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Tyler County Booster
 Real Estate Guide
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Thursday, November 30, 2017 • Volume 91, Number 49 • 75¢ • Texas Press Association Better Newspaper Contest Winner 2015 • A division of Polk County Publishing Co., Inc.



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Don't miss out on fall family fun
Check out the community calendar



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Woodville, Texas
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Burglary suspect nabbed after return visit



Zev Austin Carter

By Valerie Reddell
 news@tylercountybooster.com

Woodville Police Officer Steven Hoke was called to the 1300 block of South Magnolia a couple weeks ago to meet with a homeowner who reported items had been taken from his garage. Among the missing items were generators, tackle, tools, car keys and cash.

The victim told Hoke he had been away from home for a week, so he could not pinpoint the date and time when the break-in occurred.

Hoke contacted pawn shops in the area in a search for any of the missing items but found nothing.

The victim called back 10 days later and said the burglar had struck again. However, during the intervening days the homeowner and purchased and installed security cameras which captured images of a male subject entering a storage building on the property.

The suspect used key fobs he located during his second visit to the garage and used them to remove items from two vehicles on the property.

Hoke recognized the suspect

from prior interactions, and knew he lived in the apartment complex nearby.

Coincidentally, the day before the burglary was reported, Officer Zachary Zachary was called to those apartments to investigate two suspicious boxes that contained portable generators. The boxes were sitting outside the door of the apartment where the suspect lived.

Officers obtained a search warrant from Judge Judith Haney which was executed Nov. 26.

Inside the apartment officers recovered additional property from the burglary and seized it as evi-

dence. They also discovered several items of drug paraphernalia during the search.

The suspect had apparently smoked marijuana just prior to officers' arrival and fell asleep as officers conducted their search.

Zev Austin Carter, 23, of Woodville was charged with two counts of burglary of a building, a state jail felony, four counts of possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor, and two counts of burglary of a vehicle, a Class A misdemeanor.

He remains in custody at the Tyler County Jail.

Trustees take oath to start new term

Woodville ISD trustees Jimmy Tucker and Bret Smith each took the oath of office Monday after their election to a new term on the board. The board then re-elected Tucker as president, Bret Smith as vice-president and John Wilson as secretary.

"We will strive to do our best to serve you as officers," Tucker said.

Trustees also unanimously approved an application for a waiver from the Texas Education Agency for missed instructional days in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

Woodville ISD closed for five days when much of Tyler County saw widespread flooding when Hurricane Harvey lingered over Southeast Texas.

Principals from each of the WISD campuses presented a summer of their campus improvement plans which were updated to help ensure the district meets accountability criteria set by the Texas Education Agency.

The challenge lies in the fact that the agency is still drafting the policy on accountability criteria. In effect, students, teachers and administrators are trying to hit a target for the current school year that hasn't been set yet.

In the meantime, campus leaders say they are working to improve reading levels among students who have struggled in prior years.

For example, all middle school students are participating in a "Drop Everything and Read" program in the mornings, according to principal Eric Holton. Students at that campus who have been identified



Tammy Watts, right, administers the oath of office to Jimmy Tucker, left, at Monday's meeting of the Woodville ISD Board of Trustees. Fellow trustees elected Tucker to continue as board president. Valerie Reddell photo.

as needing to improve skills are also participating in afterschool tutorials for the next six weeks to improve their mastery of skills and concepts that will appear on the mandated test.

High School Principal Morgan Wright told the board that his campus would not make any major changes since they mastered 14 out of 15 criteria, but they would not become com-

placent.

"We know we've had some success, but we won't want to rest on that," Wright said.

Staff members have put together a plan on how to look at some students in special populations that could have an impact on the district's rating as a whole.

Wright said they are using the zero hour to help students master areas that they are struggling with.

The other goal at the high school has been to focus on courses in multiple career pathways that students can pursue.

WHS started a criminal justice program last year. A second class has been added and they hope to launch a forensic science class next year.

Fourteen students are enrolled in a teacher prep program, and they are given the opportunity to get some hands-on experience with younger students.

Wright said they run surveys from time to time to judge what interests current and incoming students have.

"The building program has taken off," Wright said. "Students are building deer stands, chairs and other things. They are

getting hands-on lessons on how to use a saw, how to measure and other important skills."

"The game we play is driven by data," Superintendent Glen Conner said. "We collect data about where kids are academically and where their interests are from a career standpoint when they get to high school."

Conner also commended the efforts to work closely to integrate lessons on all campuses, so that students have a smooth transition from one school to another as they move toward graduation.

"We use the data to make

See TRUSTEES continued page 4A

Chester ISD sees continued growth

By Chuck Davidson

Chester ISD Superintendent Cory Hines informed trustees Monday night that new students are continuing to register at the district, which has triggered the need for additional staff.

Six new teachers were added at the beginning of the school year to meet the needs of the 206 students currently enrolled. Several more students are expected to enroll next week.

Trustees approved the posting of an additional new position. That staff member will be an interventionist and also act as a specialist in special education and gifted and talented pro-

grams. Trustees voted to accept a donation from Walmart to help the district upgrade classroom technology from smartboards.

Using the donation, Chester ISD has installed Apple TV equipment in some classrooms which project a computer screen to be viewed by the entire class. "It's the next step forward from smartboards," Hines said.

A special board meeting is planned for Dec. 4 to focus on board training. A staff Christmas party is also set for later in December. Students will perform at a Christmas program on Thursday, Dec. 21.

Man attempts to run from police, resists then suffers suspected seizure

By Valerie Reddell
 news@tylercountybooster.com

Woodville police responded to a call on Cob Mill Road in Woodville on Monday when a caller reported suspicious activity.

Officer Zachary Zachary responded and located the man who attempted to flee, but was apprehended in the parking area of Horton's Automotive.

As the suspect resisted Zach-

ary's efforts to identify and check on the man, the physical altercation drew the attention of a pit bull that lives on the property.

Zachary narrowly avoided being bitten and the other was able to attract the dog's attention and remove him to a safer location.

Zachary subdued the man—identified as Thomas Marshall Couch, 32 — with assistance from other officers. They later determined Couch had outstanding warrants from Polk

County for criminal trespass and bond forfeiture for that charge.

As Zachary attempted to place handcuffs on the suspect, he began to exhibit signs of seizure activity and he was taken to Tyler County Hospital by EMS for evaluation.

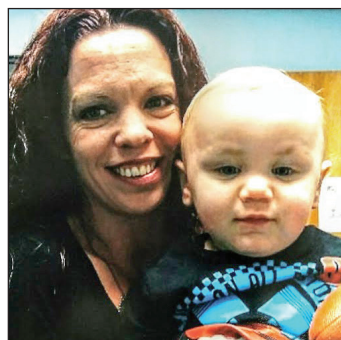
The suspect was later released and booked into Tyler County on the existing charges as well as resisting arrest.

Obituaries

Serving: Alabama Coushatta, Chester, Colmesneil, Dam B, Doucette, Fred, Hillister, Ivanhoe, Spurger, Rockland, Village Mills, Warren, Wildwood, Woodville • www.tylercountybooster.com

Amanda Paige Tinsley Sawvel

Amanda Paige Tinsley Sawvel, 40, of Beaumont, went home to our Lord on Nov. 6, 2017. Left to mourn her passing are her four children, Ciera, Tyler, Kaitlyn, and Kolton; her mother, Donna Hatton and husband Arnold of Spurger, sister, Monica Mason of Beaumont; twin brother, Dan Tinsley of Buna, and two grandchildren. She was predeceased by her infant daughter Eliza Grace, and her beloved grandfather Herb Tinsley of Buna.



There was a cremation ceremony and a memorial celebrating her life is planned. Any donations can be made to the Ashlei Odom Scholarship program at Citizens Bank in Spurger or Woodville in her name.

Sandra Sue Chambless

Sandra Sue Chambless Snowden, 75, of Mabank, formerly of Woodville, passed away Nov. 24, 2017.



Born Nov. 18, 1942 in Warren, Texas to the late Charles and Beatrice Durham Chambless, she lived most of her life in Tyler County. She was a retired dispatcher for the Tyler County Sheriff's Office.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Bobby Snowden; daughter, Tammy Beck; brother, Narlon Chambless and a sister, Dee Rudd.

Sandra is survived by her daughter, Pam Parker and husband Craig of Mauriceville; son, Tony Snowden of Mabank; grandchildren, Casey Beck of Baytown, Chad Beck and wife Ashley of Pasadena, Chris Parker and fiancé Brittney of Beaumont; great-grandchildren, Aubree Beck and Brylee Beck; sisters, Dorothy Powell and husband Sherman of Woodville, Maxelene Coker of Cheyenne, Okla. and Wanda Ogden and husband Buddy of Woodville; sister-in-law, Margaret Chambless of San Augustine; special niece and nephew, Suzanne Ogden Rigby

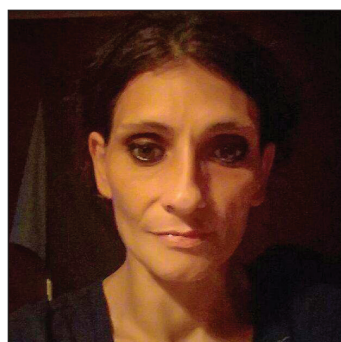
and Tommy Ogden; numerous other family members and friends and her Law Enforcement Family.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Nov. 26, 2017, at 2 p.m. at the Riley Funeral Home Chapel with Brother Bubba Sheffield officiating. Burial followed at the Campground Cemetery in Woodville. Visitation was held Sunday from noon until the time of the service.

Serving as pallbearers were John Fuller, Mike Hughes, Trisher Ford, Richard Guillory, Scott Yosko and Lawrence Hicks. Serving as honorary pallbearers were Casey Beck, Chad Beck and Chris Parker. Services are held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home of Tyler County.

Amie Michell Coon

Amie Michell Coon, of Woodville, Texas passed away Monday, Nov. 13, 2017.



She was born to William Croker and Loretta Parker in Carthage, Texas.

Amie eagerly wanted to pursue her accounting certification. She loved painting, photography and cooking. Amie was a very lovely mother and daughter

She leaves to cherish her memories: sons, Chevy J. Coon of Gary, Texas, and Shane Allen Croker; father, William Croker of Woodville and mother, Loretta Parker of Carthage, Texas; brother, William Croker Jr. of

Lake Charles, Louisiana. Cremation Services are entrusted to Coleman's Family Mortuary, 409 South Magnolia Woodville, TX. 75979 (409) 283-3031 www.colemansfamilymortuary.com

Dianne Duhon

Dianne Duhon, 71, of Colmesneil, passed away peacefully at her residence on November 17, 2017.



She was born on May 2, 1946 in Port Arthur to Willis Earl and Loretta (Midge) Duhon. Both parents preceded her in death.

Dianne attended Bridge City High School where she served triumphantly as drum major. One of her favorite stories to share was leading the band at the Lamar University parade. She had heard the judges were from A&M, so when the Bridge City Cardinals marched in front of the judges, Dianne directed them to play the Aggie War Hymn and Bridge City High won first place!

Dianne later served as principal at Colmesneil Elementary School and continued to stay in touch with several students over the years to follow. She loved animals, snazzy hats, stylish shoes and reading was

one of her favorite pastimes.

A graveside service will be conducted at 4 p.m. for Dianne at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange on Dec. 9, 2017. An annual Claybar luminary service will commence at 4:30.

Dianne's kindness and caring for others touched many lives. She was loved and will be missed.

Cremation services were under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home of Woodville, Texas

James Wallace Morgan

James Wallace Morgan, Jr., 88, of Colmesneil passed away Nov. 25, 2017.

Wallace is survived by his daughter, Mary Wallace Morgan West of Colmesneil; son, Mike Morgan and wife Pam of Maryville, TN; grandchildren, Joey Morgan, Chris West, Jimmy Morgan, Richard Morgan, Chelsea West, Casey West and Donna Linda Morgan; 10 great-grandchildren and 11 special dogs.

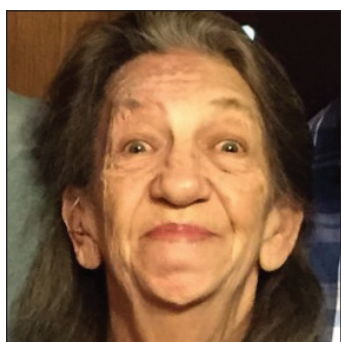
Born August 16, 1929 in Camden to the late James Sr. and Mary Preston Morgan, he lived in Colmesneil for many years. With the work ethic given to him by his father, he planned and made dreams come true by his hard work and dedication. His success in life always included both work and family. Wallace was a wonderful, humble person who sought his joy by helping other. He will be missed dearly by his family and his 11 special dogs. He made the world a better place.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 10 a.m. at Riley Funeral Home in Woodville.

Services were held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home of Tyler County.

Frances Gore Baxter

Frances Gore Baxter, 74, of Jasper passed away Nov. 23, 2017.



Born July 4, 1943 in Silsbee to the late Walter and Corrine Jenkins Gore, she lived in Spurger for over 30 years before moving to Jasper. She was a loving and caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend to all who knew and loved her.

Frances is survived by her loving sons, Walter Baxter of Spurger, James Baxter and wife Arlene of Spurger, Jim Baxter and wife Lisa of Plano, Texas; granddaughter, Elaine Grace Baxter; brothers, Franklin

Gore, Walter Gore and Theris Gore; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cremation service was held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home of Tyler County.

Janelle Philen Wagner

Janelle Philen Wagner, 74, of Kingwood, Texas went to be with her Lord Friday, Nov. 3, 2017. She was born Feb. 23, 1943 in Port Arthur, Texas and moved with her family to Woodville in 1947.

