

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024

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75¢ | VOLUME 98 NUMBER 32

Ring the bell: School's back in session

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

TYLER COUNTY – Just, seemingly, as it began, the summer break is ending for public school students across Tyler County, with three of the county's five school districts beginning the new term this week.

Chester and Colmesneil ISD both rang their inaugural bells for the 2024-25 school year this Wednesday morning, August 7, while Warren ISD returns to classes at all its campuses on Thursday, August 8. Spurger and Woodville ISD both return next

Wednesday, August 14. Before the school year kicks into gear with classrooms full of learners settling into routines, along with faculty and staff, some of the districts in the county have experienced administrative changes.

Both Colmesneil and Warren ISD have new athletic directors, with Brian Ramsey and Buddy Adams, respectively, heading up those schools' athletic programs.

Bridget Toler is now serving as the assistant principal for Chester ISD and Arlene Robinson is in as the principal of Spurger High School.

At the statewide level, security measures are chief among the concerns of both legislators and public school officials, regarding educational priorities.

Gov. Greg Abbott announced in late July the launch of Sentinel, which is described by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) as an innovative and comprehensive system designed to enhance the safety and security of students, faculty and staff in school buildings across Texas.

Sentinel utilizes cutting-edge technology to recognize and assess threats, offer real-time communication capabilities and better

safeguard children and educators. "As a new school year approaches, the safety of students, school faculty and staff across Texas remains a top priority," said Abbott.

The Sentinel system standardizes behavioral threat assessments into a single reporting protocol, so that school districts have a way of managing threats, and with a uniform approach, helps identify, assess and mitigate risks.

See **SESSION** → Page 5A

Chester passes safety inspection

By Michael G. Maness

CHESTER – Chester Mayor Robert Poynter was pleased to report the Railroad Commission gave the Chester Gas Company a favorable review at the city's regular meeting Monday evening, Aug. 5.

In a letter from Stephanie Weidman, public safety director for the RC, she confirmed with an attached safety review that all was well in Chester.

Poynter related how he had spent time on the phone with RC lawyers and a commissioner cooperating with the investigation of a damaged line. After a thorough review, Poynter said the RC concurred that the damage was caused by sabotage, and that essentially released Chester from the possibility of a very hefty fine.

There was a brief discussion on the past-due accounts. City Secretary Balela Weaver explained how several were working closely to keep up.

The council went through their agenda briskly approving all actionable items before going into executive session.



The county recently installed a fire danger sign at the corner of 190 and 69, at the request of Emergency Management Coordinator John Settlocker. CHRIS EDWARDS | TCB

'American Pickers' coming to film in Texas

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

We all know someone with a lot of really cool stuff, right? Or maybe you might know someone with an entire building containing a forgotten treasure trove.

If so, then they could be sitting on a proverbial goldmine, and the team behind the cultural phenomenon "American Pickers" might be interested. The show, which has showcased various collections of Americana artifacts since 2010 on the History Channel, is planning to discover some Texan collections in October.

According to Meredith Ball, a producer for the show, "American Pickers" is looking for collectors in the area, "specifically interesting characters with fascinating items."

See **PICKERS** → Page 5A

Commissioners approve bids for arena improvements

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – In its regular monthly meeting on Monday morning, the Tyler County Commissioners Court approved bids for a series of improvements to the county's rodeo grounds.

The commissioners approved a base bid, and six alternate bids, in the amount of \$1,701,669 to Construction Zone of Southeast Texas, LLC, for site improvements to the facility.

The description of the project's scope, in the construction plans, encompasses a series of general civil site improvements,

which include a rehabilitation of the structure and cover of the bleacher area, new restrooms and sanitary sewer improvements.

Site improvements outside the area, along County Road 2025, include the demolition of the existing gravel driveway and storm lines, and the installation of a concrete driveway and other reshaping.

The funds for the project come from mitigation grant funds through DETCOG. Grant administrator Lesley Waxman, of David J. Waxman and engineer Stephen West, of LEAD Engineering, were present at the meeting. West said the bid package was up against three "very competitive" bids. The one caveat, West said, is that the bid package

did not cover the cost for bleachers, which put the project at about \$100K over budget.

Waxman thanked the commissioners and Judge Milton Powers for their work on the project, calling it "a real labor of love."

"It has not been easy for various reasons," Waxman said, and detailed some postponements in the process of bidding, due to various factors, including the recent hurricane that affected Texas.

One factor that Waxman said had been made clear to bidders was that none of the work was to interfere with any of the normal activities at the arena, such as the fair.

See **BIDS** → Page 5A

Safety checklist offered for back-to-school

Special to the Booster

The American Red Cross offers this checklist you can follow to help make sure your student is safe as they go back to the classroom.

If your student is younger or going to school for the first time, teach them:

- Their phone number, address, how to get in touch with their parents at work, how to get in touch with another trusted adult and how to dial 911.
- Not to talk to strangers or accept rides from someone they don't know.

If your child walks to school, teach them to:

- Walk on the sidewalk. If no sidewalk is available, walk facing traffic.

- Stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming.
- Cross the street at the corner, obey traffic signals and stay in the crosswalk.

• Never run out into the street or cross between parked cars.

If your student takes the bus to school, teach them to:

- Get to their bus stop early and stand away from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive.
- Board the bus only after it has come to a complete stop and the driver or attendant has instructed them to get on. And only board their bus, never an alternate one.

See **SAFETY** → Page 5A

Woodville, Texas
75 CENTS



USPS 645-560



LAKE LEVELS

B.A. Steinhagen Lake Level:
• As of 8-6: 82.62 feet
• 80.9 % full

Sam Rayburn Reservoir Level:
• As of 8-6: 169.76 feet
• 100 % full

INSIDE

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CASA advocates for normalcy for children in foster care

Special to the Booster

Summertime in Texas is full of sun, swimming pools, barbecues and tons of fun activities for children. Many children can enjoy their summer vacation by attending camps, participating in sports or having a summer job, but there are many children in foster care who do not get the chance to experience these sorts of summertime activities.

Removed from home and placed in the child welfare system because their family is in crisis, these children are already facing trauma that no child should experience – yet on top of all of that, their participation in normal childhood activities with their peers often becomes an afterthought.

“Kids in foster care can feel disconnected from other kids their age because of what they’re going through, so it’s important to help them feel as normal as possible,” said Codie Vasquez, executive director of CASA of the Sabine Neches Region. “Getting the chance to participate in normal childhood activities – and just be a kid – can be essential to a child’s well-being.”

“Normalcy” is a term commonly used in child welfare for any expe-

riences that contribute to a child’s autonomy and social functioning. Activities associated with a “normal” childhood, such as sleepovers, pool parties, having an ice cream cone or going to a homecoming dance can be imperative to a child’s sense of security, regularity and well-being. Another aspect of normalcy is working to ensure that the realities and difficulties of a child’s situation interrupt their everyday lives as little as possible.

“Friendship and socialization are imperative for children to maintain good health and psychological well-being. While things like visitation, appointments and therapy are essential for the children we serve, we don’t want them to come in the way of everyday activities that are also important to their development, like school or an extracurricular activity,” said Vasquez.

Foster parents, CASA volunteers, caseworkers and others who serve children in foster care must work together to make normalcy a priority, said Vasquez.

“These children have been through enough. The last thing they need is to be excluded from fun social activities with their peers,” said Vasquez. “This

summer, CASA of the Sabine Neches Region aims to help local children in foster care have the opportunity to partake in normal, age-appropriate experiences.”

CASA volunteers are specially trained and appointed by judges to speak up for a child and advocate for their unique needs in court, at school and in other settings. They also get to know the other adults in the child’s life, including their parents, family, foster parents, caseworkers, counselors and more, and work with them to ensure the best interests of the child come first.

Ultimately, true normalcy is achieved when children are no longer in the system and have the resources and support, they need to thrive—preferably back home with their family whenever safe and possible. Until then, they need a voice to speak up for them, to ensure they can participate in hobbies and activities that will help them grow and heal.

Become a CASA volunteer and advocate for a child who needs you. Take advantage of CASA of the Sabine Neches Region’s upcoming training this July 2024. You can also find more information at www.casasn.org or call (409) 886-2272.

JAIL BOOKINGS

Jail Booking Report for July 29 – August 4, 2024

Jeremy Wayne Ellis, 52, of Warren – Terroristic threat cause fear of imminent serious bodily injury
Butch Allen Fielder, 45, of Spurger – Public intoxication
Michael Jamal Hart, 36, of Woodville – Driving while license invalid
Faustino Mateo Juarez, 20, of Woodville – Theft of property >=\$100<\$750

Brad Peterson King, 45, of Woodville – Driving while intoxicated (third or more)
Teela Miller, 41, of Woodville – Possession of drug paraphernalia
Bryan Therrien, 37, of Newton – Sexual assault of child
David Wayne Turner, 40, of Warren – Driving while license invalid; Failure to maintain financial responsibility
Michael Vicars, 66, of Chester – Assault causes bodily injury to family member

TCSO seeking stolen trailer

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – The Tyler County Sheriff’s Office is seeking a stolen travel trailer, and have identified an individual who was seen on a camera at the scene of the theft.

