



Supers, senator seek school solutions

Special to the News-Times

TRINITY — State Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, met with local superintendents from Trinity County last week to discuss education issues in preparation for the 89th Legislature which convenes in January.

“The Legislature faces many challenges this session, and we cannot make good decisions unless we are listening closely to those we represent,” Nichols said. “Educating our children is and always will be one of the most important issues we face as a state.”

Before each legislative session Nichols meets with each of the school district Superintendents in Senate District 3 to listen to their priorities and discuss issues facing the local education community.

Senate District 3, which includes almost 100 school districts throughout 18 counties, encompasses the greater part of East Texas and Jefferson County.

“These meetings help me to understand how decisions in Austin impact local schools,” Nichols said. “I appreciate the opportunity to meet with superintendents and discuss how we can continue improving our education system. Our combined goal is to ensure children have the educational tools they need to be successful.”



Jim Dillard, Superintendent for Groveton ISD (left), and John Kaufman, Superintendent for Trinity ISD (right), met with Sen. Robert Nichols about education issues in preparation for January’s Legislature. COURTESY PHOTO



Grace Tullos wipes tears from her eyes as her Grand Champion Market Steer brought \$13,600 at the Trinity Community Fair Youth Livestock Auction. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

Hats off to 75 Years Celebration auction raises \$149,420 for youth projects

By Tony Farkas
editor@trinityconews.com

TRINITY — You see it in the line of family members pushed up against the railings taking photos, in the toddlers parading around with Western wear and Johnny Cash T-shirts, in the smell of the wood shaving in the show arena and the sounds of the Midway carnival rides and screams of the passengers.

It’s family, fun, and fair time, and it brings rural communities together to celebrate achievement.

Fair Board President Mike Burk said the community came through in a big way; the events been smooth, the numbers of exhibits, visitors and vendors are up, and the auction did well, with some of the highest dollar

amounts they’ve seen in a few years.

Board Member Tally Jo Stout said the Trinity County Fair Association offers its heartfelt gratitude to the extraordinary buyers and supporters who made the 75th annual celebration a resounding success.

“With a tip of the hat to our generous community, 49 livestock and shop projects brought in a remarkable \$149,420 at auction,” she said. “From Stetsons to hard hats, our community wears many hats, and we’re reminded that the true wealth of our community lies in its unwavering support for our youth and their endeavors.

“Your investment today crowns the achievements of tomorrow’s leaders,” she said. “Thank you for 75 years of believing in the next generation!”

One killed in two-vehicle collision

TCNS staff

TRINITY — Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers investigated a fatal crash on state Highway 19 at the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 1893 that occurred Friday.

The preliminary crash investigation indicates that at approximately 6:30 a.m., a Peterbilt truck tractor semi-trailer was traveling south, followed by a Chevrolet pickup. It is reported that the Peterbilt slowed down to make a right turn and was rear-ended by the Chevrolet.

The driver of the truck tractor, 40-year-old Christopher Garcia of Bryan, was not injured.

The driver of the Chevrolet, 77-year-old Freddie Stroman of Crockett, was transported to Huntsville Memorial Hospital by Ventura EMS, where he was pronounced dead by medical staff.

This is an ongoing investigation.

Later on Friday, a two-vehicle accident occurred at Highway 19 South and Stadium Street at about 6:30 p.m.

Fire Chief Keith Johnson said the Trinity Volunteer Fire Department responded and provided traffic control until the vehicles were removed from the scene.

No injuries were reported. The Trinity Police Department is handling the investigation.



Early on Friday morning in Trinity, a pickup truck driven by Freddie Stroman of Crockett collided with a semi truck hauling a crane, resulting in Stroman’s death. COURTESY PHOTO

Free disaster legal assistance for Texans available

Special to the News-Standard

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. Follow FEMA Region 6 on social media at x.com/FEMARegion6 and on Facebook at facebook.com/FEMARegion6/.



COLLECTING FOR A CAUSE

The Republican Women of Trinity County were honored to have Tracy Stoudt, Executive Director of SAAFE House, speak at their September meeting about their mission, experiences and needs for SAAFE House. The RWTC members had collected and donated items requested by SAAFE House for their facilities. Attending the meeting with Stoudt was Tammy Farkas, Community Relations Director, and Colleen Garza, Trinity County Coordinator. For more information on SAAFE House Trinity, please contact (936) 594-6415. For more information on the Republican Women of Trinity County, please contact (281) 467-8626. COURTESY PHOTO



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RIVER & RAINFALL DATA AS OF SEPT 24
Gauge Height..... 5.25 ft
Condition.....Normal Flood Stage
Weekly rainfall0.00in



Community fair results were more than fair

Well, the 75th Trinity Community Fair has come and gone. By all accounts it was a hit except for the weather. The vendors, music, rides and entertainment were what we expected, and we are looking forward to next year. Thank you, TCEA.

The 42 Domino Tournament on Friday at Joseph's Restaurant was a huge success also. The Trinity Peninsula Chamber of Commerce hosts this tournament each year to celebrate the Fair and its endeavors. Next year the tournament may kick off the fair celebration earlier.

• Only two events are happening this weekend:
Friday-Saturday, Westwood Shores



Julia's Tidbits

By Julia McMichael

Sunday, FMC Church Concert. The Southern Plainsmen Quartet will perform Gospel Music at 11 a.m. at First Methodist Church of Trinity located at 131 N. Elm St. in Trinity.

• These are the important dates for October:
Oct. 4-6, Huntsville Fair on the Square in Huntsville.
Oct. 5, Purse Bingo at the

YMCA
Oct. 5, Trinity County Clean-up Day
Oct. 8, TISD Scholarship Info Night
Oct. 12, Brick Street Harmony Quartet, First Presbyterian Church on North Elm Street
Oct. 15, Pumpkin Patch opens, First Methodist Church of Trinity downtown Lot
Oct. 19, The Calvary Boys in Concert
Oct. 20, Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church Fall Festival
Oct. 26, Trinity Lions Club Pet Expo and Talent Show, Trinity Community Center
Oct. 26, Trinity County Veterans Wall of Honor, Scheelbillies on

FM 356 East
Oct. 31, Treats on the Street
• The Calvary Boys in Concert will be held at the Calvary Baptist Church in Trinity on Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend to hear some fine Christian Gospel Music at 310 Prospect Drive.
• Don't forget the weekly Grief and Support Group at the Dorcas Wills Memorial Baptist Church each Tuesday from 2-4 p.m.
• Don't forget the VFW Bingo games every Thursday and Friday night that help support Trinity County Veterans.
• Don't forget the school week is shorter starting in October.
• Don't forget to support your

senior shut-ins. Martin Senior Citizen Center is struggling to stay alive because of inadequate and late funding.
I had baskets and wreaths on display at the Fair to try to make money to support our hungry, sickly, and can't-drive-anymore elder citizens.
I am going to have these items on display through October with a lot of other items, so you can come by and purchase goodies to help support Martin Senior Citizen Center.
We will have a drawing for raffle items on Oct. 12 and 31 and set up a secret Santa shop in November. Be there or be square.
See you at the concerts.



CATTLE CHAMPIONS

Casaray Ranch, a Trinity County breeder of red Brahmans based in Groveton, won awards at the 2024 Washington County Fair Open Brahman Show on Sept. 8. Casaray Yara was named Aged Senior Champion Red Female, and Casaray Red Butter was named Reserve Senior Champion Red Bull. COURTESY PHOTO

Installing car seats isn't rocket science

Special to the News-Standard

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 Tx-

DOT 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.