After retirement, she served as a volunteer counselor for HAAM (Humble Area Assistance Ministry).

She was a charter member of First Presbyterian Church in Kingwood.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Alton and Anna Philen; and grandparents Jim and Mary Estes, all of the Harmony community of Tyler County.

Janelle is survived by her husband, David Phillip Wagner, whom she married Nov. 17, 1979.

She is also survived by siblings, Glenda Philen Roos and husband David of Murray, Kentucky, Jerry Dale Philen and wife Mary of Porter, Texas, many nieces, nephews, and cousins of Texas and Kentucky.

Janelle graduated from Kirby High School, Woodville in 1961; from Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas in 1965; and later from Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.

Janelle taught in elementary schools in Brownsville, Texas, Fort Worth, Texas, for the Department of Defense in Germany and Greece, in Spring and Humble, Texas.

The funeral service was Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, at Rosewood Funeral Home in Humble. The Rev. Dr. James Davis officiated. Interment followed at Rosewood Memorial Park.

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Maggie Lena Wolf-Foster

Maggie Lena Wolf-Foster, of Hillister, peacefully departed this life Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017.

John Wolf Sr. and Annie Mae Deason; two brothers, James Wolf and Joe Wolf.

Graveside service for Ms. Maggie Lena Wolf-Foster were held Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017 at 12:30 p.m. at Hillister Community Cemetery in Hillister, Texas.

She leaves to cherish her memories: son, Frank Swanson (Patricia); granddaughter, Jessica Swanson-Adams (Michael) of Woodville and grandson, Travis Swanson of Houston; great-grandchildren, Mariah Swanson of Woodville and Tyton Swanson of Dallas; two brothers, Jessie Wolf (Margie) of Woodville, and Elray Wolf (Flo) of Beaumont; two sisters, Beatrice Williams (Leonard) and Verdie Wolf, both of Warren. Three very special caretakers, Mrs. Annie Maloy, Mrs. Audrey Arline and Mrs. Carry Dorr along with a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends also survive

Wolf-Foster was born to John Wolf Sr. and Annie Mae Deason in Village Mills.

She married Alfred Foster April 8, 1978, until his death of September 7, 2012. Ms. Maggie was employed by Keller Industries for 30 years where she worked as a laborer and also served as Union President.

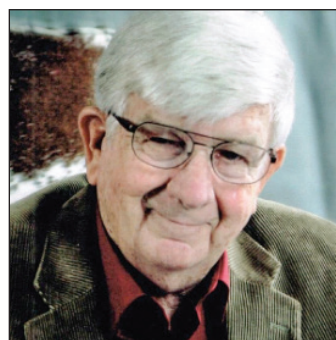
Ms. Maggie also worked at Woodville Convalescent for 20 years in the cafeteria. She was a faithful member of Little Baptist Church in Hillister. She enjoyed fishing, shopping and spending time with her loving family.

Wolf-Foster was preceded in death by her husband, Mr. Alfred Foster and parents,

Services are entrusted to Coleman's Family Mortuary 409 South Magnolia Woodville, TX. 75979. (409) 283-3031, www.colemansfamilymortuary.com.

Clifford Dewayne Russell

Clifford Dewayne Russell



Funeral services for Clifford Dewayne Russell, 79, of Colmesneil will be held Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Carroway Funeral Home Chapel in Huntington with his wife, Gloria Russell, officiating. Interment will follow in the Bennett Cemetery in Apple Springs.

Kaitlin Russell, Kason Russell, Laken Barnes James and husband John, Bethany Barnes Bruce and husband Austin, Julia Barnes, and Richard Barnes, Jr.; great-grandchildren, Maya Waldron, Catherine Waldron, Caroline Waldron, Wyatt Dewayne Russell, Jessie James, Jordan James, Jathan James, Dillon White, Henry James, and Abel Bruce; brother, Dale Russell and wife Terrie; and a number of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Mr. Russell was born February 25, 1938 in Carthage, Missouri to the late Wilma Ophelia (Neal) and Clifford Eugene Russell, and died Saturday, November 25, 2017 in Woodville, surrounded by his loved ones.

Formerly of Lufkin, Mr. Russell had resided in Colmesneil for 17 years. He retired from the U.S. Navy as an E9 Chief Petty Officer following 20 years of service, then retired from the paper mill in Lufkin after 27 years of employment. Mr. Russell was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. His passion was reaching thousands of children with the Lord's word through Gloria Russell Children's Ministry and Victory Camp Colmesneil. He had served as Associate Pastor of Agape Church in Colmesneil for six years.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Gloria Russell of Colmesneil; daughters, Susan Russell Waldron and husband John Sidney of Missouri City, Nancy Russell, and Kelli Russell Barnes and husband Richard Keith, Sr., all of Colmesneil; son, David Dewayne Russell of Lufkin; grandchildren, John Russell Waldron and wife Jennifer, Jessica Waldron, Jillian Waldron, Wesley Russell and wife Tanya,

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Jackie Russell; and mother-in-law, Milvia Salser Witt.

Pallbearers will be John Sidney Waldron, Richard Keith Barnes, Sr., John Russell Waldron, Wesley Russell, Richard Barnes, Jr., and Kason Russell.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Gloria Russell Children's Ministry, P.O. Box 307, Lufkin, Texas 75902.

The family will welcome friends and loved ones from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Monday evening at the funeral home in Huntington.

Memories and condolences may be added at www.carrowayfuneralhome.com. Carroway Funeral Home, Huntington, directors.

Obituaries continued on page 4A

Last Puzzle Solution

POLITICAL CALENDAR

Tyler County District Attorney
Jim Spencer (R)
Amy Bythewood (R)

Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2
Michael G. Maness (R)

Commissioner, Pct. 4
Rossi Carruth (R)

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TYLER COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST • November 30-December 6

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	AM Showers	PM Showers
High: 73 Low: 49 Rain: 10%	High: 72 Low: 47 Rain: 10%	High: 74 Low: 49 Rain: 10%	High: 75 Low: 5 Rain: 10%	High: 76 Low: 61 Rain: 20%	High: 73 Low: 49 Rain: 40%	High: 67 Low: 44 Rain: 50%

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Online shopping killed the record store

By Chris Edwards



Chris Edwards

All good things must come to an end. We hear that phrase, like so many others, banded about so often that the rote repetition seems to soften the blow of whatever subject to which it might pertain.

In my world, the “all good things ...” category is eaten up lately with thoughts of my favorite record store, Superfly’s in San Marcos, which shuttered on Halloween. It couldn’t have happened on a more appropriate day, as it seems horrific to imagine that magical town without a record store.

Superfly’s, which used to run under the name Sundance, has been an institution in the uber-cool Central Texas culture enclave for many years. The volume and variety was heads above other hip record shops like Waterloo in Austin and the venerated Ernest Tubbs Record Shop in Nashville.

Superfly’s also hosted in-store performances and signings, like any record store worth its salt in a live music oasis. From the minimal stage setup in the middle of the store, visitors might be able to take in a free performance by anyone from Hayes Carll, Todd Snider, or Gary P. Nunn to up-and-comers like Halley Anna and Mike Ethan Messick.

Aside from the intimate performances by some of the finest singer/songwriters in the business, you could also fill up on tasty barbecue from the Black’s food truck and cold Ziegen Bock samples from the keg behind the counter.

So much of the experience, or what makes it special, is what one associates it with and not just the procurement of merchandise.

For example, some of the happiest times of my young years were spent trekking into Woodville with my grandfather on Saturdays for haircuts and running errands. I could spend hours looking through comic books on the spinner rack at Jarrott’s while he would shoot the bull with his friends over coffee at the soda counter. It wasn’t just the fact that I would often leave there with an issue of Tales From the Crypt

or Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, but the experience of enjoying the morning and afternoon with him.

Those trips to Woodville were so much fun, and the occasional finds of new comics just added a spiffy ribbon on top. It’s sad to think that many young people these days won’t get to experience those sorts of things. We’ve become so enamored with convenience that we’ve forgotten how to live our lives.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos recently made a comment that in a handful of years his online retail juggernaut will run USPS, FedEx, and UPS out of business. With the shuttering of stores like Superfly’s, and the all-but-extinct nature of several classic department stores (e.g. Kmart, Sears, JC Penney) it seems that people would rather forgo experiences with fellow humans in favor of their computer or smart phone screens. Sure, for someone who enjoys a variety of music, a lot of which is obscure and/or out-of-print, Amazon offers a seemingly bottomless catalog to choose from, but that level of convenience and availability leaves something to be desired.

For anyone with an eclectic musical taste in it, it might seem hard to find folks in our neck of the piney deep to converse with about music. For instance, if I were to bring up the majesty of one of my favorite records, Mutilation Makes Identification Difficult, by the mighty Denton-based death metal/psych-punk band Brutal Juice in a crowd of folks who only casually listen to whatever Clear Channel is pumping, most would probably bristle at the mere mention of the record’s title. However, among fellow vinyl enthusiasts around the Superfly’s counter, such was the norm.

Recently I made two finds at a Southeast Texas used book and record store from two of my favorite artists: a collection of prime Bill Monroe and a pristine copy of the Pixies’ Bossanova.

The cashier’s confused look made me long for the expert, eclectic tastes and commentary of Chisum Burnett behind the Superfly’s counter. Burnett looks like one of the Hell’s Angels, but understands the deep connections running through Monroe’s greatness and the psychotic, yet beautiful primal screams of the Pixies’ Black Francis.

Another of my favorite records, Live at the Old Quarter by Townes Van Zandt, finds its way onto my turntable at least once a week. It was at Superfly’s last summer that I re-purchased this Rosetta Stone of Texas Music after not owning a copy for several years (thanks to thieves, but that’s another story).

I had other records in mind to purchase, but once I found the lone copy of that Townes album haunting the vinyl bins, I got that feeling of discovery that ranks as one of the best feelings in the known world to a record collecting nerd. I proudly said to the record as I held it in my hand, “You’re comin’ home with me!”

Sure I could’ve committed a series of mouse clicks to place that masterful record by the poet laureate of Texas country music in my digital shopping cart, but I would’ve missed the interaction with Mr. Burnett, the excitement of finding that record (and sharing that discovery with my girlfriend), as well as randomly running into my old buddy Tim O’Hellyeah.

Convenience may be king if you’re hunting records that aren’t made by million-selling bands or artists.

Sure it’s easier to track down a Brutal Juice album on Amazon than finding it in a random music store, but so much about making a find in a collector’s mind is about the “Eureka!” moment of discovering that treasure you never thought you’d find in a pile of dusty old vinyl. I don’t get that same feeling from clicking a mouse or tapping my iPhone screen. Life is full of interaction, discovery, jubilation, and disappointments as well. Removing many of these elements for the sake of convenience doesn’t just push brick and mortar stores into the realm of memory, but it has a way of separating and isolating us from one another.



In 2018, watch the political undercard

By Ross Ramsey, The Texas Tribune



Ross Ramsey

Texas Democrats don’t have a statewide slate.

This is the place where a columnist has to add the word “YET,” since there are two more weeks for candidates to file for office.

Texas Democrats don’t have a statewide slate YET.

And this isn’t the standard-issue election opener about how Texas Democrats are cooked and there’s no need to check their pulse; this is about voter turnout and how to win down-ballot elections without big-time candidates making news and advertising and stirring things up.

Mike Collier, a Democrat running for lieutenant governor, has a theory about this — that it’s the down-ballot races that drive people to the polls. He has to say that. He’s a down-ballot candidate. But he’s also a numbers guy — an accountant by profession — and contends that the door-to-door campaigning of House and Senate candidates does at least as much to drive voters to the polls as a noisy top-of-ballot affair between well-financed political stars.

More people turn out to vote in presidential election years than in the midterms where Texans elect most of their statewide officials. That’s the biggest bit of evidence that titans drive turnout.

And Collier’s point might seem strange, coming from someone running near the top of the ballot. But scores of candidates from all parties have learned that not-quite-top-of-the-ballot candidates do not really control their own fates. With some exceptions, they’re subject to what’s going on above them on the ballot or to outside influences.

It’s hard to win a race when your party’s top candidate is only getting 38.9 percent of the vote (Wendy Davis in 2014) or 42.3 percent (Bill White in 2010). But there is also a chance that the political atmosphere is good for your party — a hope every minority party carries into every presidential midterm election — and that the political winds will favor the challengers.

That’s how many Texas Democrats are looking at 2018 — that Donald Trump, like many other presidents, will have a hard ride in his midterm elections and that it will be better to be a Democrat in a close race next year than to be a Republican.

U.S. Rep. Beto O’Rourke of El Paso will be at the top of the Democratic ticket, waging a long-shot campaign against U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, who took office after his own long-shot campaign in 2012.

Several Democrats have been mentioned as or are talking about

running for governor, a list that includes Houston City Councilman Dwight Boykins, Dallas

County Sheriff Lupe Valdez, Andrew White (son of the late Gov. Mark White) and Michael Sorrell, president of Paul Quinn College in Dallas.

Candidate filing will be open for another two weeks — until Dec. 11 — and these or other candidates still have time to get on the ticket. Maybe some superstar will show.

Voters can decide then, when the lists of candidates are complete, what to do in the March primaries. To a large extent, the eyes of Texas will be on the Republicans, with the combined spectacle of open seats and a GOP split in any number of ways — between conservatives and moderates, populists and the establishment, and conservatives focused on business and those focused on social issues.

The state’s congressional delegation has six open seats following the decisions by two Democrats and four Republicans (so far) not to seek reelection. All six of those districts were drawn to favor the parties of the people now in office; without something extraordinary happening,

party changes in those spots are unlikely.

The same is true in three state Senate districts where incumbents — Craig Estes, R-Wichita Falls; Bob Hall, R-Edgewood; and Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo — will be challenged in the primaries. The elections are more likely to change the occupants of those offices than the party that holds them.