According to Tyler County Sheriff Bryan Weatherford, the theft occurred at sometime between Thursday, July 25 and Saturday, July 27. Weatherford said the TCSO deputies were dispatched to a location on US 190 West, near the airport, on a call about a stolen tan 2017 Cherokee Wolf Pup travel trailer.

The following day, a White male subject was seen on the property, captured by a surveillance camera, looking into a building. He was driving an older model beige Chevrolet or GMC SUV with aftermarket wheels, according to Weatherford. Since then, the subject was identified when photos from the camera were posted to social media accounts.

Weatherford said the name of the man is not yet public, and no arrest has been made; that the man is just a person of interest, and the case investigation is still ongoing.

“The Tyler County Sheriff’s Office would like to thank the public for multiple calls and tips in regard to this investigation,” Weatherford said.

If anyone knows the whereabouts of the stolen travel trailer, please call the Tyler County Sheriff’s Office at 409-283-2172. You may also submit an anonymous tip through the East Texas Crime Stoppers network at www.639tips.com or call 936-639-TIPS.

Tips submitted to Crime Stoppers are anonymous from the initial contact to the arrest, if there is sufficient evidence to result in an arrest, and are subject to cash rewards for the tipsters.



TCH AUXILIARY AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Special to the Booster

WOODVILLE – The Tyler County Hospital Auxiliary presented a total of \$3,670.02 in scholarships to students in the Tyler County Hospital School of Vocational Nursing Program. Scholarship recipients are (sitting left-to-right) Madison Turner, Phylecia Loftin, and Anaya Samuel. Standing left-to-right: Latisha Rosales, Elizabeth Kellum, and Ashley Arline. Also pictured are Karen Swearingen and Cynthia McElvain. Auxiliary Members pictured are Darlene Ellis, Rowena Lieb and Janet Sherwood.



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Allan Shivers Library & Museum

Upcoming Events

- Aug 8 (Th): TDCJ Recruiting; 9am-noon
- Aug 9 (Fri): Used Book Sale; 9am-4pm
- Aug 10 (Sat): Used Book Sale; 10am-2pm
- Aug 10 (Sat): Dungeons & Dragons; 10am-2pm
- Aug 10 (Sat): Chess Club; 11am-1pm
- Aug 13 (Tu): Senior Reading Group; Noon-2pm; new members welcome
- Aug 13 (Tu): Women’s Study Club; 2-5pm
- Aug 14 (Wed): Toddler Time; 10am
- Aug 14 (Wed): Discovery Zone; 10am
- Aug 15 (Th): TDCJ Recruiting; 9am-3pm
- Aug 15 (Th): Diamond Painting; 1-3pm; kit available for \$5 donation to library
- Aug 15 (Th): Computer Class; 1-4pm

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!



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OPINION



Equality must be relative, not absolute

A phrase tossed about by the recently canonized presidential candidate Kamala Harris is as frightening as its achievement is untenable. Harris claims that it's her desire to use the sledgehammer of government to ultimately create equality of outcome for everyone.



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

Another problem with the idea is what will be considered the baseline. Who in the government will decide what will be the equal everyone gets? More importantly, will that equality include those in the ruling class, the elites that buzz around in the halls of government, that have become millionaires while working at a job that doesn't pay millionaire-level wages. Will it mean that everyone gets personal security, several thousand square foot homes and beaucoup bucks in the bank? If it does, then where is that coming from? Who's generating the income for that? Who's paying to build all the homes necessary for that? Will there be a limit on anything? With people flowing over the border like water from a tap, does that mean they automatically get the gold star concierge service? Or what about the opposites? Will everyone be subject to home invasions? Thefts? What is and who decides the definitions? Obviously that answer is the government, and that brings us to the very last problem. It is not

now, nor has it ever been, the responsibility of the federal, or for that matter the state, government to provide whatever is lacking for anyone with a need.

Taking the phrase in the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution — promote the general welfare — to mean ensure is a misreading of our basis of government. The folks in Washington, D.C., are just there to keep us safe while we pursue our dreams. That means all of us, by the way.

It doesn't give them license to create disparity and division and then create programs and policy to fix them. In fact, it doesn't give them the power to do much at all, certainly not to create an equality of outcome.

Governments do not create anything, and because of this, can only provide some things to some people at the expense of others. That means, to build the disenfranchised up, it must tear the franchised down.

And you can bet your sweet bippy that these elite leaders and what they enjoy won't be part of that equation.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

There are some states that have public schools that have now gone to the indoctrination of students instead of teaching true accurate historically correct History and Civics.

The Constitution of the United States of America was created to protect us from Foreign Countries and Foreign Invaders. The Bill of Rights was created to protect United States Citizens from the United States Government and these Rights are not to be Infringed upon. The 2nd Amendment goes so far as to say "Shall Not Be Infringed" but look at how they are taking this Right Away from us piece by piece until they take our guns. The 2nd Amendment was created so that we would have guns to protect ourself from foreign invaders and the United States Government if need be.

After Japan signed the Unconditional Surrender Document on September 2, 1945 on the Battleship Missouri with General Douglas McArthur it is said that after the surrender the Japanese Generals were asked why they didn't invade the United States? Their answer was "Every person in the United States has ten guns and we just couldn't handle that". This should be a lesson for the anti-gunners in this country and should let them know what will happen if we disarm. The United Kingdom disarmed and Germany planned to invade the United Kingdom with Operation Sea Lion after their Air Force was eliminated because the Citizens had no weapons. The United States asked for U.S. Citizens to donate guns for England for the Home Guard and citizens to fight the Germans when they invaded and we did.

The United States is not a Democracy like everyone thinks. The United States is a Republic of Laws. Do your research while you can. If the United States was a Democracy and 51% voted to shoot the other 49% then they could line them up against the wall and shoot them and it would be legal. That is why we are a Republic of Laws and not a Democracy.

I believe that if a Politician puts one hand on the Holy Bible and the other one up to God and swears to Support and Defend the Constitution of the United States and then submits a Bill or Supports a Bill or Votes for any Gun Control then they are in violation of their Oath of Office and should be Impeached and Removed from Office. What is it they now teach in English that makes them not understand what "Shall Not Be Infringed" means?

Floyd Petri for President
2nd Amendment Party

Livestock breeding systems are not 'one size fits all'

By Trinity S. Smith

Livestock production is a major industry in Texas alone, being one of the largest producers of beef in particular. Everything is bigger in Texas, it's a statement we've all heard at least once or twice in our lives. But is bigger always better? Let's find out, shall we?

Livestock production is both a delicate piece of business and a science that are often seriously overlooked, animals have requirements to be able to grow and thrive to their fullest potential. It isn't simply buying a trailer of 30 cows and calves and hauling them out to a pasture and leaving them to fend for themselves.

No, management is needed and when dealing with animals there are many variables to consider when developing a breeding program, but four basic categories come out on top, genetics, nutritional requirements, market, land availability. People need realize breeding systems are not a "one size fits all."

Genetics is one of the first considerations to make when selecting breeding stock because if the stock you select has inferior genetics than no matter what your operation is doomed for fail from the start. In the cattle world pedigree and ancestry are taken very serious and should not be overlooked. Most are aware that different genetic lines of livestock are superior to other, black coated cattle for instead are less heat tolerant than their red counterparts such as angus cattle.

Brahman cattle for instances, have exceptional growth rates, as well as exhibiting signs of disease and insect resistance, therefore cutting costs on vet bills, however, they lack marbling scores on their carcasses lowering their meat grades. A wise decision would

See LIVESTOCK ⇨ Page 5A

GOVERNMENT

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• City Hall: 409-283-2234

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Pct 2
Judge Ken Jobe
409-283-6320
Pct 3
Judge Mike Hughes
409-283-6320
Pct 4
Judge James "Jim" D. Moore
409-429-3488

CONSTABLES
Pct 1 Ronnie Ford
Pct 2 Casey Whitworth
Pct 3 Tony Reynolds
Pct 4 Anthony Ross

MEETINGS

County • City
School Board

COMMISSIONERS COURT
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

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SESSION

continued from page 1A

The program was developed following the passage of House Bill 3 in the last legislative session and the accompanying Senate Bill 30, which provided an additional \$1.1 billion for school safety.

