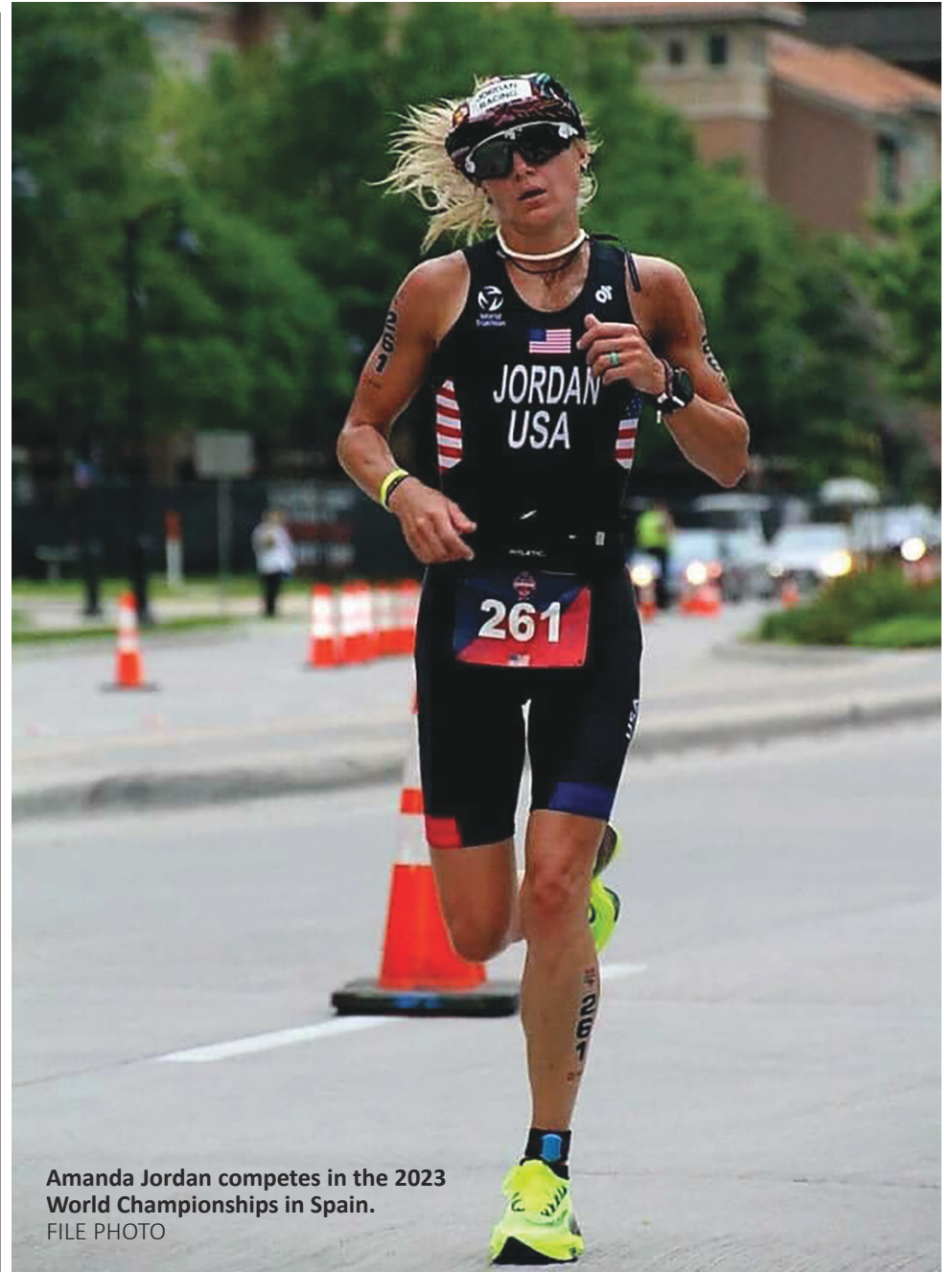
Sam Rayburn

GOOD. Water stained; 87 degrees; 7.68 feet above pool. Water level is slowly dropping, but fishing conditions and patterns are holding steady. Summer bite is just around the corner when we will see the bass draw to deeper water points and white bass schooling. Bass are good on topwaters, or flipping soft plastics into submerged brush and points, or deeper humps and points with Carolina rigs. Crappie are in 12-16 feet of water, 20-30 feet on timber and brush. Catfish are in 22 feet of water in the creek channels. White bass are in 26 feet of water off of points on jigging spoons.

Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service. Water temperatures are rapidly rising to the mid 90s. Thermocline is 15-25 feet of water depending on where you are in the lake. Morning until 10 a.m or after 3 p.m. Largemouth bass are good on submerged main lake points and ledges in 16-24 feet of water with crankbaits, jig head minnow or Carolina rig. Report by Hank Harrison, Double H Precision Fishing.