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2022 Buick Encore GX	\$22,989	2024 Mercedes Benz C300	\$26,991
2021 Chevrolet Traverse	\$24,991	2023 GMC Terrain	\$27,832
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TRINITY COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR SEPT 26- OCT 2

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny 84°/60° Chance of Rain 6% Wind N 9mph	Mostly Sunny 84°/63° Chance of Rain 4% Wind NW 9 mph	Partly Cloudy 84°/62° Chance of Rain 15% Wind NW 8 mph	Mostly Sunny 87°/63° Chance of Rain 5% Wind NNW 6 mph	Mostly Sunny 88°/64° Chance of Rain 6% Wind NNW 6 mph	Sunny 89°/65° Chance of Rain 5% Wind N 6 mph	Sunny 88°/64° Chance of Rain 8% Wind NNE 5mph

Forecast Fire Danger

twc.tamu.edu

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

LIFE TRIBUTE

Melva Whitehead

Melva Ray Yates Whitehead went to be with the Lord on Sept. 18th, 2024. She was born on Aug. 7, 1933, in Polk County. She is survived by her husband, Willie Hayne Whitehead; her daughter, Lynda Whitehead Crofford and her husband, Rick; her son, Craig Whitehead and his wife, Kim; and her son, Bruce Whitehead and his wife, Courtney. She also has nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Melva was an extraordinary person in so many ways. She always put the needs of others before her own. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and dear friend to many people. She had a difficult childhood where she was responsible for much of the household cooking, cleaning, and caring for her younger brother, but she still excelled at everything she did. After graduating from high school at age 15, she attended nursing school and graduated at the top of her class. She was selected to be the surgery scrub nurse for Michael DeBakey, who did the first heart transplant.

She and her husband, Willie, were married for 73 years. Melva was a devoted wife and mother. Her faith was essential to her. She laid a solid spiritual foundation for her children and displayed her faith daily in many practical ways. During her life, she was involved in numerous church and community activities, holding multiple leadership positions. She enjoyed sewing, quilting, and cooking. One of her grandsons said that she was a compulsive cookie maker. She was also passionate about genealogy and compiled more than 17,000 names in her and Willie's family tree. She was blessed with an almost photographic



Melva Whitehead
Aug. 7, 1933 - Sept. 18, 2024

memory and could easily recall many dates and facts from multiple generations.

Melva will be greatly missed, but there is no doubt that she is looking down from Heaven and cheering us all on to finish well. A memorial service was held at the Cochran Funeral Home Chapel at 212 Old Groveton Road in Onalaska on Monday, Sept. 23. A visitation was held before the service.

Cochran Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Please sign our online guestbook at www.cochranfh.com. 357

SENIOR MENUS

Sept. 30-Oct. 4

Menus Subject to Change

• **Martin Senior Center** | 936-594-2625

All meals are \$6.

A limited fruit and salad bar is available, and drinks include lemonade, tea, water or coffee. Dessert is served with all meals.

MONDAY: Hamburgers with all the fixings, French fries, baked beans.

TUESDAY: Barbecue baked potatoes or barbecue on a bun, California blend vegetables, corn on the cob.

WEDNESDAY: Hamburger steak, rice and gravy, baked beans, bread.

THURSDAY: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread.

FRIDAY: Fried catfish or chicken tenders, French fries, fried okra, deviled eggs.

• **Groveton Senior Center** | 936-642-1541

Bread, dessert, fruit, tea, coffee and milk are available.

MONDAY: Chicken strips with gravy, rice, peas and carrots, rolls.

TUESDAY: Baked potatoes, chopped barbecue, baked beans, bread.

WEDNESDAY: Beef enchiladas, ranch style beans, Mexican rice, chips.

THURSDAY: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, lima beans, rolls.

FRIDAY: Fried or baked catfish, French fries, potato salad, coleslaw, pinto beans, hush puppies.

• **Apple Springs Senior Citizens Inc.** | 936-831-2671

Meals served with dessert and fruit and a choice of drink.

MONDAY: Swiss steak with tomato gravy, rice, broccoli, cornbread.

TUESDAY: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, okra and tomatoes.

WEDNESDAY: Pork loin, broccoli cheese rice casserole, navy beans, cornbread.

THURSDAY: Chicken and sausage gumbo, rice, pinto beans.

FRIDAY: Hamburgers or cheeseburgers, French fries, lettuce, tomatoes.

ARREST RECORDS

The following people were arrested by Trinity County law enforcement officials through Sept. 23. All suspects are innocent until convicted in a court of law.

• **Ronald Undra Kizzee**, 65, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon; possession of a controlled substance.

• **Joseph Wayne Thompson**, 44, public intoxication.

• **Jesse Wade Fulcher**, 42, burglary of a habitation.

• **Kaya Konalani-Yuri Ito**, 18, driving while license invalid without insurance.

• **Trey Grant Cole**, 28, driving while intoxicated.

• **Mary Ellen Jones**, 19, assault causing bodily injury on a family member.

• **Gerald Corrigan Jones**, 54, assault

causing bodily injury on a family member.

• **Billie Jo Wars**, 58, warrant for bond violation on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• **Garrett Bo Pargmann**, 35, possession of a controlled substance; abandonment or endangering of a child.

• **Candice Rachelle Skidmore**, 35, possession of a controlled substance; abandonment or endangering of a child.

• **Justin Kenneth Ryans**, 38, warrant for injury to a child, elderly or disabled person.

• **Edwin Wayne Bolin**, 43, warrant for failure to appear on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• **Andros Bastian Granados**, 23, evading arrest or detention with a vehicle; possession of drug paraphernalia.

Custom PRINTING

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TRINITY COUNTY NEWS-STANDARD

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Looking Back

By Marlena Stubblefield
grovetonnews@gmail.com

10 years ago
Citizens fill courtroom to support Sheriff; voice ambulance concerns; GISD Board meets-discusses ESL; Groveton High School 2014 Homecoming Queen candidates announced. No obituaries for the week.

20 years ago

Commissioners adopt \$2.7 million budget; GISD Board takes no action concerning discipline problem; Congressional candidate visits Groveton, area; VFW "Voice of Democracy" contest for scholarships kick-off this week; GVFD benefit set for October 23. Obituary for the week: Russell Pennington, 17, of Grapeland; and Gordon Butler Mangum, 88, of Trinity.

30 years ago

County raises tax 2 cents; Firemen's Roundup next week; A 'Fair to Remember' held in Trinity last weekend; Lee C. Smith named to GHS Hall of Fame. Obituaries for the week: C.D. "Red" Baker, 93, of Teague formerly of Groveton; Roy William Kuehn, 78, of Groveton; and Eldop Bradley Salser, 66, of Houston.

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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.

Watch what is said, and then look for truth elsewhere

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 Democrat 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 complicit 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.

To tell the truth

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 social 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.

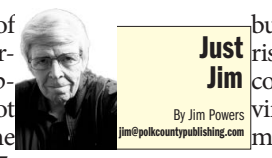
I can't say that I'm optimistic that any of these steps will be taken. I've been around 74 years and have watched the steady decline of political and civil discourse in this country. The advent of social media platforms has accelerated that decline, of course, but decline it has.

"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.