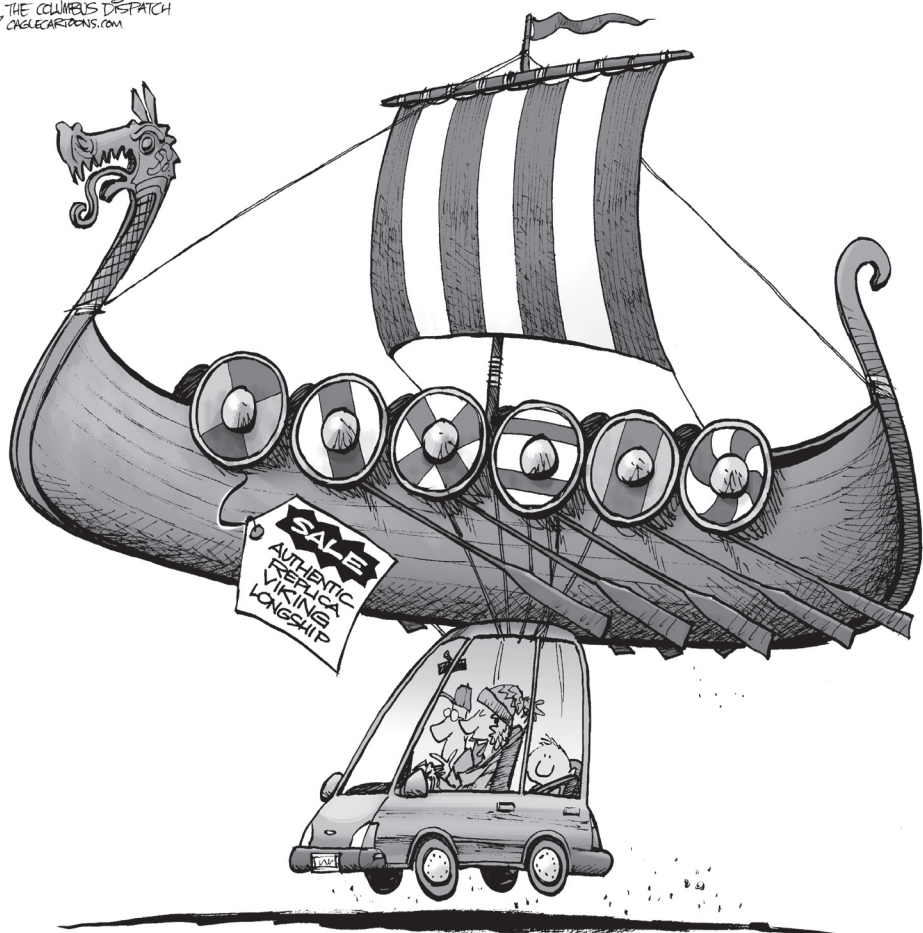
The Texas House always has a dozen or so seats that could, if circumstances and the candidates are just right, move from one party to the other. But the real contests are in the primaries, and particularly in the Republican primaries.

Texas is an open-primary state, where voters can decide from year to year whether they’d rather help decide the Republican or the Democratic nominees (or hold out and go to third-party conventions). If the action is on the GOP side, or if that’s where the most important local elections will really get settled, some Democrats might be attracted to those contests.

Maybe Collier’s right. Maybe 2018’s politics will be local.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <http://ow.ly/ndjP30gS4x3>

EMR THE COLUMBIAN DISPATCH
BY THE COLUMBIAN DISPATCH
BY THE COLUMBIAN DISPATCH



“IT WAS A KILLER BLACK FRIDAY DEAL! ... PLUS, WE HADN’T BOUGHT FOR GRANDMA YET.”

MEMBER 2017
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Tyler County Booster

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Chester city council meeting November 20

By Mollie LaSalle

Chester Mayor Floyd Petri swore in two council members at Monday's meeting. Gale Williams was re-elected for another term, and Hoke Hart (who had previously been appointed to council), who was elected to a full term. Charlotte Barnes was also re-elected for another term, but was not present to be sworn in.

Director of Public Works Dale Clamon gave an update on the city's involvement — through the Chester Gas Company — in the Distribution Integrity Management Plan, which the Railroad Commission developed to maintain the integrity and safety of municipalities within the state of Texas. To learn more about this program, go to their website at: www.phmsa.dot.gov/dimp/.

Clamon said that several cities have already failed with their initial submission, and there is only one company that has written plans that have passed the Rail-

road Commission's stringent guidelines.

"We can pay this company (National Corrosion Service of New Orleans) \$2,100 to write a plan for the city of Chester, or we can face a minimum fine of \$5,000 for not being in compliance," Clamon said.

Council members did not want to pay a company and have the plan disapproved, then pay another company and have it pass. In the end, council approved hiring National Corrosion Services to write a plan for the city, and the mayor directed Clamon and public works employees to start replacing old and worn out steel pipes in anticipation of inspectors from the Railroad Commission.

A long and lengthy discussion arose over the wording of the employee handbook.

Council member Gale Williams found fault with the wording of several passages, mainly in regards to part-time employees' probationary periods, and vacation and



Chester Mayor Floyd Petri swore in two council members at Monday's meeting.

sick time accrual for full time employees. City secretary Annette Hickman agreed to modify the handbook on certain points, after council approved said changes.

Council members went into executive session to discuss

employee raises. After deliberating, council voted to table this discussion until the next scheduled meeting as two council members were absent. The lights at the city park and repairs to certain areas were discussed, and no action was taken.

The minutes from the previous meeting, as well as financial statements and bills for the city and the Chester Gas System were approved by council.

Chester City Council voted to cancel the December meeting, and re-convene on Jan. 8 at 6 p.m.

JAIL REPORT

Reuben Anderson, 26, of Silsbee — Driving while intoxicated; Failure to maintain financial responsibility, Class C.

Ronzie Gerald Bankston, 38, of Colmesneil — Prohibited substance in a correctional facility; Possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 1, < 1 gram.

Zev Austin Carter, 23, of Woodville — Burglary of a building, two counts; Burglary of a vehicle, two counts; Possession of drug paraphernalia, four counts.

Patrick Gregory Clay Jr., 20, of Pearland — Possession of marijuana < 2 oz. Released on \$650 bond.

Derek Wayne Corley, 37, of Woodville — Assault of a family/household member that impedes breath or circulation.

Madison Leigh Dodd, 17, of Livingston — Possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 2 < 1 g.

Malrie Venson Ellis, 45, of Colmesneil — Failure to appear warrant. Released on \$10,000 bond.

Jacob Cheyanne Foxworth, 32, of Warren — Possession of marijuana < 2 oz. Released on \$1,000 bond.

Jordan Leigh Frank, 23, of Corrigan — Possession of drug paraphernalia.

Fabian José Garcia, 18, of Livingston — Possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 2, 4 to 400 grams. Released on \$50,000 bond.

India Nicole Marshall, 37, of Missouri City — Criminal non-support / Motion to revoke probation.

Cindy Mathis, 26, No residence listed — Possession of a dangerous drug.

Desmond Menefee, 43, of Woodville — No driver's license; Assault, Class C. Released on bonds totaling \$404.

Christopher Daryl Morris, 33, of Hillister — Unlawful carrying a weapon; Possession of marijuana < 2 oz. Released on bonds totaling \$2,250.

Kristin Nicole Murray, 19, of Woodville — Public intoxication.

Michael Jay Synagal, 38, No residence listed — Arson, Theft of property < \$100 (enhanced, if at trial); Theft of service \$750 to \$2,500.

OBITUARIES

Reubin Claude Tillery, Jr.

Funeral services for Pastor Reubin Claude Tillery Jr., 91, of Woodville were held Sunday, Nov. 26, 2017, at 2 p.m. at Stringer & Griffin Chapel in Woodville with Pastors Roger Bailey, Charles Pierce, and Cleddie Keith officiating. Interment followed at Mount Pisgah Cemetery. Pallbearers were Brian Burton, Joe Martin, Eric Mingle, Scotty Stutts, Caleb Swinney and Phillip Woods. Honorary pallbearers were Clarence Dominy, Jimbo Grissom, Bobby Greer, Clyde Hicks and Pastor Johnny Durham.

Pastor Tillery passed away at his residence on Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017. He was born Aug. 7, 1926 to Pearl Dora Stinzel Tillery and Reubin Claude Tillery Sr. in the Goose Creek area of Baytown, Texas.

He married the love of his life, Opal Laverne Williams on Nov. 17, 1951. After graduating from high school, he joined the Army Air Corps and served in Germany as an airplane electrical mechanic with the 38th Fighter Squadron, 55th Fighter Group. He was honorably discharged with decorations and citations in 1946 after which he attended the Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie.

He entered the ministry in 1946, was ordained in 1951, and dedicated the remainder of his life to the ministry.

During his 66 years of ministry, he pastored four Texas churches — in Magnolia, Houston and Macedonia and spent the last 57 years (1955-2012) at First Assembly of God in Woodville. He loved God with all of his heart and was a prayer warrior with unwavering faith.

He was a devoted husband and father who loved hunting, fishing, and the outdoors. He enjoyed camping, shooting, water skiing, riding horses — anything that would get him outside with his son and two daughters. He had a mischievous sense of humor, loved practical jokes and managed to keep a straight face through all the fun.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Reubin Sr. and Pearl Tillery and son, Ray Tillery.

Reubin Tillery is survived by his loving wife, Opal Tillery; daughters, Kay Waggoner and husband Rick of Colleyville, Texas and Connie Tillery of Woodville and dearest friend, Steve Caraway of Village Mills, Texas; daughter-in-law, Stacy Tillery of Woodville; sister, Ruby Martin of Bay-



town; granddaughters, Meagan Swinney and husband, Caleb of Colmesneil, and Shelby Stutts and husband Scotty of Honey Island, Texas; great-grandchildren, Chesley and Hattie Jo Swinney of Colmesneil; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held Sunday, Nov. 26, 2017 at 1 p.m. at Stringer & Griffin Chapel in Woodville.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to First Assembly of God in Woodville, 108 N Charlton, Woodville, Texas 75797 or to Holy Highway, P.O. Box 160, Pickton, Texas 75471.

Services were under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home of Woodville. To offer condolences or to sign the register book online, please see www.stringerandgriffin.com.

Willie Homer Adams

Willie Homer Adams, Jr., 91, of Warren, Texas, passed away peacefully with family at his side on Friday, Nov. 24, 2017. He was born on Jan. 28, 1926, to Willie Homer Sr. and Jewel Adams. He was a longtime member of Warren United Methodist Church.

Willie was preceded in death by his son, Phillip Wayne Adams. He is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Doris; daughters, Kay Traugott and husband John of Silsbee and Lisa Collins and husband Tim of Conroe; five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; two brothers, John Adams and Jerald Adams, of Warren and one sister, Orene Watkins, of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Willie was a devout Christian, devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to many. He retired from Texaco after 37 years. In retirement, he loved traveling, fishing, cultivating a garden every year, and raising cows. He was a very special person

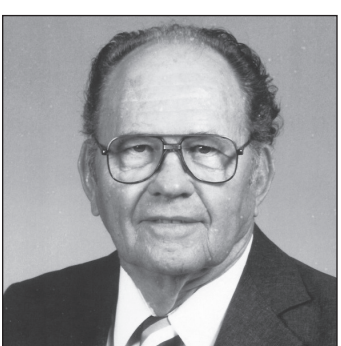
to his family and friends.

Willie was a World War II veteran, serving in the 45th Infantry Division, known as the Thunderbird Division, one of the two Army divisions that liberated Dachau, the Concentration Camp, in Germany. The 45th Thunderbird Infantry Division fought 511 days of combat. Over 20,000 soldiers were killed, wounded, or missing in action.

The 45th is remembered for freeing 32,000 inmates from Dachau and for the battle at Anzio, which was a turning point in the victory of the Allies in World War II. He was 19 years old.

The family would like to extend their thanks to Harbor Hospice for their kind and gentle care, with special thanks to Margo Barnett and Kenzie White. The family also extends their heart-felt thanks to the many friends and family for their help, thoughts and prayers.

There was a gathering of



Willie's family and friends at Warren United Methodist Church on Tuesday, Nov 28, 2017, from noon to 2:00 p.m. The service was held at 2 p.m. with Pastor Billy Watson officiating. Military Honors were performed at Hester Cemetery by the Southeast Texas Veterans Service Group with interment following.

Donations in Willie's honor may be made to Warren United Methodist Church, 11774 US Hwy. 69 South, Warren, Texas, 77664. Details and online guest registry may be viewed at www.rileysfuneralhome.com.



Tammy Watts, right, administers the oath of office to Bret Smith, left, at Monday's meeting of the Woodville ISD Board of Trustees. Smith will continue to serve as vice-president of the board after fellow board members voted to return him to the post. Valerie Reddell photo.

TRUSTEES

continued from page 1A

changes in classrooms from a day to day basis, not a six-week basis," Conner said.

Trustees also expressed appreciation to the staff.

"Looking at all those plans, I heard from each of you all the goals that we set (as a board)," trustee Trey Allison said. "I realize communication is flowing from the superintendent to you. Math and reading are No. 1."

Allison also praised the campus leaders for breaking down the goals and implementing steps to reach those goals.

"Many people set goals and don't really look at them till the next year rolls around," Allison added.

During the superintendent's report, Conner informed the board that trees on the intermediate campus had received a "haircut" during the Thanksgiving break.

"It's more aesthetic, and it might get the grass growing on some areas of bare sod and eliminates the hazard posed by dead limbs," Conner said.

Work on drainage issues and gutters at the high school building was completed as well.