Safety is a priority at the schools in Tyler County. Colmesneil ISD superintendent Sharon Tule said of the district's security, that it has been "reviewed at all levels so that

students and staff have a safe environment that is continually monitored."

On another note unrelated to school security or academics, yet important to parents, shoppers can save money on clothes and school supplies this weekend with the statewide sales tax holiday, which runs from Friday through Sunday.

State law exempts sales tax on qualified items, such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks, priced below \$100, which, according to the State Comptroller's office, saves shoppers an average of \$8 on every \$100 spent.

LIVESTOCK

continued from page 4A

be to cross them with a breed that will marble the meat better such as an angus or Hereford. Assessing what the genetic needs of your stock are is an essential aspect of livestock breeding management.

Nutrition is not to be handled lightly either, in fact nutrition might be more important than genetics. You can have the best superior line of genetic stock but if you cannot meet that animal's nutritional requirements than it will never meet its full potential. Farmers rightfully are always looking for ways to cut their costs and one of the biggest, not the biggest, but one of is feed costs. Many farmers elect to build grain feeds or cubes, and of course either hay or alfalfa for their cattle, maybe they also raise goats and provide them with hay and grain as well or sheep, all of which are grazing species – ruminants.

Forage production is a great way for farmers to cut feed costs if they utilize their pastures to produce forage which can be a variety of plant species such as clover, vetch, turnips, wheat, barley, etc. The goal should be to use forage that is high quality and energy yielding. The energy requirements for different species on livestock is going to be different, the requirements for dairy cattle to produce milk is going to be significantly different for beef cattle to put on muscle for beef. Milk goats are going to be different from meat goats, wool sheep are going to be different from meat sheep. A farmer needs to be mindful of what the intended purpose of their chosen livestock species is and plan out nutrition plans accordingly to make sure that feed conversion ratios are met.

The next consideration is the market, a producer's goal is to produce a product that is going to produce profit, whether that means financial return or in terms of meat in the freezer, or high volumes of milk and cheese produced. Consumers of those products drive producers in the directions of production. In the beef cattle industry Angus, Hereford, Brahman, and Charolais, are the four most popular beef breeds and then there are their crosses such as Brangus, Braford, Charbrays, Black Baldys, Beefmasters, etc. Some mar-

kets wrongfully select for features rather than carcasses such as coat color, or ear and face length, anyone can agree black Angus cattle typically fetch more per pound than most other breeds.

On the other hand, Angus cattle realistically do not always have superior carcasses. A producer needs to be aware of trends in market valuable of their chosen livestock endeavors, selecting for livestock that have the genetic traits they need, while being able to meet nutritional requirements, and being able to sell at the market.

We neatly are brought to the final consideration – land availability. The amount of land a farm has access to will be a heavy weighing factor because it will determine what kind of livestock a farmer can raise, how many of that species they can raise, and what their expected yield from those animals can be. It will also determine if the farmer can grow forage to feed to the livestock to help reduce feed costs as well. Land is often a very limited resource for livestock producers, and many have to rent land to put their livestock on because in order to be profitable they have to raise great numbers of livestock, simply having ten cows having calves is not going to be profitable and you cannot put one hundred plus cows on ten acres, so farmers often find pastures not used by landowners to graze their cattle on until they take them to the auction. The amount of land is also important for a producer to raise forage to meet animal nutritional requirements, cattle for instances take seven pounds of feed for every one pound of growth, that means they will require a lot of feed, and that's expensive circling back to the importance of forage production and grazing.

To conclude livestock breeding and production is a science with many variables that reinforce the notion that livestock breeding systems are not a one size fits all dynamic. Genetics, nutrition, marketing trends, available land are four of the controllable variables a producer can manipulate to influence the outcome of their operations. Find what works for you and your operation and adjust accordingly, it's not a one size fits all.

SAFETY

continued from page 1A

•Stay in clear view of the bus driver and never walk behind the bus.

If your student rides their bike to school, teach them to:

- Always wear a helmet.
- Ride on the right in the same direction as the traffic is going.

If you drive your child to school, teach them to:

- Always wear a seat belt. Younger children should use car seats or booster seats until the lap-shoulder belt fits properly (typically for children ages 8-12 and over 4'9"), and ride in the back seat until they are at least 13 years old.

If you have a teenager driving to school, make sure they:

- Use seat belts.
- Don't use their cell phone to text or make calls and avoid eating or drinking while driving.

If you are considering getting your student a cell phone:

- Download the free Red Cross First Aid and Emergency apps to give them access to first aid tips for common emergencies and real-time weather alerts. Find the apps in smart-

phone app stores by searching for the American Red Cross or going to redcross.org/apps.

If your student is joining a sports team, make sure they:

- Wear protective gear, such as helmets, protective pads, etc.
- Warm up and cool down.
- Watch out for others.
- Know the location of the closest first aid kit and AED.

Back-to-school checklist for drivers

- Slow down.
- Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is getting ready to stop – slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign indicate the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off.

•Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped.

•Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety. This includes two and four-lane highways.

•If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping. Do not proceed until all the children have reached a place of safety.

BIDS

continued from page 1A

Both Powers and Pct. 1 Commissioner Joe Blacksher thanked Waxman, and said "the fair must go on."

Update on debris removal

Judge Powers and the county's Emergency Management Coordinator John Settlocker provided an update on the ongoing countywide debris removal efforts in the wake of Hurricane Beryl.

Powers said that the process is costing "a good chunk of change, but it's helping the residents of Tyler County a lot."

The costs will be reimbursed by FEMA. Settlocker said that of the 11 zones the county is divided into for the scope of the

work, zones 1, 2, 8 and 9 are completely done. Zones 1 and 2 encompass Doucette and east of Woodville, while 8 is Warren, Hillister and Ivanhoe and 9 is northwest of Woodville. Zone 11, which is in the northwest area of the county, is almost done, Settlocker said, while work is ongoing on zones 6, 3 and 10, which represent the Spurger and Fred area, and Colmesneil, respectively.

The remaining three zones, 4, 5 and 7, have no crews yet, Settlocker said. Those zones are on the eastern side of the zones containing Warren, Hillister and Ivanhoe.

Fees set for TCSO

Commissioners, on Monday morning, voted to keep the fees for the coming fiscal year for civil services by the Tyler County Sheriff's Office and the constables' offices the same.

PICKERS

continued from page 1A

The series is a documentary that, according to a press release explores the fascinating world of antique picking, with Mike Wolfe and his team seeking hidden treasures. In previous episodes where the show came to Texas, the hosts explored collections such as Paul Nerren's Junk Barn in Lufkin.

"The way we find people and collections for our show is through spreading the word far and wide so that people know we're coming to town," she said.

The show is looking, mainly, for "large, rare collections and things they've never seen before," according to Ball.

Anyone with a collection matching that

description is encouraged to email the show at americanpickers@cinetflix.com, or by calling 646-493-2184 and leaving a voice-mail message. The show is also accessible via its Facebook page, @GotAPick. The producers ask that to be considered, anyone interested needs to provide their name, town and state; a phone number; where the collection is located and a description of items.

The news release for the pickers' coming trip to Texas stated that they've "seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before."

Also to note, the pickers do not look through collections in stores; flea markets; malls; auction businesses; museums or anything open to the public. They are only interested in private collections.



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BITE by BITE

Conquering My Culinary
Bucket List One Dish at a Time

By Emily Banks Wooten

“A well-made salad must have a certain uniformity; it should make perfect sense for those ingredients to share a bowl.”

– Yotam Ottolenghi

Big, beautiful

SALADS

The perfect summertime meal



There's nothing better for a summer supper than a big salad and there are so many benefits. First off, as they basically require no cooking, you don't have to heat up your kitchen. Secondly, they're a great way to clean out the fridge. Thirdly and best of all, you can eat as much as you want to without feeling guilty, because chances are, the components of the salad are healthy and good for you.

Many times over the years, I've had what we call "Build your Own Big Salad Night," where I put a big bowl of greens on the counter with many smaller bowls filled with toppings surrounding it and everyone can build their own big salad to their individual liking. The toppings can be anything you and your family like. Over time, our toppings have included tomatoes, sliced boiled eggs, bell pepper, avocado, green onions, mushrooms, olives, banana peppers, dried cranberries, sunflower seeds, dried onions, cheese, cucumbers, jalapenos, bacon. You can use anything your heart desires. And the beauty of "build your own big salad," is that if there are ingredients you don't like, then you don't have to use them. For example, Hubby and Daughter don't care for mushrooms or olives, but I do, so they go on my salad but not on theirs.

And while it's hard to beat a clean-out-the-fridge, individualized big salad, there's something just as special as a carefully thought out, beautifully com-

posed salad such as the "Mexican Cabbage Salsa/Slaw" and "Grinder Salad" I shared with you in the May 19, 2024 issue. And today I'm sharing with you two more that I've discovered. I found them on the internet and both caught my eye because of the amazingly colorful beauty of them.