Toledo Bend

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 91 degrees; 0.39 feet above pool. Fishing patterns are holding steady as Texas heat raises the water temperature. Bass are good shallow to deep all over the lake however you like to fish. The best baits for shallow water are frogs, pop r's, buzz baits and senko. The mid range fish are good on Texas rig and mid running crankbait in 8-12 feet range. The deep fish are coming on big crankbaits, Texas rigs and Carolina rigs. With the full moon coming, the night fishing will be back on fire with buzz baits and spinnerbaits around the shallow water. Watch for snakes in the flooded bushes at night. Crappie are fair while there continues to be a current from the influx of freshwater coming down the lake. Fish deep docks and lighted docks at night and shallow brush piles with jigs and live bait. Thanks Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.



Amanda Jordan competes in the 2023 World Championships in Spain. FILE PHOTO

With a little help from her friends: World-ranked Warren athlete to compete internationally

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WARREN – Amanda Jordan, a Fred resident, who qualified for a spot in the World Championships this year, is all set to compete. Jordan, however, could use a little help getting there.

The fundraiser on Go Fund Me titled "Help Amanda Jordan Reach the Finish Line" has a goal set to reach \$15,000. The fundraising effort was organized by Laura Bryant, and the proceeds raised from it will go toward covering the costs of travel, food, lodging and any other fees associated with her racing.

She is set to participate in races for the World Championships on August 15 in Australia and on Sept. 8 in Switzerland. Last year, she competed in a duathlon event at the World Championships, in Ibiza, Spain.

Jordan did a run-cycle-run competition, where she ran a 10K, biked a 40K race and then ran a 5K.

She came in a second-place finish for Team USA in her class, and placed eighth, overall, in the world.

According to Bryant, Jordan is a self-funded athlete without any sponsorships to help cover any costs for competing.

Jordan is widely known and beloved as a coach and teacher at Warren Junior High School. According to Bryant, she is an inspiration to the students and serves as a "role model for what hard work and determination looks like."

Jordan is also an alumna of Warren ISD (class of 2006) and last year, prior to traveling to Spain, received a surprise send-off in the Warren Junior High gymnasium. The venue was packed with colleagues, family, friends and well-wishers from the community cheering her on.



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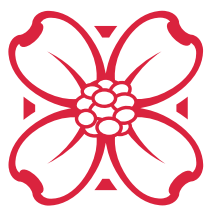
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CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

4th of July

If I went around our community and asked about the 4th of July, I wonder what kind of response I would get. And if I asked the average junior high or high school student what the 4th of July was about I wonder if I would get the right answer.

So from Wikipedia I have quoted:
“During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the Thirteen Colonies from Great Britain occurred on July 2, 1776, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a Committee of Five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, finally approving it on July 4.”

A day earlier, John Adams had written to his wife Abigail: “The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games,



The Preacher Says

By Keith Bellamy

sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.

The declaration was signed on July 2; final approval was on July 4.

Now what has any of this have to do with a religious column? A lot!

Human beings have a tendency to forget. So if we forget what the 4th of July is about, what will happen to our history let alone our country?

Recently I completed a series on Sunday evenings on Church History. The purpose of the series was not to condemn but to inform. And if the History of the church is forgotten what does that say about its adherents?

I am thinking of Hosea 4:6. My people are being destroyed because they don't know me. Since you priests refuse to know me, I refuse to recognize you as my priests. Since you have forgotten the laws of your God, I will forget to bless your children.



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STATE Fire safety urged for Fourth

With the Fourth of July bringing a possible four-day weekend for lucky Texans, the Texas A&M Forest Service urges outdoor enthusiasts to exercise fire safety outdoors, especially when using fireworks or starting campfires to roast hot dogs and toast marshmallows.

Approximately 90% of wildfires are caused by humans and their activities, and the Fourth of July is one of the top days for reported wildfires, according to the forest service.

Large wildfires generally are not expected, and none are prevalent currently, but north and northeast Texas has received little to no rainfall since early June. That reduces moisture content and increases the potential for wildfires to start.

"As we start to observe typical summer weather with conditions becoming hotter and drier, we anticipate wildfire activity to increase," said forest service chief Wes Moorehead. "State and local firefighters are prepared to respond quickly, but we need Texans to be careful and prevent wildfire ignitions while conditions are hot and dry."

Anyone considering using fireworks is urged to comply with any burn bans in place, follow the warning labels on fireworks, use only under close adult supervision and keep them away from structures, dry grass and brush.

Cornyn bill would increase security for judges

Legislation sponsored by U.S. Sen. John Cornyn would, if passed, establish a new resource center that would monitor threats to local judges and provide training for both judges and staff at state and local courts, The Dallas Morning News reported.

At a panel held recently at the University of North Texas law school, participating judges and prosecutors expressed support for the measure, which passed the Senate



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

unanimously in mid-June and awaits consideration in the House.