"We are still waiting on doors. I thought some would be installed over the holidays, but that didn't

happen," he added.

Conner also would like to schedule a security workshop to harden the buildings in light of things that have happened recently at school facilities and other public buildings.

During a discussion on attendance and enrollment, Wilson asked why enrollment varies widely from grade to grade.

Conner answered that there are some classes that start with fewer students in early grades, then remain smaller as the students advance through the grades.

As an example, Conner pointed out that the current ninth grade class has been smaller throughout their school career.

Tyler County Historical Commission

Open Meeting.

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 12

The Colmesneil House, Colmesneil, Texas

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Yellowjackets host Indians, Eagles in home openers

The Chester varsity boys hosted the Zavalla Lady Eagles on Tuesday, Nov. 21. The Jackets were defeated by the Eagles 53-69. Cade Parrish led the Jackets with 20 points. Dane Barnes was close behind with 17. Dean Brown, J.D. Clarke, and J.T. Martin also got on the board for the Jackets.

The Chester varsity girls basketball team played the Groveton Lady Indians in their first game of the season on Monday, Nov. 20. This was a tough loss for the Lady Jackets, with the final score 21-45.

Ashlyn Overstreet scored 8 points for the Lady Jackets. Also scoring for the Lady Jackets were Carmen Mahaffey, Danique Davis, Annie Rayburn, Taylor Handley, and Meagan Clarke.

The Lady Jackets

took on the Zavalla Lady Eagles on Tuesday, Nov. 21, and the Lady Jackets got the win. The Lady Jackets outscored the Lady Eagles 21-20. Mahaffey led the Lady Jackets with 7 points. Also putting points on the board were Handley, Clarke, Rayburn, Overstreet, and Jasmine Mitchell.

Both the varsity boys and girls will play in the Apple Springs Tournament on Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 30 - Dec. 2.

On Tuesday, December 5, both teams will be on the road. The varsity girls will travel to Burkeville for their first district game and the varsity boys will travel to West Hardin to take on the Oilers. Both the girls and boys games will begin at 6 p.m.



Photo by Jana Rayburn
Yellowjacket Dane Barnes goes up for a shot in the Jackets' home opener against the Apple Spring Eagles.



Nature Jackson takes the ball down the court to score!

Ladydogs shift into basketball mode

By Gabby Reynolds

The Ladydog basketball season has begun with a positive outlook for the Ladydogs.

On Nov. 14, the Ladydogs took on San Augustine. The lead went back and forth for four periods and the Ladydogs ended the game winning 61-53 in overtime.

This was a very exciting and incredible game. Senior Nature Jackson, was the MVP of this game with 37 points, she also forced that game into overtime with an extravagant three-point shot at the buzzer.

"It was a hard fight, but I think that how hard we practiced helped us to be able to push through and get a great win," Jackson said. "It really put us all on a high and has us excited for the rest of the season!"

On Nov. 20, the Varsity Ladydogs played High Island and won 46-18.

The Ladydogs held High

Island to minimum points after half time. Junior, Desiree Hallo, scored 10 out of the 46 points the Ladydogs earned.

Currently the Ladydogs varsity team have a record of 2-2 overall.

Nov. 16-18, the Ladydog junior varsity team competed in the Hull-Daisetta JV tournament. They finished third in the tournament after winning four out of their five games. Junior Sara England won the free throw contest at the tournament. Overall the Junior Varsity Ladydogs have a record of 5-4.

The Varsity Ladydogs will attend the Deweyville tournament Nov. 30 to Dec. 2.

On Dec. 1, the junior varsity team will play the GSF Lady Hornets in Silsbee. Dec. 5, the varsity and junior varsity Ladydogs will take on Hull Daisetta away at 4:30. Come support your Ladydogs and wish them an incredible season.



Photo by Hale Hughes
Elusive Eagle: Woodville's CJ Wooten scores on the opening kickoff against Rockdale. Wooten scored four touchdowns for the Eagles.

Woodville falls in area round

By Hale Hughes

CYPRESS—This area play-off game was dramatic from the onset as Woodville's CJ Wooten returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown within a mere 14 seconds into the game. Woodville's power runner Zack Martin ran in the two-point conversion to give the Eagles the early lead and put Rockdale on notice that Woodville was here to win.

Woodville began the game with huge momentum as the Eagle defense forced a three and out for the Tigers.

A miserable punt by Rockdale gave the Eagles tremendous field position at the Tiger 32-yard line. It looked like the Eagles were sure to go up early by two touchdowns, but the Tiger defense held, forcing the Eagles to settle for a field goal.

Tyler Greer's kick was good and gave the Eagles an 11-0 lead with 6:56 left in the first quarter.

Woodville's success on their two opening drives seemed to wake up the Tigers.

Rockdale pieced together some momentum with a big run, mixed in with some of their passing attack and got on the board at the 4:47 mark of the first quarter to close the gap 11-7, still in favor of the Eagles.

That offensive momentum for the Tigers translated to some defensive momentum as well as Rockdale stopped the Eagle

offense on their next possession.

Woodville punted and the Tigers took the ball and drove on the Woodville defense before a fumble stopped Rockdale.

Woodville had another offensive opportunity but was stopped quick on the possession. Rockdale returned the punt to the Woodville 25-yard line to give the Tigers their best starting field position with just over a minute in the first quarter.

Rockdale took the ball and gained their first lead of the game in the early part of the second quarter with a TD pass across the middle making the score 14-11 in favor of the Tigers.

CJ Wooten was the star for Woodville with his two kickoff returns for touchdowns coupled with two rushing touchdowns delivering four scores for the Eagles on this night.

Wooten appeared to be in video game mode and was the class of the field with his speed. Rockdale simply didn't have an answer for Wooten once he was in the open field. He scored his second kickoff return touchdown on the ensuing kickoff with a 95-yard return to allow the Eagles to immediately retake the lead 17-14 at 10:53 mark of the second quarter.

The Woodville defense held the Tiger offense and forced a punt with Woodville taking over on their own 12-yard line.

Woodville strung together a

13-play, 88-yard scoring drive highlighted by a 38-yard run by Martin that culminated with Wooten scoring around the left side, giving Woodville a 24-14 lead with 4:03 in the second quarter. This would prove to be Woodville's best offensive drive of the game.

Rockdale took over and quickly moved the ball on a five play, 63-yard scoring drive highlighted by two passes both to their tight end, first with a 44-yard pass reception to get the ball down to the 25-yard line and then a 10-yard strike across the middle for a touchdown.

This narrowed the Eagle lead to 24-21 with 2:33 left in the half. The Eagles would take that lead into the halftime break.

The special teams that had kept the Eagles' in the game during the first half had a meltdown in the second half. With two punts blocked and one resulting in a scoop and score for Rockdale, the Eagles were dealt a serious blow to its hopes for making

school history by advancing to the regional round.

Rockdale simply rolled in the second half, notching 34 more points against the Eagles. Woodville would add a second half Wooten touchdown, but the outcome was fairly certain at that point, with a final score of 55-30 in favor of the Tigers.

SUMMARY:

ROCKDALE: The Tiger offense used a sharp passing attack sprinkled with periodic runs to move the ball against the Eagles. Rockdale's offense was slowed at times by the Eagle defense but the Tigers continued to find more success against Woodville as the game progressed.

WOODVILLE: The Eagles' special teams kept pace with the Tiger offense for much of the first half with Wooten returning two kickoffs for scores. The Eagles' two leading rushers for the season, Martin and DaMichael Brooks were kept out of the end

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Director Rosemary Mosey-Bunch

Friends of the Library Christmas Social is tonight. We look forward to seeing everyone here. Hope everyone has a lovely start to the holidays with the lighting of the square.

We have applied for and received a small grant from The Humanities Foundation to repair the damage from Harvey. We thank them very much.

We were awarded a donation from the Brownstone Book Fund of 100 new children's books. We look forward to receiving them and will let everyone know when they arrive!

Director Bunch is working on another grant! More details to follow.

Check us out on Facebook at Allan Shivers Library and Museum (Page). Like our page and follow to get all the updates and up-coming events.

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Tutt's Toms

Longview youth bags three gobblers on first solo hunt

by Matt Williams
Outdoors Writer

Rio Grande turkey populations are booming in the Texas Hill Country but there are three less long beards tooling around the woods in Mason County these days, courtesy of Andrew Tutt of Longview.

Competitive genes and a distinct love for the outdoors run deep in Tutt's family tree. He's an ace on the baseball diamond, a speedster on the football field and has been bouncing around from bass boats and deer stands since he was old enough to walk.

Tutt claims he enjoys fishing of any kind, but this week he's leaning towards hunting as his favorite hook and bullet hobby.

"I like to do both, but I think I like hunting a little better," he said. "That's probably because I've been hunting a little longer than I've been fishing. I guess it's the anticipation that I like so much. You just never know what you might see or what might happen out there."

Those are tall words for a 12 year old, but pretty much par for the course when carrying on a conversation with the Judson Middle School sixth grader. That's the word from Tutt's uncle, Jim Tutt, also of Longview.

"He's really mature for his age," said Tutt, a veteran pro angler on the FLW Tour. "It's almost like talking to a grown man when you are having a conversation with him. He's eaten up with hunting and fishing. He's knows a lot for his age. He's takes it pretty serious."

Tutt's passion for hunting got turned up a notch or two during a recent trip to the family lease near Mason on the weekend before Thanksgiving. He was accompanied on the venture by his father, Tom, his grandfather, Sid, and his uncle Jim.

Kicking Up Dust

The Tutts always make the most of their trips to the lease they've shared for years. They try to make three hunts per day, one in the morning, one at midday after lunch and another in late afternoon.

After an uneventful hunt on Sunday morning, the youngster and his dad returned to camp

for lunch then headed back out around noon. While en route to their box blind they spotted a group of turkeys in a field, about 50-60 yards away.

With Thanksgiving coming up, Andrew decided to try to contribute something to the dinner table. He picked out a plump gobbler, took aim with his 25.06 Remington and touched the trigger.

The youth hunter saw a cloud of dust in the wake of the free-hand shot, but there was no turkey. Not even a feather.

"I rushed my shot," Tutt said. "I didn't have a rest and shot low. I was pretty mad about it. I've only missed one other time in my life when I missed a hog a couple of years ago."

The hunters returned to camp about two hours later to regroup and swap stories. Andrew was still frustrated about blowing the shot on the gobbler and headed back to his stand in short order in hopes of getting some sort of redemption.

Hunting Solo

The afternoon trek to the box blind is particularly memorable because it marked the first time for the youth to hunt solo.

"I've always hunted with my dad, uncle or grandfather, but I wanted to go by myself this time," Tutt said. "We took the golf cart and I dropped them off at their stands then I headed to mine. I was pretty nervous for some reason until I made to the blind, but I don't really know why. I'm still trying to figure that one out."

The original plan was for the youngster to pick up his dad and uncle at dark, but things didn't quite work out that way.

Not long into the hunt the brush came alive with critters. A young buck showed up at Tutt's corn feeder within 10 minutes. Moments later, he spotted another group of turkeys slipping along a fence line about 200 yards away. Three of the birds - all mature gobblers - peeled off from the group and headed down a narrow trail on a beeline for his stand.

Naturally, the young hunter started feeling a little antsy.

"The turkeys just kept coming and stopped under an oak tree about 50 yards from me," he



Andrew Tutt, 12, shot three Rio Grande gobblers in a matter of seconds on his first solo hunt in Mason County. (Courtesy Photo)

said. "I wasn't quite sure what I should do. I didn't know if I should go ahead and shoot or wait until they came a little closer."

Three Toms in the Bag

That's when instincts took over. Tutt blasted the lead bird and dropped it. The other birds spooked and attempted to leave, but Tutt wasn't having any of it. Within a matter of seconds the number of available turkey tags on his youth hunting license dwindled from four to one.

Tutt's uncle, who was in stand nearby, says he didn't have a clue what all the commotion was about. But his gut feeling said it wasn't good.

"All I heard was... Boom.... Boom.... Boom!" Tutt said. "There is a fence line not far from where Andrew was hunting and my first thought it was somebody was shooting a pistol on the property next to us and

screwing up his hunt. I couldn't believe it when I found out it was it him doing all the shooting and that he'd killed three gobblers. They were big birds, too - 20 pounders with six inch beards and 1 1/4 spurs."

Not surprisingly, wild game and fish are staples the menu around the Tutt household. The young hunter claims the meat from the three wild turkeys won't get to waste.

"We're getting together at my grandmother's house for a late Thanksgiving dinner and we'll cook them up then," he said. "We've got a big family, so I doubt there will be very much left when everybody gets done."

Hunting solo for the first time is an experience that most youngsters will never forget. Andrew Tutt will vouch for that.

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



Chase Snook, 00, goes up for the tipoff in the holiday match-up against Hardin, as Tyler Dozier, 1, and Hunter Jenkins, 4, prepare for action.

Pirates take win over the holidays

By Hannah Grissom

The Spurger Pirate Basketball team had a game over the Thanksgiving holidays. The pirates played against the Hardin Hornets. The pirates fought hard for the game against the hornets.

Senior Chance Shook was the leading scorer with a total of 24 points. He also managed to be the leader in three-pointers with two. The final score was 62-46.

On Thursday, Nov. 30, through Dec. 2, the Spurger Pirates and

Lady Pirates will be at the West Sabine Tournament. Both teams are looking forward to this upcoming weekend.

The teams are working hard to prepare for their upcoming games and have very high hopes for this upcoming season. The Spurger Lady Pirates and Pirates would love to see their fans at their upcoming games. They both love to see the support and Pirate Pride shown at their game. Come and support your Spurger Pirate Basketball team.

East Texas Fishing Report

by Matt Williams
Outdoors Writer

NACOGDOCHES - Water level is about eight inches low and clear. Water temp in the

upper 60s.

