

# SAN JACINTO NEWS-TIMES



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## Contested sheriff race going to trial Motion for summary judgement denied

SJNT staff

**COLDSRING** — The lawsuit contesting the primary election results between San Jacinto County Sheriff Greg Capers and Constable Sam Houston will go to trial — most likely on the day that early voting begins in the state.

On Sept. 17, District Judge John Wells denied a motion for summary judgment, which requests

a judge render a verdict without a full trial. The motion was by submission, meaning the attorneys were not present for the decision.

The ruling meant that a trial set for Sept. 25-26 would have commenced; however, both attorneys in the case — John Raley for Houston and Andy Taylor for Capers — have requested the case be moved to Oct. 21 before Judge Albert McCaig.

According to the Texas Secretary of State's website, Oct. 21 is the first day for in-person absentee voting.

Capers filed a suit in May contesting the results of the March primary election, claiming that more than 200 votes were cast improperly because there were 503 people illegally registered to vote. At that time, Capers had lost his bid for the Republican nomination, garnering 2,887

votes to Houston's 2,994.

The result essentially gave Houston the position, as there are no Democrat candidates.

However, the suit claims 255 voters were registered improperly, and another 218 were not county residents. It also contends 30 felons voted.

The suit seeks to have the results of the election voided, and either name Capers the winner or a new election should be ordered.



Leading the annual San Jacinto County Fair Parade are young ladies sporting the colors of the country and the state. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

## Livestock shows, auctions cap off Fair Week

SJNT staff

**COLDSRING** — Rodeo Nights and Neon Lights at the SJC Fairgrounds continues this week at the Fairgrounds, 50 Bar Park Loop in Coldspring.

The week will feature rodeos, sales of heifers, steers, swine and then on Saturday, the much-anticipated Youth Livestock Auction and crowning of the Queen.

Full details can be found at sjcfairandrodeo.com.

### 2024 Fair Schedule of Events

#### Wednesday

9 a.m., Horticulture/Food Interviews  
3-4 p.m., Steers and heifers check-in  
TBA Carnival  
6 p.m., Market Swine Show- junior then senior

#### Thursday

9 a.m., Ag Mechanics Judging  
TBA Carnival  
5 p.m., Ed Barn Awards  
7:30 p.m., Rodeo and Queen's 2nd Horsemanship

#### Friday

9 a.m., Breeding Heifer Show, followed by Commercial Heifer Show, followed by Market Steer Show  
1 p.m., Auction set up. Volunteers appreciated!  
2 p.m., Species Chair Notify Sale Committee of Non-Sale animals after show until 4 p.m.; Non-Sale Animal check-out — all animals must be released by species chairman; Carnival  
7:30 p.m., Rodeo

#### Saturday

10 a.m., On-site buyer registration and exhibitor pick up numbers  
10:30 a.m., awards and recognition  
11 a.m., Youth Project Auction (Sale animals will not be released until Sunday)  
TBA Carnival  
7:30 p.m., Rodeo and crowning of 2024 Queen  
9 p.m., Dance-DJ

#### Sunday

8 -10 a.m., mandatory: all exhibitor grounds clean-up, includes Ed Barn; Animal Check out and Load out  
7-11 a.m., Concessions/vendors move out



The Coldspring-Oakhurst CISD Air Force JROTC leads the musical portion of the parade. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Shepherd ISD's Royal Blue Band marches to the music. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

## SJC court urged to take care of budget process

By Tony Farkas

news@sanjacnews.com

**COLDSRING** — The public, and later Commissioner Laddie McAnally, cautioned the San Jacinto County Commissioners Court that "the way we've always done things" should not apply in court proceedings.

Former County Commissioner Ray McCoppin, during public comments at the Wednesday meeting, said the county needs to look at the court's history and try to learn from that.

He related a story about a former Commissioners Court in 1995 passed a pay raise for themselves during emergency meeting on Dec. 31. After the new County Judge

was in office, he discovered the raises and told the treasurer to stop paying it and take funds back that were overpaid.

McCoppin said the reason for that was raises for elected officials can't be set in an emergency meeting, but must be done in a regular meeting separate from discussions about raises for county employees.

"I say that to say this: I've seen in several

meetings that you guys did not quite follow the law," he said. "I'm not the villain here. I'm trying to help."

McCoppin said that elected officials are different than employees and are not eligible for the raises given to regular employees. He also said that a discussion for this meeting,

See **SJC** ⇨ Page 3A

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LAKE LIVINGSTON DATA AS OF SEPT 23

Current level .....	130.36 ft
Normal level .....	131.00 ft
Discharge .....	1796 cfs
Weekly rainfall total .....	0.00 in

TRINITY RIVER DATA AS OF SEPT 23

Gauge Stage.....	5.35 ft
Category.....	Normal
Weekly rainfall .....	0.00 in



# Gardeners group hopes for land use decision

The San Jacinto County Commissioners Court met last Wednesday to, among other things, discuss the budget and amendments to it. The meeting on Monday was to finalize things. One of the items on the agenda was a request from the SJC Master Gardeners to allow their organization to use the property along Live Oak and Pine Streets to create teaching/demonstration gardens.

Dr. Judi Benestante represented the Master Gardeners and talked at length about the value of having such a project for our community. She provided a great deal of information on the project and said, "The Gardens provide a platform to meet the mission of Texas Master Gardeners which is to improve the lives of Texans through education."

The Commissioners seemed very positive in their reception to

## Did You Know

By Yvonne Cones



her words. We will have more information as things progress.

- Coldspring Library is getting ready for its big fundraiser of the year. Their annual garage sale at the Coldspring Shelter will be Oct. 10-12. There will be an early bird time on the Wednesday afternoon before for a fee of \$20. Otherwise, the sale will be from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and until noon on Saturday.

Both Shepherd and Coldspring friends groups have joined in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program. To fundraise for this

program, Friends of Shepherd Library will have a table in the Shelter foyer organized and attended by Friends of Shepherd Library volunteers. All money raised through the sale of the silent auction of Dolly Parton's Kitchenware line will go to this project.

DPIIL donates free books each month to children 0 to 5 years old. Dolly believes this opens the way for children to want to learn to read. However, the cost of registering and mailing books does require funds. That is what this table is for.

Both libraries have a lot of things in the works. Please go to their websites and Facebook pages for more information.

Shepherd Friends are planning a Team Trivial Pursuit Evening at Coldspring Community Center on Oct. 18. There will be snacks and sodas and other games. The ques-

tions will range from comic books to history, music of many kinds and other subjects. The evening will run from 7-10 p.m. Cost is \$10 each, but come with your friends and make a team. All proceeds from this evening will go to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Shepherd will have its book sale Sept. 30-Oct. 4 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For the Shepherd Library, call (936) 628-3515, for the Coldspring Library call (936) 653-3104.

- Coldspring Chamber of Commerce will have its quarterly lunch on Oct. 11 at the COCISD High School. The Culinary Arts Students will prepare the lunch as they have done several times before with delicious results. Call the office to reserve your place. The cost till Thursday is \$10, but at the door it will be \$15. Chamber President Jennifer Hoff will give the talk on the State of the Chamber.

- Cactus Rose Boutique has taken the space where the previous dry-cleaning service, Texas Glam Girls, did business. Since they moved to Coldspring, Cactus Rose has moved in and offers a tanning booth, jewelry and clothes. It's located at 11231 Highway 150 beside Perla's Nail Salon and Heavenly Assurance office. Text them at (866) 267-4212.

- Christmas is coming. We have now entered fall and time is flying by. Call your Chamber to become a vendor, food vendor, parade entry or service like face painting, kids' games, etc.

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

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



Coldspring library new books donation. COURTESY PHOTO



Texas Grill and Cafe in Shepherd shows its colorful window display. COURTESY PHOTO



Some young pups are waiting to be adopted at the SJC Animal Shelter. COURTESY PHOTO

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2022 Buick Encore GX	\$22,989	2024 Mercedes Benz C300	\$26,991
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Visit Naskila.com/promotions or see Players' Club for details.

**SAN JACINTO COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR SEPT 26 - OCT 2**

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny 85°/62° Chance of Rain 5% Wind N 8mph	Mostly Sunny 85°/63° Chance of Rain 3% Wind NW 7mph	Mostly Sunny 86°/64° Chance of Rain 11% Wind WNW 6mph	Sunny 89°/64° Chance of Rain 6% Wind NW 5mph	Sunny 89°/66° Chance of Rain 5% Wind N 5mph	Sunny 89°/65° Chance of Rain 5% Wind N 6mph	Mostly Sunny 86°/64° Chance of Rain 10% Wind N 5mph

**Forecast Fire Danger**  
twc.tamu.edu

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

## SENIOR MENUS

Menus Subject to Change  
**Senior Citizens of San Jacinto County** | (936) 653-4175  
 Call by 10:30 a.m. to reserve a meal.  
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday is Texercise. Tuesday is line dancing. Thursday is bingo. Friday is karaoke.  
**MONDAY:** Spaghetti, Italian green beans, Caesar salad, garlic bread.  
**TUESDAY:** Pinto beans with sausage over rice, fried okra, cornbread.  
**WEDNESDAY:** King Ranch chicken, broccoli, Mexican corn, garlic rolls.  
**THURSDAY:** Country fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls.  
**FRIDAY:** Barbecue ribs, potato salad, baked beans, bread.  
**Shepherd Senior Citizens Center** | (936)

628-3733  
 Second Tuesday of each month includes birthday cake for dessert.  
 Bingo is Sept. 25 and Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. Bag Days are Sept. 27 and Oct. 4 and 18. Craft Days are Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. A fall fundraiser with barbecue baked potatoes will be Oct. 20.  
**MONDAY:** White sauce enchiladas, charro beans, cilantro lime rice, dump cake.  
**TUESDAY:** Sausage with peppers and onions on a roll, fried cabbage, macaroni and cheese, fruit.  
**WEDNESDAY:** Taco salad, Spanish rice, ranch beans, ice cream.  
**THURSDAY:** Steak fingers, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, blueberry cobbler  
**FRIDAY:** Roasted chicken, buttered rice, broccoli, brownies.

## Installing car seats isn't rocket science

Special to the News-Times

AUSTIN — A car seat can be a lifesaver, but only if it's installed and used correctly. Whether you're going to school or taking a family trip, knowing how to properly install a car seat is absolutely vital.  
 "It's extremely important that parents schedule a car seat check today," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said. "Ensuring car seats are installed correctly is one of the most important things a parent or caregiver can do to protect their children in a crash."  
 According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly half (46 percent) of all car seats have been installed incorrectly. TxDOT invites parents to schedule a free car seat safety check by visiting SaveMeWithASEat.org and entering their ZIP code to find the

nearest TxDOT traffic safety specialist in their area. TxDOT offers free car seat safety checks year-round.  
 Texas law requires all children under the age of 8 or shorter than 4 feet, 9 inches, to be in a car seat when riding in a passenger vehicle. Failure to properly restrain a child can result in a ticket of up to \$250. In 2023, 47 children younger than 8 years old were killed in Texas traffic crashes, and 320 were seriously injured.  
 Car seat safety is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel, like wearing a seat belt, driving the speed limit, never texting and driving or driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to driving safely to help end the streak of daily deaths.

## SJC

Continued from page 1A

regarding health insurance policies for retirees, needed to make it clear if it also included elected officials.  
 In other business, the court:  
 • approved \$12,000 in assistance to the Cleveland Senior Services;  
 • approved an interlocal agreement with

Jasper County for housing San Jacinto County prisoners;  
 • approved replacements for the Central Counting and Early Voting Ballot boards;  
 • tabled a decision on retiree-paid insurance policies;  
 • approved the use of county property along Live Oak and West Pine streets by the SJC Master Gardeners for teaching gardens; and  
 • approved the repair of a flood gauge on Highway 150 at Winters Bayou for \$20,000.



### Multi-County Crime Stoppers

Serving Montgomery, Liberty and San Jacinto Counties  
**Featured Felons for the Week of 09-20-2024 Featured Felons**  
*All warrants confirmed active as of 09-18-2024 Featured Felons*  
LKA = Last Known Area of Residence (Street name and City)

<b>BEÑITEZ, Kiley Larae</b> White / Female Height: 5'01" Weight: 120 Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown Warrant: #231117495 Motion To Revoke Aggravated Assault w/Deadly Weapon LKA: Houston, Houston		<b>CONTRERAS BORGES, Jonathan</b> White / Male Height: 6'01" Weight: 250 Hair: Black Eyes: Brown Warrant: #240913784 Violate Bond/Protective Order 2+ Times LKA: Sterling Chapel Rd, Humbleville	
<b>EARLEY, Tonya Ellen</b> White / Female Height: 5'03" Weight: 106 Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown Warrant: #240811860 Set Aside Bond Aggravated Assault w/Deadly Weapon LKA: Trinity Way, New Caney		<b>MARTINEZ, Michael</b> Hispanic / Male Height: 5'09" Weight: 190 Hair: Black Eyes: Brown Warrant: #240507860 Bond Forfeiture Theft Of Property ~\$2500 2+ Prev Conv LKA: Split Oak Dr, New Caney	
<b>MILLER, Brandon Adarius</b> Black / Male Height: 5'09" Weight: 150 Hair: Black Eyes: Brown Warrant: #240711223 Continuous Violence Against The Family LKA: Spring Steeple Rd, Spring		<b>RIPPLE, Nicholas Randall</b> White / Male Height: 5'11" Weight: 170 Hair: Blonde Eyes: Hazel Warrant: #240812815 Capias On Indictment Unlawful Possession Of Firearm By Felon LKA: Luke Conroe Bay Rd, Willis	
<b>RIVERA, Christopher Sebastian</b> Hispanic / Male Height: 5'07" Weight: 210 Hair: Black Eyes: Brown Warrant: #240812708 Capias On Info Assault Family Member w/Previous Conv LKA: Autumn Sage Ct, Conroe		<b>SALINAS HERNANDEZ, Francisco</b> White / Male Height: 5'10" Weight: 330 Hair: Black Eyes: Brown Warrant: #240811993 Capias On Info Theft Of Property ~\$150k~\$300k LKA: Mayfly Ln, New Caney	
<b>STANFA, Lori Lynette</b> White / Female Height: 5'05" Weight: 194 Hair: Blonde Eyes: Hazel Warrant: #240914033 Capias On Info Theft Of Property ~\$2500~\$30k EPH LKA: Homeless, Porter		<b>TURNER, Rodrick Aii</b> Black / Male Height: 6'00" Weight: 265 Hair: Bald Eyes: Bmw Warrant: #230913707 Set Aside Bond Theft Of Property ~\$2500 2+ Prev Conv LKA: Arbor Crossing, Conroe	

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Our primary goal is to keep tipsters anonymous. Because of this - you must provide your info using one of our three methods below. If you contact the police directly - you become a witness and are no longer anonymous, so you cannot earn a reward through Crime Stoppers.

If you recognize any of the above suspects, do not attempt to apprehend them. Call Crime Stoppers at:

1-800-392-STOP; Smart Phone app "P3TIPS"

www.multicountycrimestoppers.org

## AREA DIGEST

**Fall Plant Sale set**  
 San Jacinto County Master Gardeners will hold a plant sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 5 at Shepherd Community Center, 10251 Texas 150, in Shepherd.  
 The sale will include a wide variety Texas native plants grown by San Jacinto Master Gardeners, educational presentations and vendors with a variety of items.  
 The event also includes a raffle.  
 For a list of items or for more information, visit [www.txmgo.org/sjmg](http://www.txmgo.org/sjmg).

**Chamber seeks help**  
 The Coldspring Chamber of Commerce is seeking donations for goodie bags to be given to car show contestants at this year's Wolf Creek Car, Truck, and Bike Show.  
 Only the first 250 contestants to register get a goodie bag filled with these items.  
 Contestants travel from all over to attend our car show, and this is a great opportunity to advertise a business; there also are many area residents who participate in the event.  
 Items that are car-related, as well as pens, notepads, air fresheners, key chains, lanyards, stickers, chip clips, magnets, etc. are examples of the things that can be used.  
 The chamber needs 250 of each item. To donate items, drop off items at the Chamber office during our hours, Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Certification training offered**  
 San Jacinto County's SJC Master Gardeners is offering master gardener certification classes to interested individuals.  
 The 10 classes, which provide 50 required class hours, cover a wide range of gardening topics such as soil characteristics, trees, earth-kind landscaping, insects, roses, rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation, native grasses and weeds, veggies and herbs, lawn care and propagating plants.  
 The classes are held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., including lunch, at the new Innovations Center, 220 Live Oak St., in Coldspring on Tuesdays beginning Oct. 1.

There will be a meet-and-greet luncheon for students to pick up books and materials on Sept. 24 at 80 Berry St. in Coldspring.  
 The club, an education-oriented organization certified through Texas A&M AgriLife Extension comprised of about 65 members, works together to provide educational opportunities to residents and property owners based on research and effective, sustainable practices on all matters related to gardening.  
 Registration is open to people regardless of county of residence. To register or for more information, contact Dianne Chrestopoulos at [diannelcmusic@gmail.com](mailto:diannelcmusic@gmail.com).

**Fundraiser set**  
 The SAAFE House annual Lures & Lace bingo fundraiser has been delayed until Aug. 23, 2025.  
 Organizers feel that in light of the serious weather events of the last several months, it is better that the community focus on rebuilding

The event will be held at the San Jacinto County Storm Shelter, 255 Live Oak Drive, in Coldspring, to support SAAFE House and its endeavors in San Jacinto County. Money raised at the event stays in the county to help residents in need.  
 Call SAAFE House at (936) 291-3529, Shelby at (936) 284-5580 or Tammy at (936) 284-5547 for information.