The first one, called "Avocado Salad with Tomatoes & Herbs," I found in an article by Jan Valdez called "60 Easy Summer Salad Recipes to Make All Season," that was published June 4. To view the entire article, go to thekitchn.com. As I said, the beautiful picture is what drew me to it.

Same with the second one, called "Summer Chipotle Chicken Cobb Salad with 5-Ingredient Cilantro Vinaigrette." I found it at pinchofyum.com and again, the picture was so beautiful it made my mouth water.

I made the first one for lunch one day and Hubby and I enjoyed it with some leftover pot roast. But the second one ... oh my gosh. This dish is, without a doubt, one of the best things I've ever eaten. Hubby and Daughter loved it too, with him proclaiming, "This needs to go in the rotation." Between you and me, I'd already planned on adding it to the rotation. It's so good and so easy and is really the perfect summertime meal. I hope you'll try one or both of these. Enjoy!■

Avocado Salad with Tomatoes & Herbs

From thekitchn.com

¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Place the avocado, tomatoes, cucumber, onion, and herbs in a large bowl. Squeeze the lemon juice over top, drizzle with oil, and sprinkle with the salt and pepper. Gently toss to combine.

My notes:

I used 3 avocados and next time, will likely use 4. I didn't chop the cucumber but instead quartered it and then sliced it very thinly. For the fresh herbs, I used cilantro, basil, parsley and dill.

2 medium avocados, peeled, pitted, and chopped
1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
½ medium English cucumber, chopped
½ small red onion, thinly sliced
¼ cup coarsely chopped fresh herbs, such as cilantro, basil, parsley, dill, or tarragon
Juice from 1 large lemon
2 tablespoons olive oil
¼ teaspoon kosher salt

Summer Chipotle Chicken Cobb Salad

From pinchofyum.com

For the Chipotle Chicken:
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
2 chipotle chiles in adobo, finely chopped
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon cumin
½ teaspoon oregano
½ teaspoon black pepper
½ teaspoon salt
3-4 chicken breasts or thighs

For the Summer Cobb Salad:
3-4 cups greens (spring greens or fresh spinach)
4 strips bacon, cooked and crumbled
8-10 strawberries, quartered
2 ears corn on the cob, kernels removed
1-2 ripe avocados, sliced
Salt and pepper

Prep the chicken: Combine the oil, chipotles, garlic powder, cumin, oregano, black pepper, and salt in a bowl. Place the chicken in the bowl and toss to coat the chicken in the marinade. Place in the fridge and let it marinate while you prep your other ingredients.

Prep salad: Prep all your salad ingredients (cook the bacon, slice the strawberries, cut the corn off the cob, etc.).

Grill the chicken: Heat an outdoor grill (or grill pan) to about 400 degrees. Place chicken on the grill and grill for 5-6 minutes per side, until cooked through. Remove the chicken from the grill and let it rest for 10 minutes. Slice against the grain.

Salad: Arrange the greens on a large platter and top with the bacon, strawberries, corn, avocado, and grilled chicken. Season with salt and pepper. Toss with the cilantro vinaigrette and serve.

My notes:

I used chicken cutlets that I grilled stove top on a grill pan. I used 5 strips of bacon, 11 strawberries and 3 avocados. I have a gas stove so I turned on one of the burners and roasted the ears of corn over the open flame before removing the kernels.

“Many people eat salad dutifully because they feel it is good for them, but more enlightened types eat it happily because it is good.”

– Laurie Colwin

“A salad is not a meal, it is a style.”

– Fran Lebowitz

5-Ingredient Cilantro Vinaigrette

From pinchofyum.com

1 huge bunch of fresh cilantro (2 cups packed) ¼ to ½ cup water, if needed
½ cup olive oil
2 tablespoons white vinegar
1 clove garlic
1 teaspoon kosher salt
½ teaspoon red pepper flakes

Blend everything up for about a minute until smooth. Add the water if you need more volume in the blender to make it run smoothly. Season to taste.



CHESTER LIONS HEAR TxDOT PRESENTATION

Last week, the Chester Lions Club hosted a presentation from Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) workers, who presented on road projects in the community. Pictured, left-to-right: Stacy Walle, Randy Moore, David Collins, Duane Jordan (club president), Richard Bradley, Evan DuBose and Stanley Elliot. PHOTO BY CHUCK DAVIDSON

THROWBACK THURSDAY

Take a trip back in time through the Tyler County Booster

More Dogwood Festival memories from days' past: In our wonderful archive of photos here at Booster HQ, as you can imagine, we have tons of old festival snaps. 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



CHRISTINA GREENWOOD

WILL LEWIS

Pickin' at the Pickett House presents Christina Greenwood

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – The Pineywoods of Deep East Texas are full of all sorts of wonderful talent, and the August edition of Pickin' at the Pickett House gives a chance to showcase some of that from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, August 30.

Christina Greenwood, from Spurger, will perform as part of a duo with guitarist Will Lewis. Greenwood said that the quote that most encapsulates her take on music comes from the legendary operatic tenor Luciano Pavarotti, who once said "Most singers want the audience to love them but I love the audience"

"I believe music is intended to bring love, joy, and inspiration to those listening to it. All types of music can do just that, if delivered from a skilled musician who truly understands this concept and strives to create it," said Greenwood.

Greenwood has been eager to showcase her powerful voice and repertoire of songs that range from country classics to rock and pop standards as of late and has performed at such happenings as the Kirbyville Country Music Show, as well as various venues in the region.

Lewis, a veteran performer who has played in many bands through the years and currently plays guitar in both the Sugarmoons and the New Day Spirituals, brings a deft, jazzy approach to his instrument.

Expect an evening of great songs full of powerful, beautiful vocalization and incredible guitar pickin'.

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WIND POINT PARK- PAST AND PRESENT



This past week, I had the opportunity to take a step back in time to Wind Point at Lake Tawakoni. Over four decades ago, I remember fishing here from the bank near the end of the point with a buddy and catching a bunch of catfish. Back in those days the park was pretty much just a place to catch fish,

nothing like the manicured 180 acre park it is today. Wind Point has long been known for good fishing because of the topography, the point runs out into the lake and attracts baitfish and lots and lots of catfish. For many years, fishermen have timed their fishing trips here to coincide with a couple days of steady wind that pushes baitfish up close to shore where catfish and white bass follow to chow down on the easy pickings.

I was greeted at the park headquarters by Ryan Fergus, the head honcho who operates the park. Ryan gave me a tour of all the cabins, RV sites, swimming beach, Marina, boat ramps and what I was most interested in, the long T shaped fishing pier situated at the very end of the park. He also introduced me to one of the most interesting gentlemen that I've met in some time, Mr. Charles Glasscock eighty-seven years young and a veteran of more than fifty years catching fish at Wind Point. Charles, Ryan and I set at a picnic table near the fishing pier had a great visit and yes, I took notes! Ten years ago, the park began a major facelift with lots of improvements that transformed it into first class outdoor destination it is today.

The park offers long term and short term RV camping. Ryan says a lot of RV owners that have spent a few years towing their RV's around the country or spent their weekends keeping up lake lots enjoy being able to drive up to their 'camp' and enjoy the amenities of the park without the work necessary to keep up a lake lot nor the challenge of pulling a big RV through today's traffic. During the tour, I noted there were lakeside spots that offered fishing a few yards outside the campers. But not all guests at the park are fishermen, many come to enjoy the swimming beach, boating and just being in the great outdoors in gated setting that is safe and relaxing. I counted more than 40 whitetail deer during our tour, including a couple of bucks still in velvet that I plan to photograph this fall when the antlers are fully developed, Ryan says during deer surveys, he has counted more than 200 deer in the park. Many of the guests feed the deer with a blend of grains available at the park store. In addition to everything else, the park is a 'drive through' deer viewing park as well. Golf carts are available for rent which make getting up close and personal to the deer easier. They don't seem to be spooked by the approach of the carts.