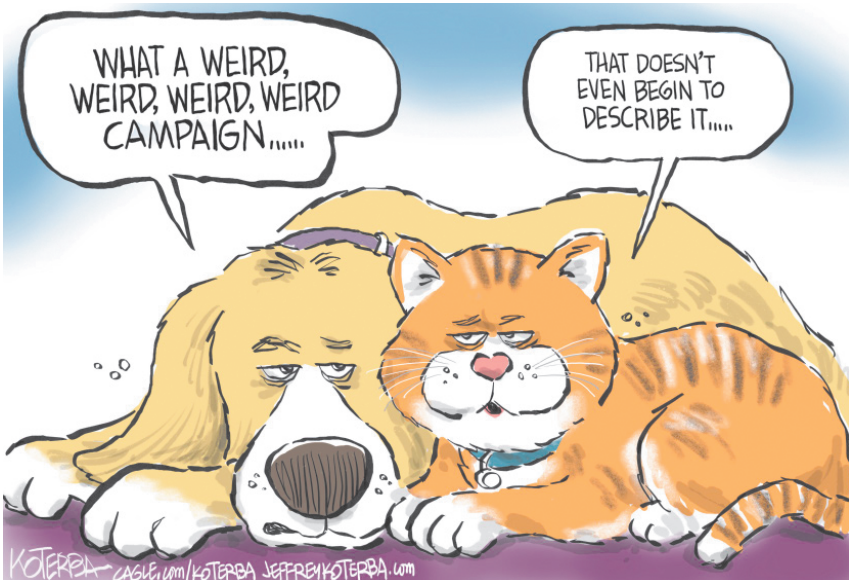
Jim Powers writes editorials that reflect his personal opinions. They do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication.



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1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

GOVERNOR
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512-463-2000
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711-2428

ATTORNEY GENERAL
Ken Paxton (R)
512-463-2100

U.S. SENATOR
John Cornyn (R)
(C) 202-224-2934
(D) 903-593-0902

U.S. SENATOR
Ted Cruz (R)
(C) 202-224-5922
(D) 512-916-5834

U.S. CONGRESSMAN
Congressional Dist. 8
Pete Sessions (R)

Washington, DC Office
204 Rayburn Hob
Washington, DC 20515-6105
(202) 225-6105

Waco Office
00 Austin Ave,
Ste 302,
Waco, Tx 76701-2139
(254) 633-4500

Huntsville Office
901 Normal Park Dr., Ste 208
Huntsville, Tx 77320-3770

Nacogdoches Office
3034 Raguet St.,
Nacogdoches,
Tx 75902-3252

Lufkin Office
300 E Shepherd Ave.,
Ste 210 Lufkin,
Tx 75902-3252

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TX SENATOR
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Robert Nichols (R)
robert.nichols@senate.texas.gov
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(D) 903-589-3003

TX REPRESENTATIVE
House District 9
Trent Ashby (R)
trent.ahby@house.texas.gov
(C) 512-463-0508
(D) 936-634-2762

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Groveton, TX 75845

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(936) 642-2414

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(936) 642-1424
Mary Wallace (JP)
(936) 642-1224

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(936) 642-2743
Mark Cole (C)
(936) 594-2011
Lyle Stubbs (JP)
(936) 594-2011

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Neal Smith (com)
(936) 642-2743
Mark Jones (C)
Keith Johnson (JP)

Precinct 4
Steven Truss (com)
(936) 642-2743
Brian McMullin (C)
(936) 831-3778 Ext. 278
Richard Steptoe (JP)
(936) 831-3778

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Ralph Bennett
cityofgroveton@valornet.com
(936) 642-1122

TRINITY MAYOR
Billy Goodin
936-594-2507

(C) = Capitol number

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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



Dan's Divinities

By Rev. Dr. Dan Darby

the 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 sway 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.



ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE



TRINITY COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

- Calvary Temple Assembly of God**
Lonnie Vallance, Pastor
287 West First St. (936) 831-2797
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 10:55 AM
Evening Worship 7 PM
Wednesday 6:30 PM
- Lovelady Assembly of God**
Gary Johnson, Pastor
1 Mi. S of Lovelady, Hwy. 19
Sunday Bible Class 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship 11 AM
Sunday evening 6 PM
Wednesday 7 PM
- Trinity Fellowship Church**
Richard & Jane Gonzales, Pastors 594-2423
Foundation For Life 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 10:45 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
Wednesday 7 PM
- Trinity Tabernacle**
Kevin Williams, Pastor Hwy 19 N
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 10:45 AM
Wednesday 7 PM
Sunday evening 6:30 PM

BAPTIST

- Apple Springs Baptist**
Mike Due., Pastor
9286 FM 357 (936) 831-3114
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
Wednesday 5 PM
- Baldwin Chapel Baptist**
Curtis L. Ownes, Jr., Pastor
288 Martin Luther King (936) 642-1466
Morning Worship 9 AM
Wednesday 6 PM
- Bowen-Pilgrim Missionary Baptist**
Carl L. Brock, Pastor
Sunday School 9:15 AM
Morning Worship 11:15 AM
Wednesday 5:30, 6 PM
- Burning Hope Baptist Church**
Jim Parrish, Pastor 594-3623
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 10:45 AM
Friday Nite Church 7:00 PM
- Calvary Baptist** Trinity
Dr. Randall Lowe, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 10:50 AM
Sunday evening 6 PM
Wednesday 6 PM
- Calvary Baptist Nogalus Prairie**
James Whittlesey, Pastor
2975 FM 357
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
- Carlisle Baptist**
Donnie Lawrence, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Sunday evening 6 PM
Wednesday 5:30, 6 PM
- Chita Grace Church**
Russell Lee Jr., Pastor
Morning Worship 10:45 AM
Sunday evening 5 PM
Wednesday 7 PM
- Clegg Chapel Missionary**
Henry Lovelady, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Sunday evening 5 PM
Brotherhood Tuesday 7 PM
Wednesday 6 PM
- Community Missionary Baptist**
Dennis McKnight, Pastor 594-1615
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 1:30 AM
Wednesday 6:30 PM

Country Campus Baptist

- Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Bible Study 4 PM
Thursday (May-Oct.) 6 PM
Wednesday (Nov.-April) 6 PM
- Dorcas Will Memorial Baptist**
Greg Kitts, Pastor 594-3822
www.dwmbc.org
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 8 and 10:45 AM
Sunday Evening 6 PM
Wednesday Service 6 PM
- Faith Baptist of Riverside**
Kyle Costos, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship 11 AM
Sunday Evening 6 PM
Wednesday 6 PM
- First Baptist Church of Friday**
3247 FM 1280, Groveton
Wesley May, Pastor 936/204-0739
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Wednesday 6 PM
Meal 6 PM
Bible Study 7 PM
- First Baptist Church - Groveton**
Matt Sharrack, Pastor
126 N. Devine (936) 642-1475
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 7 PM
Wednesday 6:30 PM
- Glendale Baptist**
Harold Gates, Pastor
Sunday School 10 AM
Worship 11 AM
Evening 6 PM
Wednesday 6 PM
- Iglesia Bautista Hispana (Groveton)**
Oscar Campos, Pastor
East Second St. 936-222-0241
Escuela Dominical - Domingo 10 AM
Servicio - Domingo 11 AM
- Josserand Independent Baptist**
Bueford Rogers, Pastor
449 Josserand Rd. (936) 642-1403
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 5 PM
Wednesday 6 PM
- Lakeway Baptist of Carlisle**
Jerry Vincent, Pastor
12748 FM 356 594-0086
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 6:30 PM
Wednesday 6:30 PM
- Lone Star Baptist**
Isaac DeBose, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11:30 AM
Thursday Prayer 6 PM
- Mary's Chapel Missionary Baptist**
Rev. Nathaniel Jenkins, Pastor
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Wednesday 6 PM
- Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist**
Jasper Callahan, Pastor
Sunday School 10 AM
Sunday Service 11:15 AM
- Groveton Greater New Hope MBC**
Garry L. Brown Sr., Pastor
790 FM 3317 (936) 642-6991
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Worship 2nd & 4th Sunday 11 AM
Wednesday 5:30 PM
Bible Study 6:30 PM
- Oaklawn Baptist Church**
Lester McAdams, Pastor
4833 N. SH 94 (936) 642-1314
Sunday School 10 AM
Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
Wednesday 7 PM