**Association offers assistance**  
 The Community Assistance Program offered by the Houston Food Bank provides application assistance for SNAP, Medicaid, and other state benefits. The Referral Partner Program goes a step further with assistance in finding resources beyond food assistance.  
 The goal is to help the individuals avoid sacrificing healthy nutritious food just so they can pay for their other expenses.  
 To apply, bring identification (driver's license, passport, work permit, residency card, or state ID), Birth certificates, Social Security cards and address verification (such as apartment lease, rental agreement, rent/mortgage payment receipt, utility bills, landlord letter) and income verification (last 3 paystubs, letter from employer, income tax, self-employment letter stating your weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly income, or award letters from child support, retirement, Social Security or disability).

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

**Libraries seeks donations**  
 The Coldspring and Shepherd public libraries are partnering with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to provide free, high-quality, age-appropriate books to children from birth through 5 years.  
 To build a strong culture of reading for young children and increase early literacy in San Jacinto County, the library is seeking donors to contribute to our project.  
 For a \$25 annual donation, the Coldspring Library and the Imagination Library will mail 12 books directly to a registered child's home. The child must reside in San Jacinto County and be registered by an authorized adult.  
 Since launching in 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become the preeminent early childhood book-gifting program in the world. The flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has gifted more than 182 million free books in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and The Republic of Ireland.  
 For more information on the program, please visit [imaginationlibrary.com](http://imaginationlibrary.com). To register, visit their library.

**Veterans museum hosts events**  
 HEARTS Veterans Museum hosts HAM radio class/testing at the Walker County Storm Shelter on the second Saturday of every month from 9-11 a.m.  
 For more info email [festival@heartsmuseum.com](mailto:festival@heartsmuseum.com) or call (936) 295-5959.



# NEWSPAPERS CONNECT COMMUNITIES



# SAN JACINTO NEWS-TIMES



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CELEBRATING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK | OCTOBER 6-12, 2024

Source: America's Newspapers 2023 Local Newspaper Study conducted by Coda Ventures.

# OPINION

## VIEWING IT DIFFERENTLY

Two long-time newspaper editorial writers have agreed to take on the editorial pages, with their views on a variety of subjects. We welcome your comments.

### To tell the truth

By Jim Powers

jim@polkcountypublishing.com

When I was a kid of five years old, my favorite TV show was "Captain Kangaroo". We got our first TV the year the show debuted, in 1955. It was a wooden box with a small screen, but the slightly noisy B&W image was magic.

The next year, a new game show came along that my mom was obsessed with called "To Tell the Truth". You might not think a six-year-old would have much interest in game shows, but it was one of the few shows on one of the three channels we got, so I watched it too.

The premise was simple. There were four celebrities who made up the panel and faced three contestants. The host read aloud an affidavit describing one of the contestant's unusual jobs or experiences. The panelists asked questions of the contestants and tried to determine who the real person was. The actual person had to tell the truth, while the others could lie as much as they wanted to try to fool the panel. It was a very successful show and was revived in one form or another through 2022.

In a game show, lying is all fun and, well, games. In politics, it is corrosive to our democracy and undermines our government. At the very least, we should demand that the officials we elect tell us the truth. But we don't. Anyone who has lived through a few elections can verify that politicians lie. Some lie a lot, some a little; but they do lie. That's a problem in this country's social media-soaked society. It has, in fact, taken us to the precipice in 2024.

When politicians prioritize spin over substance, the electorate becomes cynical, voter apathy sets in, and it diminishes the capacity for real change. The decisions politicians make when they are elected have profound impacts on the lives of millions of people. When they lie, it signals deeper issues such as corruption, selfish ambition, or gross incompetence.

Consider how misinformation can distort public policy. If a politician consistently lies about economic figures, climate change, or public health, policies designed to address those issues will be flawed or ineffective. For instance, misrepresenting the state of the economy might lead to misguided fiscal policies that either overspend or cut essential services. In more extreme cases, as with public health crises, lies and misinformation can cost lives, as was evident during the COVID-19 pandemic when downplaying the seriousness of the virus led to delayed responses and higher mortality rates in some countries.

But one of the most damaging consequences of lies in politics is the erosion of public trust, a result that has accelerated over the last 10 years. Trust is the glue that holds societies together. Without it, our society crumbles.

In the current era of "alternative facts" and misinformation, public trust in government has reached all-time lows. According to the Pew Research Center, trust in the federal government has been declining for decades, with only 20 percent of Americans saying they trust the government to do what is right in 2021. This decline in trust creates a vicious cycle: when citizens do not trust their leaders, they are less likely to engage in civic activities, vote, or participate in other forms of political engagement. Politicians, in turn, feel less accountable to the public and more likely to act in self-interest or appease special interests.

Truthfulness from politicians is also essential for maintaining social cohesion. In diverse societies like the United States, where different groups often have competing interests and perspectives, it is crucial that political leaders speak honestly and work to bridge divides. Lies, particularly those that are divisive or scapegoat certain groups, exacerbate tensions and fuel polarization. This not only weakens the democratic process but also heightens the risk of so-

cial unrest and conflict. In such an environment, finding common ground becomes nearly impossible, and political discourse devolves into tribalism.

Lies have real-world consequences. Recently, presidential candidate Donald Trump used a bit of his debate time to claim that legal Haitian immigrants were eating people's pets in Springfield, Ohio. "In Springfield, they are eating the dogs. The people that came in, they are eating the cats. They're eating - they are eating the pets of the people that live there," Trump proclaimed during the debate, even though the mayor of Springfield and city officials had already debunked the claim, which started with a Facebook post that the page owner herself disavowed.

The result of this lie revealed itself in the real world immediately, when threats and bomb scares shut down schools and government buildings in the city.

Trump has told numerous other corrosive and easily debunked lies in the last month. CNN recently debunked 12 lies Trump has spread in the last month. He accused Kamala Harris, his opponent, of wanting to force Americans to serve in the military. Not true. He has said nothing about the draft.

He has claimed repeatedly that Harris "had notes" to assist her in an interview. Also, not true.

Trump has repeatedly claimed that kids are going to school in the morning and returning home with a sex-change operation. He has also claimed that Harris was of Indian heritage but recently "turned black" for political expediency. Of course, that's not true. It goes on and on. (Check out the CNN link above for the full story.)

Restoring truthfulness in politics is no easy task, but it is essential for the health of democratic governance. Several steps can be taken to encourage more honesty from public officials.

First, there must be stronger consequences for dishonesty in politics. While free speech is a constitutional right, politicians who lie to the public—especially about matters of national security, public health, or economic stability—should face sanctions, whether legal or political. Fact-checking organizations and the media have a critical role to play in holding politicians accountable for their statements, but they must remain impartial and resist the temptation to sensationalize.

Second, voters must demand higher standards from their elected officials. Civic education should be prioritized so that citizens are better equipped to recognize misinformation and make informed voting decisions. Social media platforms, which have become major conduits for political discourse, should also take greater responsibility in curbing the spread of false information.

Finally, politicians themselves must take a moral stand. The incentive to lie often stems from the belief that deception is necessary to win elections or stay in power. Leaders who choose to be truthful, even when it is politically inconvenient, can set a powerful example. In the long term, honesty fosters trust, strengthens institutions, and cultivates a more engaged and informed electorate.

I can't say that I'm optimistic that any of these steps will be taken. I've been around 74 years and have watched the steady decline of political and civil discourse in this country. The advent of social media platforms has accelerated that decline, of course, but decline it has.

"We swallow greedily any lie that flatters us, but we sip only little by little at a truth we find bitter. Half a truth is often a great lie." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jim Powers writes editorials that reflect his personal opinions. They do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication.



### Watch what is said, and then look for the truth elsewhere

By Tony Farkas

tony@polkcountypublishing.com

There's lies, damned lies and statistics, then there's whatever you want to call what's going on in the national election cycle.

Both sides of the aisle — a euphemism in and of itself for the divide betwixt and between the supposed conservatives and the vehemently liberal — are guilty of such things, but I find that particularly with the emergency backup candidate Kamala Harris, it's not just lies, it's a fantasy world of stolen accomplishments wrapped up in her speeches and statements made up of word salad/succotash.

If you look at the national media, you'll only find stories making fun of Donald Trump's claim of pets being eaten by Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio; you'll have to dig into social media or fun sites like Breitbart or NewsBusters to find stories on the Democate candidate.

But they're there if you look. The amazing thing about the lies that are coming out of the Harris candidacy is that not only has she claimed successes of the Trump administration as hers, but that all the failures of the Harris/Biden administration are the fault of Trump.

My favorite is, of course, Harris' insistence that she was never in charge of the border since she never was named border czar.

The national media was extremely quick to take up the torch, running with the press releases as opposed to actually doing solid research and reporting.

Several things to unpack here, most notably the use of language. When Harris' writers are involved, they come up with moderately clever rationalizations for her abysmal showing on the border: since she wasn't "formally" named border czar, she can't be held responsible, and all of the video evidence to the contrary is just smoke and mirrors.

(If left to her own devices, she's the living embodiment of "If you can't dazzle them with brilliance, baffle them BS.")

Not only are the media complic-

ated in fostering the fantasy; the governments at every level are chipping in their efforts, either squeezing social media to squash stories that don't toe the proper line, or trying to pass laws that limit speech, like banning "hate" speech or banning "deepfake" pieces that are critical of the powers that be.

Hillary Clinton has even advocated for criminal penalties to combat misinformation.

The control of language has long been a tool of the power-hungry elite. So many phrases, like "repeat a lie often enough, and it becomes the truth" speak to the age-old use of obfuscation to maintain power and control.

George Orwell, who's kina enjoying a renaissance lately, described it like this in an essay, "Politics and the English Language":

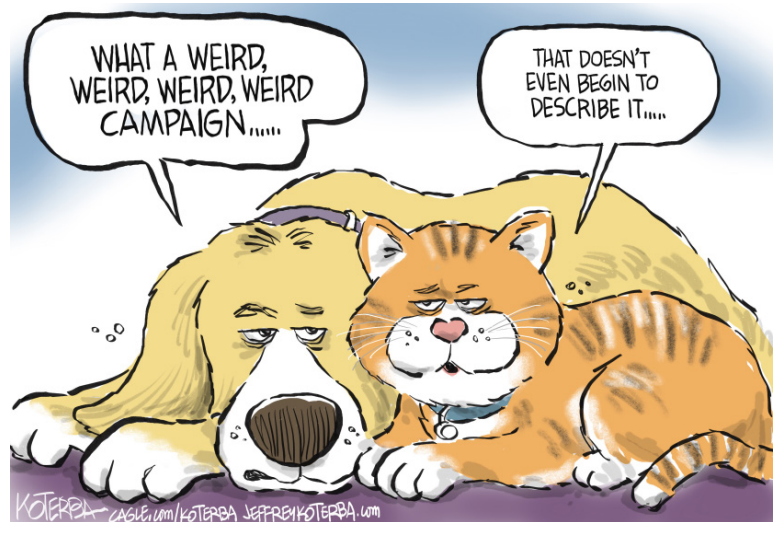
"The word fascism has now no meaning except in so far as it signifies 'something not desirable.' The words democracy, socialism, freedom, patriotic, realistic, justice have each of them several different meanings which cannot be reconciled with one another. In the case of a word like democracy, not only is there no agreed definition, but the attempt to make one is resisted from all sides. It is almost universally felt that when we call a country democratic we are praising it: consequently the defenders of every kind of regime claim that it is a democracy, and fear that they might have to stop using that word if it were tied down to any one meaning. Words of this kind are often used in a consciously dishonest way. That is, the person who uses them has his own private definition, but allows his hearer to think he means something quite different."

That goes to show you that even more than 80 years ago people were finding that obfuscation was a pretty big weapon in the arsenal of the power-hungry.

The icing on this particular cake is that we're all whinging about who said what in what way and fortifying the divisions between each other that the big picture has been forgotten.

The best answer to that is follow the moral of the Nun's Priest's Tale: Take the fruit, and let the chaff be still.

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



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#### State Representative

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sanjacinto.Sheriff

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281-592-1109

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Point Blank Tx., 77364  
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1-888-256-2231

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Coldspring Tx., 77331  
936-653-2601

# ALWAYS AN EXCUSE

Deeply embedded in the Jewish belief system was an expectation of a Messiah who would come and deliver God's people and bring about the Kingdom of God. As the Jews endured centuries of oppression by foreign empires such as the Babylonians, the Persians, the Greeks, and, during Jesus' day, the Romans, this belief became more and more important.

The popular view was that the Messiah would be a political, military, and religious leader, but Jesus came and taught people about the Kingdom of God in a different way. He did not talk about it in political and military terms, such as insurrection against foreign oppressors and the establishment of a Jewish state, but in spiritual terms related to the love of God. He talked about inner transformation and receiving living water that would well up in the soul of a person resulting in the gift of eternal life.

With some people, Jesus boldly claimed to be the Messiah and backed up his claims with miracles. He multiplied loaves and fishes, feeding thousands from a single meal, and said, "I am the Bread of Life" (John 6:35).

He claimed to be the light of the



## Dan's Divinities

By Rev. Dr. Dan Darby

world, and healed blind people so they could see (e.g., John 9). He healed a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath and proclaimed Himself the Lord of the Sabbath (Matthew 12:1-14). He walked on water, demonstrating His Lordship over the natural world (John 6:19). He cast out demons, healing the mentally ill and those possessed by mysterious ailments (Matthew 4:24). He even raised people from the dead. (e.g., John 12).

He often referred to himself as "the Son of Man," which was the term Daniel 7:13-14 used to identify the coming Messiah. He outrageously claimed to be "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 10:10). He backed up his claims with miracles no one else could perform, save his disciples working under his direct authority.

Despite Jesus' teachings and miracles which demonstrating his authority as the Messiah, the vast

majority of the Jewish leadership did not believe that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God. Have you ever wondered why? Part of it was that some of them were stubborn legalists who loved their traditions more than they loved the truth that was being lived out in front of them. However, an even deeper reason was their own threatened self-interests.

The Jewish High Priest and the Sanhedrin (the Jewish ruling council) were in cahoots with the Roman governor. The High Priest paid a huge bribe to the Roman governor to obtain and maintain his position. The members of the Sanhedrin financed this bribe by paying their own bribes to the High Priest. The families of the Sanhedrin members and the priests gained their wealth the lucrative trade of sacrificial animals in the Jerusalem temple.

According to their religion, to be made right with God, the Jewish people had to make sacrifices in the temple, so the people impoverished themselves to buy the animal sacrifices from the families of the priests and members of the Sanhedrin at hugely inflated prices.

It was quite the racket. The Ro-

man governor got what he wanted: civil order, no insurrection, and wealth. The Jewish leaders got what they wanted: power, status, and wealth. It was a conspiracy of mutual benefit. So complete was the collusion that the Roman governor furnished the Sanhedrin with a contingent of Roman soldiers to enforce their rule over the people.

The guards served as Pilate's earpiece on the Jewish leaders' activities, and the Sanhedrin used the guards to stay in power and enforce their will and authority. There was a deep self-interest on the part of the Jewish leadership in maintaining the status quo. Jesus threatened the status quo, so their positions, wealth, and status were threatened. Jewish leaders were predisposed to reject Jesus.

Once, when the Sanhedrin sent their Roman soldiers to arrest Jesus, the soldiers became so captivated by His teaching that they came back empty-handed (John 7:45-49). Instead of being amazed at the way of this teacher over even Roman soldiers, the Jewish leaders were outraged, accusing the soldiers of ignorance like the rest of the rabble who did not know Jewish law adequately enough to make

a judgement about who could be the Messiah.

They said that since none of them, the religious leaders and experts in the Jewish law, believed in Jesus, He could not be the Messiah, and all who did believe were damned to Hell.

Nicodemus, one of their number who had gone to Jesus secretly at night to hear Jesus out (John 3), tried to defend Jesus and His followers by asking for a hearing of Jesus and His teaching before they passed judgment on Him (John 7:50-53), but the leaders rebuked Nicodemus and derided him, saying that no prophet was to come from Galilee. Whatever Jesus did and said, they always had an excuse as to why they would not believe in Jesus.

What is your excuse? You may think you have life all figured out and that you don't believe and won't believe, but isn't the matter worthy of fair consideration? What is getting in the way of your believing and considering the validity of Jesus' claims? Isn't the value of your soul worth more than any excuse you may have?

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

## SAN JACINTO COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
**FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 10621 Highway 150 Shepherd, Texas 77371  
 Jeremy Nicholson, Pastor | 936-628-6682  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 10:45 AM  
 Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wed. Night Service ..... 7:00 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**EVERGREEN BAPTIST**  
 Hwy. 150 & FM 945 (Blinking Light)  
 Dalton Currie, Pastor | 936-767-4426  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Sunday Worship Service ..... 8:30 & 11 AM  
 Wednesday Choir Practice ..... 7:00 PM

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CAMILLA**  
 401 FM 3278  
 Pastor Mike Richard | 936-653-2202  
 Bible Study each Sunday at 10 a.m.  
 Preaching at 11 a.m.