ON TO THE FISHING Mr. Glasscock (Charles) says wind is the key to really good fishing, a steady south wind pushes the bait up against the rocks on the south side of the point and in the fall and winter, the north side is often more productive with a prevailing north wind. A stand of hardwoods is situated in the water out near the end of the T shaped fishing pier. A few years ago, Glasscock depended upon his long homemade rod, "Big Yellow" to cast baits far from the pier out



Mr. Charles Glasscock has been catching catfish at Wind Point Park for more than fifty years, using "Big Yellow" the long distance casting rod he built back in 1959. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

to the edge of the timber and he convinced Fergus that the pier needed to be extended a bit which gives better access to deeper water where the big blue catfish often hang out. At the end of the pier a section is cut out to facilitate fishing straight down. The spot has a covered roof to provide shade which is a big plus during the summer months. I am planning to chum a spot with cattle range cubes later this week and see if I can collect enough catfish for a lakeside fish fry. I've fished such areas from a boat this time of year and loaded up on channel catfish. The pier has everything a catfish/cat fisherman could ask for, cover and shallower water close to deep. Even when fishing with chicken livers or nightcrawlers under slip corks around the shoreline, he always keeps "Big Yellow" rigged with shad or pieces of cut bait and targets the big blue catfish the lake is known for. Charles occasionally catches a big blue during the summer months but says come October, and cooler weather the action really picks up. To date, his biggest blue catfish tipped the scales at 64 pounds. "Big Yellow" obviously proved her worth that chilly day and the fight lasted several minutes, according to Charles. It's one thing to land a giant catfish when fishing from a boat in open water but skill is required to catch one from the bank. One doesn't simply 'reel in' a catfish of this size and Charles said this one make

several strong runs which required moving along the bank as the fish moved out to deeper water.

Charles fishes for catfish using circle hooks and this includes the smaller channel catfish. Hooks of this construction have a slight twist and when a catfish grabs the bait and swims away, the hook twists into the corner of the fish's mouth. With circle hooks, there is a saying, "crank it, don't yank it". Jerking back on the rod before the fish is hooked often results in slack line and a lost fish. I hope to fish with Mr. Charles soon and learn his technique of using circle hooks under slip corks for catching channel catfish. I always fish with treble hooks and punch bait for channel catfish but, on this trip I will use the method of the old master, chicken livers or cut bait on a circle hook!

Ryan says he has a lot of fishermen that rent the smaller cabins close to shore where they can dock their boats and fish out on the main lake. Larger fully furnished cabins are ideal for family or larger groups.

If you haven't visited Wind Point Park in the past decade, you are in for quite a treat. To learn more, visit the website www.windpointparktx.com

Catch Luke's podcast "Catfish Radio with Luke Clayton and friends" wherever podcasts are found.

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Sports/Outdoors

Eagle alumni return to coach

By Jason Drake

Woodville welcomes four new coaches to this year's coaching staff including three alumni. Adrian Prince, Austin Coker, and Kobe Adams will return home to the sidelines. Sapphire Cervantes will also join the staff as well.

Adrian Prince will coach middle school volleyball and softball. She will be teaching 8th grade US History. Prince is a graduate of Texas A&M University as a Human Resources Major and a minor in business. She graduated from Woodville in 2019 and was awarded New Comer of the Year, Team Captain, First Team All-District, and Academic All-District. This will be Prince's first year teaching and she is very excited and passionate about making a difference in the lives of every Woodville Eagle.

Austin Coker will be the new head tennis coach and teach seventh grade Texas History. Coker graduated from SFASU with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Angelina College. During his time as an Eagle, Coker was a Regional Semi-Finalist in Tennis in 2013 and a member of the golf team that made it so state in 2010. Austin is a Woodville native and has worked the last seven years as a police officer in Nacogdoches. He is excited to return back home.

Kobe Adams will coach high school football and basketball this. Adams will be teaching TABS at the middle school. Kobe is a graduate of Texas Wesleyan University and has a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Psychology. Adams finished fifth in the nation in sacks at Tyler Junior College. At TWU, he was named First Team All-Conference twice and two Sooner Athletic Conference championships. Adams is very happy to be here to give back to the community and help guide the next generation of Eagles.

Sapphire Cervantes will coach middle school volleyball and basketball as well as serve as the Director of Recruitment and Media Relations. Cervantes will teach Spanish at the high school. She attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas and Oklahoma State University with a degree in Sports Media and Marketing in 2020. She has also earned her M.S. in Applied Nutrition from Lamar University. While at Lamar, she was working with the athletics department in strength and conditioning and is certified Strength and Conditioning Coach. Cervantes is going to recreate Woodville Athletics social media and keep it up to date with highlights.



Woodville new first year coaches Austin Coker, Kobe Adams, Sapphire Cervantes and Adrian Prince. JASON DRAKE | TCB



Jackets, Lady Jackets hold tryouts

By Becki Byrd

Seasons have started for the Yellowjacket football team and volleyball teams. Twenty-one girls showed up for the two-day volleyball tryout.

Lady Jackets found out if they made varsity or junior varsity squads on the first day of school, which was Wednesday, August 7. That roster was unavailable at press time. There were seven seniors; four juniors; four sophomores, and six freshmen to try out.

The Lady Jackets are scheduled to play the Chester ISD staff on Friday August 9.

On Saturday August 10 the JV and Varsity squads will travel to Crockett for the first scrimmage of the season starting at 10:40 a.m.

Sixteen boys showed up for the first day of football practice.

The Yellowjacket football season looks to be sophomore-heavy with seven; four seniors; four juniors and two freshmen. The Yellowjackets are scheduled to play Alpha-Omega on August 16 at Aubrey Bradley Stadium with kickoff at 6 p.m.

Lady Jacket hopefuls, pictured, back row, left-to-right: Abby Bittick; Carlee Gay; Kynlee Citrano; Lillie Byrd; Lauren Citrano; Saydi Handley; Marae Pounds; Lily Read; Lily Payne; Ty Cochran; Josie Pecina; Carlen Sluga; Madi Ogden and Kenley Busey. Front row: Krislyn Pixley; Addison Credle; Sydney Brock; Kyli Handley; Elizabeth Lopez; Emma Byrd; Kendal Watton; Madi Myers; Allie Ogden; Tegan Toler and Sadie Garsee.

BECKI BYRD | TCB



EAST TEXAS FISHING REPORT

B.A. Steinhagen

FAIR. Water stained; 85 degrees; 0.10 feet below pool. Water is being released into the lake from Sam Rayburn Reservoir. Mayflies are hatching, so expect some topwater bass action. Bass are fair on soft plastics in the cuts, or with frogs over grass. Crappie are fair with jigs in flooded timber. Catfish are fair on juglines.

Sam Rayburn

GOOD. Water stained; 83 degrees; 5.26 feet above pool. The bite for all species seems to improve when the water is being generated. This stirs the water, breaking up the thermocline. Bass are slow in shallow water with many smaller fish being caught on frogs, and spinnerbaits. Deeper bass bite is fair with Carolina rigs. Crappie are slow in the morning, but improve mid-day. Catfish are all over

the lake in 20 feet of water and in 12 feet of water in the creek channels. White bass are on points in the south end of the lake near the dam.

Toledo Bend

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 91 degrees; 0.85 feet below pool. Water level is still on the rise, but we have finally dried out after 6 days of straight rain. Lake is stained in some of the main creeks, but

still clear out on the main lake. Crappie fishing is just slow.

Use live bait, as it is hard to get them to bite a jig right now. Bass fishing is still fair. Water temperature cooled off the lower 80s, but has increased to the upper 80s and low 90s.

Very few bites on topwater now that all the clouds are gone, best bite still has been from 8-14 feet on Texas and Carolina rig worm and mid-running crankbait.

An 80 year old birthday boy caught a 7 pound fish on a Texas rig, so while the action may be slow quality is present. There are few small fish being caught out deeper in 18-25 feet on drop shot and spoons, these fish are small and most are Kentucky bass.

With no moon and poor weather the night fishing has slowed down this past week, but a big Texas rigged worm at night in 14-20 feet is hard to beat.

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PENCIL PUZZLER

Can you find the pencil with two pointed ends in less than 60 seconds? When you find it, share this puzzle with a friend or family member!

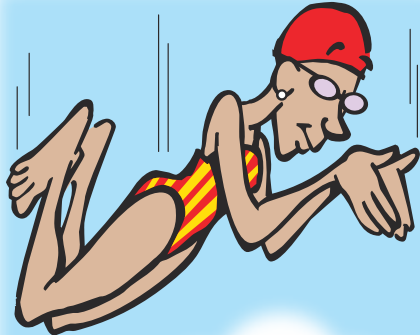
PENCILYMPICS!

Get your brain and your hands in shape with a pencil-grabbing, pencil-pushing, pencilicious workout!



Tally your score from each pencil event on this page. Then, have a friend try!

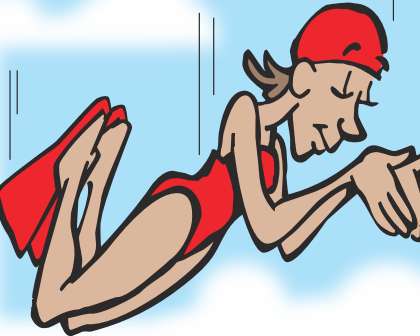
EVENT	ME	YOU
HIGH DIVE		
ARCHERY		
HURDLES		
RUNNERS		
BOXING		
SEARCH		
TOTAL		



High Dive

There are five differences between these divers. Score 1 point for each one you find.

Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

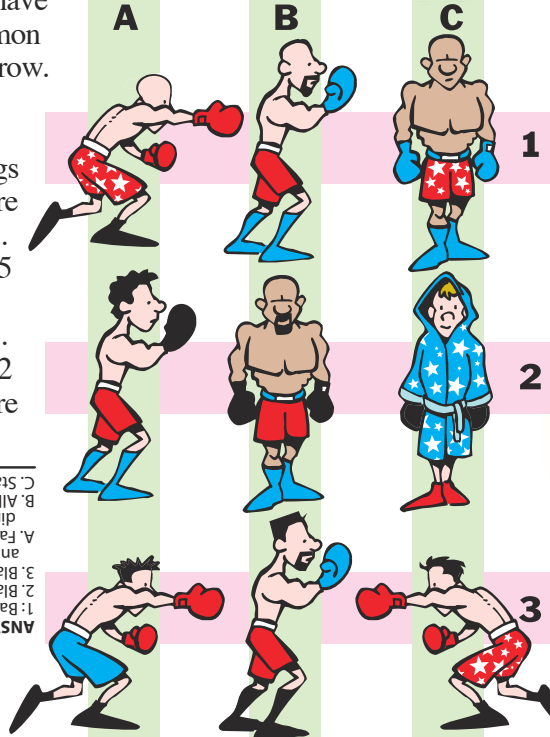


Boxing

Look at the rows going up and down. Circle the things that the boxers have in common in each row.

Find all six things and score 5 points. Find 3-5 to earn 3 points. Find 1-2 and score 1 point.

ANSWERS:
1: Bald boxers.
2: Black gloves.
3: Black hair and boots.
A: Facing same direction.
B: All have beards.
C: Stars on clothes.



Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

SEARCH: Get the Lead Out!

There are lots of pencils on this page, but only one crayon. Find that crayon in less than 30 seconds and you earn 10 points; 60+ seconds earns you 5 points.

Extra! Extra!

Go the Distance!

On one newspaper page, find and circle the letters that spell each of the following words:

- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Archery
- Cycling
- Pentathlon

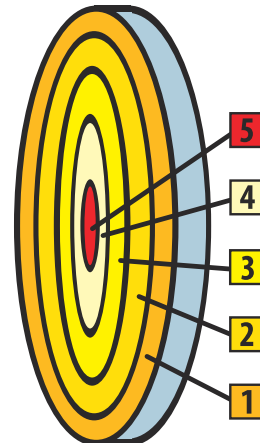
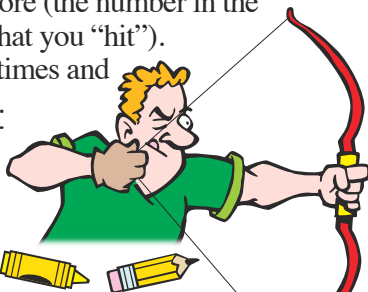
Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade level words correctly.

Archery

Place a pencil on the archer's bow. Close your eyes. Trace a path to the target. Open your eyes and check your score (the number in the ring of the target that you "hit").

Repeat two more times and add up your score.

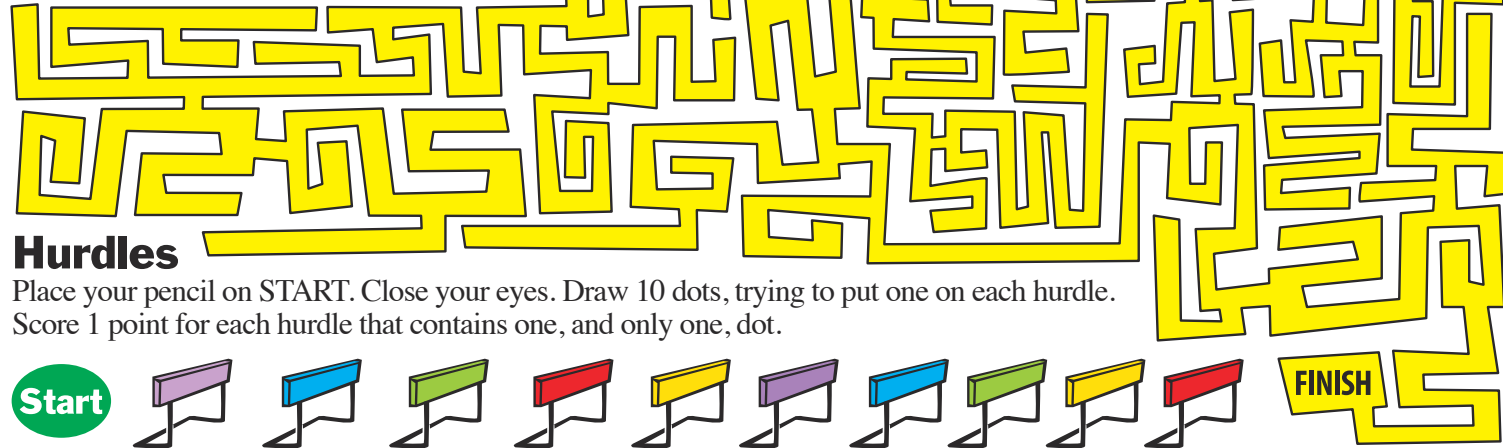
Standards Link: Math: Compute sums.



A-MAZE-ing Runner

Only one will take you to the finish. Find it in less than 30 seconds and score 5 points! 30-60 seconds earns 3 points. 60+ seconds earns 1 point.

Standards Link: Physical Education: Eye-hand coordination.



Hurdles

Place your pencil on START. Close your eyes. Draw 10 dots, trying to put one on each hurdle. Score 1 point for each hurdle that contains one, and only one, dot.

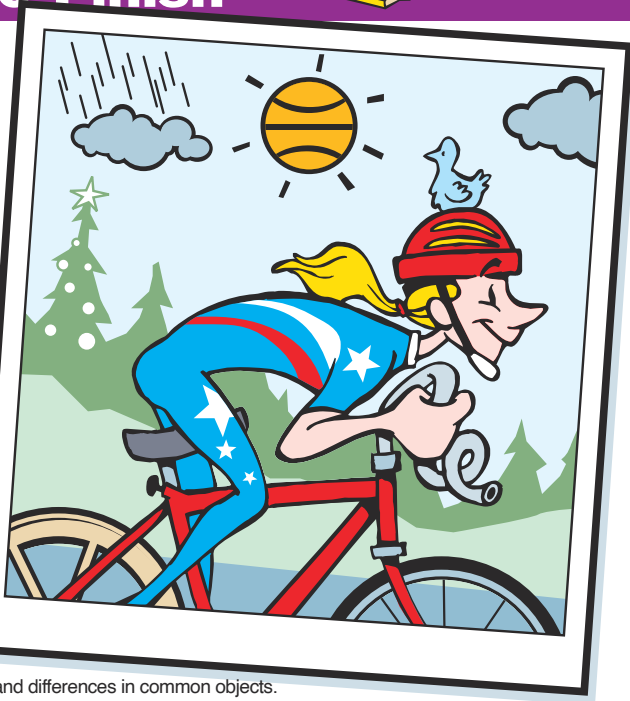


Photo Finish

Sonia took a picture of the bike races.

Find five or more silly things in Sonia's cycling photo.

Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.



Double Double Word Search

- ADD
- BOW
- CIRCLE
- CRAYON
- CYCLING
- DISTANCE
- DOT
- EARN
- HURDLE
- LESS
- ONE
- PENCIL
- POINT
- SCORE
- TARGET

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



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

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **PENTATHLON**
The noun **pentathlon** means an Olympic competition consisting of five track and field events usually sprinting, hurdling, long jump, discus and javelin.

Originally the **pentathlon** was competed for over four or five days.

Try to use the word **pentathlon** in a sentence today.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Build Your Muscles!

The newspaper has great tips for building your muscles! Look through your newspaper for running events, hikes and other outdoor activities. Sign up and go! Get the whole family in on the fun!

Standards Link: Health: Identify behaviors that promote healthy lifestyles.

Why don't pencils have erasers on both ends?



ANSWER: Because that would be pointless.

Write On!

My Olympic Achievement

Write about a time you did something really great—something you didn't think you could do, but you tried anyway and did it.



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STATE

Pattern of abuse at Texas juvenile facilities

A federal investigation into five state facilities concluded children in custody face excessive force, sexual abuse and a lack of vital services, The Dallas Morning News reported.



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

At a news conference last week, Kristen Clarke, assistant attorney general in the Justice Department's civil rights division, said children held in those facilities are not receiving the treatment and rehabilitation they are supposed to get.