Pennington Baptist Church

- Bud Magee, Pastor
6828 FM 2781 (936) 638-4311
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 5 PM
Wednesday 6:30 PM
- Pleasant Grove Baptist**
Kenneth Myers, Pastor
Sunday School 10 AM
Worship Service 11 AM
- Riverside Baptist Church**
Jim Newton, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11 AM
Evening 6 PM
Wednesday Service 7 PM
- Trinity Missionary Baptist**
Jim Golden, Pastor
Hwy. 94 & Jack Shaffer Rd. (936) 594-4974
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
- Trinity Pines Baptist**
Jonathan Davidson, Pastor
Hwy. 356 at Pegoda
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:45 AM
Wednesday 6:00 PM
- Weldon Baptist**
Reggie Gregory, Pastor
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 5 PM
- Zion Hill Baptist**
Dee Queen, Pastor
917 Zion Hill Rd.
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM

CATHOLIC

- Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church**
Fr. Cesar Betancourt, Administrator
401 Prospect Dr. 936-594-6664
Secretary | Thurs & Fri only
Saturday Vigil Mass, English 4 PM
Sunday Mass, English 10 AM
Sunday Mass en Espanol 1 PM
Weekday Mass, English 10 AM
Weekday Mass en Espanol 7 PM
Saturday Confession 2:30-3:45 PM

CHURCH OF CHRIST

- Groveton Church of Christ**
Tony Goins, Minister
169 Main St (936) 642-2382
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
Wednesday 7 PM
- Riverside Church of Christ**
Brother Jerald D. Bass,
Minister (936) 744-0093
Bible Class 9:30 AM
Worship 10:45 AM
- Trinity Church of Christ**
David D. Collier, Sr., Minister
Bible Class 10 AM
Worship 11:00 AM
Wednesday 6 PM

CHURCH OF GOD

- Campbell Memorial Church of God In Christ**
Elder Cleven V. Thompson, Pastor
600 W. Main
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11:15 AM
YPWW- Sunday 6:30 PM
- Church of God**
Jack and Debbie Black, Pastors
Hwy. 94
Adult Bible Study 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Wednesday Evening 7 PM

Revival Center Church of God, Onalaska

- Gerald Reeves, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening 5 PM
Wednesday 7 PM
- Westside Church of God in Christ**
Bernard Boston, Pastor 594-7146
200 Israel Otis, Trinity,
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 11:30 AM
Evening Worship 7:45 PM
- FULL GOSPEL**
- Lighthouse Cowboy Church**
Len Smith, Pastor
Odessa St., Trinity 594-2228
Sunday Service 11 AM
Wednesday Service 7:30 PM
- New Beginning Full Gospel Church**
522 Josserand Rd. (936) 675-2848
Worship 10 AM
Wednesday Bible Study 6 PM
- The Risin' Sun Church**
Ron Conatser, Pastor
FM 356, Trinity
Sunday School 9 AM
Sunday Service 10 AM
Sunday Youth Church 7 PM
Wednesday Service 7 PM
Thursday Cowboy Church 7 PM
- Word of Love Worship Center**
Travis & Rebecca Beakley, Pastors 594-8014
101 Filmore, Trinity
Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Sunday Evening 6 PM
Tuesday Bible Study 6 PM
Thursday Worship 6 PM

LUTHERAN

- Faith Lutheran Church & School LCMS**
Rev. Travis A Pitlock Sr., Pastor
Hwy. 30W. & Sumac Rd., Huntsville(936) 295-5298
Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
- Grace Lutheran Church**
Rev. Thomas St. Jean
West Loop 304 at Hall's Bluff Rd., Crockett 936-544-3508
Sunday School 9 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

METHODIST

- First Methodist-Groveton**
Jeff Hastings, Pastor
155 Church Ave. (936) 642-1249
Sunday School 10 AM
Sunday Worship 11 AM
Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 PM
- First Methodist Church**
Rev. Michael Bedevian
131 N. Elm (936) 594-3826
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Traditional Morning Worship 11 AM
- Glendale Congreg. Methodist**
Barbara Campbell, Pastor
184 Glendale Church Road
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 7 PM
Wednesday 6:45 PM
- Prairie View Methodist**
Jeff Hastings, Pastor
307 Denman Road (936) 642-1249
Sunday Worship 9 AM
Youth/Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM
Tuesday Bible Study 10:30 AM
Wednesday Nogalus Quilters 8 A
- Riverside United Methodist**
Max Nichter, Pastor
Worship 9 AM
Sunday School 10 AM
2nd & 4th Wednesday 7:30 PM

Sebastopol Congregational Methodist Church

- Pastor Sue Koenig
Intersection of FM 355 & FM 356 (936)594-2840
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Singing on third Saturday
- Sebastopol Community Church**
Michael & Sharon Schuetz, Pastors
Sunday School 10 AM
Worship 11 AM
- Trinity Chapel A.M.E. Church**
E. Sterling Lewis Jr., Pastor
908 S. Robb St., Trinity (281) 847-3414
(or (713) 206-6134)
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Wednesday 7 PM

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

- Liberty Christian Center**
Kelly Barker, Pastor
101 W. Main, Trinity,
Church 10:30 AM
Sunday School 10:30 AM
Wednesday 7 PM
Friday Youth Impact 7-11 PM
- Living Word Outreach Church**
Lynn and Dana Gentry,
Pastors (936) 594-8081
Sunday 11 AM
Wednesday 7 PM
- Open Door Outreach Ministry**
Billie J. Coleman Sr., Pastor
418 West Main St (936) 438-3923
Sunday Worship 11:30 AM
Wednesday Bible Study 6 PM
- Remnant Faith Church of Pegoda**
Jimmie and Marynn Carrico Pastors
662-8496 or 662-8926
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:45 AM
Sunday Evening 6 PM
Wednesday 7 PM
- River of Life**
Mike and Suzanne Loftin, Pastors
594-6262
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning 10:30 AM
Wednesday Night
Adult Bible Study
Youth Ministry 7:00 PM
- The Gathering**
301 Church Street 594-9559
Sunday School 10 AM
Sunday Worship 11 AM
Wednesday 6:30 PM
- Westwood Shores Chapel in the Pines**
A. Leroy Brown, Pastor
Worship Service 9 AM
- PENTECOSTAL**
- Calvary Tabernacle Apostolic P.C.**
Guy Hargrave, Pastor
(Nelson Amaya for Spanish services)
Highway 94/E. Caroline St.
Morning Service 11 AM
Sunday School 10 AM
Spanish Service 2 PM
Evening Worship 5 PM
Wednesday 7 PM
- Sebastopol Friendship Harbor**
Reagan Duncan, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
Wednesday Service 7:30 PM
Saturday Service 7:30 PM
- PRESBYTERIAN**
- First Presbyterian**
Dan Alexander, Pastor
(936) 688-6674
Sunday Service 4 PM
Coffee & fellowship 5 PM
Sunday School 10 AM

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. 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 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 be-



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

lieve 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 county 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 ef-

orts 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.

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Oversight panel looks toward waste elimination

On Wednesday, legislation that I introduced passed out of the House Oversight and Accountability Committee markup.