**FIRST BAPTIST OF COLDSRING**  
 100 East Pine Ave. | 936-653-4197  
 Senior Pastor: Phil Herrington  
 Sunday School ..... 9:00 AM  
 Refreshments ..... 10:00 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 10:30 AM  
 Tues. Ladies Bible Study ..... 9:45 AM / 6 PM  
 Wed. Awana (3yo - 5th Grade) ..... 5:30 PM  
 Wed. FLYTE (6th Grade) ..... 5:30 PM  
 Wed. Youth (7th-12th Grade) ..... 5:30 PM  
 Wed. Men's Bible Study ..... 6:00 PM

**FIRST BAPTIST OF POINT BLANK**  
 Pastor Rev. Mickey Fountain | 936-377-2534  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship Service ..... 11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship Service ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wed. Prayer Service ..... 6:00 PM

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SHEPHERD**  
 10850 Hwy 150 W. | P.O. BOX 187  
 Pastor Chester Holloway | 229-834-5563  
 Sunday Bible Study (all ages) ..... 9:45 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 11:00 AM  
 Wednesday Adult & Youth Bible Study ... 7 PM  
 Childcare Provided for all services

**GOOD SHEPHERD BAPTIST CHURCH, A.B.A.**  
 300 Church Street, Shepherd, Texas  
 Rev. Larry Allbritton, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Morning Worship Service ..... 10:50 AM  
 Evening Worship Service ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Worship ..... 7:00 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**CATHOLIC**  
**SAINT JOSEPH, NEW WAVERLY**  
 Rev. Daokim Nguyen | 936-344-6104  
 Saturday Mass ..... 7:00 PM  
 Sunday ..... 7:30 AM/10:00 AM  
 Spanish Mass 12 Noon Every Sunday

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

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

**WESLEYAN CHURCH**  
**CHRISTIAN FAITH CHURCH OF OAKHURST**  
 1040 Hwy. 190 Oakhurst, Tx.  
 Ron Mendleski, Pastor | 936-377-4795  
 Sunday Worship Service ..... 10:30 PM  
 Children's Church ..... 11:00 AM  
 Prayer/Bible Study, Wed ..... 7:00 PM

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**EVERGREEN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 Located at corner of Dabney Bottom Rd. & FM 945  
 767-4533 | 767-4004  
 Sunday Morning Service ..... 10:30 AM

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

**SHEPHERD CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 P.O. Box 460 Shepherd, Texas 77371  
 Corner of Smith and Bell | 936-628-6130  
 Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Worship ..... 7:00 PM

**MONTAGUE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 Ministers: Wendell Kimbrough & Ed Enloe  
 15151 FM 1725 Cleveland, TX | 281-593-0680  
 Sunday Morning ..... 10:30 AM  
 Wed Ladies Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
 Wednesday Worship ..... 7:00 PM

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

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
**FIRST CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
 FM 1725 @ Hwy. 150, Maynard  
 Pastor: Elder Jack Wilson | 409-967-8217  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM

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

**LILLEY MEMORIAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
 Elder Cleveland Thompson | Hwy. 156 N.  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:30 AM  
 Pastoral Day ..... 1st & 3rd Sunday

**RAVIN HILL OAKHURST CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
 FM 946 North, Oakhurst | 936-377-5264  
 Elder Grady Robinson- Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM

**POINT BLANK COGIC**  
 Madden Lane at Hwy. 156  
 Pastor, Alfred Rhodes | 281-820-1834  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:30 AM  
 Thurs. Bible Band ..... 9:00 AM

**GOD'S RESTORATION REVIVAL CENTER**  
**HOLINESS CHURCH**  
 Located 411 Hughes Road, Coldspring  
 Pastor Joe Goffney, 936-653-4382  
 The Center Wed Bible Studies ..... 6:30 AM  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Sunday Service ..... 11:00 AM

**EPISCOPAL**  
**ST. LUKE'S**  
 Chester J. Makowski, Rector  
 Livingston | 936-327-8467  
 Holy Eucharist-Sunday ..... 10:30 AM  
 Education ..... 9:30 AM  
 Christian Education For All Ages  
 Nursery Provided For Sunday 10:30 AM

**LUTHERAN**  
**FRIENDSHIP LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.**  
 604 S. College Ave, Cleveland, TX 77327  
 Pastor: Ben Buehl | 281-593-0174  
 Sunday School ..... 9:30 AM  
 Worship Sunday ..... 10:30 AM  
 Wed. Bible Study ..... 6:30 PM

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN LCMS**  
 900 Plum Grove Rd. • Cleveland, TX 77327  
 Pastor: Mark Behring (281) 592-6803  
 Bible Study ..... 9:15 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 10:30 AM

**LAKE LIVINGSTON LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.**  
 F.M. 3152 at 190 W. Onalaska  
 Pastor: Sharon Kapsch | 646-5681  
 Bible Class ..... 10:00 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 11:00 AM

**TRINITY LUTHERAN LCMS**  
 Bus. 59 South Livingston  
 Alex Garber, pastor | 936-327-3239  
 Sun. School & Bible Class ..... 9 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 10:30 AM

**MESSIANIC FULL GOSPEL**  
**KING OF SAINTS TABERNACLE**  
 CR 1725, Cleveland, TX | 936-239-4971  
 Pastor, Phillip Missick  
 Saturday School ..... 10 AM  
 Saturday Worship ..... 11 AM  
 Saturday Evening Service ..... 6 PM  
 Wednesday Service ..... 7 PM

**METHODIST**  
**COLDSRING METHODIST CHURCH**  
 1 Cemetery Road, Coldspring, TX 77331  
 936-653-2287  
 Sunday School for all ages ..... 8:45 AM  
 Sunday Morning ..... 10:30 AM  
 Sunday Adult Choir ..... 11:00 PM  
 Monday Boy & Cub Scouts ..... 7:00 PM  
 Tuesday Cub Scouts ..... 7:00 PM  
 Wednesday Youth Group ..... 5:30 PM  
 7th -12th grade and Kings Kidz (K-6)

**MT. ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Corner of FM 222 & FM 3841 Camilla, Texas  
 Pastor Jason Copes | 936-252-1414

**PAUL HORTON METHODIST CHURCH**  
 3721 Hwy 156, Stephen Creek, Tx  
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 Sunday Worship Service ..... 10:00 AM  
 Wednesday Bible Study ..... 4:00 PM  
 Wednesday Prayer ..... 5:00 PM  
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 Sunday School ..... 9 AM  
 Sunday Worship ..... 10 AM

**SHEPHERD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 FM 222 Off Hwy 150 | 936-628-3861  
 Rev., James Smith, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 AM

**PENTECOSTAL**  
**APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
 Hwy. 150 Coldspring (Next to Roadside Park)  
 Pastor, Phil Runge | 653-3153  
 Sunday Morning ..... 10:00 AM  
 Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
 Tuesday Bible Study ..... 7:30 PM

**SHEPHERD UNITED PENTECOSTAL**  
 Hwy. 150 & Loop 424 | 936-628-6921  
 Greg Gerald, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
 Sunday Night ..... 6:00 PM  
 Thursday Night ..... 7:30 PM

**SHEPHERD FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER**  
 Hwy. 150 W., Shepherd • (936) 628-3942  
 Rev. Eddie Steward  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:45 AM  
 Sunday Night ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Services ..... 7:30 PM

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**WAVERLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 Old Waverly, Tx. | Rev. Dan Alexander  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
**ASCENDING DOVE FULL GOSPEL**  
 849-FM 2666 Shepherd, Tx.  
 Pastor: Rev. David Pate | 936-628-6706

**COVENANT CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
 66 Mosley Lane Willis, TX 77378  
 Rev. Everett Muirhead | 936-767-4526  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Sunday Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
 Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
 Tuesday Men's Missions ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Mid-Week Worship .... 6:00 PM  
 Thursday Women's Missions ..... 6:00 PM  
 Friday Youth For Christ ..... 6:00 PM  
 Saturday Gospel Singing ..... 6:00 PM

**COWBOY CHURCH OF SAN JACINTO COUNTY**  
 13271 Hwy. 150 Coldspring, Texas  
 Pastor Zack Currie | 832-401-1876

**BIG CREEK COWBOY CHURCH**  
 1391 North Butch Arthur Road Coldspring, Charlie  
 Lombardino, pastor | 936-661-7893  
 Sunday service ..... 11 AM  
 Wednesday night Bible Study ..... 6:30 PM

**FAMILY FAITH CHURCH**  
 870 S. Sam Houston Huntsville, TX 77342  
 Pastors Jeff & Eileen Hackleman | 936-291-9458  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:00 AM  
 Evening Worship ..... 7:00 PM  
 Monday Prayer Service ..... 7:30 PM  
 Tuesday Worship ..... 7:30 PM  
 Thursday Spanish Worship ..... 7:30 PM  
 Alpha Omega (college/singles) ..... 7:30 PM  
 Friday Youth Explosion ..... 7:00 PM  
 Sat. Spanish Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**MAYNARD FULL GOSPEL REVIVAL CENTER**  
 Hwy. 150, Maynard, TX.  
 Sunday Morning Service ..... 11:00 AM  
 Sunday Evening Service ..... 6:30 PM  
 Wednesday Evening ..... 7:30 PM

**NEW COVENANT CHURCH**  
 Loop 424 N., Shepherd, Tx.  
 Mike Chapman-Pastor  
 Sunday Morning Service ..... 10:00 AM  
 Thursday Evening Service ..... 7:00 PM

**OAKHURST FULL GOSPEL**  
 441 FM 946 S. | Rev. Glen Cooksey, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Sunday Morning ..... 11:00 AM  
 Sunday Evening ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Night ..... 7:00 PM

**OPEN DOOR CHURCH**  
 Corner of Byrd & Church St., Shepherd, Tx  
 Sunday Morning ..... 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship ..... 7:00 PM  
 Thursday Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM  
 Saturday Prayer Meeting ..... 7:00 PM

**POINT BLANK COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 Rev. John McDonald  
 Robison Way, Point Blank | 377-2104  
 Worship Service ..... 9:45 AM  
 Sunday School ..... 10:30 AM  
 Sunday Night ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wed. Night Bible Study ..... 6:00 PM

**THE EVERGREEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
 Hwy. 150 W., Evergreen | 936-767-8121 John  
 Davidhizar, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM

**VICTORY GOSPEL CHURCH**  
 FM 222, Camilla  
 Sunday Morning ..... 10:30 AM  
 Children's Church ..... 10:30 AM  
 Sunday Evening ..... 6:00 PM  
 Youth service ..... 6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Evening ..... 7:00 PM

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 14200 Hwy 190 West Onalaska, TX (936) 646-6600

# Voter registration deadline nears for November election

Eligible Texans planning to vote in the November general election have until Oct. 7 to register, Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson reminds folks. The registration deadline applies to both early and election day voting.

"Texans have just a few short weeks left to register to vote, and I want to ensure all eligible Texans who want to make their voices heard are registered and prepared to do so," Nelson said.

Instructions on how to register to vote and how to update existing voter registrations can be found at [VoteTexas.org](http://VoteTexas.org). To be eligible to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of the county where you register and at least 18 years old on Election Day.

Texas officials say they have scrubbed voter rolls of more than 1 million voters deemed ineligible. The routine process culls people who have moved out of state or are dead. Voters can ensure they are registered by going to the My Voter Portal on the secretary of state's website, <https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

Early voting begins on Oct. 21 and ends Nov. 1. The last day to apply for a



## Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders  
Texas Press Association

ballot by mail is Oct. 25. Election Day is Nov. 5.

Venezuelan gang designated terrorist organization

Gov. Greg Abbott and state officials have labeled the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua as a "foreign terrorist organization," the Austin American-Statesman reported.

The gang originated in Venezuela's prison system a decade ago and first operated from the state of Aragua, from which it derives its name. Its criminal activities include drug trafficking, human smuggling, kidnapping, extortion and illegal mining, according to the report. State officials believe the gang is operating in Texas.

"Our goal is to defend Texas from the growing threat of the gang," Abbott said. "We will not let them use Texas as a base of operations to terrorize our citizens."

Abbott has said El Paso is a locus of illegal activity

by members of Tren de Aragua. A law passed in 2023 to target smugglers of undocumented immigrants will be used against gang members, he said.

Judge tosses Paxton suit against Bexar County

A state district judge last week threw out a lawsuit filed by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton against Bexar County's plan to mail voter registration forms to country residents. The Texas Tribune reported. Since the forms have already been mailed, District Judge Antonia Arteaga ruled the case was moot.

Paxton sued the county to attempt to block the mailing of the forms. He asserted that the efforts in Bexar County, as well as in Harris and Travis counties, are a violation of state law and risk adding noncitizens to voter rolls. Bexar county commissioners called the claims misleading and unfounded.

A similar suit against Travis County has been moved to federal court, where county officials are also challenging Paxton's efforts to stop voter registration efforts. In addition, Jolt, a nonprofit that is pushing for increased

Latino participation in the electoral process, has sued Paxton after being targeted in a separate investigation into its registration efforts.

Project 2025 data shows little evidence of voter fraud

Data compiled by the Heritage Foundation, architect of the controversial Project 2025, indicates noncitizen voting in Texas is not a widespread problem, the Texas Newsroom reported.

A database maintained since 2017 houses state data since 2005. Only three instances of noncitizens casting ballots have been found since 2012, the database indicates.

The Heritage Foundation has recently sounded alarm bells about potential noncitizen voting in the upcoming general election. The American Immigration Council cited the foundation's own data as proof that noncitizen voting is not a widespread problem.

"The lessons to take from Heritage's own database are that noncitizen voting is not a serious problem and that to the extent rare cases occur, they would be best addressed by better training government workers to recognize immigration

documents and follow procedure," wrote Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, a senior fellow at the council.

PUC urged to more closely vet plant loan applicants

The Public Utility Commission has drawn criticism after initially approving a power plant project in the Rio Grande Valley for a company whose CEO was convicted of embezzlement seven years earlier.

The application has since been canceled, the Texas Standard reported. Earlier this month, the Senate Finance Committee grilled agency leaders, who are tasked with approving loans out of a \$5 billion fund approved by lawmakers to boost the state's power grid.

"The role of your organization has changed dramatically," state Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, told PUC Chair Thomas Gleeson. "We're expecting more from you. You're not just a [electricity] rate organization anymore."

Gleeson said the PUC would review its processes and has penalized Deloitte, the firm hired to administer the Texas Energy Fund, by cutting its contract by

10 percent. The agency is under pressure to finish loaning the \$5 billion by the end of 2025, according to the legislation.

Time for flu, COVID-19 vaccines

Autumn has officially arrived, which means it's the season to consider booster shots for the flu, COVID-19 and other immunizations, such as shingles or pneumonia. The Statesman reported healthcare providers say it's OK to get both the flu and COVID-19 shots at the same time, but people should first check with their healthcare provider.

The federal Food and Drug Administration has approved three updated COVID-19 boosters, and the agency urges people of all ages to get vaccinated. The vaccines typically become effective in two weeks, healthcare authorities say. Most insurance plans cover the cost of the vaccines.

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

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SAN JACINTO COUNTY

# SPORTS



Preston Stephens (No. 20) sidesteps a couple of Anderson Owls and allows Blaine Frerichs to block a path for a first down. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD



Jevaris Marsh, running back for the Shepherd Pirates was hard for the Anderson Owls to stop during the Friday night's game. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD

## Shepherd falls to Anderson

By Charles Ballard  
SINT correspondent

**SHEPHERD** — The Shepherd-Anderson non-district game was decided by the cost of a field goal.

The Pirates were downed 35-32 by the Owls on Friday.

Shepherd posted the first score of the night with a huge run by Jevaris Marsh after

the opening kickoff and set the tone for the first quarter. Anderson could not connect on the next drive but during the second drive they marched down the field with a couple of quick passes for the second score of the night.

With 3:02 on the clock in the first quarter, Anderson posted another TD. Shepherd's Gage Murphy found an opening in the line with just seconds on the clock in the first

quarter to give the lead back to Shepherd 16-13.

The Owls took the lead back, and then both teams were scoreless until deep into the second quarter, when the Owls hit another TD and extra point sending the score 21-16.

In the mid-third quarter, the Owl lead was shortened as Marsh scored another TD, and with 9:40 on the clock in the fourth, Dellinger finds No. 88 Brayden White at the

goal line for another Shepherd TD, but not enough to overcome the Anderson lead.

Jevaris Marsh had 10 carries for 150 yards. Preston Stephens had 17 carries for 122 yards, and Landon Dellinger had 2 TDs rushing.

### Coldspring

The Trojans defeated the host Kelly Catholic Bulldogs 44-14 on Friday.