A consultant for the nonprofit National Center for State Courts said attacks and threats against members of the federal judiciary increased 400% from 2015 through 2021. In Texas, security incidents involving local judiciary have increased four-fold on average since fiscal year 2017, though the number dropped slightly last fiscal year.

"This isn't partisan. It's just common sense," Cornyn said during a news conference after the roundtable discussion.

Top 10 state parks listed by TPWD

With summer in full swing, Texas' 89 state parks are expecting an influx of visitors. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department recently released the top 10 parks in terms of visitors. The top 10 in reverse order are, according to the Austin American-Statesman:

10. Ink Lakes State Park, Burnet County
9. Dinosaur Valley State Park, near Glen Rose in Somervell County
8. Brazos Bend State Park, Fort Bend County
7. Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, between Fredericksburg and Llano
6. McKinney Falls State Park, Travis County
5. Ray Roberts State Park Isle du Bois, Denton County
4. Cedar Hill State Park, Dallas County
3. Ray Roberts Lake State Park, Sanger Unit, Denton County

2. Palo Duro Canyon State Park, Armstrong County

And the top state park for visitors: Garner State Park, located in Uvalde County, which hosted more than 475,000 visitors in 2023.

Paxton probe appears headed to grand jury

A federal appeals court appears to have cleared the way for officials in Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's office to testify before a grand jury probing alleged corruption, the Houston Chronicle reported.

While the case before the 5th Circuit of Appeals remains under seal, last week the court last rejected an unnamed state agency's attempt to stymie federal investigators from calling top officials.

While the case is under seal, the Chronicle reported, "the dates and details line up with those in the years-long federal probe into allegations by Paxton's former top deputies, who say the attorney general took bribes to benefit Nate Paul, an Austin developer who is a friend and donor of Paxton's."

The court said that the AG officials may have evidence of a potential crime, and that the Department of Justice can invoke the "crime-fraud exception" to get around potential attorney-client privileges.

Paxton did not respond to requests for comment.

Fewer students seek financial aid after FAFSA glitches

Nearly 30,000 fewer Texas students have filled out the federal form this year to apply for financial aid after a new rollout was beset with complications and delays, the Texas Tribune reported.

A revamped Free Application for Federal Student Aid has resulted in hurdles that have led to fewer high-school students seeking financial aid for college, with FAFSA completion rates for Texas students dropping by 8.8

percentage points. That decline is sharper than what the state experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"These are by far the steepest declines that I have observed," said Bill DeBaun, the senior director of data and strategic initiatives at the National College Attainment Network. "It's going to take a really significant push this summer to continue to connect students with the FAFSA completion support they need and keep them on track for the post-secondary pathways to which they aspire."

The U.S. Education Department was ordered by Congress to revamp FAFSA in 2020 to make it simpler to fill out, but the new form's release came out three months late, cutting the time high school counselors had to help students with the form. Glitches were reported by many students attempting to complete the form, The Tribune reported.

Abbott appoints new PUC member

Gov. Greg Abbott has appointed Courtney Hjalman to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, filling the final vacancy on that board. The PUC regulates the state's utility industries — electric, water, wastewater, and telecommunications.

Hjalman has been chief executive and public counsel for the Office of Public Utility Counsel since December 2022. She has worked in state service for more than 17 years.

"Courtney Hjalman's longtime service to the State of Texas and extensive legal expertise makes her the ideal choice to serve on the Public Utility Commission," Abbott said.

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

Entergy Texas files for 'Resiliency Plan'

Special to the Booster

THE WOODLANDS – Extreme weather has become frequent and severe in Texas. According to the National Centers for Environmental Information, there have been 179 extreme weather events in Texas from 1980 to June 2024, including hurricanes and winter storms.

These extreme events, coupled with an increased dependence on electricity to power homes, businesses, and essential services, underscore the need for an even more resilient electrical grid.

To better protect the Southeast Texas power grid from extreme weather and improve service reliability, Entergy Texas recently filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas for approval of Phase I of its comprehensive Texas Future Ready Resiliency Plan. Once approved, the investments included in Phase I are expected to benefit customers by decreasing future storm restoration costs by approximately \$129 million and reducing the duration of power outages following significant weather events by 4.5 billion minutes over the next 50 years.

"The increasing frequency and cost of storm restoration, the increasing impact from prolonged outages and recently passed state legislation demonstrate that now is the optimal time to pursue key grid hardening investments," said Eliecer Viamontes, president and CEO of Entergy Texas.

"While Entergy Texas has historically invested in the reliability and resiliency of its generation, transmission, and distribution systems, significant and emerging circumstances support the need to accelerate the pace of these investments. Our comprehensive Resiliency Plan creates stronger communities while managing customer bill impacts."