"Our investigation provides reasonable cause to believe that, far from achieving those objectives, TJJD engaged in a pattern of abuse, deprivation of essential services and disability-related discrimination that seriously harms children and undermines their rehabilitation, all in violation of their rights," Clarke said.

In response, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department said it had made "several significant improvements" in staffing, educational programs and mental health care. The Legislature appropriated more than \$1 billion last session to improve youth facilities.

The youth facilities are located in Gainesville, Edinburg, Brownwood, Giddings and Mart.

Investigators found evidence of physical and sexual abuse, according to the report.

TxDOT adopts long-range transportation plan

"Connecting Texas 2050" was adopted recently by the Texas Transportation Commission to help guide priorities in the next quarter-century. The plan establishes the vision, goals, objectives and strategic recommendations for the state's transportation system.

"With a growing population and new technologies changing how we move, these goals will help us plan for decades to come

and connect future generations of Texans," Marc Williams, TxDOT executive director, said.

The agency held a series of public meetings to gather input from the state's citizens. Among the priorities listed were safety, alternative modes of travel, public transportation options and maintaining the state's existing transportation infrastructure.

To learn more about the plan, go to www.ConnectingTexas2050.com.

Court: Buoy can stay in Rio Grande until trial

A full panel of the U.S. Fifth Circuit of Appeals ruled last week that a 1,000-foot-long barrier of buoys can stay in the Rio Grande until a full trial is held. The buoys, meant to deter illegal migrants, were placed on orders by Gov. Greg Abbott. Their legality was challenged by the federal government, which argues their placement violates federal treaties between the United States and Mexico.

At issue is whether this stretch of river is navigable, according to a report in the Texas Standard. A trial over the legal merits was slated to start in an Austin federal court this week.

Flesh-eating bacteria on rise along coast

Authorities are warning of an outbreak of flesh-eating bacteria, with nearly a dozen people infected thus far, The News reported. Galveston County officials said 11 cases of vibrio infections have been reported this summer, compared to just two at this time last year.

The bacteria occur in coastal waters and

are found in higher concentrations when water temperatures are warmer. It can be contracted when an open wound comes into contact with coastal waters, or from eating raw or undercooked shellfish.

"There's no need to panic," Dr. Phillip Keiser, CEO of the Galveston County Health District, said in a statement. "Use common sense: avoid raw seafood, practice good hygiene, and stay informed to keep safe."

The Centers for Disease Control estimates 80,000 cases of vibrio occur in the U.S. each year.

PUC gets 72 applications for energy loan program

The Public Utility Commission received 72 applications for loans available through the Texas Energy Fund, which if all granted would provide \$24.41 billion to finance 38,379 megawatts of power generation projects in the region served by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas.

"Texans have made it clear that they expect reliable electricity today and well into the future, and I am pleased to see industry leaders responding to that call and planning for major investments in dispatchable power for the state," PUCT Chairman Thomas Gleason said.

The program will provide low-interest loans to finance new construction or upgrades to existing power-generating facilities within the ERCOT region, which serves most of the state. Funding for the loan program was approved by Texas voters in a constitutional amendment election last November.

Nine Texas courthouses get historic grant funding

The Texas Historical Commission recently awarded more than \$46 million in preservation grants to historic courthouses in nine counties. Four grants for full restoration were awarded for courthouses in

Comanche, Kimble, Van Zandt and Wilacy counties.

Castro and Gonzales counties received planning grants that will create planning road maps for future restoration work. Donley, Duval and Refugio counties received emergency grants to address critical issues endangering these courthouse buildings and affecting their use.

THC has awarded more than \$400 million since the program's inception to restore courthouses in Texas.

"As part of our mission to save the real places that tell the real stories of Texas, we hope to work with even more counties in the future," Joseph Bell, THC executive director, said.

Water board details how it will spend \$1 billion

The Texas Water Development Board last week began detailing how it will divide \$1 billion in taxpayer approved funds for water infrastructure and supply projects throughout the state, The Tribune reported. Up to \$45 million will be reserved for towns with fewer than 1,000 residents, while about \$130 million will go to towns with 1,001 to 10,000 residents.

The board said it plans to spend up to \$450 million toward existing financial assistance programs, \$90 million on water loss and conservation programs, and \$15 million on awareness and educational programming.

"We have a whole lot more applications that are submitted than we have capacity in any given program year to provide financial assistance," said Kathleen Ligon, interim assistant executive administrator at the Water Development Board.

The board has already received 68 requests for funding from this pot of money.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas.

Broadband funds now available

Houston and the Gulf Coast were devastated by Hurricane Beryl, which made landfall July 8 near Matagorda. Thirty-six Texans died during and after the storm and 2.3 million were left without power, some for almost two weeks.



My Five Cents...

By Robert Nichols
State Representative, District 3

Hearings were held in Austin to assess the response and hold utility companies accountable that did not perform well, including CenterPoint Energy.

Here are five things happening around your state.

•BDO accepting proposals for broadband grant funding

The Broadband Development Office recently released a Notice of Funding Availability for \$729.9 million in state and federal funds. Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas is a competitive grant program to build last-mile broadband connections that increase high-speed broadband service to Texans.

Proposed projects for this funding will provide service to unserved and underserved locations in targeted counties that demonstrate the greatest need for broadband service, as determined by the BDO. Qualifying projects must deploy broadband

service to the entirety of the unserved and underserved broadband serviceable locations in an eligible county.

Eligible counties in East Texas include Liberty County, Trinity County, and Newton County. While these are the counties eligible for this program, other programs exist that extend to other areas. Awards will be a minimum of \$1 million and a maximum of \$125 million. Proposed projects must be complete and operational no later than Dec. 31, 2026.

Applications are due by Aug. 26.

•TRS lowering premiums for next year

The Teachers Retirement System announced it will be lowering TRS-Care Medicare Advantage monthly premiums for next year. This is due to a current surplus balance of over \$3 billion.

Retirees will see a decrease in premium costs between \$60 and \$407 per month next year. In addition, TRS also is allowing a limited-time enrollment opportunity for eligible TRS-Care Medicare Advantage participants. Most TRS-Care retirees who are eligible for Medicare will be eligible for the limited-time enrollment opportunity.

For more information, visit <https://www.trsx.texas.gov/Pages/Homepage.aspx>.

es/Homepage.aspx.

•Texas AG secures \$1.4B settlement with Meta over biometric data privacy

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton secured a \$1.4 billion settlement with Meta, formerly known as Facebook, over capture of personal biometric data without authorization required by law. It is the largest settlement ever obtained from an action brought by a single state.

This is the first lawsuit brought and settlement obtained under Texas' Capture or Use of Biometric Identifier Act. The lawsuit centered on a feature Meta added in 2011 initially called Tag Suggestions. The feature used facial recognition software on virtually every face contained in the photographs uploaded to Facebook, capturing records of the facial geometry of the people depicted.

Actions such as these are considered capturing biometric identifiers of Texans, which is against the law unless the business informs the person and receives their consent first. Meta will pay the state \$1.4 billion over the next five years.

•TWIA considering up to 10 percent rate hike

The Texas Windstorm Insurance Association's Actuarial and Underwriting Committee recommended that the TWIA Board of Directors approve a rate filing to increase rates by 10 percent for 2025 TWIA policies.

The TWIA Board will meet on Aug. 6 to consider the Committee's recommendation, the rate adequacy analysis, and stakeholder feedback when voting to decide the required rate filing with the Texas Department of Insurance. TWIA's board is mindful of insurance costs on policyholders and has only raised rates once over the past five years.

However, based on a 2024 actuarial analysis, TWIA rates would need to increase by 39 percent for residential policies and 45 percent for commercial policies in order to be actuarially adequate. TWIA is inviting the public to comment on the potential rate increases either virtually or in-person during the meeting or ahead of the meeting via email.

The public is welcome to attend the meeting at the Tremont House Hotel in Galveston. Submit written comments via email to PublicComment@TWIA.org. If you wish to make verbal public comment via Zoom, find more information on how to register at <https://www.twia.org/>.

•SpaceX, Twitter moving headquarters to Texas

Elon Musk announced he is moving the headquarters of two of his companies to Texas. SpaceX and X, formerly known as Twitter, will both be relocating from California to Texas after California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law preventing schools from requiring employees to notify parents if a student requests to use different pronouns.

SpaceX will move from Hawthorne, Calif., to Starbase, a complex and launch site near Brownsville. X will move its headquarters from San Francisco to Austin.

Sen. Robert Nichols represents District 3, which includes Tyler County, in the Texas Legislature.