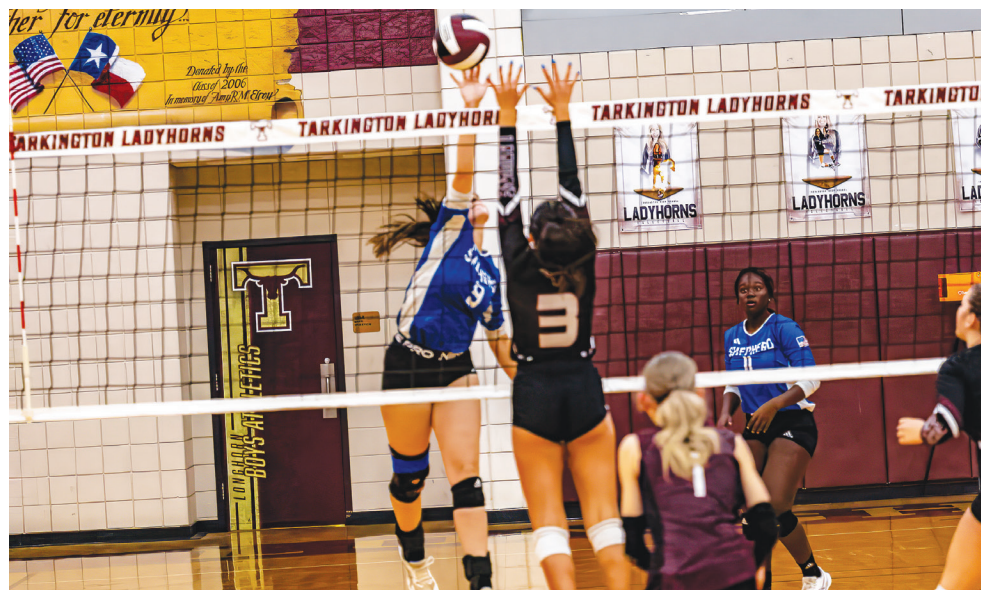
The Huffman Lady Falcons and Shepherd Lady Pirates recognize September as Fight Cancer Month. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD



Addison Kowis (No. 6) and Aliyah Thomas (No. 7) guard the net during the set against the Huffman Lady Falcons. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD



Chloe Fuller (No. 2) watches as Nevach Murphy (No. 8) sets a ball during the Lady Falcons district game on Friday. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD



Shepherd's Jayci Wilson blocks a ball from the Lady Longhorns for a nice spike. PHOTO BY CHARLES BALLARD

## Lady Pirates sunk by Lady Falcons

By Charles Ballard  
SINT correspondent

**SHEPHERD** — The Lady Pirates made a match of it, but in the end, Huffman walked away with a 3-0 win on Friday.

The first set went to the Lady Falcons 25-11 as the second set reflected the same score, 25-11. Huffman won the third set 25-14.

On Sept. 17, the Lady Pirates put up a fight, but the Lady Longhorns were just too much and ended up with a 3-0 win.

Scores were 25-13, 25-8, and 25-8.

### Coldspring

The previous week was a good week for the Lady Trojans, beating Hempstead and Alpha Omega both in straight sets.

Against Hempstead, the scores were 25-9, 25-10 and 25-17, and against Alpha Omega, the scores were 25-16, 25-19 and 25-18.

Leading the way last were Ella Phillips with 23 kills, 5 blocks and 6 aces; Ashlynn Holley with 16 kills and 4 blocks; Tess Phillips with 12 aces; and Cali Crowder added 44 assists and is approaching 500 assists for the season.

Head Coach Dwain Anderson said the team starts district on Friday against New Waverly, and the girls are excited to see what they can do against district opponents.

# Coldspring, Shepherd open cross-country seasons

**SJNT staff**

**ANDERSON** — San Jacinto County's cross-country teams hit the ground running at the Becker Best meet in Anderson on Wednesday.

The Coldspring Varsity Boys placed 7th out of 16 teams, while the Varsity Girls they placed 8th out of 16 teams.

Lady Trojan Tess Phillips placed 2nd overall for girls, passing a runner on the final up-hill stretch to the finish line. Brennen Lilley placed 3rd overall for the boys.

Meanwhile, Shepherd boys placed 8th overall while the girls placed 11th.

## 16th Annual Becker Best 2024

Sept. 18  
Anderson-Shiro Junior/Senior High School  
**Coldspring-Oakhurst Results**  
Girls individual results (time, athlete, place)  
2-mile run  
15:06.00, Tess Phillips, 2nd  
16:46.00, Jasper Williams, 16th  
20:33.00, Ryvers Sosa, 40th  
29:56.00, Alayla Goffney, 74th  
30:17.00, Allison Davis, 75th  
Boys individual results (time, athlete,

place)  
5,000-meter run  
20:18.00, Brennen Lilley, 3rd  
26:28.00, Ezekiel Wilkinson, 34th  
29:15.00, Niko Walberg, 48th  
32:31.00, Levi Crawford, 55th  
37:05.00, Nash McNew, 62nd  
37:57.00, Brayden Coker, 63rd  
38:54.00, Logan Edwards, 67th  
39:01.00, Jason Lee, 68th  
**Shepherd Results**  
Girls individual results (time, athlete, place)  
2-mile run  
22:47.00, Katia Mendoza, 49th  
23:19.00, Karma Platero, 53rd  
23:19.00, Julissa Mayorga, 54th  
23:24.00, Katelyn Solorzano, 56th  
27:30.00, Dehani Cantera, 69th  
27:46.00, Lacey Papp, 72nd  
29:29.00, Rayen Alley, 73rd  
Boys individual results (time, athlete, place)  
5,000-meter run  
23:43.00, Braylon Cherry, 17th  
27:05.00, Paul Jimenez, 38th  
28:42.00, Alan Infantea, 45th  
38:52.00, Antonio Lucio, 66th  
39:19.00, Austin Hibbard, 69th



The Shepherd cross country runners competed at the Becker Best in Anderson on Wednesday, with the boys team placing 8th overall. COURTESY PHOTOS

# Hunting carts used for different kind of shots

I remember well my introduction to what I refer to as electric hunting buggies. The correct name would be EZ Go electric golf carts converted for use in the field other than the smooth riding surfaces of a golf course.

Well over a decade ago, I began visiting with Ken Blackstock who owned Plano Golf Carts in Plano for many years. Ken and his brother Robert left Ken's current headquarters in Nevada, Texas, loaded with one of their very rugged converted golf carts on a trailer and pulled it out to my place to put it through its paces. I remember telling my newfound friends that if the buggy performed as well as it looked, I had great plans for it.

With big tires, a bed that converts to an extra seat, high performance 10 hp electric engine, front storage bin and a heavy duty adjustable controller, the buggy setting in my yard was everything I had envisioned. But how would it perform. I weighed a couple hundred pounds, and I was the lightest of our little test group.

With about 500 pounds of lead batteries for power close to 700 pounds of testers onboard, we headed about a mile from my home to some rough country that I hunted at the time.

Ken allowed me to drive and on the asphalt road, I could feel the torque generated by the oversized engine. Once we entered the property, a series of old gravel pits that had been dug back in the 60s, the versatility of a machine that was once used



for transporting golfers around on a manicured golf course became evident.

Even with a load of more than a thousand pounds of batteries and testers, the buggy easily negotiated the slopes created by an excavator many years prior when the area was mined for sand and gravel.

During that fall and winter, my hunting buggy transported me to and from my close to home hunting area on many trips and helped me haul everything from corn for feeders to the Snap Lock Hunting Blinds that I hunted from. It was also a lifesaver (and back saver) when it was time to transport wild hogs and deer out of some pretty rough country.

I learned my buggy was perfect for negotiating dry terrain but it definitely was not designed to be used for mudding. I learned to steer clear of muddy areas but carried a winch onboard which I occasionally had to use when I got a little too brave and attempted to plough through deep mud.

About this time, a buddy and I began outfitting archery elk and bear hunts in the mountains of northern Colorado. We had to negotiate a pretty steep road for about a mile in route to the higher elevations where we often encountered game.

My partner had hunted with me on my buggy here in Texas and was quiet impressed. He soon purchased his own buggy from Ken and we began towing our quiet electric hunting machines all the way near the Wyoming border each fall. They performed flawlessly for the seven years we used them up there and allowed us to approach our hunting areas quietly.

Once, when Ken and Robert came up to hunt with us, we loaded a bear that Robert had arrowed on the buggy and four of us rode our hunting cart a good mile through a rough winding mountain trail back to camp. That had to be the ultimate acid test for the converted golf cart.

Fast forward to last week. Ken and Robert again pulled a hunting buggy out to my place for a test run. As they pulled trailer with buggy strapped down into my yard, I was getting a bit of déjà vu. Lots had transpired since that test run many years ago, including some huge advances in golf cart technology.

As is often the case, I had prepared a barbecue dinner for us and a great friend that lives down the road offered his ranch as a test ground for the new 'buggy' setting on the trailer. After setting up 'camp' in the shade of a huge pecan tree, we began putting Ken's new conversion buggy through its paces. With one lightweight lithium battery as power, the weight of the 500 pounds of lead batteries was eliminated, no longer was the oversized electric engine necessary.



Ken Blackstock and his Texas hunting buggy. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

"We've set these buggies up for use on a basic Texas deer lease," said Ken. "It is designed for transportation on the deer lease, transporting hunters and game to and from camp as well as other deer lease tasks such as hauling corn for feeders, etc. The lithium battery is a huge improvement over the old style lead batteries. They charge in half the time of lead acid batteries and are basically trouble free. No longer is it necessary to continually be checking water levels in the old style batteries or cleaning posts. By making adjustments to the controller to facilitate hill climbing, the units are more than adequate for the terrain encountered on most Texas leases."

We began our test with a basic deer lease chore, filling a corn feeder. With

corn in the bed of the buggy and two guys totaling about 450 pounds we headed out to the first feeder which was suspended from a large limb on a pecan. We backed the buggy up under the feeder, stood in the bed on the back and easily filled the feeder.

It was then time to put the buggy to the real test of climbing what I considered a pretty steep hill, actually two of them.

A slough traverses the perimeter of my buddy's ranch. From the top of the bank down to the water is at least 40 feet and the slope is an estimated 30 degrees. With our group of testers watching closely, Ken drove the buggy down one of the slopes, crossed about 10 inches of running water and up the other bank at about half throttle.

I later hopped on with him and the buggy easily negotiated the slope with the two of us onboard. Back at camp to enjoy a tasty smoked pork, pinto bean and potato salad lunch with a buggy still had several miles of battery life left.

I was completely sold on the versatility and power of the converted golf cart. At less than half the cost of a factory model with a 3 year warranty on the lithium battery and 3-month warranty on the buggy, this might just be the best deal available on a very serviceable machine tailor made for the deer lease.

To learn more, visit [www.iridegolfcarts.com](http://www.iridegolfcarts.com).

Watch our TV show "A Sportsmans Life" on YouTube and Carbon TV this week to see Ken's buggy in action.

# Habitat and Angler Access Program enhances freshwater fishing

**Special to the News-Times**

**AUSTIN** - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Habitat and Angler Access Program supplies funding for projects that develop and increase shoreline and bank fishing access as well as restore and enhance fish habitat in Texas' public inland waters.

The HAAP is looking for project ideas and proposals for the third round of funding for fiscal years 2026-2027. Potential partners are required to contact, discuss and develop project ideas, as well as draft and submit project proposals in coordination with

TPWD Inland Fisheries Biologists.

"The Habitat and Angler Access Program is an exciting opportunity for us to collaborate and support partners interested in expanding fishing opportunities and bettering the quality of fisheries for Texans," said Michael Homer Jr., fisheries biologist for the TPWD Inland Fisheries Division. "The program is intended to identify and implement projects with the highest potential to enhance freshwater fisheries resources and improve bank and shoreline access in public waters."

Since 2023, the program has supported 32 projects with more than \$1 million of funding from the sale of freshwater fishing licenses and over \$1.9 million of matching support from partners. HAAP enables the TPWD Inland Fisheries Division to support habitat and angler access improvement projects conducted with eligible partners such as other agencies, local municipalities, water authorities, educational institutions, angler groups and other non-profit organizations.

Funding is used to support individual fish habitat improvement and angler access projects

on public ponds, reservoirs, streams and rivers. Example habitat projects include bank and shoreline stabilization projects, installation of erosion control features, deployment of habitat structures, native vegetation plantings, as well as dredging excessive silt and organic materials from reservoirs that have high potential for quality fisheries development.

Bank or shoreline-based angler access projects that could be supported through HAAP include the development or improvement of fishing piers, installation of fish attracting features

(e.g., underwater dock lighting and habitat structures), the creation of jetties, as well as the construction of non-motorized boat launches for kayaks, canoes and other small watercraft for fishing access.

For more information or to submit a proposal, visit the TPWD HAAP webpage. Proposal submissions will be accepted through March 31, 2025. Proposal submissions as well as additional program information may be obtained by contacting [FishGrants@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:FishGrants@tpwd.texas.gov). Approved projects will have a completion deadline of Aug. 31, 2027.

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# Luttrell introduces Service Dogs Assisting Veterans Act

Special to the News-Times

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month and National Service Dog Month, Rep. Morgan Luttrell, R-Texas, Chairman of Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee on House Veterans' Affairs Committee, introduced the Service Dogs Assisting Veterans Act in the U.S. House of Representatives.



Morgan Luttrell

This legislation would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to nonprofit organizations to assist with programs to provide service dogs to eligible veterans. This bill includes training for the service dog and also extends the availability of this program to other veteran disabilities, such as blind, deaf, TBI, military sexual trauma, paralysis and PTSD.

"As veterans fight to survive the invisible wounds of war, it's been my priority to do everything possible to ensure veterans have access to every mental health resource out there," Luttrell said. "Long after our veterans have left the battlefield, service dogs play an invaluable role in supporting the men and women who fought for our freedoms. The legislation I introduced provides another tool in the toolbox for wounded vets when they return home by providing the resources to raise, train, and place service

dogs with more veterans. Meeting the needs of our veterans is not something I take lightly, and I'll continue to work to provide them the best care."

"Service dogs have a proven track record of providing life-saving assistance to Veterans," said K9s For Warriors Vice President of Government & External Affairs Bill McCabe. "The SAVES Act will ultimately put more service dogs in the hands of Veterans in critical need, allowing them to regain their independence and reintegrate into civilian life. We applaud this bipartisan, bicameral effort and urge Congress to pass this important legislation without delay."

It is estimated that upwards of 20 percent of Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, and more than 450,000 service members have been diagnosed

with at least one traumatic brain injury over the past two decades.

As a result, these veterans suffer from alarmingly high rates of depression, anxiety, joblessness, homelessness, and substance use disorders. Far too often, they resort to taking their own lives, with nearly 20 veterans dying by suicide each day.

Today, there are tens of thousands of service dogs across the United States assisting veterans with a wide-range of disabilities and ailments. A service dog is defined as a dog which have been specifically trained to conduct actions for a person suffering from a disability. These can include seeing eye dogs, seizure alert and response dogs, and actions to assist individuals suffering from mental health conditions such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

As the demand for alternative treatment modalities increases, the bipartisan, bicameral Service Dogs Assisting Veterans (SAVES) Act directs the Secretary of the Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program at the Veterans Health Administration to award funds, on a competitive basis, to accredited nonprofit organizations that provide highly trained service dogs to eligible Veterans suffering from blindness, visual, or mobility impairments, loss of hearing, post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and/or military sexual trauma,

free of charge.

Nonprofit organizations would be required to submit an application to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that includes a description of the training that will be provided by the organization to eligible veterans; the training of dogs that will serve as service dogs; the aftercare services that the organization will provide for the service dogs and eligible veteran, and the plan for publicizing the availability of service dogs for veterans free of charge.

To ensure the highest of standards, approved nonprofits must also have experience working directly with veterans and adhere to Assistance Dogs International (ADI) standards or another widely recognized accreditation that the Secretary determines has standards that meet or exceed ADI.

Several veterans organizations have endorsed this legislation, including: Americas Warrior Partnership (AWP), Blinded Veterans Association, Chief Warrant & Warrant Officers Association of the US Coast Guard, Dog Tag Buddies, HunterSeven Foundation, Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans of America, Kayas K9s, K9s For Warriors, National Military Families Association, Non-Commissioned Officers Association, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Pet Advocacy Network, Semper K9 Assistance Dogs, The Ameri-

can Legion, The Independence Fund, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, The Enlisted Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

Luttrell also announced the passage of the Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2024, a critical piece of legislation aimed at supporting America's veterans and their families. The bill, which passed with bipartisan support, ensures that veterans receiving compensation for service-connected disabilities, as well as the survivors of certain veterans, will see an increase in their benefits to match the rising cost of living.

"Our veterans gave everything to defend our freedoms, and it is our duty to ensure they receive the care and compensation they deserve. The passage of the Veterans Compensation COLA Act of 2024 is a testament to our ongoing commitment to America's heroes and their families," Luttrell said.

Effective Dec. 1, this adjustment will provide financial relief to veterans by aligning their benefits with the cost-of-living increase that Social Security beneficiaries receive. The Veterans COLA Act ensures that veterans and their families do not fall behind economically as inflation impacts households across the county, recognizing the sacrifices they have made for our nation.

## Free disaster legal assistance for Texans available

Special to the News-Times

AUSTIN — Free legal assistance is available to Texans who were affected by Hurricane Beryl.

Texans with disaster-related legal issues may receive free legal assistance by calling the State Bar of Texas Legal Hotline at (800) 504-7030. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Phones are answered in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Legal aid may be able to help survivors in the following ways:

- Clarify home ownership/heir's property.
- Assist with benefits, applications and appeals.
- Support with fraud issues or landlord

disputes.

- Assist with disability issues related to the disaster.
- Provide insurance policy assistance.
- Assist community groups that support long-term recovery.

This assistance is available to eligible homeowners and renters in Austin, Bowie, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Walker, Waller and Wharton counties.

For more information about Texas disaster recovery, visit [fema.gov/disaster/4798](http://fema.gov/disaster/4798). Follow FEMA Region 6 on social media at [x.com/FEMARegion6](https://x.com/FEMARegion6) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/FEMARegion6/](https://facebook.com/FEMARegion6/).