Bass are good to four pounds using square bills, Traps cranks and plastics around grass beds in 4-6 feet. Also a few fish hitting topwaters in cloudy conditions.

Some schools grouped on offshore points and structure in 14-25 feet but most are small. Crappie anglers reporting partial limits around brush piles in 14-18 feet using live bait and jigs.

SAM RAYBURN - Water level is 1.73 feet low and clear. Surface temp in the upper 60s.

Fishing guide Stephen Johnston says bass fishing as slowed down somewhat but still a decent bite around shallow grass using topwaters, square bills, wacky worms and swim jigs. A few fish also taking big jigs and heavy Texas rigs flipped in matted grass, but not much size. Crappie are fair around the 147 and 103 bridges in 25-30 feet, suspended 12-18 feet down; all on live bait.

HOUSTON COUNTY - Water level is about eight inches low and stained. Surface temp in the upper 60s.

Crockett Family Resort is reporting fair action on black bass, mainly on crankbaits and plastics in 6-15 feet of water. Crappie are fair on live bait and jigs fished around brush piles. Early and late bites have been best. Catfishermen reporting

some decent fish on live perch and fresh shad drifted around points and humps.

CONROE - Water level is about four inches low and fairly clear. Water temp in the mid-60s.

Fishing guide Butch Terpe says channel cat are excellent with fast limits coming on cheese bait and night crawlers soaked along channel breaks in 18-22 feet. Black bass are fair on Texas rig plastics, crankbaits and soft jerk baits tossed around shallow shore rock and docks doctored with brush. Old pond dams and points in 12-18 feet also producing some solid fish. No report on white bass or hybrids.

LIVINGSTON - Water level is seven inches low and fairly clear south, stained up north. Water temp in the low 60s.

Fishing guide Dave Cox says white bass slow to fair on slab fished on structure in 15 feet. Some big blue cat reported drifted on cut bait along the river the north of Pine Island. Bass fishing has been slow.



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How to keep pets safe in winter weather

The arrival of cooler temperatures sparks various changes. Chilly air and precipitation can be dangerous, especially to pets that are unaccustomed to extreme changes in temperature.

Pet owners may be well aware of the hazards of warm weather, including the threat of leaving pets in hot cars. But cold weather also has its share of risks. Heed these tips to keep pets safe and secure.

- Schedule a well visit. The American Veterinary Medical Association suggests scheduling a visit with a veterinarian to check for any medical issues. Cold weather can aggravate symptoms of certain conditions, such as arthritis. A thorough examination can shed light on potential problems.

- Keep homes humidified. Going in and out of the house and moving from cold air to dry indoor heat can affect pets' skin. Itching and flaking may result, causing pets to scratch at such areas. Maintain humidity in the home for comfort. The ASPCA also says to reduce bathing to help preserve essential oils on the skin.

- Protect paws outdoors. Pet paws are sensitive to sand, ice, snow, and chemical ice melts. Massage petroleum jelly or another protectant onto paw pads, or consider the use of pet booties.

- Keep pets indoors more often. Pets should not remain outdoors for long stretches of time in frigid temperatures, even if they are accustomed to roaming during other seasons, advises The Humane Society of the United States.

- Provide options for sleeping. Come the winter, cats and dogs may need new sleep spaces to avoid drafts and stay warm. Give



A warm coat, a cozy spot to sleep and limited time spent outdoors can keep pets safe during winter.

them other spots they can call their own.

- Consider a sweater or vest. Some pets are more tolerant to the cold than others. However, some dogs and cats may ben-

efit from a sweater, vest or coat designed for pets to offer a little more insulation.

- Update identification and contact information. Snow and ice can mask scent cues that help

pets find their way home. Update contact information and make sure pets' collars are on tightly.

- Keep coolant and antifreeze locked away. Coolant and antifreeze are lethal to dogs and cats

and should be kept out of reach. Clean up any spills from vehicles promptly.

- Provide fresh food and water. Pets may burn more calories trying to stay warm. Be sure the

animal has a little extra food and plenty of water to stay sated and hydrated.

Winter weather requires pet owners to make changes so pets can remain happy and safe.

Did you know?



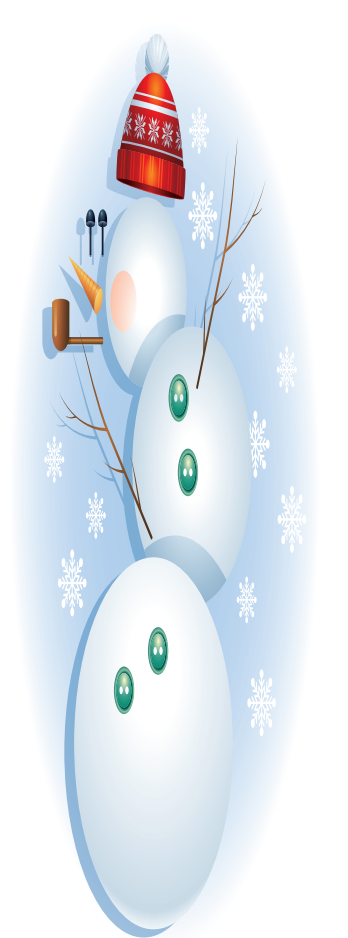
Pets are cherished members of the family, and many pet parents choose to purchase gifts for their animal companions. According to a survey conducted by Rover.com, 95 percent of pet owners have purchased Christmas gifts for their pets. While Christmas is the most popular holiday to buy presents for pets, pet owners also buy presents for their pets' birthdays and for Valentine's Day.

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Things to consider before giving pets as gifts

The blissful image of a young child or a significant other receiving a pet as a holiday gift compels many shoppers to give pets as gifts come Christmas-time. But pets are unlike any other holiday gift, as pets are living things that require food, shelter and attention. Because pets are unlike video games, diamond pendants and other popular holiday gifts, shoppers must consider a host of factors before deciding whether or not to give pets as gifts this holiday season.

Living situation

Shoppers who plan to give a pet to someone they don't live with, whether that person is a niece or nephew or a girlfriend or boyfriend, should first consider and/or confirm the recipients' living situation. Landlords may forbid apartment dwellers from having pets, so it's best to confirm with

your loved one whether his or her lease allows pets before adopting or buying the animal. If you don't want to spoil the surprise or you cannot confirm if a loved one's living situation is pet-friendly, don't adopt or buy the animal.

Allergies

Some people, including many who profess to love pets, cannot have pets of their own because of allergies. According to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, as many as three in 10 people in the United States have pet allergies. Cat allergies are twice as common as dog allergies, but gift givers who intend to give their loved ones a dog should still confirm if the recipient has a dog allergy before adopting or purchasing the animal. The AAFA also warns against looking for pets that are described as "hypoallergenic." While some people are

more sensitive to certain breeds of cats and dogs than others, there is no guarantee that a particular breed of cat or dog will not cause an allergic reaction.

Timing

There are good times to give pets as gifts, while other times can be tough. Pets need time and routine to acclimate to their new environments, so avoid giving a new pet to a family about to embark on a lengthy holiday vacation. Families staying home for the holidays and taking time off from school or work may be most capable of welcoming a furry new addition into their homes. If you want to give a loved one a pet for the holidays, delay giving the gift until things have returned to post-holiday normalcy.

Pets can make for wonderful gifts. But such gifts should only be given after careful consideration of a host of factors.



Christmas in Tyler County Weekend

Thursday, November 30

Shivers Library Christmas Social 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$20 per ticket

Friday, December 1 "Tis the Christmas Season" Festivities 5-9 p.m.

Formal ceremonies on the courthouse lawn

5:30-6 p.m. Wee Wisdom Nativity
6 p.m. Dignitaries welcome visitors
6:10 p.m. "Call the Law" Grinch
6:15-6:30 Arrival of Santa, Key to Tyler County proclamation

Events scheduled around downtown 6:30-9 p.m.

Photo with Santa-Historical Wheat House
Music on courthouse lawn
Wassail and cookies at The Art Gallery, 210 W. Bluff
Musical entertainment on the Emporium stage, 216 W. Bluff (no admission)
•6:35-7:10 p.m. Harmony Exporters Choral Group

Saturday, December 2 "Christmas Traditions"

7:30-10 a.m. Rotary breakfast with Santa at St. Paul's Life Center
1-4 p.m. Christmas Cookie Market (\$5/Box) United Methodist Wesley Center
Dark-Twilight tour at the Heritage Village, with refreshments. Christmas program in Cherokee church at 7 p.m. (no admission). Train museum will be open.
6 p.m. Lighted boat parade-Santa-City of Ivanho (Beginning at Ivanhoe Marina)
No admission

Dec. 2-New Years Womack Digital Christmas Light Show-Hwy 1746 (no admission)

Saturday, December 9, 1-4 p.m. Birthday Party for Jesus-Victory Camp Colmesneil



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GARAGE SALE: Thursday-Sunday 3381 Hwy 69 North in Colmesneil. (48-1t-pce)

BIG STORAGE BUILDING Sale: Christmas, furniture, cookware, pots and pans, knives, forks, spoons, clothes, shoes. December 1, 2, 3 and December 8, 9, 10. 1783 County Road 3255 (off 256 E.) in Colmesneil. (48-2t-p)

INSIDE SALE — Dec. 1 and 2, lots of Christmas items and collectibles. Furniture and appliances. 1 miles south of Colmesneil. Comesneil mini storage. 10 storage units open. Come check out our mini-mall. 409-389-1858 (48-1t-cc)

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Spencer Furious over Lack of Action on Sexual Assault Case pending for over five-years

Over a month ago, I offered to serve as a special prosecutor, and waive my fees, in a Sexual Assault of a Child case that has not gone to trial for over five years. The case first came to my attention in an article written by Valerie Reddell of the Tyler County Booster. I personally hand delivered a letter to the Criminal District Attorney's Office of Tyler County and to the District Clerk's Office for the Judges of Tyler County asking to be appointed as a special prosecutor in this case. Let me be clear. Only the Criminal District Attorney can request that a special prosecutor be appointed in this case.



office failed to bring this case to court? Why was a prosecutor from the State Attorney General's office not requested five-years ago, three-years ago, or even one-year ago? And, you deserve answers.

Why did the Ad Litem for the minor child not **scream for Justice** at the top of their lungs? Why? (The Ad Litem is usually a local attorney assigned by CPS to act on the behalf of the minor child.)

Tyler County has an estimated **400 Felony cases** waiting to go to trial and **18 to 23** of these cases are **sexual assault cases**. Speaking to the parents and grandparents of Tyler County, is this the type of system of justice that you want for your children and grandchildren? Do you really feel your children are safe? You have the right to feel safe and have peace of mind in the county where you grew up and that's why **it's time to put politics aside**.

Invest your vote in a person driven by integrity and who is dedicated to making Tyler County safe again. Invest your trust in a person with a real, tested track-record in criminal law. It's time to mobilize behind Jim Spencer and send a send a message to the political families of Tyler County, that we tried it your way and enough is enough. Tyler County needs Jim Spencer to serve as our next Criminal District Attorney of Tyler County.

I intentionally requested complete autonomy over the disposal of this and any associated cases. This gives me the right to investigate this case and any other cases that may arise from this case. I also requested reimbursement for expenses for this case and associated cases, but I offered to waive my fees.

Thirty-plus days have passed and no word from the Criminal DA's office. They haven't even acknowledged my offer. This child suffered a life crushing trauma and continues to suffer because of the failures of those who were tasked with protecting her.