Phase I of the company's Resiliency Plan is a multiyear proposal that includes six key measures to prevent, withstand, and recover from damage imposed by significant storm events.

- Distribution feeder hardening: Rebuilding main feeder lines to a storm-resilient overhead design standard.
- Lateral hardening: Rebuilding neighborhood distribution lines to a storm-resilient overhead design.
- Transmission rebuild: Replacing poles with higher wind-rated structures and equipment on high-voltage lines.
- Lateral undergrounding: Undergrounding select overhead neighborhood lines.
- Substation control house remediation: Hardening substations by upgrading roofs to meet wind standards.
- Targeted vegetation management: Proactive inspections and trimming to mitigate vegetation-related outages and wildfire risks.

The accelerated hardening projects included in Phase I total a \$335 million investment in the Southeast Texas power



grid. To minimize the impact on monthly customer bills, Entergy Texas plans to seek \$198 million in non-ERCOT grants from the Texas Energy Fund to help finance these projects. The company has also applied for federal dollars under the Department of Energy's Grid Innovation and Resilience Partnerships program to invest more than \$107 million to strengthen the Port Arthur grid, a portion of which would offset the cost of hardening projects included in Phase I. Entergy Texas continues to look for innovative ways to lessen the storm risks and costs for its coastal communities. Another example involves exploring an expedited storm securitization process, which could save customers millions of dollars over the long term compared to traditional financing methods.

Since the early 2000s, Entergy Texas has been making strategic investments to make the Southeast Texas power grid more resilient. Recent projects include the Palms substation on the Bolivar Peninsula, which is raised on platforms to better withstand potential storm surges, and the replacement of aging power lines and utility poles in the Port Arthur community to withstand weather events as strong as a Category 4 hurricane.

"The City of Port Arthur holds dear the commitment by Entergy Texas in our joint partnership to harden the Southeast Texas power grid and build a more resilient energy future for our community," said Thurman Bartie, mayor for the City of Port Arthur.

"We are grateful that Entergy Texas is planning for the future and staying a 'STEP Ahead' of growing electrical needs in Beaumont," said Roy West, mayor for the City of Beaumont. "Because

of Entergy Texas' hard work, Beaumont and the entire Southeast Texas area continue to have a bright energy future."

The accelerated resiliency efforts proposed in Entergy Texas' Resiliency Plan are a key component of the company's Southeast Texas Energy Plan, also known as the STEP Ahead plan. This strategic initiative aims to add 1,600 megawatts of generation capacity to the Southeast Texas power grid by 2028 by keeping rates affordable, building more generation, investing in a diverse mix of generation resources, and strengthening the grid to withstand extreme weather.

ACROSS

- 1 this Guthrie played at eight of TX Willie's "Farm Aids"
- 5 "ten" in Mexico
- 6 Eden newspaper
- 7 "___ your keep"
- 8 TXism: "lonely as a ___ day"
- 18 Texas voted for this pres. four times
- 19 Texas flag being flown upside down (2 wds.)
- 21 "Oh, Pretty Woman" singer, TX Roy (init.)
- 22 ___burnett, TX in Wichita County
- 23 Texas Rangers were first paid \$1.25 ___
- 24 pecan pie is ___ dessert
- 29 Texans must get this registration renewed each year
- 30 Texas-filmed "Two ___ Together"
- 31 hosp. nurse
- 32 Mexico's 9th month
- 34 TXism: "ramrod"
- 35 24-across is even better ___ mode
- 36 brother of Lee Harvey Oswald's killer (2 wds.)
- 37 Venetian blind part
- 38 con game: ___flam
- 39 TXism: "___ shorts in a knot" (calm down)
- 41 city where Pizza Hut is headquartered

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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- 42 Texan born between July 23 and August 22
- 43 TXism: "big enough to ___ an elephant"
- 44 TXism: "a ___ Jesse" (works good)
- 45 TX Willard Robertson was in "Along Came Jones" with this Loretta (init.)
- 46 Astro pitcher stat.
- 47 TXism: "___ as a jaybird"

DOWN

- 1 you don't need ___ fry chicken
- 2 Lucy's Ricky
- 3 TX Jim who was a news anchor on PBS NewsHour
- 4 seat of Crockett County
- 9 rodeo bull riders come out of this
- 10 TX Audie Murphy in WWII, e.g.
- 11 non game deer in West Texas
- 12 this Texan ran for president in 1992 and 1996 (init.)
- 13 before it was the "St. Regis Houston" it was "The Remington ___ Oak Park"
- 14 TXism: "I need that like a hog ___ a packing plant"
- 15 "___ David's Deer" can be found at Valkyrie Ranch in Bastrop County
- 16 find a sum
- 17 a cow that's branded
- 20 energetic person
- 22 TXism: "___ hatchet" (make up)
- 24 TXism: "old ___ dirt"
- 25 golf ball support
- 26 rasslin' cushion (2 wds.)
- 27 TX Tanya hit: "San Antonio ___"
- 28 this Bill was mayor of El Paso in 1990s
- 29 French abbots
- 30 lion's sound
- 33 large coffee cup
- 34 Texas-made "___ Bell" ice cream
- 35 USA: "___ of opportunity"
- 37 TXism: "___ can't find the nose on your face"
- 38 a pilot
- 40 lawns
- 41 TXism: "bought a pig in a ___"
- 44 fence opening
- 47 Las Vegas state
- 49 medicinal tablets