### EDUCATION FOUNDATION FUNDS

Quality Home Products of Texas recently did a \$5,000 match at a fundraiser for the COCISD Education Foundation. The money raised provides things for teachers in Coldspring that the school does not provide. QHP owner Bill McGraw, class of 1978, does matching campaigns for many local and international charities. His company sells and services residential generators, water treatment and tank-less water heaters for the greater Houston area. He comes from a long line of teachers going all the way back to a great-grandfather and believes that without teachers there would not be many other professions. COURTESY PHOTO



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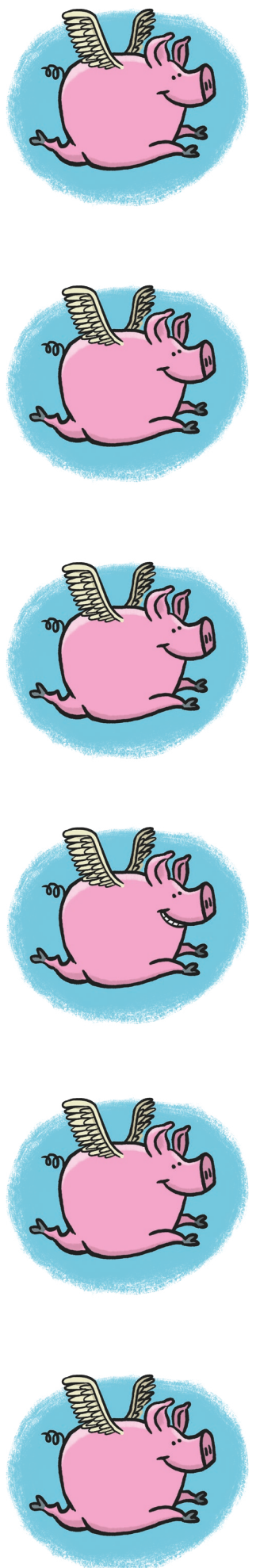
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**Kid Scoop Together**

## When Pigs Fly

The idiom "when pigs fly" means something is very unlikely to ever actually happen. Can you find the flying pig that's different from the others?



## Money Talks!

"Money talks" is an **idiom**. An idiom is a saying that means something different from what the words actually say.



The idiom **money talks** means people often listen and pay attention to someone who has a lot of money. It suggests that money gives people power.

## Idioms Are Fun!

Money idioms aren't the only type of idioms. Look at the pictures below and see if you can translate them into the idioms they represent. Add the missing vowels to find out what the pictures are saying.



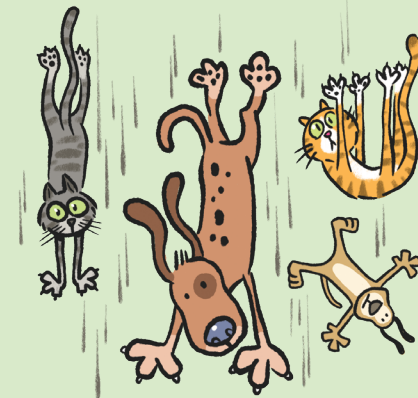
Being careful about what you say or do:

"I was w\_lk\_ng  
\_n\_ggsh\_lls."



To accidentally reveal a secret:

"I spill\_d th\_b\_\_ns."



When it's raining a lot:

"It's rai\_n\_g c\_t\_s  
\_nd d\_g\_s."

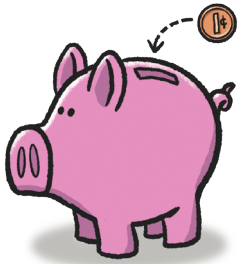
Standards Link: Spell grade level words correctly.

## More Money Talk: A Two-in-One Activity!

- Use the code to complete the phrase shown in each picture.
- Then draw a line from each phrase to the box with its meaning.

**SECRET CODE:**

- = money
- = cash
- = grow
- = save
- = earned
- = parted
- = priceless
- = stretch
- = pincher



A penny saved is a penny \_\_\_\_\_.



Money doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ on trees.



Time is \_\_\_\_\_.



A fool and his money are soon \_\_\_\_\_.



\_\_\_\_\_ for a rainy day.



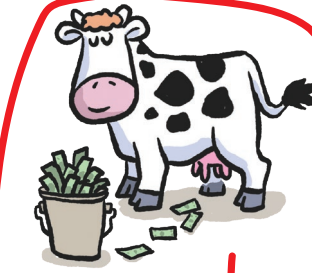
\_\_\_\_\_ your dollar.



I'm a penny \_\_\_\_\_.



That's \_\_\_\_\_!



It's a real **cash** cow.

Time is a valuable thing that, like money, should not be wasted.

Money shouldn't be wasted or taken for granted.

It's important to save money in good times so you'll have some in difficult times.

Something that is more valuable than money: an act of kindness, love, etc.

Being careless can make you lose or waste your money.

Making your money go farther by finding good deals.

An idea that brings in a lot of money with little work.

Saving money instead of spending it adds up over time.

Someone who is extremely careful or reluctant about spending money.

### Extra! Extra! Money Words

Find three examples of prices written in numbers. Rewrite each of the amounts of money in words. For example, \$21.95 would be "twenty-one dollars and ninety-five cents."

Standards Link: Write numbers in words.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

## Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk

This idiom means that you shouldn't get too upset over small problems. Follow the maze to get the sponge to the spilled milk.

START

FINISH

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

### Double Double Word Search

BUSINESS  
BUY  
DEALS  
EFFORT  
FLY  
GOOD  
GROW  
LOSE  
LOVE  
MONEY  
PENNY  
STRETCH  
TIME  
TREES  
WASTE

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

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

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

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### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **MEANING**

The noun **meaning** is the definition of a word.

Today, I learned the **meaning** of the word **idiom**.

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

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

## Picture This

Look through the newspaper for an idiom. Draw a picture showing the literal meaning of the idiom. Then discuss what the actual meaning is or could be.

Standards Link: Explain common idioms.

## Why couldn't the flower buy a large pizza?

ANSWER: Because it only had one cent!

## Write On! Secret Talent

What is a secret talent you have that no one else knows about?

# E

## Brad Elrod

### Attorney At Law

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Legal/Public Notices

Parental rights for Annabelle Sue Giampapa

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - Rule 114 & 101 - Rules of Civil Procedure CLERK OF THE COURT ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER TAMMY CURRIE LUWANNA BROWN DISTRICT CLERK 350 PINE STREET, 9TH FLOOR, 1 STATE HWY 150, RM 4 BEAUMONT, TX 77701 - COLDSPRING, TX 77331 THE STATE OF TEXAS NOTICE TO RESPONDENT : "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you." TO: UNKNOWN FATHER , Defendant, Greeting: You

are commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's petition at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being Monday the 4 TH of NOVEMBER , 20 24 at or before 10 o'clock a.m., before the 411 TH Judicial District Court of Texas, at the Courthouse in Coldspring, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed on the 24TH day of OCTOBER, 20 23 in this case, numbered CV17,767 on the docket of said court, and styled: IN THE INTEREST OF ANNABELLE SUE GIAMPAPA, A CHILD The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES are Plaintiffs and CHARLES

GIAMPAPA AND ALEXIS LANE are Defendants A brief statement of the nature of the suit is as follows, to-wit; TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE UNKNOWN FATHER as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit. If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs. Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Coldspring, Texas this the 18 TH day of SEPTEMBER A.D. 20 24 . TAMMY CURRIE, District Clerk San Jacinto County, Texas By: \_ MALLORY STILES , Deputy

Bids accepted for lift station improvements

ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS The City of Coldspring will receive bids for Pea Patch Lift Station Improvements (ARPA-CLFRF) until 11:00 AM on October 10, 2024 at City Hall located at 14211 S.H. 150, Coldspring, Texas 77331 . The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this location. Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows: 1. Removal of existing submersible pumps / motors and related appurtenances. 2. Provide and construct two (2) new submersible pumps / motors / controls / power wiring and lifting rails with related improvements. 3. Removal and relocation of the existing standby power generator. 4. Provide and construct a new three (s) phase standby diesel electrical power generator with matching automatic transfer switch and related electrical improvements. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at GLS, 1609 South Chestnut, Suite 202, Lufkin, TX 75901. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file and may be reviewed at GLS, 1609 S. Chestnut, Suite 202, Lufkin, Texas 75901 (936) 637-4900 . Bid/Contract Documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge (with the option to purchase hard copies) at www.civcastusa.com . A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an accept-

able surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to City of Coldspring or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin. City of Coldspring reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by City of Coldspring for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award. All contractors/subcontractors who's System for Award Management ( SAM.gov registration is not active or that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project. City of Coldspring John Benestante, Mayor September 19, 2024

TABC filed for Diamond 2024 Investments

LEGAL NOTICE Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms of the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code THAT Diamond 2024 Investments Inc d/b/a In & Out Food Store HAS FILED APPLICA-

TION FOR A : Wine Only Package Store Permit SAID BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED AT : 15000 Hwy 150W, Coldspring, San Jacinto County, TX 77331 OWNER : Sahid Maredia, President/Secretary

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P-1708

ACROSS

- 1 duck found in Texas
- 5 Texas singer B.J.'s birthplace: \_\_\_\_, OK
- 6 SMU & NFL great RB, Dickerson
- 7 Livingston's county
- 8 TXism: "fits like ugly on an \_\_\_\_"
- 9 TX Trini Lopez's "If I Had \_\_\_\_"
- 16 Ryan O' \_\_\_\_ was in "Wild Rovers" with TX Joe Don Baker
- 18 near El Paso, oldest U.S. Catholic parish: \_\_\_\_ Sur
- 21 dir. to Edna from Gonzales (abbr.)
- 22 in 1967, TX A.J. Foyt won at Le \_\_\_\_
- 23 TXism for "your"
- 24 Cowboy 1993 Super Bowl ring has star-diamond
- 30 TXism: "plain \_\_\_\_ on your face"
- 34 Vega h.s. class
- 35 Mexican husk food
- 36 TXism: "trying to \_\_\_\_ against the stream" (difficult)
- 37 amino \_\_\_\_
- 39 mother of singer in 5-across (2 wds.)
- 43 \_\_\_\_ Code
- 44 Texas silent film star, Ramon
- 45 slang for Texas-created soft drink
- 46 TXism: "I \_\_\_\_ that like an armadillo needs an Interstate"
- 47 TXism: "woodshed \_\_\_\_" (spanking)
- 49 TXism: "plain as the \_\_\_\_ mule"
- 52 in the Valley: Santa \_\_\_\_ National Wildlife Refuge
- 53 uncanny perception said to waitress with the tea pitcher: " \_\_\_\_ off"
- 55 TXism: "he's wound tighter than an \_\_\_\_ clock" (tense)
- 58 artist Oldenburg of "Stake Hitch" sculpture at Dallas Museum of Art
- 59 former parent co. of of Texas-based American Airlines
- 60 female deer
- 61 TXism: " \_\_\_\_ of the trail" (completed)

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "a flash in \_\_\_\_" (briefly)
- 2 small but important continent
- 3 TXism: " \_\_\_\_ snake on a hot road"
- 4 TXism: " \_\_\_\_ stock and barrel"
- 9 TXism: "fat \_\_\_\_ a boardinghouse cat"
- 10 TXism: "ugly as \_\_\_\_ sin"
- 11 TXism: "packed like sardines in \_\_\_\_"
- 12 not stereo
- 13 historic home in Independence: \_\_\_\_ Houston House
- 14 TXism: "let ' \_\_\_\_ rip"
- 15 TX singer Orbison
- 17 early Texas novel by Reid: "The Head- \_\_\_\_ man"
- 19 TXism: "he was around when the \_\_\_\_ was only sick" (old)
- 20 TXism: "wiped the slate clean"
- 24 \_\_\_\_ Jo, TX
- 25 Merle Haggard's nickname
- 26 prayer ending
- 27 Carthage's county
- 28 number on a football team, on the field
- 29 Cabeza \_\_\_\_ first described the Texas bison
- 31 TXism: "got \_\_\_\_ left feet" (bad dancer)
- 32 TXism: "pay \_\_\_\_ no never mind"
- 33 election issue
- 38 TX Ginger played this Castle in 1939
- 40 gallery piece
- 41 western: " \_\_\_\_ Grit"
- 42 East TX windshield: \_\_\_\_ with bugs
- 48 Texas-based "Giant"
- 50 \_\_\_\_ and reels
- 51 therapeutic resort
- 56 \_\_\_\_ water, TX
- 57 TXism: " \_\_\_\_ the hoof" (hog)

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

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

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

## Announcements

**ATTENTION GOODRICH** parents! Text (936)223-4477 if you would like your child to receive a FREE Halloween costume. (38-2t-cc-PCE)

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

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

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

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

## Auctions & Sales

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

**STOP San Jacinto News-Times FOR GREAT DEALS 936-628-6851**

## TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

**TexSCAN Week of Sept. 22-28, 2024**

**AUCTION**  
Three Development Site in Austin, TX, minutes from UT Austin and downtown. Bankruptcy sale. Bid deadline Oct. 7. 855-755-2300, HilcoRealEstateSales.com.

**CHARITY**  
Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-855-808-4152 today!

**CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE**  
Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-493-3803.

**ENERGY**  
Backup power - peace of mind. Get a standard warranty of 7 years, \$849 value. Call 888-925-0261, Briggs & Stratton Energy Solutions.

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-704-8579 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

**EVENTS**  
Guadalupe County Fair & Rodeo, Oct. 4-13, Seguin Events Center. Carnival, parade, mutton bustin, bull riding, petting zoo, vendors, and more. BBQ cook off Oct. 4-5. PRCAR Rodeo Oct. 10-12. Buy tickets online at gcfair.org.

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE**  
Wesley Financial Group, LLC - Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-501-6864.

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## Auctions & Sales

**Canyon Park's Semi Annual Yard Sales Friday-Sunday Sept. 27th-29**  
(38-2t-cc-PCE)

**HUGE FOUR FAMILY** Garage Sale, 4575 US Hwy 190 W, Woodville, Friday & Saturday, Sept 27-28, 7-5. Ladies clothing, all excellent quality and condition, home decor, western decor, household items, furniture, too much to list. (39-1t-p-TCB)

**THE BRYAN FAMILY** estate sale will be held this Friday-Saturday, September 27th-28th at 1650 N. Home St. Corrigan from 8am-3pm. (39-1t-cc-PCE)

**BIG SALE**, Friday & Saturday, Sept. 27-28, 680 CR 4450, Hillister. Antiques, motor scooter, cars, gun cabinet, gun safe, guns, and much more. Also selling BBQ. (39-1t-cc-TCB)

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

**GARAGE SALE** Friday-Saturday September 27th-28, starts at 8am, 117 Short Street, Hog Heaven Subdivision, Trinity. (39-1t-pd-TCNS)

## Work Wanted

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

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

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

## Work Wanted

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

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

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

**TLC**  
Toole's Lawn Care & Landscaping  
\*Drainage  
\*Retaining Walls  
\*Residential \*Commercial  
Year round full service maintenance- design, build & install flower beds, hydroseeding.  
Fully Insured  
Tree Removal, Irrigation  
Livingston, TX  
936-646-2661  
(1-tfn-b-PCE)

**Field's Paint Contracting**  
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\*Commercial & Residential Painting  
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40+ Years Experience  
DAVID FIELDS/OWNER  
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www.fieldspaintcontracting.com  
(34-12-cc-PCE)

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

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

## Work Wanted

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

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

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

## Cleaning Services

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

## Employment

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


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

## Employment/Medical

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

## Employment

**Linebarger Attorneys at Law** is hiring for a Legal Assistant/File Manager for our Livingston Office to assist Taxpayers, Input data & maintain legal files, Perform clerical duties, Prepare legal documents, Conduct address research and all other duties as assigned.  
Requirements: Proficient in using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel & Outlook). Be well-organized & detailed-oriented. Ability to keep pace with processing deadlines. Experience with e-filing is a plus.  
Interested applicants please send your resume to gina.hullihen@lgbs.com (39-2t-cc-PCE)

  
**Citizens State Bank**  
WOODVILLE, is hiring for a Branch Manager. Must have previous bank management experience. Send us your resume by email to: humanresources@citizensbank.net. (38-2t-b-TCB)

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

## Now Hiring!

Looking for honest, hard working, outgoing, self motivated individuals with a good attitude looking to build a career in the fast food industry. Looking for a Team Leader with one year experience and an assistant with 2-3 years experience. Must have good references, Livingston, TX.