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 TXism: "up and ___ juice" (coffee)
- 5 the first Texas ___ phone was in Galveston in 1878
- 6 TX Strait's "All My ___ Live in Texas"
- 7 Texans Houston and Bass
- 8 TX saying: "___ riot, one Ranger"
- 9 "Honeysuckle Rose" actress Irving
- 12 TX Hagman film: "Getting Away From ___"
- 17 ___ Wells, TX
- 19 TX Ann Miller film: "Sugar ___"
- 21 "entrance" south of the border
- 22 Pancho Villa: Doroteo ___
- 23 TXism: "that dog could ___ a panhandler"
- 28 San ___ TX
- 29 TXism: "hen fruit"
- 30 fisherman
- 31 glossy fabric
- 35 "___ con Dios"
- 36 TX Perot started Electronic ___ company
- 42 George W. before he was president
- 44 TXism: "you're buying oats for ___ horse"
- 46 race at annual Bar-B-Q in Brady, TX: "___ Gallop"
- 48 follows the 1st offer at a cattle auction? (2 wds.)
- 49 ___ Paso, TX
- 50 Middle East leader
- 51 Chinese or Japanese, e.g.
- 52 narrow country road
- 53 rod and ___
- 54 TX Kenny Rogers' "Through the ___"
- 56 Denison-born pres. (init.)
- 57 Grand ___ Opry
- 58 actor Beatty in "Streets of Laredo"

DOWN

- 1 TXism for "fell" (3 wds.)
- 2 J. Frank Dobie book: "A ___ England"
- 3 inclement weather
- 4 TXism: "a ___ of"
- 9 Bedouin, e.g.
- 10 TXism: "___ rooster" (angry)
- 11 TX group "Little Joe ___ Familia"
- 12 ex-TCU BB coach Moe
- 13 sturdy cattle breed
- 14 TXism: "___ of bones" (skinny)
- 15 "L" of former Dallas company LTV
- 16 TXism: "on my last ___" (tired)
- 18 stat for Astro Justin Verlander
- 20 TXism: "___ humid my upper lip is mildewing"
- 23 ex-Oiler coach ___ "Bum" Phillips
- 24 org. of countries to maintain peace (abbr.)
- 25 Texas ___ Corp. failed to build the Texas "bullet train"
- 26 1st woman president of TWU: Mary Evelyn ___ Huey
- 27 "Winnie the Pooh" donkey
- 32 TXism: "guilty ___ sin"
- 33 Heisman QB from Texas, Detmer
- 34 TXism: "the tail ___ wagging the dog"
- 36 lineal assoc. about Texas Republic
- 37 TX Charley Pride's "Kiss An ___ Good Morning"
- 38 this Pat wrote "On Any Given Sunday"
- 39 TX Debbie Reynolds' first hubby, Fisher
- 40 ___ detector
- 41 cut with a saw
- 43 "Mingo" on "Daniel Boone" (init.)
- 45 TXism: "that'll ___ nicely"
- 47 machine pedal
- 48 saloons
- 55 TX-born critic Rex

Last Puzzle Solution

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Policy	Announcements	Auctions & Sales	Free	Work Wanted	Work Wanted
PLEASE CHECK your ad the first day it appears. We will correct any error as quickly as possible. However, we cannot be responsible for errors beyond the first day of publication day. TO PLACE your classified ad in the Tyler County Booster call (409) 283-2516.	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) I, BRIAN DEAN am no longer financially responsible for Rebecca Irene Carnes. (32-1t-pp-TCB)	A Gnome Christmas in July at Sassy Soul Boutique Numerous choices of Gnome decorations, all shoes 30% off, select clothing 20-30% off. 111 Hwy 59 Loop S Livingston, behind McDonalds Tues-Thurs 10am-4pm Fri-Sat 10am-5pm (29-4t-cc-PCE)	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)	LLOYD'S REMODELING located in Tyler County (Serving all areas) Add-ons, decks, metal roofs, cabinets, piers, docks, and boat houses. No job too small. Call 409-429-6164. (1-tfn-b-TCB)	Vickery Lawn Service *Stump Grinding *Land Mulching *Land Clearing *Tractor Work *Driveways Fully Insured 936-329-1653 Livingston, TX (1-tfn-b-PCE)
Announcements	Auctions & Sales	Garage/Bake Sale	Work Wanted	TLC	Plumas
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. Kfceilonaskatx.com (49-tfn-nc-PCE)	Call or Come by Today Livingston Senior Citizens Country Store 1310 North Houston Open 8:00 am - 1:00 pm Weekdays Open during noon hour Come by for bargains anytime (1-tfn-nc-PCE) HUGE INDOOR GARAGE SALE, Our Lady of the Pines Annual Garage Sale, at the corner of Hwy 287 & Eagle Drive, Woodville, Friday & Saturday, August 9 & 10, 7 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Furniture, kitchen items, linens, clothes, too many items to mention. (31-2t-b-TCB)	Garage/Bake Sale Friday-Saturday Aug. 9th-10th 8am-2pm 200 Springview Dr. Oak Crest Estates Sec. #4 Livingston Jewelry, books, toys, clothes, furniture, dishes, kitchenware, pet items, hats, purses and an assortment of much more along with our yummy baked goods for sale. (32-1t-pd-PCE) HUGE YARD sale-August 9, 10, & 11th 9am-6pm. Too much to list. Jewelry, tools, rock saw, toys, books, clothes, antiques, furniture, lamps, cages, tons of antique glassware, patio furniture, tons of camping gear and Halloween stuff. Rattling Gourds Trading Post 304 Prospect Drive, Trinity, TX. Buy, Sale, Trade. Always open. Spaces for rent. Garage sale buyout. Lots of \$1 items. 936-327-0323. (32-1t-TCNS-cc)	HARD WORKING TYLER COUNTY WOMAN, Landscaping, fence line clearing, painting, clean out flower beds, any outdoor jobs. Christal-409-224-5293. (31-tfn-p-TCB)	Toole's Lawn Care & Landscaping *Drainage *Retaining Walls *Residential *Commercial Year round full service maintenance- design, build & install flower beds, hydroseeding. Fully Insured Tree Removal, Irrigation Livingston, TX 936-646-2661 (1-tfn-b-PCE)	House Leveling w/Water Level & Concrete 20 Yrs Exp, Senior Citizen Discount Insured 936-433-6304 if no answer call for appt Livingston, TX 936-513-0783 (1-tfn-b-PCE)
Work Wanted	Work Wanted	Home Repair Specialist	S & L Tree Service	Lester Bros. Tree Service	S & S Cleaning and Maintenance
		Can repair any type of siding, piers, decks, stairs, ramps, and hurricane and weather damages. Can install windows, doors, ceiling fans, and flooring. Can build pergolas and room additions. No job too big or too small Call 903-330-9011 (ask for Jerry) (32-4t-cc-PCE) HOKE STUMP Grinding- No job too large or too small. Call (936)295-6089 or (936) 581-3781. Trinity, TX. (11-tfn-b-TCNS)	Tree removal, clean up, stump grinding New bucket truck Fully insured Serving the local and surrounding areas Call Richard 832-401-4081 (2-tfn-b-PCE)	Trimming, Top Removal, Haul Off, Tractor Work. Now accepting credit cards. Call for Free Estimate Insured 25 yrs experience 936-223-9265 OR 936-365-4955 Livingston, TX (23-tfn-b-PCE) I WILL clean out your garage, barn, old building and/or haul off your old junk like cars, trucks, tractors, etc. (936)328-1679. (31-4t-pd-PCE)	Residential Commercial Construction 936-714-6226 (32-tfn-b-PCE)

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

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

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Employment

Notice of Position Opening
SCHOOL-BASED
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August 1, 2024

The CITY OF LIVINGSTON is accepting applications for (1) SCHOOL-BASED POLICE OFFICER for the Livingston Police Department. Experience preferred, but not required. This is a full-time position with benefits. Subject to emergency call-in and weekend duty. Must be Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) certified. Applications will be accepted at the Police Department, 208 W. Church Street, Livingston, Texas from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday. The deadline for accepting applications will be through Friday, Aug. 16, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

For more information, a copy of the job description and summary of benefits, please contact Trisha Patton, Administrative Assistant to the Police Chief, at 936.327.3117. The City of Livingston is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. (31-3t-b-PCE)

For Sale

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

1987 INVADER MERC Cruiser, 120 Alpha HP, 16' ski and fish boat w/trailer. Mint condition. Contact Mike at (480)747-5944. (32-2t-cc-SJNT)

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

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

MOBILE HOMES For Rent in Colmesneil. Contact 409-200-1970 for more information. (27-8t-pp-TCB)

3-BEDROOM 1-BATH in Livingston, washer/dryer connections, central air/heat, \$900/month plus deposit. Call (936)223-4609. (30-2t-cc-PCE)

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

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

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