This bill, known as the “Manager Attitudes and Notions According to Government Employee Responses Act,” or the “MANAGER Act,” amends the annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey, administered by the Office of Personnel Management, to add specific questions for federal agency managers.

This legislation is part of my effort as the Chairman of the Government Operations and the Federal Workforce Subcommittee to eliminate waste and increase productivity in government agencies. Efficiency in government agencies is essential for taxpayers and government employees alike.

By identifying areas where federal employees in supervisory positions need support, this survey will ensure our government is working effectively for our citizens.

On Thursday, I attended a full committee hearing with the House Oversight and Accountability Committee entitled, “A Legacy of Incompetence: Consequences of the Biden-Harris Administrations

Policy Failures.” Expert witnesses on immigration, broadband, the



In Session
By Pete Sessions
US Representative, District 17

environment, and security testified to the disastrous effects of the Biden-Harris Administration on our country.

CEO Commission for Disability Employment

My son, Alex Sessions, accompanied me to Washington this week. He was able to join my Wednesday meeting with members of the CEO Commission for Disability Employment. This organization is seeking to advance legislation that supports businesses to hire and develop individuals with disabilities.

As the father of a young man with Down syndrome, I have seen firsthand how disabled Americans have a lot to offer our workforce. I am grateful for organizations like the CEO Commission for Disability Employment that are designed to increase opportunities for peo-

ple with disabilities to obtain and maintain employment.

International Facility Management Association

Last week, I was invited again to address the International Facility Management Association’s Annual Public Policy Forum. The IFMA supports facility managers as they work to support organizations and improve the quality of life for people in business.

I spoke about the current state of the federal workforce and my vision to reduce waste in the federal sector. Facility managers play a key role in the function of our organizations.

American Cancer Society

On Wednesday, representatives from the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network visited my office to discuss how lawmakers can help address the burden of cancer in our country. This group included members from Texas’ 17th.

The American Cancer Society is focused on evidence-based public policy change to assist in the early detection and prevention of cancer. I am proud to join them in the fight to end cancer.

Legislation Highlights

HR 9468 — Veterans Benefits

Continuity and Accountability Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024

This legislation provides \$3 billion in mandatory funding for certain veteran benefits. After passing both the House and the Senate this week, this bill is set to be signed by the President and will allow the Department of Veterans Affairs to pay veterans’ benefits without delay.

HJR 136 — Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles”

This legislation rescinds the Environmental Protection Agency’s rule that would result in two-thirds of new vehicle sales to be battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric by 2032. We lack the infrastructure and supply chain capacity to enact this unfeasible rule. Aside from being impractical, the EPA’s rule places un-American constraints on consumer choice. I cosponsored this legislation to ensure that our free market remains independent from woke policies.

HR 5339 — Protecting Americans’ Investments from Woke Policies Act

The Biden-Harris Administration implemented a rule to put the retirement security of millions of Americans at risk by enabling and encouraging retirement plan fiduciaries to consider or choose investments based on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors. ESG funds leave the futures of retirees less secure to advance a political agenda. This legislation ensures financial institutions are focused on protecting returns in retirement plans rather than pushing ESG funds. My vote was yes.

HR 3724 — End Woke Higher Education Act

Across our country we are seeing unconstitutional regulation of free speech on our college campuses. These institutions have turned from education to indoctrination. This legislation will ensure colleges do not have to bend to DEI policies to receive accreditation and protect free speech by restoring viewpoint diversity in postsecondary education. My vote was yes.

Pete Sessions represents District 17, which includes Trinity County, in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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Trinity Community Fair Champions



Grace Tullos had the Grand Champion Steer.



Summer Ogden had the Grand Champion Swine.



Mia Zuniga had the Grand Champion Lamb.



Colton McGee had the Grand Champion Goat.



Rhett Kinard had the Grand Champion Fryer.



Drew Kembro had the Reserve Champion Steer.



Sheena Turman had the Reserve Champion Swine.



Trystin Gustafson had the Reserve Champion Lamb.



Peyton McGee had the Reserve Champion Goat.



Fair Queen Trystin Gustafson, along with friends, displays the Queen's Cake during Saturday's Livestock Auction at the Trinity Community Fair. PHOTOS BY TONY FARKAS



Aaron Brooks had the Reserve Champion Fryer.

Thank you

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Trinity Community Fair Results

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Animal shows</p> <p>Market steers
 Grand Champion: Grace Tullos
 Reserve Champion: Drew Kembro
 3rd: Hunter Ogden</p> <p>Market swine
 Grand Champion: Summer Ogden
 Reserve Champion: Sheena Turman
 3rd: Camden Soliz
 4th: Cade Mauldin
 5th: Avery Williams</p> <p>Market lambs
 Grand Champion: Mia Zuniga
 Reserve Champion: Trystin Gustafson
 3rd: Cason Beasley
 4th: Morgan Cotrone
 5th: Preston Budzise</p> | <p>Market goats
 Grand Champion: Kolton McGee
 Reserve Champion: Peyton McGee
 3rd: Tony Silva
 4th: Alexis Smith
 5th: Hunter Rollo
 6th: Natalie Stansberry</p> <p>Market fryers
 Grand Champion: Rhett Kinard
 Reserve Champion: Aaron Brooks
 3rd: Hilario Zaragoza
 4th: Jasper Gustafson
 5th: Savannah McDougald
 6th: Lyla Drake
 7th: Kimberly Trevino
 8th: Josue Trevino
 9th: Lane Lewis</p> <p>Showmanship winners</p> | <p>Grace Tullos, Sheena Turman, Trystin Gustafson, Aaron Brooks, Natalie Stansberry</p> <p>Shop projects
 Grand Champion Armando Rojas, Outside Home Convenience Division, horsehead bench
 Reserve Champion Cade Mauldin, Champion Showman, tailgate bench
 Jolene Hay, Ag Equipment Division Winner, chicken coop
 Michael Tijerina, Inside Home Convenience Division Winner, coffee table
 Cason Beasley, Livestock Division Winner, feed trough
 Robert Mounsey, Shop Equipment Division Winner, tamper
 Hunter Ogden, Wildlife Division Winner, raccoon trap</p> |
|--|--|--|



The first-place float winners of the Trinity Community Fair parade toss candy to the waiting crowd. PHOTO BY ERIN ADAMICK

TRINITY COUNTY
SPORTS



The West Hardin quarterback is wrapped up by a host of Trinity defenders for a loss. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Tiger quarterback Terian "Turbo" Maxie turns on the afterburners to score a Trinity touchdown. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Trinity's Jammale Johnson runs up the sideline after receiving a lateral enroute to a first down. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Trinity running back Jonathan Baker powers through the West Hardin defensive line for Trinity's first score of the night. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Tiger running back Jammale Johnson spins through tacklers for a gain. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

Tigers improve to 4-0 with win in replacement game

By Scott Womack
TCNS correspondent

TRINITY — Fair week in Trinity began with the Tigers scheduled to host the Colmesneil Bulldogs; however, due to injuries they were forced to forfeit giving the Tigers a 1-0 victory.

By Wednesday afternoon, the Tigers found a game against the West Hardin Oilers, who were previously to play against the Tigers in Week 3 but had to cancel due to scheduling conflicts.

The Oilers received the opening kickoff and were quickly forced to punt, and the Tiger offense wasted no time scoring with a 9-play, 79-yard scoring drive capped off by an 8-yard touchdown by Jonathan Baker. The defense again was able to force the Oilers to another punt and the Tigers were able to drive the ball to the oiler 8-yard line but were stopped on 4th down.