Apply at www.burgerworkshr.com (1-tfn-b-PCE)

**THE CITY OF CHESTER** Water Supply Corp. and the Chester Gas System is taking applications for a Public Works Director Position. Please submit your resume to secityofchester@eastex.net or drop off at city hall in Chester, TX. Office hours are: 8-Noon, M-F. (38-4t-b-TCB)

**ADVANCED PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LLC** is hiring a skilled laborer and operator. Call for an Interview, 409-224-6674, Woodville. (37-3t-cc-TCB)

## For Sale

1968 FORD MUSTANG, numbers matching, 289 motor, automatic transmission, factory AC. It has been sitting for a while, motor has been stored in a shed, \$3,500 OBO. Can be viewed in the Goodrich area. Call (936)252-1833. (37-tfn-nc-PCE)

**POLARIS SPORTSMAN 570 SP, AWD, \$6000 OBO, Woodville. Call 409-489-8802.** (39-1t-p-TCB)

**GOLF CLUBS:** Ping Eye 2 Green Dot #1 Sand Wedge, \$400.00. Taylor Made M2 #4 AW, \$450.00. 409-429-0869. (39-2t-p-TCB)

## Rentals

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

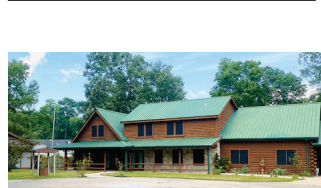
VERY NICE One Bedroom, out building, in Ivanhoe. 409-429-4752. (39-tfn-b-TCB)

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

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

## Homes for Sale

GOLF COURSE LIVING! 3-bedroom 2-bath on Fairway & Greenbelt-Trinity, TX. All electric & fireplace. 1-830-484-3356. (40-3t-cc-TCNS)



4-BEDROOM 3.5-BATH home on large secluded lot, 4800sq.ft., \$795,000.00 w/owner financing available. Call (979)482-7273. Located at 1000 W. Polk St. Livingston. (37-4-cc-PCE)

## Pets & Supplies

EIGHT YEAR old Terrier mix, spayed and chipped. She has not had all her shots, I will pay for them for the new owner. Her original owner passed away and I can not keep her. She has been raised indoors with a cat. She's a larger breed, weighing about 40 pounds. She just needs kids and a yard. Free to good home. Call (936)329-1296. (36-3t-nc-PCE)

SIX KITTENS, male and female, different colors. Free to good home(s). 936-230-9192 (37-3t-nc-PCE)

## Storage

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

## Land For Sale

LAND FOR SALE, 20 Acres, parcel# 001-03387-000 on Charcoal Rd, Searcy County, Arkansas. 20 Acres, parcel #001-03388-000 on Charcoal Rd, Searcy County, Arkansas. Call 409-201-5472 or 832-285-7641. (38-5t-cc-TCB)

## Want to Lease

THE POLK County Cowboy Church is looking to lease a building or purchase 1-3-acres in Livingston, Tx to build a new church. Please contact Steve Fredricks at (281)779-6239. (38-2t-cc-PCE)

  
**easttexasnews.com**

OCTOBER 2024

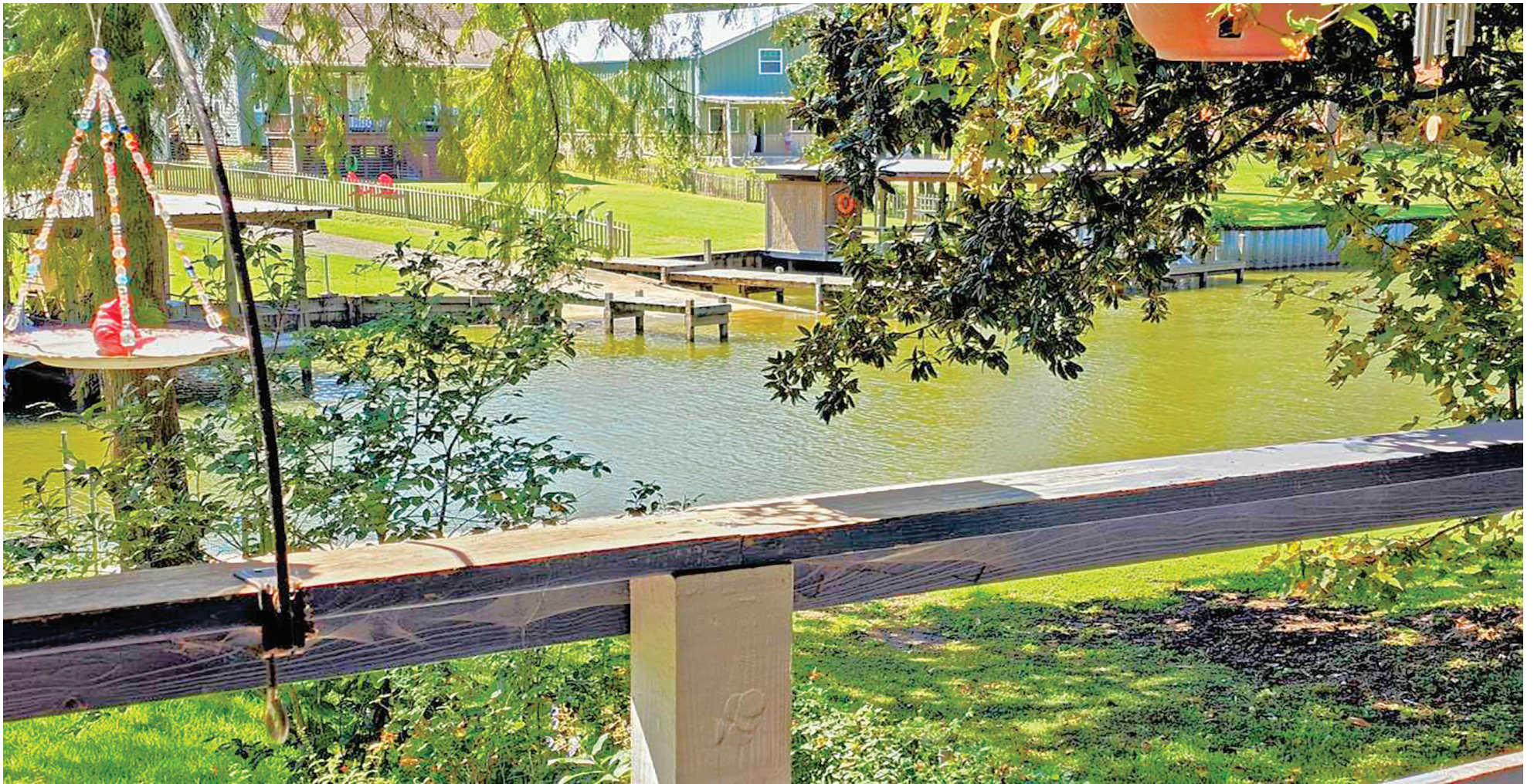
easttexasnews.com

Supplement to



# REAL ESTATE GUIDE

## Lake Livingston Area



**MLS#98845684** - Incredible views and amazing sunsets await you! Great back yard birding right from your deck! Nestled on two waterfront lots with lush shade trees, this split level home on Lake Livingston offers spacious living. Boasting three to four bedrooms, two full baths, and a versatile extra room, perfect for a game room or additional bedroom. Upgrades include Low E windows, a recently replaced HVAC system (2022), PEX plumbing (exterior lines 2021), and a brand new roof (8/2024). Enjoy the convenience of a downstairs refrigerator, French drains, a partially finished attic that is climate controlled, RV pad with 20 AMP plug, greenhouse, and leaf guard gutter system. Year round flowering plants. Stay cozy with a wood-burning fireplace featuring an electric insert that can easily be removed. VRBO friendly neighborhood. Boat available for purchase. Make your appointment today and come take a look!



**Vickie Brewster, Realtor®**

Cell: 281-770-2903 | Office: 936-327-5736  
vickiebrewster2@gmail.com



David Jones, Broker  
2400 Hwy 190 West  
LIVINGSTON, TX 77351

Lake Livingston Area Real Estate Guide can be found monthly in the Polk County Enterprise, San Jacinto News-Times and counter-topped in area businesses.



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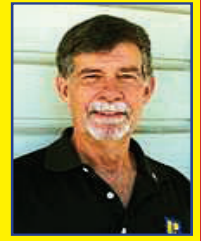
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TAHS, AHWD, SRES  
936-239-8500



**REDUCED**

**MLS#58099219** - Nice 3/2 Palm Harbor home Model TL1372F4, single wide 1260 sq.ft. 72'x17.5'. Good layout, AC vents in ceiling, primary bath has double sinks and separate shower and garden tub. Storage shed is 8x12, Garage/shop is 12x23 with roll up door and extra wide walk in door. Entire yard is low maintenance with weed barrier covered with white rock. No lawn mower needed here. Quiet end of gated subdivision. Has rec center with large pool, bath house, party/meeting room, exercise room, snack bar. Subdivision also has fishing pier, boat ramp with park area.....**\$149,900**



**SOLD**

**MLS#15619766** - Great property, unrestricted, 9.5 acres, 5 bedrooms 3 full baths. Living/dining area, large kitchen with lots of cabinets and counter space, pantry. Home is located on a very private location but close to town, shopping and schools. Small creek runs through property. 10x6 front deck and 8x16 side deck. 12x24 storage/workshop with lofts for storage on each end. New gravel on entry drive, new A/C, inside and outside units June 2023. Great place for kids and grandkids to enjoy exploring and watching the wildlife.....**\$299,900**



**SOLD**

**MLS#12723763** - Nice and clean double wide in Holiday Village. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully fenced, nice covered front porch for relaxing and watching neighbors go by. Subdivision is golf cart friendly, has boat ramp, fishing pier, rec center with exercise room and pool. Gated entry. Home has attached and detached carports, storage shed/workshop has another full bath but water is not turned on.....**\$164,000**



**MLS#98334545** - Waterview lot in Yaupon Cove has slab where house was before 2020 tornado. Subdivision has public water, public sewer, natural gas, and 3 boat ramps for residents use. No manufactured homes in this section of subdivision ..... **\$45,000**



**SOLD**

**MLS#16961621** - Lots of potential with 208' Hwy 190 frontage. 3 parcels, just over 2 acres. UNRESTRICTED Residential or commercial has drives in place off of Hwy 190 and Vivian. 20x30 Shop could be converted to living quarters, great RV cover. Has RV hookups, 30amp and 50amp with sewer connected to septic system. 16x28 storage shed on back of property. Has slab where home was prior to fire with separate aerobic sewer system in place. 2 water meters in place. 50x50 slab includes 20x20 carport, 20x30 shop, and 50x30 RV cover which has 14' height clearance for RV.. **\$150,000**



**PENDING**

**MLS#32607831** - Lot in Yaupon Cove, has electric, water, and sewer connections in place. 10x30 slab where mobile home used to be. Subdivision had 3 boat ramps for resident's use, public water and sewer. Mobile homes allowed in this section..... **\$12,500**



**MLS#73533722** - Holiday Village, 2 large lots approx 200' deep in Sec. J. Partially cleared, electric installed with two 30amp hookups for RV. Subdivision boat ramp, fishing pier, rec center with pool. Gated subdivision..... **\$65,000**



**MLS#7650114** - 4 nice partially cleared lots in Putnam's landing. Ready to build on or bring your manufactured home. Subdivision is close to Lake Livingston State Park and Beacon Bay Marina. Also has private boat ramp and park area for subdivision residents use, just across FM 3126 ..... **\$32,000**



**SOLD**

**MLS#27342116** - Like new 1 bedroom 1 bath 2021 manufactured home would be great home or weekend getaway. Super clean, oven and dishwasher have never been used. 25x12 RV or boat cover with 30amp hookup. 20x30 shop area with roll up door and side walk in door. Has unfinished room with many possibilities. Game room craft room or bunk room. All on cleared lot with great views of wildlife from covered front porch or covered side porch. Subdivision has 3 boat ramps for resident's use. .... **\$145,900**



**WATERFRONT**

**REDUCED**

**MLS#81820272** - Great Waterfront Lot on Kickapoo Creek with views of creek, cove, and Hwy 190 bridge over Kickapoo Creek. Very private and quiet on cul-de-sac and peninsula, Wonderful full time living or weekend retreat. This property previously had a home that was destroyed by tornado so utilities in place and piers for stilt house if you desire. Has pier and boat lift. Condition of lift, lake water pump, and sprinkler system not known because no electricity since tornado. No mobile homes allowed in this section of Yaupon Cove. 3 boat ramps in subdivision and park area. Close to grocery, hardware, dining and Onalaska schools. Water is low in pictures because of drought..... **\$140,000**



**SOLD**

**MLS#75696779** - Great lot to build on in Memorial Point, a gated subdivision on Lake Livingston. Subdivision has Clubhouse, boat ramp, tennis/pickleball courts and playground. Lot is level and completely cleared. Has limited waterview. .... **\$26,000**



**SOLD**

**MLS#61263626** - Very nice and clean lakehouse in quiet subdivision. Limited waterview has 1 or 2 bedrooms 1 1/2 baths. Updated kitchen and main bath with granite and tile. Room on back has been used as bedroom. All concrete drive, carport, wraparound porch and 28x14 workshop/storage shed. Public water and sewer. Wonderful weekend place to gather with the family. Comes fully furnished with all furniture/furnishings and appliances. Subdivision has boat ramp and park area for residents use. 1/2 mile to grocery and restaurants..... **\$149,900**



**KRISTINA SMITHA**  
REALTOR  
**281-797-0259**  
123ksmitha@gmail.com  
JOHN ALTIC, BROKER




Livingston Office - 137 Old Mill Center | Livingston | 936-967-0600



Nestled within a secluded gated waterfront community, this delightful 2/2 home encompasses three spacious lots, ideal for a weekend retreat or year-round residency. Super cute home and recently added large storage building 35'x25' enclosed with 12'x45' attached lean-to you can park your boat, 10'X25' front porch, new concrete driveway with RV hookup 50 amp & sewer. 12'X16' storage building and ,10'X12' building with 12'X25' carport. Also new hot water heater, new laminate flooring throughout the house. Enjoy the club house, pool, park, and enjoy driving your golf cart in the community, enjoy the subdivision fall festivities. Launch your watercraft from the subdivision boat launch. There are many species of fish to catch. Enjoy the beautiful sunsets. MLS#27712789.....\$310,000

## House Hunting Check List



If you're searching for a new home, use this helpful checklist to compare information on promising houses and help you make the best decision.

	HOUSE 1	HOUSE 2	HOUSE 3
DATE VISITED			
REALTOR			
LOCATION			
PRICE			
SIZE OF HOUSE			
ACREAGE/LOT			
BEDROOMS			
BATHROOMS			
AC/HEATING			
APPLIANCES			
REPAIRS NEEDED			
SPECIAL FEATURES			
FINANCING			
TAXES			
UTILITY COSTS			
SCHOOL DISTRICT			
NEIGHBORHOOD			

# FOR SALE



4-BEDROOM 3.5-BATH  
home on large secluded lot  
4,800 sqft  
**\$795,000**  
Owner Financing  
**Call 979-482-7273**  
Located at 1000 W Polk St, Livingston



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DOWNTOWN  
308 W Church St

ONALASKA  
14114 Hwy 190 W

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**Steve Poe**  
Realtor  
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cstevenpoe@gmail.com



**Lynn Humphreys**  
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lynnhumphreys.realestate@gmail.com



**Toni Atkinson**  
Realtor  
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tasaleshomes4u@gmail.com



**Jamie Griffin**  
Realtor  
936-933-3399  
jamiegriffin.xyz@gmail.com



**Taylor Rhodes**  
Realtor  
979-270-1502  
realtortaylorrhodes@gmail.com

*Waterfront Specialists!!*

**936-646-5100 | www.aactionrealty.com**  
**10289 US Hwy 190 W | Livingston**



Pristine home in beautiful Westwood Shores on Lake Livingston! This Lakefront home has been updated to the point that it looks brand new! You are going to love the high ceilings, open concept living, kitchen, and breakfast room. Home overlooks the lake. Water views from breakfast nook, living, and primary suite. Primary bath has separate vanities, a fabulous walk in closet, linen closet, and wonderful walk in shower! Living has a fireplace. There is a 5th BR/office, formal dining, and 3 guest rooms - 2 with direct access to the guest bath. Tons of closet space. Granite countertops. 3 car garage with bonus man cave/she shack, and an RV port. Too much to list here. See photos for more details! Many more amenities such as: Alarm system, Outside security cameras, Full Yard Sprinkler system, Spider B Gone System and a full house filtration system. Call today to schedule your private tour!  
**MLS#78592278.....\$499,900**



**REDUCED**

**Waterfront Luxurious Penthouse on Lake Livingston!** One of the Largest Units in Bella Vista. Over 1,700 SQ FT. 3BR-2BA w/ Large Loft. Take the elevator or stairs to your private front porch. Private boat house with electric lift. Gated Community, Pool, Beach, Boat Ramp and Beautiful Green Spaces. Enjoy every minute have fun or just down time with out all the worries of maintaining it all, spending one whole day mowing, cleaning and all the up keep, this is the place for you. Owner Financing Term Available! **MLS#29588161..... \$439,500**



**REDUCED**

**Water View home with inground pool overlooking Lake Livingston!** 4 bedroom, 2 bath, one level home on over half an acre with a 4 car garage and an inground pool. Beautiful home offering an open floor plan. Kitchen with custom cabinetry, breakfast bar and a large walk-in pantry. Spacious dining area and family room are great for entertaining. Family room opens up onto the screen porch and has views of the lake. The bedrooms are split with two on each side of the home. The primary bedroom has an en-suite bath with a large shower & walk-in closet. From the primary bedroom there are 2 large doors that lead directly to the large screened porch. This is the perfect place to enjoy your morning coffee, take in the views of the lake and hear the waves crashing. The garage is perfect for your cars, jet skis or even a workshop. The screened in pool is the best place to relax the day away. This home was completely renovated in 2016 and is in move in condition. Great home for permanent living or a vacation home.  
**MLS#21899776.....\$410,710**



**Acreage! Nestled on a serene cul-de-sac, this spacious 3-bed, 2-bath home rests on 4 lots.** With vaulted ceilings, French doors opening to a large deck, and a wet bar with a wine fridge, entertaining is a delight. The primary bedroom boasts an oversized closet, sitting area, and private deck access. Enjoy sightings of deer in the area. Shopping in Livingston is just 15 minutes away with plenty of dining options. Onalaska offers local shopping and amenities like gyms and the Heritage Society. Room sizes are approximate. This property offers a peaceful retreat with ample space for relaxation and leisure.  
**MLS#11099016.....\$509,000**