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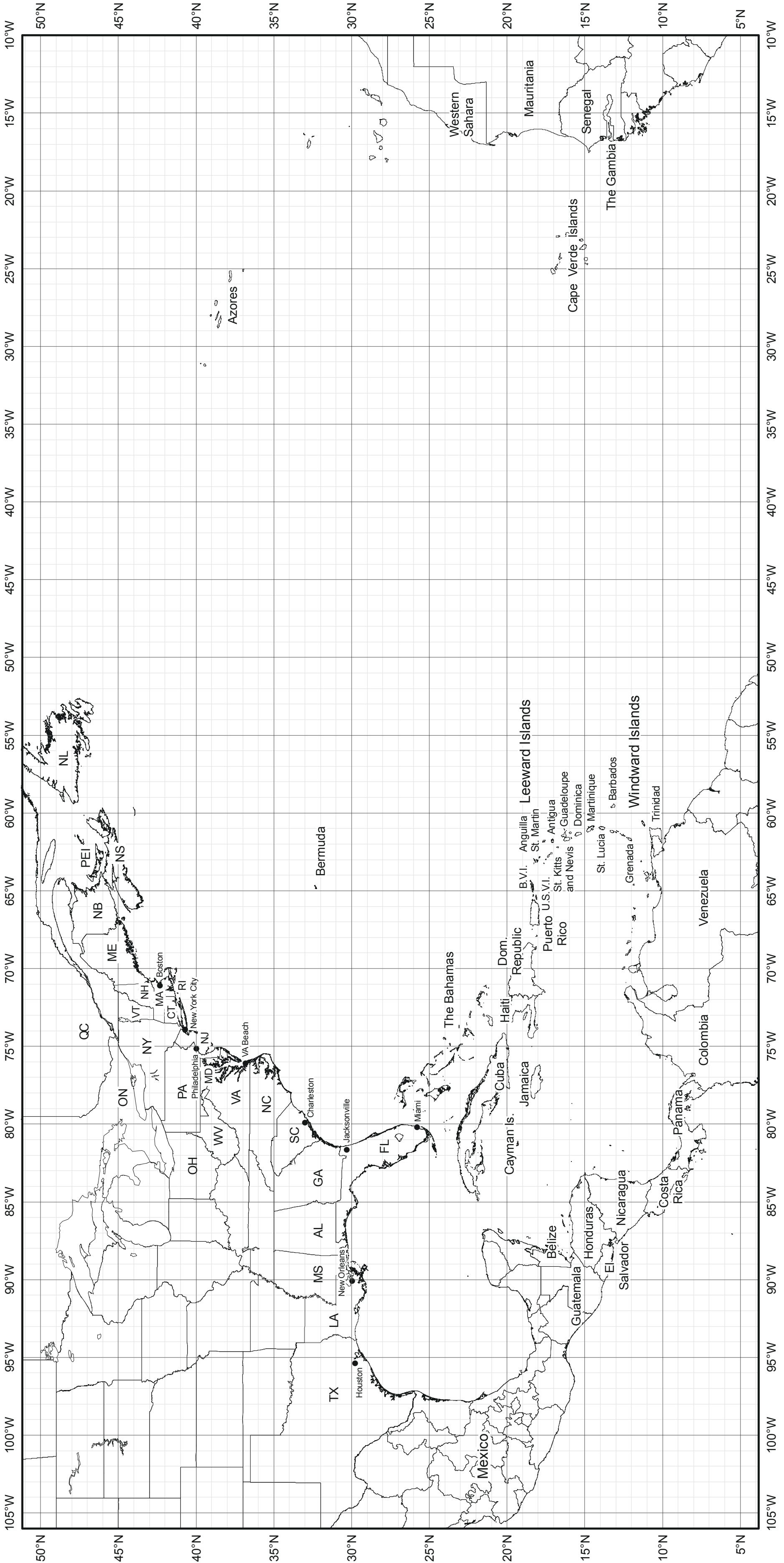
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National Hurricane Center, Miami, Florida



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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)

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. Kfceaonalaskatx.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.weststrengthenfamilies.org. (1-tfn-nc-TCB)

Legal Notices

Water System notice: Windmill Trailer Park

Notice to Tenants Regarding Water Notice to Tenants regarding Windmill Mobile Home Tenants regarding Water System: All results from Texas Water Commission will be available for tenants to review for the year 2023 for a period of 30 days at Windmill Mobile Home Estates post office boxes, Hwy 69 N, Colmesneil, Texas beginning on June 11, 2024. A copy will be provided to anyone who requests it. Please call 409.200.1970.