Why was my request not acted upon immediately? Why has the Criminal DA's

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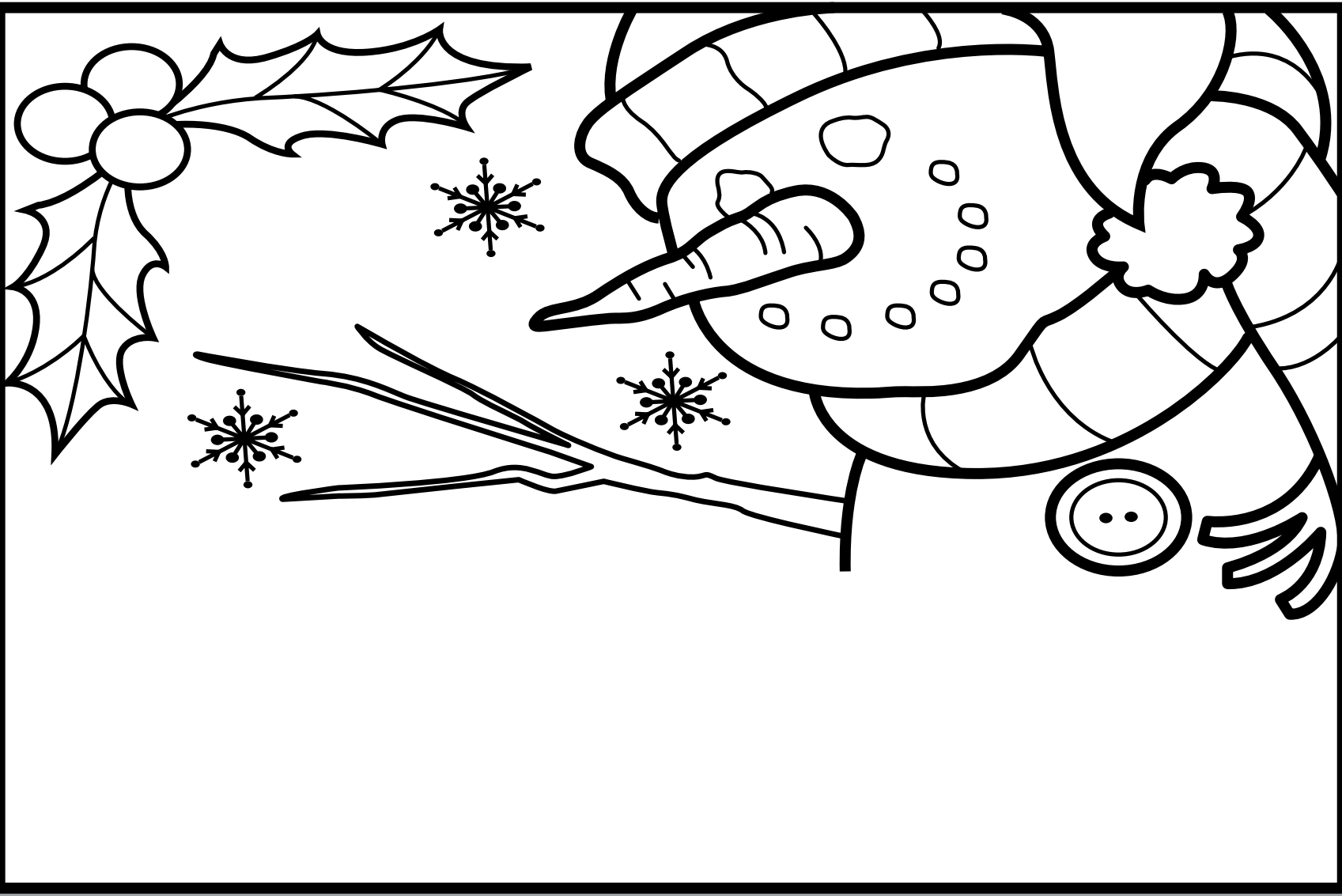
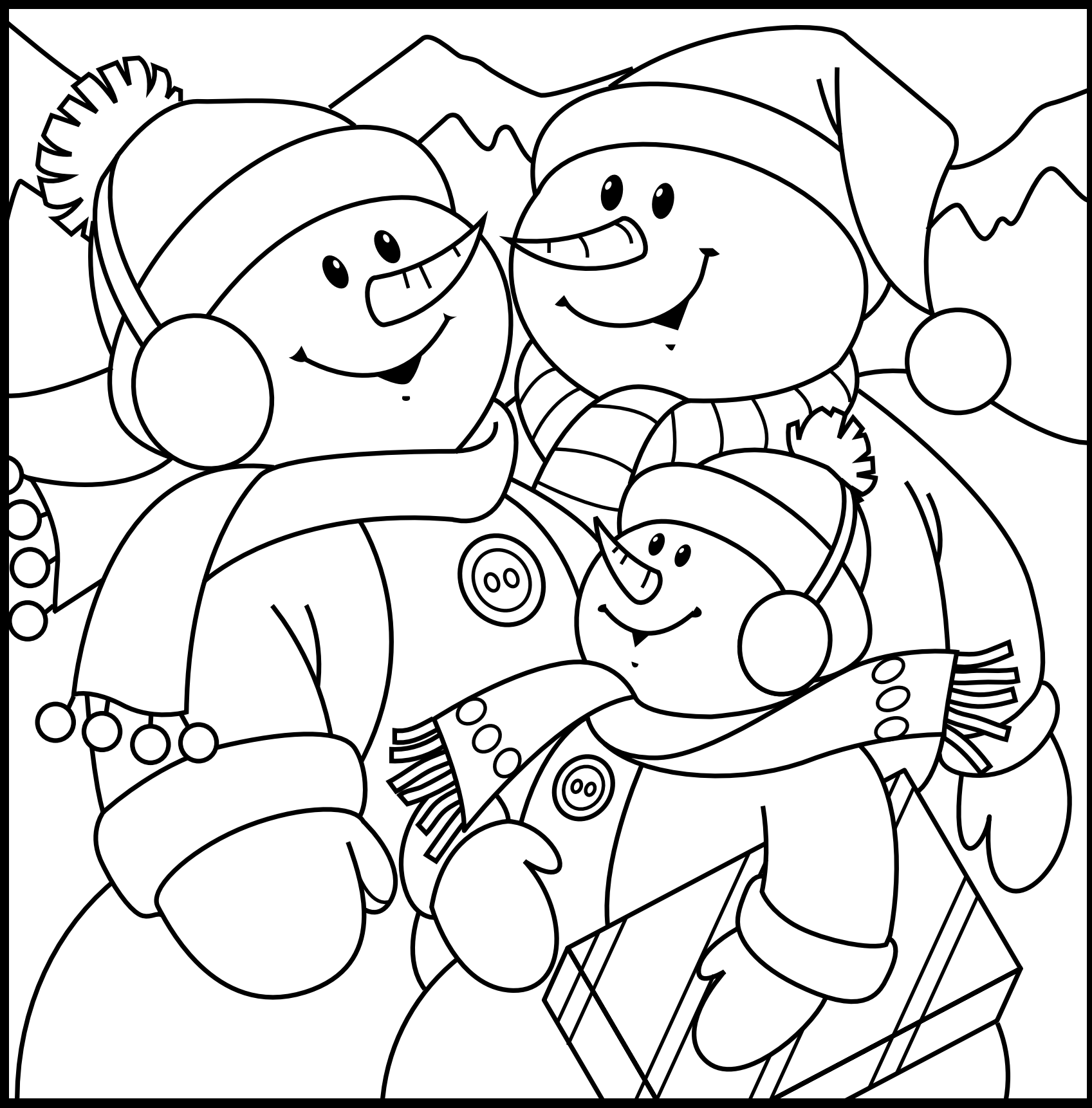
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Celebrate the arrival of winter. Color in these pictures to create your own masterpiece.



Germans retreat in of Meuse-Argonne offensive

By Bob Morris
bobmorris.tchc@gmail.com

Editor's Note: This article is the 30th in a series by the Tyler County Historical Commission commemorating the 100th anniversary of America's 1917 entry into World War I.

On Nov. 1, American and French forces began the attack on Germany's fourth line of defense that would end the war. Led by the onslaught of the Marines, the 1st, 2nd and 80th Divisions attacked the center of the line and it caved. Simultaneously, the 42nd and 77th Divisions attacked defenses to the west, while the 5th and 90th attacked to the east. Outflanked and unable to muster a counterattack, the Huns made a frantic fighting retreat. But each time they attempted to set a new defensive line over the following days, the Americans were on them. An exasperated German commander informed his superiors, "troops are fighting courageously but just cannot do anything."

The German Army retreated across the Meuse River and started setting in, believing it a barrier they could defend. But that line failed too, the 5th and 90th Divisions charging into the muddy waters and battling their way across. The dogged defenders retreated in disarray.

By Nov. 7 the 90th Division occupied the heights east of the town of Dun-sur-Meuse and the 5th occupied the heights opposite the German railroad junction at Sedan.

In Germany, Kaiser Wilhelm ordered his navy to sea to take the pressure off his army. But rather than sail, crews mutinied. Quiet grumbling now became vocal across the Germany Empire, the people demanding democracy, an end to constant food shortages, militarism and never-ending war. On Nov. 7 military and civilian leaders advised the Kaiser he must abdicate his throne or face a revolt of the people; on Nov. 9, Wilhelm left for exile in Holland.

A German delegation met with the supreme Allied

commander, Marshall Foch, seeking a favorable agreement to end the fighting. His country devastated by war, Foch's terms for peace were not generous. After three days of talks the German delegation conceded to Foch's terms. At 11a.m. on Nov. 11, an armistice went into effect, a sudden halt after four years of brutal conflict. Seven American divisions, including the 90th with 27 Tyler County men, were across the Meuse and still attacking when bells began clanging across France signally the armistice.

More than 1.2 million Americans fought in the 47-day Meuse-Argonne Offensive. We sustained 122,063 casualties - 26,277 killed and 95,786 wounded. Below are the names of Tyler County men of the 90th Division seeing action, and their parents. Leading off the list are five men who gave their lives for America and freedom.

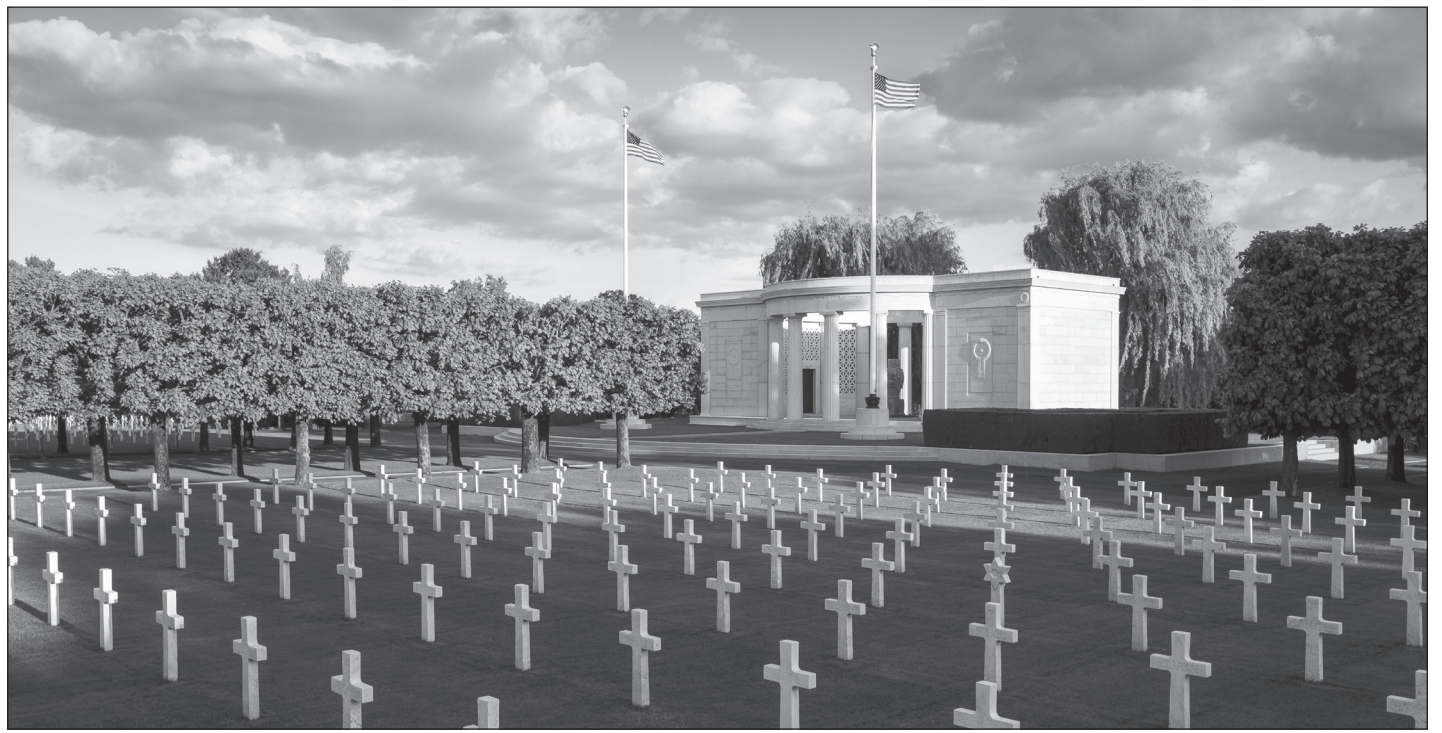
LEVY MCDUFFIE was born in Mississippi to Murdoch McDuffie and Augusta Stokes. Levy was 30 and living in Chester when he entered the Army. He died from influenza while serving his country. He is buried in Saint Mihiel American Cemetery, France.

PAUL ODOM was born in Town Bluff to James Odom and Mollie Beddingfield. Paul was 21 when he died while fighting for his country. He is buried in Town Bluff Cemetery.

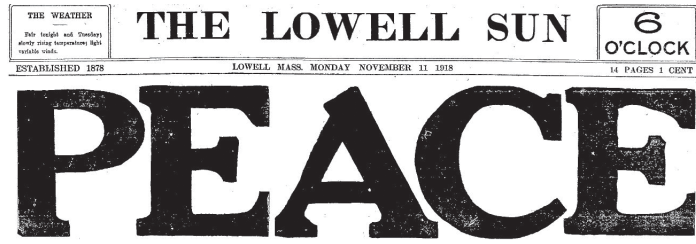
HENRY ROBERTS was born in Spurger to Marcellus Roberts and Frances Millian. Henry was 22 when he died while fighting for his country. He is buried in Kirbyville City Cemetery.

ELIJAH SELF was born in Louisiana to Elijah Self and Donney Ross. He was 23 and living in Smith Ferry when he entered the Army. He died while fighting for his country. He is buried in Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, France.