The second quarter started with an Oiler drive to the Tiger 27-yard line, but an incomplete pass gave the ball back to the Tiger offense. The Tigers took just 3 plays to find the end zone and took a 13-0 lead with a 38-yard run by Turbo Maxie. The Oilers were able to put

together an impressive drive and take the ball to the Tiger 1 inch line. With their backs to the goal line, the Tiger defense was able to stop the Oilers from scoring on 4 consecutive plays, giving the ball back to the Tiger offense as time expired in the first half.

Leading 13-0 after the halftime show, the Tigers received the ball and took 4 plays to score highlighted by a 65-yard scoring run by Maxie. The defense was again able to stop the Oilers and force a punt. Taking over on their own 13-yard line, the Tigers were again able to march the ball the length of the field and find the end zone with a pass from Maxie to Corde Walker for a 25-yard touchdown. The Oilers were again able to drive into the Tiger end of the field, but the defense forced the ball back to the offense with time winding down in the 3rd quarter.

The 4th quarter began with the Tigers striking for another score on a 74-yard drive that Jammale Johnson completed with a 15-yard touchdown run. Leading 32-0, the defense forced a fumble on the Oilers next play and the Tigers were in position to add to their lead, but a Tiger fumble gave the ball back

to the Oilers and set them up for their lone score of the evening, a 70-yard scoring drive that took up most of the remaining clock and the Tigers ended Non-district play with a 4-0 record and a total of 2 victories recorded on the same night.

The Tigers ended the evening with 430 rushing yards and 59 receiving yards, highlighted by rushing leaders Turbo Maxie with 172 yards and 2 touchdowns, and Jammale Johnson with 178 yards and 1 touchdown. The receiving yards leader was Corde Walker with 59 yards and 1 touchdown. The defense held the Oilers to 245 rushing yards and 1 yard passing.

The Tigers will open district play Friday as they host the Woodville Eagles at Tiger Stadium.

Apple Springs
Despite an opponent that displayed some of the worst sportsmanship, the Apple Springs Eagles played a game that Head Coach Cody Moree called the best football they have played so far this season.

Moree had posted on social media that their opponent, Tyler King's Academy, tried to intentionally hurt the Apple Springs stu-

dents, were visibly confrontational with the officials and consistently used profane and derogatory language.

At one point, after a penalty against an Apple Springs player after a late tackle, the opposing players from both the field and sideline ran at the player, and opposing spectators jumped the fence and ran onto the field, many of whom were shouting threatening and demeaning remarks at our students.

Moree's post states that a few moments later, an opposing player began to shout across the field at one of our players and threatened to do bodily harm to him completely separate from the game; since the opposing coach did nothing, Moree stopped the game.

"As Superintendent, I have no greater responsibility than the safety of our staff and students," Moree said. "The attitude and the actions of the opposing team were potentially dangerous, and I was not going to permit it to continue."

Despite the outcome, Moree said that the Eagles took an early lead and never relinquished it, and they won the game, both on and off the field.

The score when the game ended

was Apple Springs 33, King's Academy 28.

Moree said the defense set the tone for the game, with Bradyn Kaufman and Noah Thompson each posting 6 tackles.

Zeth Dugat had 78 yards rushing with 2 TDs and 101 yards receiving, and Payton Williams had 51 yards receiving with 2 TDs.

Groveton
The Indians managed only one TD in its 48-6 loss to Grapeland on Friday.

Head Coach Michael Waldie said it was a rough game, but the Indians will continue to push to get better and find answers.

"We must protect the football, as we had 4 turnovers again," he said. "We need discipline — there are way too many pre-snap mistakes and execution errors."

The team will focus on blocking and tackling with daily sled work, individual drills, tackling stations, and fit drills to improve those fundamentals.

"It will turn around; we will continue to work hard every day," he said.

Waldie praised Armando Bautista, who had a stellar night at wide receiver and outside linebacker.

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Trinity County runners bring home medals

TCNS staff

The Trinity Tigers boys team placed second at the Baker Best Invitational on Wednesday, and the Groveton boys varsity and JV teams placed first in Huntington on Saturday.

Trinity coach Shambraill Woods said the course in Anderson is a notoriously challenging one infamous for its grueling hills, but it didn't slow our athletes down one bit.

The Trinity varsity boys team secured a 2nd-place finish overall out of 21 teams, thanks in large part to Senior Cade Mauldin's 1st-place victory in the 1-4A division. Cade was joined by teammates Cristian Lopez, Alejandro Zavala, Austin Beasley, and John Parrish in this achievement.

On the girls' side, the Lady Tigers varsity team delivered a solid 6th-place finish overall, led by freshman Jasmine Jordan, who placed 9th overall. Karissia Rangel followed closely behind, securing 12th place.

At the Dobie Longhorn Stampede 2024 on Thursday, the Groveton boys placed 20th; and at the Huntington Red Devil Meet on Saturday, both the high school and junior high boys placed first.

16th Annual Becker Best 2024 Sept. 18

Anderson-Shiro Junior/Senior High School

Trinity Results
Girls individual results (result, name, place)

- 2-mile run
- 15:51.00, Jasmine Jordan, 9th
- 16:35.00, Karissia Rangel, 13th
- 17:39.00, Brooke Jordan, 19th
- 18:28.00, Mackenzie Slimp, 28th
- 19:00.00, Alexa Manzaneras, 29th
- 19:17.00, Cassidy Hay, 37th
- 19:44.00, Kaci Rose, 39th
- 21:18.00, Morgan Chapman, 64th
- 21:19.00, Isela Ramirez, 65th

- 23:02.00, Baylynn Breshers, 59th
- 23:06.00, Myah Torres, 60th
- 23:09.00, Marisol Lopez, 51st
- 23:29.00, Abril Puenta, 57th
- 23:30.00, Natalie Stansberry, 58th
- 23:33.00, Zoey Converse, 59th
- 23:52.00, Mia Zuniga, 66th
- 23:57.00, Aliana Reyes, 60th
- 26:03.00, Cinia Guerrero, 91st
- 27:23.00, Nikki Collins, 90th
- 27:28.00, Stephenie Gonzales, 92nd
- 27:34.00, Elizabeth Amaro, 70th
- 27:48.00, Daniel Alarcon, 95th
- 30:23.00, Madilyn Morrison, 108th

- Boys individual results (result, name, place)
- 2-mile run
- 13:56.00, Xaiver Manzaneras, 7th
- 15:34.00, Jose Lopez, 11th
- 16:12.00, Josue Trevino, 36th
- 18:36.00, Michael Ramirez, 27th
- 19:15.00, Salis Hill, 80th
- 19:26.00, Dexter Marquez, 86th
- 19:32.00, Deklan Fulsom, 88th
- 5,000-meter run
- 18:20.00, Cade Mauldin, 1st
- 23:36.00, Christian Lopez, 15th
- 24:00.00, Alejandro Zavala, 19th
- 25:42.00, Austin Beasley, 30th
- 29:04.00, John Parrish, 47th

Dobie Longhorn Stampede 2024 Sept. 19

Dobie High School, Houston
Groveton Results

- Boys individual results (result, name, place)
- 5,000-meter run
- 19:30.03, Armando Bautista, 57th
- 19:56.83, Gabriel Constante, 76th
- 20:28.23, Landon Conley, 103rd
- 21:27.13, Jay Smith, 142nd
- 21:38.26, Hunter Bowling, 144th
- 21:57.83, Jack Sullivan, 153rd
- 22:24.50, Luis Chavez, 165th
- 23:51.73, Jesus Maldonado, 188th