Sakura seeks TABC permit

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that RNT Sakura Corp dba Sakura Asian Cuisine & Sushi has filed application for Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On-Premise Permit; Food and Beverage Certificate. Said business to be conducted at 1011 S Magnolia St, Woodville (Tyler County), Tx 75979 RNT Sakura Corp dba Sakura Asian Cuisine & Sushi Bolin Lin - Pres/Secy/Dir.

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Free

FREE - Coats for Kids is no longer open on a regular schedule, but if you are in need of a coat for your child, you can contact FBC Office at 409-283-2588 and leave a phone number where you can be reached. Someone will then contact you and arrange to meet you at the House of Hope to help you get a coat. (4-3t-nc-TCB)

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Employment

DAVID NORTON TIRE CENTER, Woodville, TX is accepting applications for a mechanic. Apply in person, 1116 S. Magnolia. (46-tfn-b-TCB)

PART-TIME yard worker needed. General yard work, no mowing, two days a month, \$15/hour. Call (936)327-5109. (26-1t-cc-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)

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CHINA HUTCH \$150; Electric wood splitter \$150, located in the Livingston area. Call (281)226-3258. (25-3t-pd-PCE)

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\$319,000 PENDING



USE YOUR VA LOAN, Custom brick 3/2, approx. 1300 sq.ft. carport, fenced .72 acre, nice shade trees, outdoor wood stove, cov. patio, lovely outdoor areas for cookouts, Sir Jim Dr.\$190,000

HANDY PERSON HOME, 2 bed, 1 bath, approx. 720 sq. ft. pm .36 acre, Marion Drive North **PENDING** \$45,000

WATERFRONT CABIN, unfinished 1-1, half acre, LK Camelot Circle..... \$135,000

5.5 ACRES, Partly cleared, 1995 mfd home, 3 bed, 2 bath plus addition, 3" well, storage, needs TLC, negotiable, Ivanhoe Ranchettes Dr.\$130,000

LAKE TRISTAN WATERVIEW LOTS, Approx. .37 acre homes only, 23rd St.\$18,000

MOVE-IN READY, Furnished, 3-2, mobile home, all appliances, CH/A, fenced, lg. cov. deck, storage bldg, metal roof, 27th St.\$86,500

MOVE-IN READY, Brick, 21, Lg sunroom, CH/A, Woodburning fireplace, double pane windows, all appliances, fenced, 2 carports, Lg. workshop, Sir Cedric**SOLD** \$142,000

SKI LAKE WATERVIEW, 3bed, 1 bath, updated, CH/A, open concept, F.P., Princes Cir.**NOW** \$154,000

HOMES ONLY, Waterview, ready to build w/all utilities, septic, on .75 acre Sherwood F. North . **SOLD** \$45,000


20 ACRES ZONED Commercial, frontage on hwy 69 and down main road of Ivanhoe entrance.....\$325,000

3 LOT PACKAGE FOR CAMPING, approx. .57 acre, cleared, water, electric, Katherine Dr.\$35,000


WOODED 3.45 acre Ranchette, Sir Henry\$40,000

WATERVIEW LOT, approx. .35 acre homes only, Galahad Ln\$18,000

CAMPER, mobile home or build, approx. .18 acre, electric, watertap, cleared, Emily Ln..... **PENDING** \$12,000



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Featured Listing
Welcome to your charming retreat nestled on 20 acres of picturesque countryside! This unrestricted property offers the perfect blend of open hay pastures and serene wooded areas filled with pine and hardwoods. The main house has 2beds/2baths, and the guest house offers an additional bedroom and bathroom, providing a private retreat for visitors or the perfect space for a home office or studio. The expansive hay pasture and stocked pond offer endless possibilities for outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, horseback riding, or gardening. Whether you're hosting a summer barbecue or enjoying an evening under the stars, the outdoor space is sure to be delightful. This property is truly a hidden gem. Enjoy country living while still being just a short drive from local shopping and dining. Don't miss your chance to own this charming retreat with endless possibilities. **\$475,000.00**

Multi-Family
Jasper: Duplex w/3 bedrooms & 1 bath on each side. Located near town.....\$99,000.00

Jasper: Investors! 1,720 SF Duplex w/2 bedrooms & 1 bath on each side.....\$59,000.00

Single-Family
Woodville: 2BD/1BA home w/spacious LR/Kitchen, large yard, carport, 2 sheds, workshop w/2 garage doors, an RV cover, and a boat shed.....\$120,000.00