CARL SHEFFIELD was born in Warren to Isham Sheffield and Josephine Williams. At age 30 he was the last man in the 90th Division to die while fighting in France. He is buried



The Saint Mihiel American Cemetery (Courtesy ABMC)



Armistice Signed and World War is Over. Pres. Wilson Stops Draft. Lays Terms of Truce Before Congress

(BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)
After 1567 days the greatest war in history ended this morning at 6 o'clock, Washington time. Announcement of the tremendous event was made at the state department at the capital at 2:45 o'clock this morning and in a few seconds was

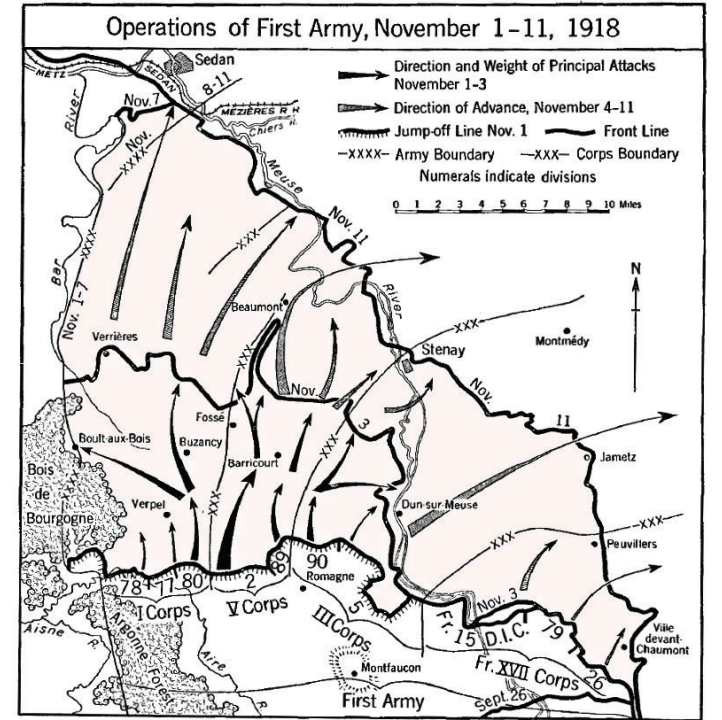
The Lowell Sun (Lowell, Massachusetts) - November 11, 1918

in Zion Hill Cemetery, Jasper.
COMTE, JAMES ALVIN - Joseph Comte and Mary Haskins
COMTE, RICHARD - Joseph Comte and Mary Haskins
COWART, ANDREW - Andrew Cowart and Augusta Williams
DOWLING, WILLIAM - Anderson Dowling and Callie Connally
DURHAM, FRANCIS - James Durham and Mary Wheat
DURHAM, HILL - James Durham and Mary Wheat
GLENN, JAMES - Edmond Glenn and Nancy Chapman
GREGORY, TYNE - John Gregory and Frances Allen
HAWKINS, EARL - Thomas Hawkins and Sallie Tokey
HENNESSY, WILLIAM - Timothy Hennessy and Elizabeth Burtis
HOWELL, DENNIE - Israel Howell

and Rosalie Johnson
JORDAN, JURIAH - Richard Jordan and Mary Phelps
MASTERSON, MORRIS - Marshall Masterson and Sarah Cruse
MURCHISON, LAWRENCE - Andrew Murchison and Eugenia Watson
SEAMANS, SIMEON - John Seamans and Harriet Felder
SHILLINGS, WILLIAM - William Shillings and Mollie Withers
SIMS, ORVIS - James Sims and Mary Bass
SMITH, EMSON - Sanford Smith and Armina Snowden
TATUM, ERNEST - John Tatum and Ida Grimes
TUCKER, LEO - Walter Tucker and Minnie Middleton
WIGGINS, JOHN - John Wiggins and Charity Hickman
WORTHY, WILL - John Worthy and Mary Boudreaux.



Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery (Courtesy Wikimedia Commons)



Meuse-Argonne Offensives Nov 1-11, 1918

Local graduates from University of Texas



Dorian Chandler Maloy, a 2014 Woodville High School graduate, will be graduating from the University of Texas at Austin on Saturday Dec. 9, 2017. She will be graduating with a science degree in Corporate Communications and a certification in American Sign Language.

While attending UT, Dorian has been the recipient of several awards and honors. She was selected as an outstanding freshman in 2014, inducted into the National Collegiate Scholars Society in 2015, received a proclamation from Rep. James White and the House of Representatives for her success, became a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and served as both president and secretary of her soror-

ity, was elected as parliamentary and spokesperson of the Big 12 Black Student Alliance, served as chairman of several fundraising and charitable organizations in Austin, all while being a full time student and working at Walgreens pharmacy as a pharmacy technician.

Dorian will be graduating with the honor of being selected by her college faculty as the 2017 Outstanding Graduate of Corporate Communications from Moody College at the University of Texas at Austin. She plans to remain in Austin, working until

she starts pharmacy school in the fall at UNT in Fort Worth. Dorian would like to thank God, her family, friends, the Woodville community, and the Texas Exes for contributing to her success. She is the daughter of Derrick and Brenda Maloy.

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- large TX jewelry retailer: ___ Corp.
- TXism: "___ buster" (farmer)
- food or grub
- TXism: "___ few bricks shy of a load"
- English hat not worn by cowboys (2 wds.)
- TXism: "trying to keep my head ___ water"
- Six Flags ride has
- Wile E. Coyote
- Spanish "si"
- kids' soarer (2 wds.)
- athletic assoc. of most TX colleges
- TXism: "high ___ back" (costly)
- Whitman & Oswald
- Waco's Bledsoe sang "___ Man River"
- TXism: "hitched to ___ double harness" (married)
- this John founded Houston (init.)
- Junction H.S. class
- TXism: "write slow 'cause ___ can't read fast"
- TX Roy Orbison hit
- TXism: "___ you a new hat size"
- TX gunfighter: John ___ Hardin
- Fort Worth's Roger Miller hit: "Dang ___"
- TXism: "that'll ___ nicely"
- relating to aviation
- chimney residue
- oil drilling structure
- Zsa Zsa's sister
- TX-sized phone co.
- TX pitcher Nolan (init.)
- TXism: "he could strut sitting down" (big ___)
- Travis: "I shall surrender or retreat"
- starchy tubers
- TXism: "will miss ___ you blink" (small town)
- type of welding
- TXNs drink it iced
- snakelike Gulf fish

DOWN

- this U.S. president fought in TX in the Mexican War
- TXism: "changes his mind as often ___ his socks"
- ___ a goose
- TX spacewalker White (1965)
- cereal ingredient
- LBJ's favorite dog
- poker stake
- TXism: "___ joint" (saloon)
- TXism: "it's root hog ___ die"
- Fort Worth pianist Cliburn
- name before Exxon
- TXism: "___ it in the bud"
- XIT ranch town
- TXism: "hot as ___ stove"
- in Smith County on highway 135
- old El Paso parish: Socorro de ___
- TXism: "quick as ___ York minute"
- quotes authority
- TXism: "numerous as ___ a dead worm"
- Houston or Rayburn
- TX lake: El ___ de Rey ("King's Salt")
- TXism: "___ juice" (whiskey)
- TXism: "contented ___ hog in mud"
- TXism: "still ___ behind the ears"
- TXism for "friend"
- TXism: "dicker"
- TXism: "spittin' image of"
- Houston film: "For the ___ Benji"
- Jerry Jones once had a ___ jet
- TX George W.'s party (abbr.)
- TX George W.'s old address: Pennsylvania ___
- Cowboy former RB Smith (init.)
- TXism: "she could charm a bird out of ___"

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Santa and his pals will be on hand for the annual Breakfast with Santa, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Woodville from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 103 W. Bluff, Woodville. Don't miss this chance to make sure you are on the "nice" list. File photo by Jim Powers/Tyler County Booster.

Dec. 1 Christmas in Tyler County

6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1 to Saturday, Dec. 2. Watch for details in the Tyler County Booster as the date approaches.

Niwana Nights

December 1 6:30-10 p.m. Junior High School Kids are welcome to join us for an evening of dance, food and games. The cost is \$10 and we will have a concession stand with pizza, candy, drinks and more. Come see how low you can go in the limbo. Bring a friend and get your name put in a drawing for a free Niwana Nights T-shirt

Healthcare and Business Expo in Fred

Compassion Hospice presents a healthcare and business expo from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 2 at Good Samaritan Fellowship in Fred. Free admission, free lunch and bingo will be offered while you visit with vendors from our local health care community and other area businesses.

Dec. 2 Christmas Twilight Tour

Tour the Village by oil lamps and lanterns. Enjoy natural greenery, cookies and hot apple cider and visit with Santa Claus. Enjoy music on the Village Green state followed by a Christmas service in the old Cherokee Church. 5:30 to 8 p.m. Heritage Village

Ivanhoe Boat Parade

Come out to Ivanhoe for the annual lighted Christmas boat parade Saturday, Dec. 3. View the parade from the Ivanhoe Civic Center and welcome Santa following the parade. Further details coming soon.

Santa's Workshop

December 2 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parents take advantage of this opportunity to knock out your kids' gift buying. Drop your kids off for a fun day filled with Christmas crafts, S'more making, nature hikes, games and a whole lot more. The cost is \$15 for the first child and \$10 for each additional child. We will provide the fun, activities and a snack and you provide a jacket, tennis shoes with socks and a sack lunch. We will have pizza and a Coke for \$5 if you would rather. Reserve your spot today! 409-283-3224

Dec. 9 Birthday party for Jesus

Hear the true meaning of Christmas, sing Christmas carols with Frosty and Rudolph and enjoy birthday cupcakes at Victory Camp Colmesneil from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9. See the live nativity scene, ride the Victory Express train, horseback riding, and fishing along with archery and Christmas crafts. The Berry Hut Gift Shop will be open. Church and family groups are welcome. Call email or write

to reserve your space and leave parent/guardian information. 409-897-9990, grcm@windstream.net. 2472 FM 1745 N, Colmesneil TX 75938.

Dec. 7-10

Santaland Diaries

Lakeside Theater Company presents "Santaland Diaries" by David Sedaris Dec. 7-10 at the Ivanhoe Civic Center. For tickets, call (409) 837-9167 or email lakeside-theatercompany@gmail.com. This production is for mature elves only.

Dec. 16

Legion to meet

The American Legion will meet at 10 a.m. Dec. 16, in the Woodville Fire Department Training Room. All Veterans welcome.

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Ongoing Events

Helping Center

Abundant Life Fellowship Church at Dam B operates the Helping Center, a resale shop. They have clothes for the entire family at very reasonable prices, household items and furniture. Open Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Warren Cemetery Fund

If you have friends or loved ones buried at the Warren Cemetery, donations are needed for upkeep of the cemetery. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. Send to Warren Cemetery, 684 CR 1300, Warren, Texas, 77664.

Annual Turkey Drive

Silent Voices Foundation 5th Annual Turkey Drive. Silent Voices Foundation has again partnered with Coleman's Family Mortuary and Wal Mart's Woodville store to donate Thanksgiving Turkeys to 50 deserving families. Please contact Kendall and Patience Coleman at (409) 283-3031 First Come First Serve.

WEEKLY

Rotary Club

Meetings Wednesday at noon at the Pickett House.

Lions Club

Meetings Thursday at noon weekly at the Lions Club Den, 2 miles east of Woodville.

FIRST WEEK

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Order of the Confederate Rose and United Daughters of the Confederacy

Meetings held at 10 a.m. the first Saturday of the month.

SECOND WEEK

East Texas Blacksmith Alliance meetings

Meetings held the second Saturday at 9 a.m. Heritage Village Museum.

Sassy Scrappers

Meet at 9 a.m. the second Tuesday and last Tuesday of the month. **Fiber Arts Building, Heritage Village. Call Lynn Rhodes at (409) 547-0499 or Virginia Reynolds at (409) 283-3056.**

Heritage Village Spinning & Weaving Guild

Meetings held the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. New members welcome. **Heritage Village Fiber Arts. Bldg. Call (409) 283-2272 for details.**

Cancer Support Group

Where Two or More Are Gathered Cancer Support Group will meet at Victory in Jesus Baptist Church, 13626 FM 1746, Woodville/Town Bluff on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday, beginning Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. **Contact Colesta (409)**

239-6093

THIRD WEEK

Tyler Co.

Heritage Society

Board of directors meets the third Monday of each month at 10 a.m., Whitmeyer library. **Heritage Village, Hwy. 190 West, Woodville (409) 283-2272**

ONGOING

Chester yearbooks wanted

Did you graduate from Chester ISD? Do you have relatives or friends who did? The Chester library has been collecting class yearbooks under the leadership of librarian Betty Ann Whitworth and we recently discovered that several years are missing; thus this request. If you have an extra of one or more of the books listed below, please contact the school, contact Chuck Davidson at (936) 969 3277, or drop them off at the school. Also, if an alumni has died recently, perhaps a gift of yearbooks could be made to the school? Chester ISD does not have any yearbooks printed prior to 1946; need one from years 1948, 1954, 1955, 1975, 1979, 1990, and 1999. All help in getting the word out and updating our yearbook collection is appreciated. *Email items to news@tylercountybooster.com.*

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	
5 <small>Daylight Saving Time Ends</small>	6	7 <small>Election Day</small>	8	9	10	11 <small>Veterans Day Remembrance Day (CA)</small>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 <small>Thanksgiving</small>	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Email your item to news@tylercounty-booster.com, or hand deliver to the Booster office at 205 W. Bluff in Woodville. Activities must be open to the public and be organized by a church, school organization or nonprofit group.

How much has been raised for Harvey relief — and how's it being spent?

By Morgan Smith,
The Texas Tribune

(Editor's note: This is the Tribune's second scorecard on Hurricane Harvey relief money. You can find the October scorecard at <http://ow.ly/S1QS30gSFKN>.)

Three months after the Category 4 storm slammed into the Texas gulf coast and set off unprecedented flooding in southeastern parts of the state, the tab for Hurricane Harvey recovery is still growing.

Texas leaders have estimated it will take up to \$121 billion in federal money to rebuild public infrastructure and housing. It's a huge sum that even state officials acknowledge they won't get.

State officials don't have an overall estimate of the storm's damage to private property. But more than 18,000 families were still living in FEMA-paid hotel rooms as of Nov. 13 and federal inspectors have visited more than 570,000 homes damaged by Harvey.

While Texans are still waiting to see how large portions of public funds and charitable contributions will be spent, money has begun flowing to recovery efforts.

Here's a review of what has — and hasn't — been spent so far.

Federal funds

The two biggest pots of federal disaster recovery money come from the Federal Emergency

Management Agency and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

So far, FEMA has spent about \$1.4 billion on helping Harvey victims with emergency short-term needs like shelter, food, and medical care. The vast majority of the money has gone to housing-related expenses like help paying rent and limited home repairs.