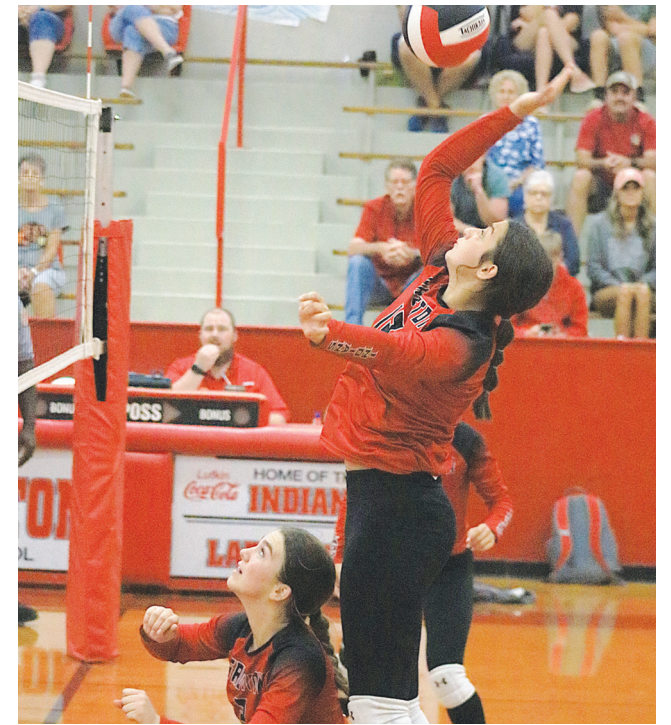
Trinity's Cade Mauldin ran the team to a second-place finish in Wednesday's Baker Best Invitational in Anderson. COURTESY PHOTO



Kayleigh Albus gets the block at the net. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Aubrey Alexander sets the ball up for a kill. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Kayleigh Albus goes up for the kill shot. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

Lady Indians fall to Hudson

TCNS staff

GROVETON — The Lady Indians lost a tough but well-fought match against the Hudson Hornets 3-0 on Friday.

The scores were 18-25, 23-25 and 22-25. Kayleigh Albus led on kills with 7, while Caila Antley and Kady Lee each contributed 4.

Kayleigh Albus also pulled off 4 aces. Aubrey Alexander had 14 digs and 8 assists, while Caila Antley and Kady Lee contributed 11 digs.

Apple Springs
The Lady Eagles dominated the court last week, moving their record to 7-6 for the season.

On Sept. 17, Laneville came to Apple Springs, and the Lady Eagles won in 3 sets, 25-15, 25-5, 25-5. Head Coach Denise Browning said the outstand-

ing showing by Jade Aycock, Lauren Lankford, Faith Smith, and Abrie McWhorter at the service line led to the victory.

On Friday, Apple Springs traveled to Trinity and beat them in 5 sets.

The Lady Eagles lost the first set in a heartbreaker 24-26, won the second 25-18, lost the third 19-25, and battled to win the fourth and fifth 25-16 and 25-11.

Browning said all of the Lady Eagles played a great game, including Lauren Lankford and Brooke Brister, who took care of business with many blocks and kills in the middle; Katy Davis had multiple kills and aces finding the gaps in their defense; Jade Aycock and Sophie Oldham made some great digs to keep the offense moving; and Abrie McWhorter worked hard at the setter position with many assists.



Caila Antley stretches for the dig. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



Groveton's Darbi Parker sets up after the serve. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

Centerville victorious at home

TCNS staff

CENTERVILLE — The Centerville Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs put wins on the board for their last home games.

On Sept. 17, the boys downed Laneville 45-37, while the girls won 39-12.

Head Coach Geoffrey Hollis said the boys were down 12 points to start the 4th quarter, but clutch shots and pressure defense got the Dawgs back in it, tying the game at the buzzer. Centerville outscored Laneville 9-1 in overtime to earn the win.

The Centerville Lady Dawgs moved to 7-1 on the season and remain undefeated (6-0) at home this year. Boys Game with

Scoring in the boys game were Cash Noack with 13 points, Aiden Conner with 11 points, Bradyn Woychesin with 9 points, Hunter Anderson with 7 points and Trinity Nerren with 5 points

In the girls game, it was Avery Brown with 25 points, Olivia Teeters with 6 points, Rebecca Brasuell with 6 points and Bayleigh Forrest with 2 points.

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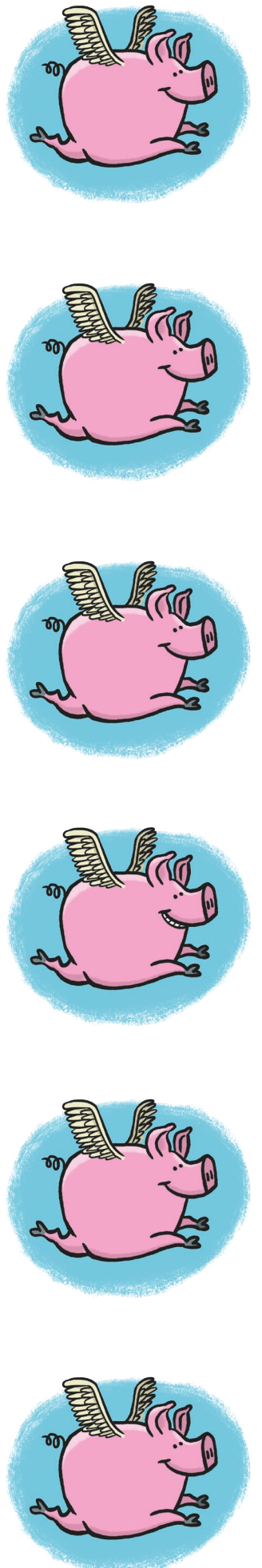
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Kid Scoop Together When Pigs Fly

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 **rain**_ng c_ts
_nd d_gs."

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.

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

130 S. Charlton St., Woodville, TX 75979
409.283.8288 | elrodlawtx.com

AREA DIGEST



National Night Out

The Trinity County Sheriff's Office and Precinct 1 Constable's Office will host National Night Out at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1, in Downtown Groveton.

National Night Out was created to improve the relationship between residents and first responders — peace officers, fire department personnel and emergency medical personnel.

Spaghetti fundraiser

First Baptist Church of Groveton will hold a Youth Chicken Spaghetti Fundraiser beginning at noon Sunday at the church.

The proceeds go toward youth camp at Pineywoods. For information, contact melissa@gcins.net.

Farm Bureau to meet

Trinity County Farm Bureau will have its annual meeting at 6 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Friday Community Center.

The meeting will start at 6 p.m.

A meal will be served and door prizes given away.

For information or to RSVP, call (936) 642-1231.

Vets hold raffle

Trinity County Veterans Wall of Honor Society is holding its annual fundraiser, and tickets for the raffle are available.

The 17th annual fundraiser will be held from noon to 6 p.m. Oct. 26 at Scheelbillies Saloon, 5665 FM 356, in Trinity.

Costs for the raffle tickets are \$1, or six tickets for \$5, and the drawing will be held at the event, which includes food and a live auction.

Raffle prizes include a 9 mm pistol, lottery tickets, gift cards and cash, and 12 numbers will be drawn.

For information or to purchase raffle tickets, call Bill Reeves at (936) 661-7107, Trish Meigs at (713) 589-8731 or Craig Hatton at (832) 992-6352.

Exercise class offered

First Methodist Church of Groveton is hosting chair yoga every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

Everyone is welcome.

Open gym night

The Groveton Change Club

presents Open Gym Night on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The times will be from 6-7 p.m. at First Baptist Church Gymnasium, 126 N. Devine Ave., in Groveton.