**REDUCED**

**Waterfront on Lake Livingston!** Very neat and clean waterfront home. Home has 3 bedrooms and 2 baths with an extra room for an office, family room with a wood burning fireplace, and an island kitchen. Wonderful decks on the front and back of the home. Deck on the lakeside of the home is partially covered and great for entertaining or taking in the beautiful open views of the lake. Situated on almost a half acre. Wood bulkhead and boat lift that is equipped for 2 jet skis which are included in the sale. Great location on Lake Livingston. Rare find on the water for the price.  
**MLS#51557508.....\$249,900**



**REDUCED**

**Waterfront!** Nestled on a serene cove on Lake Livingston, this charming waterfront home boasts genuine hardwood floors, ample windows, and lush shade trees. Enjoy the tranquility on the spacious front and back decks. Large kitchen and dining room is an entertainer's delight. The split-level layout offers a cozy living area with a stunning water view. Two bedrooms and a full bath on the first floor, while the second floor features a primary suite with a walk-in closet, full bath, and a cozy sitting area. Experience lakeside living at its finest in this peaceful retreat.  
**MLS#43692092.....\$379,000**



**Lake Access home on over an acre.** 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths. Property fronts 3 streets (on 2 corners). Island kitchen. Primary bedroom is on the 1st level. Office or second bedroom is also on the 1st level. Half bath and laundry off of the kitchen area. Upstairs is an open bedroom with a full bath. Large front porch. Plenty of storage under the backside of the house. Include a large storage building. Call today for an appointment.  
**MLS#2902256.....\$229,900**



**Lake access!** Your forever home sounds wonderful! With its recent construction in 2022 and thoughtful design features, it seems perfectly suited for comfortable living. The inclusion standout feature is the small mother-in-law home or guest house located just off the back porch, providing additional living space for guests or extended family. The home's accessibility features, such as the entrance ramp and wide doors, ensure that it is accommodating for all residents and guests. Situated in a waterfront subdivision, this home is just a short walk from the stunning Lake Livingston, offering beautiful views and offers great opportunities for outdoor activities and scenic views, and lots of wildlife to watch. This property boasts a spacious corner lot in the heart of Onalaska school district, close to the lake and local shopping. **MLS#10520733.....\$210,000**



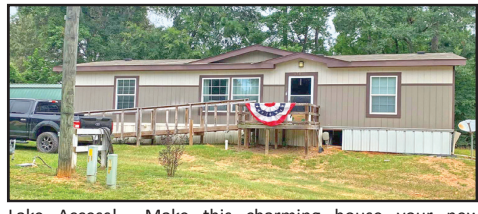
**Lake Access!** 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 1 level home with attached 2 car carport. Home sits on one lot with fenced back yard and includes a second lot. Home is in move-in ready condition. Open concept. Covered front porch, screened in back porch, firepit in back yard and large storage building. Comes with some furniture and includes appliances. **MLS#37940273.....\$189,900**



**Waterfront on Lake Livingston!** 3 BR, 2 ba townhouse. Open concept with spacious living area perfect for entertaining guests. Family room with fp, dining area/sunroom with natural light, updated island kitchen with plenty of storage space. Primary bedroom is downstairs, has rear deck access. Enjoy morning coffee or the breathtaking sunsets on your large partially covered deck overlooking the lake. Beautiful shade trees around the house provide shelter from the summer heat. Assigned boat slip, and boat parking on premises. Walk out to the boat dock and enjoy the tranquil ambiance of the water or take your water toys for a spin! Community has 800' of community owned waterfront. Fish anywhere along this area or off of 1 of 2 piers. The townhome is located in a quiet and friendly community, offering two community pools and a peaceful reserve to take walks. This townhome is the perfect place for full-time or weekend living. No yard work except the flower beds! Comes mostly furnished! **MLS# 86475529.....\$299,900**



**Lake area.** 3 BR- 2.5 BA - 1 Car Carport, double wide concrete drive. Completed Remodeling 6-2024. Very nice take a look at this one. **MLS# 91789294..... \$229,000**



**Lake Access!** Make this charming house your new home today! The open concept living area is perfect for entertaining guests or enjoying a cozy night in. Large windows fill the space with natural light, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere. The kitchen is a chef's delight, featuring modern appliances, ample counter space, and plenty of cabinets for storage. It seamlessly flows into the dining area, making meal preparation and serving a breeze. The master bedroom is a true retreat, complete with an ensuite bathroom. Enjoy your private oasis with a spacious layout, large closet. Two additional bedrooms provide ample space for family, guests, or a home office. Situated in a small neighborhood, this home is close to local amenities, schools, and recreational areas. Enjoy easy access to Lake Livingston for boating, fishing, and other outdoor activities. **MLS#87023130.....\$172,000**





**Vickie Brewster, Realtor®**  
 Cell: 281-770-2903 | Office: 936-327-5736  
 vickiebrewster2@gmail.com



**David Jones, Broker**  
 2400 Hwy 190 West | LIVINGSTON, TX 77351




**MLS#2485709** - Experience country living just minutes from town in this charming three bedroom, two bath home on 1.79 acres (per CAD). The spacious living area flows seamlessly into the kitchen, complete with a breakfast bar and breakfast room. Fresh interior paint (9/2024), new carpet in two bedrooms (9/2024), and laminate flooring in the third bedroom. Fresh paint on the exterior trim (9/2024). HVAC is approximately 2 years old. The land is mostly cleared. Home has an attached carport and detached metal carport. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make this your own peaceful retreat! ..... **\$224,900**



**MLS#89155111** - Country living just minutes from town. Acreage property in the popular FM350 N location!! Spacious 4 bedroom 2.5 bath home with office situated on just over 9 acres of beautiful wooded property. Great floorplan with formal living and dining as well as large den. Two circle drives; one to the front and another leads to the rear of the home and attached carport. Separate metal shop with carport (perfect for that tractor!). Area around the home is partially cleared and the rest is beautifully wooded. Make your appointment to tour this property today!..... **\$499,000**



**MLS#98845684** - Incredible views and amazing sunsets await you! Great back yard birding right from your deck! Nestled on two waterfront lots with lush shade trees, this split level home on Lake Livingston offers spacious living. Boasting three to four bedrooms, two full baths, and a versatile extra room, perfect for a game room or additional bedroom.

Upgrades include Low E windows, a recently replaced HVAC system (2022), PEX plumbing (exterior lines 2021), and a brand new roof (8/2024). Enjoy the convenience of a downstairs refrigerator, French drains, a partially finished attic that is climate controlled, RV pad with 20 AMP plug, greenhouse, and leaf guard gutter system. Year round flowering plants. Stay cozy with a wood-burning fireplace featuring an electric insert that can easily be removed. VRBO friendly neighborhood. Boat available for purchase. Make your appointment today and come take a look!..... **\$565,000**



**MLS#44298987** - Welcome to 187 Kathy, a stunning new construction located in a waterfront community. This 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home is a real gem, boasting a brick exterior with stone accents and a range of luxurious features. Inside, you'll find 9' ceilings with crown molding, custom cabinetry with soft close features, and quartz countertops throughout. The primary bedroom and living room feature beautiful trayed ceilings, while the primary bathroom offers dual sinks and an oversized shower with dual rain heads. Other highlights include ceramic tile flooring, LED lights, and pre-wiring for cable and alarm systems. Preventative termite treatment done. Seller offering StrucSure 1-2-10 Home Warranty. Outside, the property features a landscaped yard, rain gutters, and a garage with an epoxy painted floor. Don't miss the opportunity to make this exceptional home yours!..... **\$299,000**

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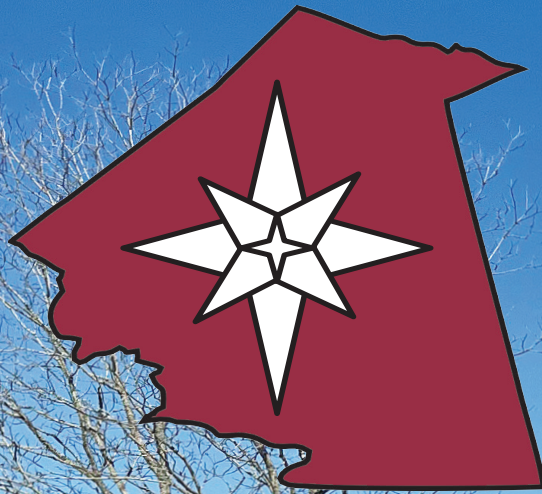
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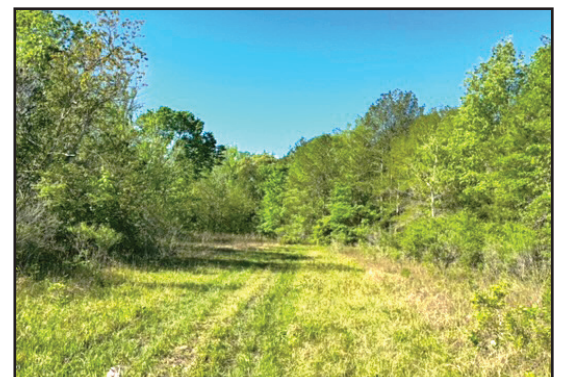
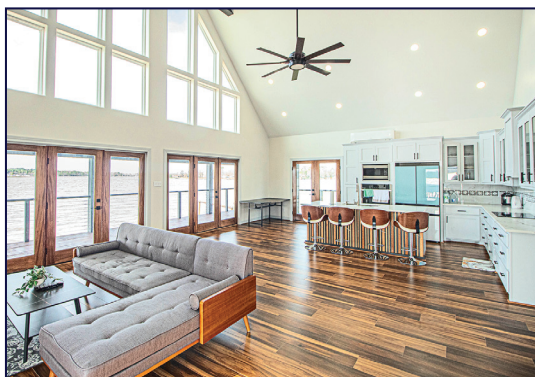
**MLS#27672529** - CITY OF LIVINGSTON - Country Living with all the City Conveniences - Lovely 3800+ SF home is situated on 45.497 acres of pasture and wood lands. 3/3, family room, formal dining, breakfast room, study/den, plus a flex room that could be used as a fourth bedroom. The is a great pantry and separate utility room with space for freezer. Everything is spacious about this home from the foyer to the primary closet to the port cochere and oversized garage. In addition to the main dwelling there is a 1486 SF farmhouse built circa 1930. This home could be made into a guest cottage with a little love and care. This property offers pasture and woods and would be a great place for horses, cattle or other farm animals.....**\$1,099,000**

**MLS#88018392** - Welcome to the country!! This 38 + acres has a great stand of marketable timber and a recognized tree farm. Along with a beautiful stand of Pine trees there is a small area with Pecan trees. Property has 1500 Sf metal building with living quarters built inside, a 1848 SF building for garage, workshop or storage and a wood barn. Great property! Call us for more details.



**MLS#39636687** - CITY OF LIVINGSTON - Elegant 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers a formal living area with high ceilings, crown molding, and fireplace with gas log. The open kitchen, dining and breakfast concept offer a great area for entertaining your guest. All kitchen appliances will convey. There is a extra room adjacent to kitchen that can be used as office/study or library. The primary en-suite offers double sinks, whirlpool soaking tub and separate shower, along with a spacious walk in closet. The home has a two car attached oversized garage. The home has a screened porch, open patio and open deck and a brick workshop build-ing. Situated on two lots, home is situated on one lot and additional lot is vacant. New interior paint and new vinyl plank in carpet areas. ..**\$389,000**

**MLS#51843204** - This 4 BRM home offer 2 full plus 2 half baths along with formal dining, spacious family room and a great kitchen, along with oversized two car garage.nLocated on Hwy. 190 East of Livingston this property also offers a guest cottage that could be two bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, kitchen/living area, utility plus workshop all on 1.55 acres. This property is a great buy with recent price reduction to .....**\$430,000**



**MLS#32034808** - Waterfront - Cedar Point - This Newly constructed home (2022) is located on an open cove facing the Kickapoo bridge, with awesome views of Lake Livingston from all three levels! The main level offers open concept with living, dining and kitchen area, primary en-suite and powder room. Upstairs, there's two bedrooms and one bath and downstairs there is an oversized game room, private bedroom, full bath, and utility room. Great covered porches to entertain your guest! Call us for a viewing today!.....**\$929,000**

**MLS#75990055** - Hwy 287 East of Corrigan- Check out this 9.51 acres with over 750 feet of frontage on US Highway 287. This tract would make a great future homesite and is wooded with some cleared trails for easy viewing. Priced to sell at .....**\$99,900**



# Country World Realty, LLC

**Patricia McCulley, Assoc. Broker**

**936-327-6554**

*40 Years Experience in the Lake Livingston Area!*



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patmcculley@icloud.com

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**MLS#10827317** – This Waterfront Custom built home offers over 5300 SF of living areas and has spectacular views of Lake Livingston. The main level offers living room, den, primary bedroom, guest bedroom, and spacious kitchen and dining area. This level offers four fireplaces and 2 full baths and 2 – ½ baths. On the lake level you will find another living area with fireplace, open kitchen/dining and two bedrooms, with two full baths plus a ½ bath. Adjacent to living area is a spa room with a 10 seat hot tub. Situated on two lots this property offers open decks, double carport, great porches, workshop, storage and a boathouse with boat and jet ski lifts. Call us for more information.

**MLS#61549464** - Shiloh Ridge - Newly listed 3/2/2 manufactured home on 3 lots. Home has recently been painted inside and offers stove, dishwasher, and refrigerator. The oversized two car garage offers ample space for vehicles, storage, and workshop area. Property has RV cover with electrical hook-up and a recently updated aerobic septic system. Great front porch with wheelchair ramp just adds to the appeal of this property. Very close access to Lake Livingston State Park and fishing below the dam. A great listing price of ..... **\$175,000**  
Call for a viewing!



**MLS#5770941** - Bold Springs Area- Located just off FM 350 North a short distance this 3 BRM, 2 Bath Brick home is situated on 12.8 manicured acres. Property offers two ponds, water well and community water, shop with garage door, greenhouse, shed, dog pen and RV Hookup. Home has a spacious family room with stone fireplace, kitchen and dining room, oversized primary en suite with whirlpool tub, two vanities with sinks and large walk in closet. There has been recent foundation repair and home has a lifetime transferrable warranty. Exterior has recently been painted. This property won't stay on the market long at the price of ..... **\$449,000**

**MLS#4983777** - Corner of Matthews and Oakhurst - You will find this 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath manufactured home with add on garage, storage area and carport. Home has recently been leveled with new skirting installed and New outside CA unit. This home is located near Matthews Street Park and would make a great investment property to add to your rental portfolio. Priced to sell at ..... **\$110,000**



**MLS#46030808** - COLITA LOOP - LIVINGSTON - You will feel right at home at this 31 plus acre ranch that offers a beautiful 3/2.5 home. Front porch runs the width of the home & beckons you to enter through a spacious foyer into a living area designed to entertain your guest. Open living, dining & kitchen concept provides ample seating for every-one. Breakfast bar with seating for six & the kitchen offers antiqued cabinets, granite counters, custom made wood vent hood, island with vegetable sink, a six-burner propane cookstove, an abundance of cabinets plus a pantry. The living area has coffered ceilings, and fireplace with gas log. Back porch that spans the entire length of the home. Covered B-B-QUE pavilion..... **\$849,000**



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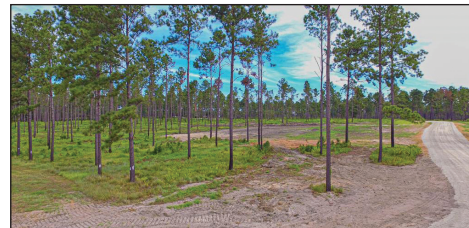


**Joseph Pedigo**  
*Realtor®*  
 936-329-4260

**936-327-5736**  
**2400 Hwy 190 W**  
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**MLS#64513518** - 10 Beautiful wooded acres located in a new subdivision. 12 tracts to choose from. A great place to build your dream home and have lots of space to play and enjoy. Just a short drive to Livingston or Onalaska and not far from Lake Livingston. Water is available along the road. .... **\$301,150**



**MLS#30591440** - 10 Beautiful wooded acres located in a new subdivision. 12 tracts to choose from. A great place to build your dream home and have lots of space to play and enjoy. Just a short drive to Livingston or Onalaska and not far from Lake Livingston. Water is available along the road. .... **\$293,500**



**MLS#31051136** - 10 Beautiful wooded acres located in a new subdivision. 12 tracts to choose from. A great place to build your dream home and have lots of space to play and enjoy. Just a short drive to Livingston or Onalaska and not far from Lake Livingston. Water is available along the road. .... **\$550,000**



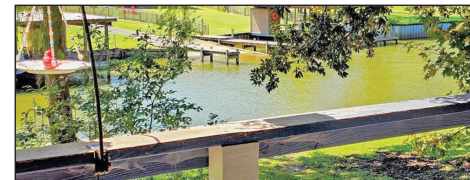
**MLS#50342166** - Escape the chaos of city life and immerse yourself in the beauty of this stunning waterfront retreat in the Preserve of Texas. Imagine waking up to the serene views of Horseshoe Lake, stepping outside and casting a line into your private fishing lake that's only steps away. With the Trinity River only a few hundred yards from your doorstep, enjoy unparalleled access to one of the region's most wildlife rich environments. Community amenities; two pools—one for kids with splash pads and another exclusively for adults. Make this two bedroom, two bathroom haven more than a home; it's an adventure waiting to be lived. Experience the thrill of nature and the comfort of a close knit community, all in one extraordinary package. .... **\$485,000**