About \$186 million has gone to pay for hotel rooms for Texas residents displaced by Harvey.

\$497.7 million has gone to local governments that have requested help rebuilding infrastructure like roads, bridges and levees.

The FEMA-administered National Flood Insurance Program, which enrolls homeowners who live in flood-prone areas that private insurance won't cover, has paid out more than \$5.7 billion in claims for Texans.

Two weeks ago, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced Texas would receive just over \$5 billion for long-term rebuilding efforts. None of that money — intended to fill in the gaps after individuals or government agencies have exhausted all other sources of funds — has arrived in state coffers yet.

The federal housing department is expected to announce parameters for spending those funds next month.

The Small Business Admin-

istration's disaster relief loan program (which is available for businesses and individuals), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's food assistance program, and the Department of Labor's unemployment program also provide aid during disasters.

So far, the SBA has approved \$2.4 billion in low-interest loans to homeowners and renters in Texas. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission has administered more than \$295 million in USDA food assistance. As of Nov. 25, the Texas Workforce Commission has distributed another \$9.4 million in federal disaster unemployment benefits.

None of the totals includes the 90 percent federal reimbursement that state and local officials expect to eventually receive for disaster-related costs, such as debris removal, incurred during and after the storm.

State of Texas

Earlier this month, after Gov. Greg Abbott called President Donald Trump's request for \$44 billion in aid for recovery from Harvey and other recent hurricanes "completely inadequate," the White House fired back, saying Texas had yet to tap its own funds for Harvey recovery.

"Up until this point, Texas has not put any state dollars into this process," White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told reporters. "We feel strongly that they should step up and play a role and work with the federal government

in this process."

Abbott's office disputed that statement, saying the state has already either spent or incurred over \$1 billion in Harvey-related expenses. A large portion of those funds could be eligible for federal reimbursement. A spokeswoman for the governor, Ciara Matthews, said the state did not yet know whether the federal government would cover any of the expenses.

The \$1 billion total includes an estimated \$436 million in disaster-related costs incurred by state agencies, Matthews said, and a projected \$400 million funding boost for public schools whose attendance rates decreased because of Harvey.

Abbott has also awarded \$113 million from a state disaster relief fund. Just under half of that went to the City of Houston, \$43 million went toward deploying the National Guard during the storm, \$10 million went to the Department of Public Safety for Texas Emergency Management Division expenses, and another \$10 million went to the General Land Office, which is responsible for housing-related recovery efforts.

On Nov. 9, Abbott announced an additional \$90 million from state coffers would be available for local governments to help offset costs of debris removal. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will administer the money, which comes from an account devoted to solid waste

disposal fees.

Red Cross

The nonprofit, which partners with local governments to provide disaster assistance, has spent more than half of the \$429 million in donations it received for Hurricane Harvey relief, according to spokeswoman Bristol Minsker. That includes providing \$400 stipends to more than 570,000 households, plus an estimated \$45 million on shelter, food, and health services.

The organization has budgeted an additional \$108.5 million, Minsker said in an email, to help "the hardest-hit communities rebound and prepare for future disasters."

A ProPublica investigation shortly after Hurricane Harvey hit questioned the Red Cross's role in disaster relief and uncovered records of local officials in several counties complaining that the organization did not provide promised support or help. Since then, the nonprofit has encountered more criticism of its post-Harvey response, including from Abbott.

J.J. Watt Foundation's Harvey Relief Fund

In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, the Houston Texans player smashed an initial fundraising goal of \$200,000 to raise a total of \$37 million. On Oct. 26, Watt announced he would donate the bulk of that money to four sep-

arate charities — AmeriCares, Feeding America, Save the Children, and SBP, an organization aimed at rebuilding homes after natural disasters — over the next two years. Watt said he would reserve about \$7 million of the money to distribute in 2018 "as we continue to assess and analyze the evolving relief efforts."

Rebuild Texas Fund

Spearheaded by the Michael and Susan Dell and OneStar Foundations, this nonprofit has raised \$86.7 million for Hurricane Harvey recovery. As of Oct. 9, it had awarded about \$2.1 million for recovery projects proposed by 16 different organizations working in southeast Texas. That includes \$75,000 for iConnect Outreach, a group that provides mucking and gutting services for damaged houses; \$200,000 to provide classroom materials and student services for Ingleside ISD; and \$200,000 for the Mennonite Disaster Service to help rebuild homes.

This story was produced in partnership with the Ravitch Fiscal Reporting Program at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <http://ow.ly/DRWM30gSFPU>.

The Texas Tribune is a nonprofit, nonpartisan media organization that informs Texans — and engages with them — about public policy, politics, government and statewide issues.

Christmas Twilight Tour on Saturday

by Wanda Smith

On Saturday, Dec. 2 the Tyler County Heritage Society (TCHS) invites everyone to attend the annual Christmas Twilight Tour at Heritage Village Museum. There will be no admission fees because the evening's events are presented to the people of Tyler County and the surrounding area by the TCHS and Heritage Village Museum as our gift for the support you have given to us this past year.

New this year is the addition of a tour of the Clyde Gray House and Museum, so inquire about that when you arrive. The gates to Heritage Village Museum will open at 5 p.m. Virginia Haynes will begin playing music at 5:30 on the stage, followed at 6 p.m. by St. Paul's Episcopal School Choir led by Sharon Brown. At 7 p.m. the candlelight service will be held in the Cherokee Church.

Michael Maness will present the Christmas message; singing will be performed by Dr. Maness, Virginia Haynes and Tim Flebbe, with Mrs. Haynes playing the piano.

After the service, hot apple cider and cookies baked by members of the Woman's Reading Club will be served in the Collier Store.

Thanks to all of these people and others for giving their time and talents so that we will have a lovely evening for everyone.

When you come to the village this holiday season, be sure to visit the Special Exhibit room inside the gift shop

area. It contains a collection of Santa Clauses on loan from Mrs. Harry Lou Shields. Mrs. Shields, who is 98, has been collecting Santas since 1958, beginning with a Santa Claus candle she purchased at Newberry's in the Gateway Shopping Center in Beaumont and is a part of the display.

When the Santa candle was set on the windowsill, that meant it was time to decorate for Christmas. For a number of years, Mrs. Shields painted Santas on dried okra pods, placing several in one container to create what she called a "Santa choir." Besides the many she sold, Mrs. Shields also gave these special Santas to her students and friends. Thank you, Mrs. Shields, for sharing this wonderful collection with us.

And while I'm recognizing volunteers, more thank-yous are in order to the volunteers who came to the village last Saturday to decorate for Christmas, and a special thank you to Durwood Ling who for many years has provided a large trailer full of beautiful greenery from the trees on his property for us to decorate with: pine, cedar, magnolia, yaupon, and American holly.

Don't forget that the Museum Gift Shop is a wonderful place to find a unique Christmas present for that someone special. The gift shop has an incredible variety of items, many of which are handmade by local artists—everything from benches to pottery, jewelry, toys, books, and so much more. The Train Village will be open during the Twilight Tour. Shop local!



Photo by Wanda Smith Cherokee Church



Photo by Wanda Smith The Clyde Gray Museum living room



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Together in Thankfulness



Photo by Billie Matthews, Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church

Community Thanksgiving Service, sponsored by Tyler County Ministerial Alliance, was held Nov. 19, at Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church which was filled to the brim. The theme was "Together in Thankfulness". The service was anchored in Job 41:17: "They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered." The offering for Caring Is Sharing hit another record, exceeding \$3,000.

Those leading in the service included (L-R) Edwin Findley, Calvary Baptist Church; Fr. Frank Rossi, OLP; Michael Todd Ryals, Chaplain, Gib Lewis State Prison; Reginald Williams, Seed of Faith Baptist Church; Mark Tolar, FBC; Bubba Sheffield, Katy Baptist Church; Mark Follet, Faith Lutheran Church; Gina Harrison, Agape Church; Virginia Haynes, Lydia's Porch Women's Ministry; Michael G. Maness, Ret. TDCI; Calvin Harris, Mt. Hope Baptist; Amanda Davis, Woodville United Methodist Church; Bo Owens, Dogwood Hills Baptist; and Collin Bullard, FBC. Inspiring songs were led by the OLP Guitar Ensemble, Seed of Faith Choir, Katy Baptist Praise Team, and a solo by FBC's Lucas Babin.



Kathy's Holiday Granola

Serving size: ½ cup
Serves: 16

Ingredients:

- 5 cups rolled oats
- ½ cup wheat germ
- ½ cup pumpkin seeds, unsalted
- ½ cup sunflower seeds, unsalted
- ½ cup walnuts, chopped
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup olive oil
- ¼ cup local honey
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup raisins
- ½ cup dried cranberries

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Combine the oats, wheat germ, pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, walnuts, cinnamon and salt. Stir well. In a separate small mixing bowl stir together the olive oil, honey and vanilla. Combine the oil mixture with the oat mixture and stir well to coat. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper leaving about 2 inches extra on each side to allow for easier stirring. Spread the mixture out in a single layer. Bake in the oven for 15 min-

utes. Do not over brown. Stir and return to the oven and continue baking for an additional 10 minutes until golden brown and the kitchen smells delightful. Remove the granola to the top of the stove. Turn the oven off and allow it to cool to 200 degrees. Stir the granola. When the oven is at 200 degrees, return the granola to the oven to dry for approximately 15 minutes. This will improve the crunch of the cereal. Remove from the oven and allow to cool. Stir in the raisins and cranberries. Store in a sealed container with a tight-fitting lid for up to 2 weeks.

Exchanges per serving:

½ Medium Fat Meat, 1 Starch, ½ Fruit, 2 Fats

Nutrients per serving:

Calories: 249
Calories from fat: 101
Total Fat: 12g
Cholesterol: 0mg
Sodium: 113 mg
Total Carbohydrate: 32g
Dietary Fiber: 4g
Protein: 7g

Price received 70-year membership pin



Jo Ann Price received her 70-year membership pin in the Order of the Eastern Star from Michael Maness and Evonne Mitcham, surrounded by members of Woodville OES #462, Nov. 25, at Magnolia Lodge, in a ceremony with guests and family from as far away as Utah.



Jo Ann Price, seated in white, with her family.

Love is the ingredient that matters most in holiday baking

By Tim Scallon, MS RDND
Registered Dietitian
Nutritionist

On the way home recently, we saw several deer run into the woods. None of them had a red nose, but it reminded me of a phone call I needed to make. Normally this time of year, the Grand Elf doesn't have a lot of time to talk but on this particular occasion he took a few moments. When talking

to an international celebrity, what do you ask? Being a food person, I chose to talk about what I know.

Santa, I've always wondered. What do you eat for breakfast? Milk and cookies?

Contrary to popular belief, Santa is not a big sweets eater. "Oh, I ate my share of cookies in the early centuries. But these days, I gather cookies from all over the world and bring them home to the elves," Santa said.

"It gives me such great joy to see their faces light up when I give them cookies made with sincere love."

"You know that's the most important ingredient. And I confess, I give a few to the reindeer. Their favorite by the way is oatmeal raisin with double the oats," he said.

Santa went on to describe his favorite breakfast.

"Not just any oatmeal, Magic Oatmeal."

What makes it magic, Santa? "Well, the ingredients. Start with steel cut oats cooked with skim milk (not water). When done, stir in cinnamon, a little butter and just a touch of honey. Next, add raisins, chopped walnuts, sunflower seeds and pumpkin seeds. Dried cranberries make a nice holiday addition. I like a good whole grain toast and fresh squeezed orange juice with that," he said. Wow, Santa that's a very bal-

anced breakfast. You've got your whole grains, nuts and seeds, dairy and fruit all in one simple meal. So, what's the most important ingredient? The oats? The nuts and seeds? Santa shakes his head no.

"In any recipe, the most important ingredient is Love, pure, sincere and heart-felt.

"Do you know where I get the energy to make all of those toys year after year?"

From your oatmeal?

"Ho, ho, ho. What makes any gift special? Why do children want to be good? What causes that warm feeling this time of year? The answer is the same for all of these questions. Anyone can make oatmeal for breakfast. But when you make it special and take the time to add extra ingredients and serve it to someone with tenderness in your heart, then it becomes magic. Think of all the things you do every day, all year long. I never make a single toy without thinking about the person for whom I am making it. When we work with this kind of joy, it adds a whole new dimension to our lives. Our work whether in a kitchen, a toy shop or an office can be a joyful opportunity to find meaning in life if we include the most important ingredient. With some practice, we start finding energy we didn't even know we had."

It's amazing how just a few minutes on the phone with Santa can bring everything into focus. With utmost grace, he reminded me of why I called. I realized I had been keeping

him so I quickly shared my list for the children.

Santa's timeless wisdom made an impression. Whether chopping vegetables, stirring soup, or tossing salad, the most important ingredient is putting ourselves into the task. There is no substitute in this life for making something good for someone else. What better time of year to prepare a meal with fresh ingredients? And with Santa's gentle reminder, the task becomes so much more meaningful.

If you are not an oatmeal fan, try this granola recipe. My wife Kathy (I swear she must be related to Mrs. Claus!) has been perfecting it over the years and it meets with Santa's approval. There's nothing like a good granola to get a day of toy making started. Merry Christmas from our kitchen to yours.

Tim Scallon is a registered dietitian nutritionist with many years' experience practicing nutrition therapy in local hospitals and clinics, teaching nutrition and developing healthy recipes. He helped create the popular TV show Memorial Cooking Innovations celebrating the world of food and health. Memorial Cooking Innovations is produced by CHI St. Luke's Health and the City of Lufkin. It currently runs in 62 cities and is locally available on Sudden Link cable TV channels and online at www.chistlukeshealthmemorial.org.

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