Woodville: 2BD/1BA home situated on 2 acres w/ carport..... **PENDING** \$68,000.00

Woodville: Beautiful 3BD/2BA w/2,964 SF situated on 2.9 acres.....**SOLD** \$439,000.00

Woodville: Investors! Charming Fixer Upper w/4BD/2.1BA & 1,851 SF.....\$89,000.00

Woodville: Investors! Residential home and commercial office building on a fenced lot w/hwy frontage. 2 BD/1 BA home has an open concept w/1,440 square feet. The commercial building is 720 square feet with 2 BD/1BA..... **SOLD** \$135,000.00

Woodville: Well-maintained 3BD/2BA mfg home situated on 1.9 acres.....\$153,500.00

Woodville: Spacious 3BD/2BA mfg home w/General situated on 1.7 acres.**PENDING** \$110,000.00

Woodville: Spacious 2-story home w/4BD/4BA, 2 master suites, above ground pool, concrete driveway, covered patio & storage bldg. on 3+/- acres.....\$350,000.00

Colmesneil: Charming 3BD/2BA home on .69 acre located within walking distance of the school. Large, fenced yard, LR, kitchen w/under cabinet lighting.....\$179,900.00

Woodville: 3BD/2BA home with large yard & storage bldg. on 1-acre of land..... **SOLD** \$99,000.00

Woodville: Ideal 2,205 sqft home w/3BD/2.1BA. Fenced/cross-fenced, storage building, large workshop and a 2-stall horse barn with feed & tack room.....\$299,900.00

Colmesneil: 3BD/2BA waterfront home on Lake Amanda w/WBFP, carport, shop, covered boathouse, bulkhead, Veranda, outdoor kitchen & more!..... **PENDING** \$285,000.00

Colmesneil: 2 or 3 BD/2.5 BA waterfront home on Lake Amanda w/WBFP, walk-in closet covered porch, wooden bulkhead, fishing dock.....\$259,000.00

Woodville: 4/5BD/2BA waterfront home on Lake Charmaine.....**SOLD** \$295,000.00

Colmesneil: Waterfront double-wide manufactured home combined with a single-widethrough a thoughtful addition. Endless opportunities await.....\$265,000.00

Colmesneil: 3BD/2BA brick home w/1,216 SF on 3 ac res..... **PENDING** \$205,000.00

on 20 acres.....\$475,000.00

Colmesneil: Unrestricted! 7.3 wooded acres w/ electricity.....\$70,000.00

Colmesneil: 11.5+/- acres w/hardwood & pine trees near the Neches River.....\$75,000.00

Woodville: 3.77+/- acres w/a circle driveway & 30x30 shop & hardwood trees.....\$165,000.00

Colmesneil: Custom-Built Modern Farmhouse on over 5 Acres! This gorgeous 4BD/2BA home has 1,904 SF of living space and 1K SF in covered porches.....\$375,000.00

Colmesneil: 6.8 UNRESTRICTED acres w/a 1BD/2BA house, built in March of 2021. Water well, tankless water heater & underground electric. 20x30 garage w/a slab & electricity, a 20x20 shop w/electric & water plus a 20x25 carport. The property has CR frontage, trails & a branch along the back.....\$325,000.00

Colmesneil: EXCELLENT HUNTING/RECREATIONAL PROPERTY! 28+/- acres w/a creek along the back and 546 feet of FM 256 W frontage.....\$165,200.00

Woodville: Nestled at the very end of the county road, this 4-acre property boasts a 3 BD/2BA brick home surrounded by a beautiful canopy of trees.....\$225,000.00

Woodville: 3 BD/2BA brick home w/1,216 SF situated on 3 acres. WBFP, above ground pool, fenced front yard, 3-car carport, storage buildings, and more!.....\$205,000.00

Lots

Village Mills: Wooded corner lot located in Wildwood.....\$350,000.00

Woodville: 2 lots located within walking distance of Lake Charmaine.....**SOLD** \$16,950.00

Woodville: 0.33+/- wooded acres on a well-paved road in Ivanhoe. Excellent lot for building and is within walking distance of Lake Tristan\$15,000.00

Woodville: 3 WATERVIEW Acres with a water spigot already on the Property. Electricity available at the street. Land has been partially cleared **SOLD** \$55,000.00

Woodville: Waterfront! Over half an acre Wooded Waterfront Lot on Lake Galahad in Ivanhoe. The perfect getaway spot or dream home location.....\$ 99,000.00

Village Mills: Wooded lot located on the 16th green of the golf course.....\$7,500.00

Woodville: Vacant lot inside the city limits presenting a great opportunity for you to build to your liking with city utilities readily available.....\$20,000.00

Hillister: 0.76+/- acre wooded lot located down a country road.....\$12,500.00

Commercial

Woodville: Great Investment Opportunity in the heart of Woodville on W Bluff Street with constant Hwy traffic and plenty of parking space.....\$98,000.00