**MLS#86867974** - Experience waterfront living on the west side of Lake Livingston offering a picturesque view of Pine Island! 4-5 bedroom, 4 bath home spans 3 stories with 100'+ of water frontage! You will be amazed by the wall of windows on every floor with endless open water views! The main/roadside level offers an open living room, cozy fireplace, dining room, & kitchen with a large island and breakfast area in addition to the primary bedroom & ensuite bathroom. The main level also includes the utility room plus another bedroom & bathroom. The stairs in the utility room lead to the basement complete with a living room, bedroom, & expansive room for entertaining. It also has a bar, kitchen, bathroom, & storage. The top level boasts a large open flex room, sun room, office, add'l bedrooms & bathroom. Other features include a 22 kw whole house generator, water filtration system, outdoor grill, propane, tank, french drains, add'l parking, and fishing pier. Don't miss out on this incredible property! ..... **\$995,000**



**MLS#4451747** - Escape to peaceful country living in this single-story brick home on 1.9 acres close to town. Enjoy the privacy of mature trees, a large lawn, and tranquil rural surroundings. This home boasts front and back covered porches, a split floorplan, 3 bedrooms with 2 en-suite bathrooms, high ceilings in the living room, and a spacious kitchen. The kitchen offers ample counter space, wood cabinets, a gas stove, and built-in table. A versatile room off the kitchen can provide many potential uses depending on your needs. It leads to the utility room and primary suite. With an attached garage and backyard storage shed, this property offers convenience and charm. Don't miss the opportunity to tour this must-see property conveniently located near Hwy 59/69. Schedule your visit today!..... **\$319,000**



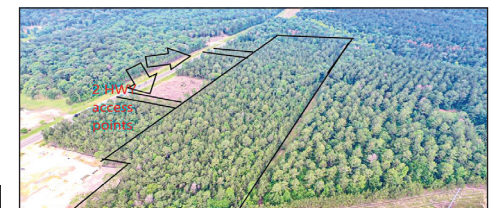
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**MLS#2485709** - Experience country living just minutes from town in this charming three bedroom, two bath home on 1.79 acres (per CAD). The spacious living area flows seamlessly into the kitchen, complete with a breakfast bar and breakfast room. Fresh interior paint (9/2024), new carpet in two bedrooms (9/2024), and laminate flooring in the third bedroom. Fresh paint on the exterior trim (9/2024). HVAC is approximately 2 years old. The land is mostly cleared. Home has an attached carport and detached metal carport. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make this your own peaceful retreat!..... **\$224,900**



**MLS#34937294** - Looking for an affordable, spacious tiny home in the country? This is it!!! Discover this charming one bed, one bath home nestled on almost half an acre of unrestricted land in a serene country setting. Perfect for a weekend retreat or year-round living, this cozy property comes fully furnished with a microwave, refrigerator, and stylish decor. Move-in ready! Just bring your personal items along with your fishing and hunting gear! Located just a short drive to the Trinity River and Lake Livingston, it's an ideal spot for hunting and fishing enthusiasts. With easy access to the city of Livingston for amenities and entertainment, as well as Naskila Casino, this home offers the best of both worlds. Don't miss out on this opportunity - schedule your showing today! ..... **\$75,000**



**MLS#78894029** - 14 acres located just off Hwy 190 W 8.5 miles from Livingston and just minutes from Lake Livingston. Property sits behind new truck stop on Hwy 190 with 2 access points to the Hwy. Call for more details ..... **\$675,000**



**MLS#89155111** - Country living just minutes from town. Acreage property in the popular FM350 N location!! Spacious 4 bedroom 2.5 bath home with office situated on just over 9 acres of beautiful wooded property. Great floorplan with formal living and dining as well as large den. Two circle drives; one to the front and another leads to the rear of the home and attached carport. Separate metal shop with carport (perfect for that tractor!). Area around the home is partially cleared and the rest is beautifully wooded. Make your appointment to tour this property today!..... **\$499,000**



**MLS#15801278** - Approx. 531' of FM 350 frontage located just south and across from the Livingston High School. 34 Acres now within the city limits of Livingston. And minutes from Lake Livingston..... **\$1,500,000**



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# Tricks to Finding the Right Home



**(Family Features)**

For those beginning the process of home buying, there are many factors to consider. Keep these ideas in mind as you conduct your search – whether it’s online or at a series of open houses.

**Consider Future Needs**

Because life is always evolving, it’s important to move into a home that has enough space for your family’s anticipated changes. While features and space are always prime considerations, don’t forget to, look into the area schools, day care options, parks and other kid-friendly amenities if you plan to grow your family in your next home.

**Look for Flexible Spaces**

Seek homes that offer rooms with multiple functions. For example, an office area may be suitable for a small child’s room, or a sunroom may be converted to a laundry area down the road. Unfinished basements are also blank canvases that can be customized to meet your family’s wants and needs.

**Get to Know the Area**

The purchase of a home goes well beyond the property line. Be sure to examine the neighborhood in which the house is situated. From the condition of the neighbors’ houses to highway access and the proximity of necessities like grocery stores and gas stations, be sure to take every factor into account to help ensure you’re selecting the right location.

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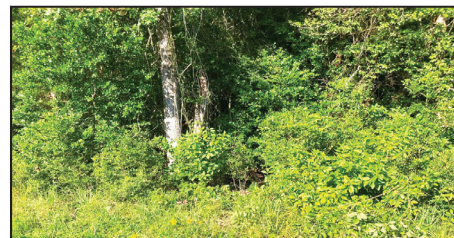


Waterview two-story home offers stunning water views that serve as the perfect backdrop for lake living and is

great for entertaining. This 3 Bed/2 bath offers a beautiful gated entrance fully fenced-in yard, granite countertops, washer/dryer, refrigerator, dining, recess lighting, and large oversized island kitchen w/upgrades. Wood-burning fireplaces on terraces include a large outdoor kitchen and an upstairs view that is breathtaking of the lake. All bedrooms are upstairs with amazing views and large walk-in closets. This country home is not just a place to stay; it’s a destination where lasting memories are made. Whether you’re seeking a peaceful retreat or an entertainment home for family and friends, this lakeview haven is great place to make lifetime memories. Coldspring Terrace community amenities include a boat launch, fishing pier, swimming pool, & fiber optic internet. About 60 miles north of downtown Houston & close to the Sam Houston National Forrest. MLS#92933204 ..... **\$315,000**



Come enjoy this recently renovated 3bed/2bath home! This property offers a large covered front porch running the full width of the house - giving you plenty of space to enjoy the peace and quiet that this neighborhood guarantees. Inside you’ll find fresh paint, recently installed floors, updated kitchen & appliances, and an additional covered porch on the back of the home. Notice that there are trees on the back and right side to offer additional privacy. Don’t forget to check out the oversized garage (35x21)! You can fit multiple vehicles in here, or keep some added space for a workshop. The opportunities are endless. This home is conveniently located near schools, shopping, hospitals, restaurants, and Lake Livingston. Come check it out! MLS#92845407 ..... **\$199,900**



Rare 2.5 acre gem in coveted Big Sandy school district. This property is located on FM 1276, just miles from the school! Lush forest and majestic oak trees adorn this stunning property. Seize this chance to create your dream estate. Schedule your viewing now. MLS#7666919 ..... **\$65,000**



Nestled within a secluded gated waterfront community, this delightful 2/2 home encompasses three spacious lots, ideal for a weekend retreat or year-round residency. Super cute home and recently added large storage building 35’x25’ enclosed with 12’x45’ attached lean-to you can park your boat, 10’X25’ front porch, new concrete driveway with RV hookup 50 amp & sewer, 12’X16’ storage building and 10’X12’ building with 12’X25’ carport. Also new hot water heater, new laminate flooring throughout the house. Enjoy the club house, pool, park, and enjoy driving your golf cart in the community, enjoy the subdivision fall festivities. Launch your watercraft from the subdivision boat launch. There are many species of fish to catch. Enjoy the beautiful sunsets MLS#27712789 ..... **\$310,000**



Looking for the perfect county get away in the secluded southeast Texas area? This 24 acre property offers numerous opportunities. From a newly income producing, highly managed Christmas Tree operation with entertainment facilities for the holiday seasons. Plus 20 acres of long term investment quality timber and walking trails with abundances of wildlife. The capital improvements include a 30x46 metal barn with concrete slab that could be easily converted into a barndominium. Plus a 28x24 work shop for equipment maintenance or hobbies. And a RV shed to protect your high price investments between trips This would make a great home or just a place to turn the kids out. Two or four legged. And it has a perch pond. Please review the pictures. MLS#27375570 ..... **\$522,500**



Welcome to the great outdoors, this home is nestled on 11.72 acres of picturesque land, where tranquility meets country. Located in highly sought after area known for its excellent schools, this beautiful property offers the perfect blend of comfort, space and natural beauty. Three Tax IDs. MLS#90933511 ..... **\$284,000**



Welcome Home! Looking for the perfect blend of comfort and space? This charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home might be just what you’re searching for! Nestled on a generous 1.4-acre lot and only minutes from Lake Livingston, this property offers room to grow and plenty of outdoor enjoyment. The covered carport is ideal for storing your boat, making it easy to take advantage of the nearby lake. You’ll love the split floor plan, which provides privacy and convenience, along with the open-concept living area that’s perfect for entertaining or simply enjoying time with family. The fully fenced front yard is perfect for kids and pets to play safely. Whether you’re seeking a cozy weekend getaway or a permanent residence, this home has it all. Don’t miss out—schedule your private showing today! MLS#87663549 ..... **\$142,000**



WATERFRONT LOT! 2023 Steel Bulkhead by Mosley Construction! Ready to build a home or place manufacture home! Welcome to your slice of paradise on the shores of Lake Livingston! Whether you’re an avid boater

or want to dive into the refreshing embrace of the lake for a leisurely swim. Picture yourself unwinding on your private deck, watching the sun dip below the horizon, casting its fiery glow across the water in a spectacle that never fails to inspire awe. Whether you’re seeking a weekend retreat or year-round residence, this waterfront lot offers the perfect canvas upon which to build the lifestyle of your dreams. Don’t miss your chance to make memories that will last a lifetime in this idyllic lakeside haven. The soil sample is included. The existing house plan will be provided once it is under contract. MLS#20781721 ..... **\$109,900**

# Residential Refresh Personalized touches for your home

## Family Features

Your home is an expression of you, your personality and your lifestyle. When it comes to personalizing your home's aesthetic, try leaning into your senses to inspire change within your space.

Inspiration can be found everywhere around you – from taking cues from Mother Nature to “shopping” your own house or, with a little help from Air Wick, finding and incorporating your home's signature scent.

Give yourself a residential refresh with these tips:

### Rearrange Living Spaces

Breathing fresh air into a room doesn't always require a complete overhaul, or even any construction or DIY projects. Sometimes all you need is a little rearranging. Shifting furniture to better suit your needs or let more natural light in can significantly improve the space's aesthetic.

Additionally, the items you currently own are most reflective of your style; try “shopping” your own house by repurposing items from other areas or rooms to give them a fresh feel. When decor pieces are overused in one spot, they may feel brand new in a different space. These are practical and cost-effective tactics to create a new and inviting space for both you and any guests entering your home.

### Introduce Plants and Greenery

When sourcing your design inspiration from nature, adding greenery is an inherent way to bring in the beauty and freshness of the great outdoors. To personalize your home with plants, visit a nursery or local flower shop and choose ones that are appealing to you based on their shape, color or size. Live plants offer multiple benefits, like naturally purifying the air, and studies have shown numerous therapeutic benefits of spending time with nature. Therefore, designing with natural elements, like house plants or flowers, can bring a sense of serenity into your home.

### Find Your “Scentscape”

A home upgrade rooted in nature includes more than just what you can see and feel, it also includes engaging the sense of smell. One of the latest home decor trends, “scentscaping,” is growing in popularity as a way for individuals to enhance the ambiance of their homes through tailored scent.

“Scent is an often-overlooked aspect of design,” said Egypt Sherrod, HGTV

personality who is both an interior designer and real estate broker, and Air Wick partner. “People tour homes and experience spaces with all their senses. It adds a new layer to home personalization, as an authentic fragrance experience often heightens the aura of your space beyond its physical layout. Scentscaping is the perfect way to add a bespoke vibe for your home that reflects your personal style, in turn creating a welcoming atmosphere.”

With innovative devices designed to deliver carefully blended scents like Air Wick's Advanced Plug-In Scented Oil, you can enjoy long-lasting pulses of scents inspired by nature in the comfort of your home for up to 60 days on low setting. With anti-fading technology, an on-demand boost button and adjustable intensity settings, you'll notice the fragrances from the first drop to the last.

### Update Colors

Introducing color to a room can transform its look, and the scale of change is up to you. You might repaint the entire space, simply paint an accent wall or even just spruce up a corner with a pop of color. Incorporating accessories or decorative elements with new colors can also create some variety, such as including pops of seasonal-inspired colors in artwork and textiles.

### Switch Out Light Fixtures

A room's lighting is an important detail for personalizing the type of mood and ambiance you are trying to achieve. Swapping out light fixtures for dimmers, for example, can create a brand new atmosphere, allowing you to adjust the light to the time of day and for your intended experience. Consider updating old lighting fixtures with new ones to enhance the presence of natural light or changing the bulb wattage to further impact the mood.

### Embrace the Scent of the Season

If you tend to make frequent edits to your home's design, you may also find the idea of experimenting with different fragrances appealing. A short-term scent can be ideal for seasonal swaps, like trading fresh spring blooms for sweet summer citrus, for example. Lasting for up to 45 days on low setting, Air Wick's Essential Mist Diffuser fills the room with a gentle, fragrant mist with natural essential oils so you can set it and forget it. Adjustable settings are included on the device, and the cordless and portable design allow it to blend seamlessly into any home decor.

## Scentscaping to Give Your Home a Personalized Style

Achieving your perfect scentscape begins with nature-inspired fragrances, including classics like White Sage + Mahogany, Lavender + Waterlily and Eucalyptus + Wild Berry. If sweeter scents are your preference, consider enticing blends like Pink Watermelon + Mimosa, Lush Honeysuckle + Raspberry or Hawaiian Guava + Tropical Flowers.

To establish a one-of-a-kind scentscape for your home, start with these tips from Sherrod:

1. Identify your scent preferences, whether leaning toward citrus, spicy, fruity, floral or woody notes.
2. Consider the scent's intensity and the scent level you and your guests find pleasing.
3. If you plan on creating room-specific scents, or want to use different fragrances in each room, consider how these scents interact with one another to harmonize the scents with contrasts that add dimension.
4. Consider rotating your seasonal scents to freshen up your home and bring new energy to your space at different times of the year.
5. Maintain a scent balance so different scents do not overpower each other. Rather, create a soft and pleasing aroma that establishes inviting spaces throughout your home.





# Throw a Party Like a Pro

(Family Features)

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or simply catching up with loved ones, playing host can be as demanding as it is enjoyable. Before gathering your crew for your next event, make a plan to ensure you get to enjoy the day as fully as your guests.

## Keep the Menu Simple

An ornate spread may be impressive, but your guests are just as likely to appreciate a less demanding menu with a few standout dishes. Offer a single main dish, a couple of tried-and-true sides, some finger foods for snacking and a seasonal dessert. Beverage staples like tea, lemonade and water are all you really need, but if that feels too basic, you can offer a flavor station with fresh fruit like berries and lemon wedges, flavored syrups and other sweeteners. If you'll be serving alcohol, don't try to cater to everyone's favorite. Select neutral white and red wines and one or two beer varieties. A signature cocktail you can premix and serve is another way to add a special touch.

## Set a Thoughtful Theme

One area many hosts go overboard is theming their events. While setting a theme can be a fun idea, it doesn't have to be fussy or complicated, and your decorations don't have to be over the top. Subtle color, centerpieces and serving pieces are all places you can inject some thematic vibes without investing too much time or money. You can also let your theme influence any games or activities you plan, as well as other entertainment like background music.

## Anticipate Guests' Needs

Thinking ahead about your guests' comfort can prevent scrambling once the party

is underway. Consider needs like seating, where you'll keep extra food for quick refills and essentials like more toilet paper in the guest bath. Also anticipate accidents like spills and have supplies ready to efficiently correct inevitable incidents. Remember to plan for extra trash bins and if guests will be congregating outdoors, provide extra sunscreen, bug spray and fans.

## Organize Entertainment

Depending on the purpose of the party, your entertainment may be pretty clear, but if it's a casual gathering, you'll likely want to provide guests some ideas for passing the time. Board games and backyard games are almost always a hit. A playlist that fits your theme can add ambiance and provide background for conversation, but you can also inject some musical fun with karaoke. If you'll have kids in attendance, provide age-appropriate options for shorter attention spans, too.

## Make Cleanup Easy

After the last guest leaves, you may be ready to call it a night, but taking care of a few quick chores can make cleanup easier in the morning. Load the dishwasher and set it to run overnight, leaving any tough dishes to soak in hot, soapy water. Check for any spills or stains that need immediate attention and get a jump start on the floors. For a convenient hands-off experience, try the Eufy S1 Pro Robot Vacuum and Mop, which achieves a 99.99% sterilization rate when mopping and, using automated sensors, elevates the mophead and converts to powerful suction for carpeted areas. After cleaning, the robot docks to automatically empty its dustbin, dispose of wastewater and clean its mopping pads, drying them with hot air to inhibit bacterial growth and odors.

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