Country Homes/Acreage

Colmesneil: 2 BD/2BA w/1/1 guest house situated

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FEATURED: Untouched 46+/- acs of hardwoods, live water branch, excellent US Hwy 190E frontage, outside Woodville...\$6,490/Ac

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WOODVILLE: 3/2 Com. Res. 1,869 sq ft, on Pecan & W. Bluff Sts, large shop, prominent locat...**\$199,500**

CUSTOM: Recent 3BR/2BA on .69 ac lot. **\$324,900**

IN TOWN: Brick 3BR/2BA on wooded lot **\$219,000**

2.4 ACS: Stylish 3BR/3BA brick on lg. wood lot in Colmesneil, recent updates, lg. workshop. **\$329,000**

--- HOMES ON LAND ---

20+ ACS: Wildwood 3BR/2BA/2GA on 20+/- acs, golf/boating, but room for horses/cattle/hunting! **\$749,500**

HILLISTER: Sprawling 3BR/2BA hill top home, 1BR/1BA guest apt, pond, 19 open acres... **\$539,652**

15 AC: Azalea Springs, pretty woods, 3BR/2BA, workshop, live spring lake, US Hwy 190W (bio) **\$514,900**

--- LAND & ACREAGE ---

220+/- AC: Mix woods, lg. live sandy creek, electricity, rolling terrain, camp site, nr. Colmesneil... **\$4,990/Ac**

196+/- AC: Natural pine/hardwoods fronts US 190E and co. road, live creek, elect., homesite... **\$5,390/Ac**

190+/- AC: Perfect road w/lake. **\$7,990/Ac**

152+/- AC: Nr. Fred on FM 92, mixed woods, creek, great hunting, lake/home sites, electricity... **\$5,490/Ac**

127+/- AC: Nr. Betha hills, spgs. **\$6,290/Ac**

126+/- AC: Good hunting & timber land... **\$3,595/Ac**

103+/- AC: Rare untouched rolling hardwood forest, elect. avail, poss. home/lake sites, Wdvl... **\$5,500/Ac**

86+/- AC: Roll. hills US 190E, lk/homesite. **\$6,390/Ac**

77+/- AC: Rolling creek. **\$5,890/Ac**

62+/- AC: Hilly mixed acres, huge hardwoods, 2 live sandy creeks, acc. to elec. great hunting... **\$5,990/Ac**

53 AC: Remote mixed timber, rustic camphouse, electricity, 2 creeks, pretty rolling terrain... **\$5,500/Ac**

50 AC: Live crk, hilly terrain, good hunting **\$6,490/Ac**

48+/- AC: Mature mix woods, nr Warren. **\$5,990/Ac**

44+/- AC: On U.S. Hwy. 287, mixed woods, live creek, access to elect, potential bldg. site. **\$6,500/Ac**

44+/- AC: CR 2570, **SOLD** bld. site. **\$6,990/Ac**

43+/- AC: U.S. Hwy 190E, pretty, hilly woods, elec. avail, perfect home/lake bldg sites, Wdvl. **\$6,490/Ac**

43+/- AC: Rolling natural woods, hmsite **\$6,490/Ac**

35+/- AC: Warren, **SOLD** bldg site. **\$5,990/Ac**

27+/- AC: Woods on U.S. 190E, Newton. **\$3,460/Ac**

25+/- AC: Beautiful fenced pasture, electric avail, homesite over looking lake, near Warren. **\$9,995/Ac**

22+/- AC: Heavily mix-wooded acres on CR 2150, access to elect., potential homesite, lv. crk **\$6,490/Ac**

19+/- AC: Nice **PENDING** terrain for building site, end of private rd, access to electricity **\$6,900/Ac**

17+/- AC: Outside of Woodville, fronts two roads, mixed woods w/building sites, acc. elect. **\$6,900/Ac**

9+ AC: Acreage nr. Chester, fenced/elect... **\$119,900**

3+ AC: Bld site, Colmesneil, near Deason Cr. **\$28,900**

3+/- AC: Open, ready to build, near Warren **\$49,500**

LOTS: Woodville lots ready-to-build, off 69 **\$24,900**

LOT: .50 wood ac. on US 69N, electricity. **\$14,500**

LOT: 411 W. Wheat St, Wdvl, lot in town... **\$5,000**

--- COMMERCIAL ---

18.96 AC: Woodville **SOLD** on US 69S... **\$495,000**

INDUSTRIAL: 20 **SOLD** build., office. **\$999,000**

KIRBYVILLE: Com property downtown... **\$384,560**

IN TOWN: 3/2 Com. **SOLD** 99sf, W. Bluff. **\$199,500**

2+/- AC: Outstanding bldg. lot on US 69S... **\$200,000**

6.9+/- AC: 600ft of comm front. US 69S... **\$235,000**

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