Activities include basketball, pickleball, volleyball and badminton with adult fitness classes coming soon. All children under 18 must be supervised by a parent or guardian.

For more information, please call (936) 642-1421.

GOP Ladies meet

The Republican Women of Trinity County meet the third Tuesday of each month. All Republican women are welcome to attend.

Meetings are held at the Trinity County Community Center at 2693 US Hwy 297, Groveton. For more information, contact republicanwomentrinityco@gmail.com, message our Facebook page or text (281) 467-8626.

Church program set

Calvary Baptist Church in Trinity invites children from 3 years old through the fifth grade to join in a fun-filled AWANA program that runs every Wednesday night from 6-8 p.m.

For information, contact the church at (936) 594-3611.

Band holds fundraiser

The Roaring Tiger High School Band is holding a flag subscription fundraiser.

For a \$50 annual fee, a member of the band will deliver and pick up an American flag with an 8-inch flagpole for each patriotic holiday throughout the year — Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Flag Day, Labor Day, Patriots Day and Veterans Day.

A PVC pipe should be placed in the soil below the grass level for the flag, which will be placed two to four days prior and removed two to four days after, weather permitting. The flag, pole and pole mount will be property of the band.

Contact roaringtigerband@trinityisd.net for more information or to obtain a registration document.

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 or call (936) 295-5959.

Delivery available

Martin Senior Center in Trinity now offers meal delivery to those over 60 that qualify for the service.

Guests also are welcome to enjoy mahjongg on Monday afternoons, bingo on Tuesday mornings, dominoes on Friday mornings and puzzle at any time.

The center is looking to hold health and exercise programs in the near future.

For information, call the center at (936) 254-2625.

Helping hands

Ladies in Action, 307 N. Main St. in Groveton, will hand out bags of food the third Thursday of every month from 8-10 a.m.

Additionally, the group is having a clothing sale through the end of January on all clothes.

Soup kitchen available

Burning Hope Baptist Church on FM 356 in Trinity is offering a soup kitchen.

Meals will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays to anyone.

There is no charge for the meal, but donations will be accepted.

For information, call the church at (936) 594-3623.

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 pub-

lic 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. Approved projects will have a completion deadline of Aug. 31, 2027.

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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

54 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 female deer

60 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)

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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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 trans-

porting 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 barbeque 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.

"We've set these buggies up for use on a basic Texas



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

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.

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

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15-6 Prescribed by Secretary of State Section 127.096 Texas Election Code 9/2023
PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT
Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the General Election Election held on November 5, 2024 will be tested on 10-03-2024 at 9 am at 215 E 1st Street Groveton, Tx (date) (time) (location) to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.
Riville Barbary Signature of Officer
AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE
Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección General Election que se llevará a cabo el November 5, 2024 se probará el 10-03-2024 (fecha) a las 9 am en 215 E 1st Street Groveton, Tx (hora) (sitio) para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley.
Riville Barbary Firma del/dela Oficial

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1-1 Prescribed by Secretary of State Sections 3.004, 3.006, 85.004, 85.006, 85.007 Texas Election Code 9/2023

ORDER OF ELECTION – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION FOR COUNTY OFFICERS (ORDEN DE ELECCIÓN GENERAL POR FUNCIONARIOS DEL CONDADO)

An election is hereby ordered to be held on 11 / 05 /2024 in Trinity County, Texas for the purpose of electing the following county and precinct officers as required by Article XVI, Section 65 of the Texas Constitution. (Por la presente se ordena que se lleve a cabo una elección en la fecha 11 / 05 /2024 en el Condado de Trinity, Texas, con el propósito de elegir los siguientes oficiales del condado y del precinto como requerido por el Artículo XVI, Sección 65, de la Constitución de Texas.)

Table with 2 columns: List Offices/Propositions/Measures on the ballot (Enúmere los puestos/proposiciones/medidas oficiales en la boleta) and empty rows for listing.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at: (La votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en:)

Table with 2 columns: Location (sitio) and Hours (horas). Row: TCH, ASVFD & GVFD.

Branch Early Voting Locations (sucursal sitios de votación adelantada)

Table with 2 columns: Location (sitio) and Hours (horas). Rows: Trinity City Hall, Apple Springs VFD, Groveton VFD.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekend at: (La votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo en el fin de semana en:)

Table with 2 columns: Location (sitio) and Hours (horas). Row: TCH, ASVFD & GVFD.

Branch Early Voting Locations (sucursal sitios de votación adelantada)

Table with 2 columns: Location (sitio) and Hours (horas). Rows: Trinity City Hall, Apple Springs VFD, Groveton VFD.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Form fields for Priscilla Rasbeary: Name of Early Voting Clerk, Address (Dirección), City (Ciudad), Telephone Number, Email Address, Early Voting Clerk's Website.

Applications for Ballots by Mail (ABBMs) must be received no later than the close of business on: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)

10 / 25 /2024 (date)(fecha)

Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on: (La Tarjeta Federal Postal de Solicitud deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)

10 / 25 /2024 (date)(fecha)

Issued this 27 day of August, 2024.

(Emitada este día 27 de August, 2024.)

Signature of County Judge (Firma del Juez del Condado)

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Advertisement for Dehart Veterinary Services. Low Cost Pet Wellness & Spay/Neuter Clinic. Brookshire Brothers • 10am-3pm. Every 2nd Wednesday of the Month.

Advertisement for Cathey Family Reunion. Saturday September 28, 2024. Groveton Community Center. Start time approximately 10:00am until? PLEASE come and bring your favorite dish and let's enjoy family, fellowship, and memories. DON'T FORGET!

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Legal Notices

Public sale of equipment on Sept. 26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Please be advised that Equify Financial, LLC will conduct a Public Sale of the following Equipment at 10:00AM (CST) on September 26th, 2024, at 310 Enterprise St 78045 Laredo TX. 2023 Dry Van Trailer VIN: 1UYVS2533P3818850. 2023 Dry Van Trail-

er VIN: 1UYVS2531P3823416 The Equipment will be sold on an "as-is", "where-is" basis to the highest bidder for cash, and Equify Financial LLC reserves the right to bid. Further information or to inspect the personal property prior to the sale, contact Michael Davied at (817) 490-6816.

Constable sale Nov. 5

Constable's Sale Sale to occur on November 5, 2024, at the Trinity County Courthouse at 10:00 a.m. in Groveton Texas. This sale is in reference to a Writ of Execution, Cause #CV-

230020JP1, dated September 5, 2024, held in the Precinct 1 J.P. Court. Properties listed below are in the Harbor Point Subdivision, Trinity, Texas. Section D, Lots #119,120,121

City accepting bids for water system improvements

Advertisement and Invitation for Bids The CITY OF TRINITY will receive bids for WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS - MISCELLANEOUS WORK - GLO MIT 22-082-021-D447 until 3:00 PM on October 16, 2024 at City of Trinity City Hall Council Room, 101 West Madison Street, Trinity, Texas 75862. At said time and place, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows: 1,077 LF of 10" waterline, meter/SCADA enclosure, 8" meter assembly and associated work Additive Alternate 1: Demolish Wood St. Booster Station Additive Alternate 2: 491 LF of 8" waterline and associated work Additive Alternate 3: 8" control valve assembly in concrete vault Additive Alternate 4: 6" control valve assembly in concrete vault 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 acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the CITY OF TRINITY or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond, Payment Bond and Maintenance Bond each in the amount of the contract. The award will be made on the basis

of the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. The project will be financed with assistance from the General Land Office (GLO) under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) program and is subject to all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations. 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 Labor 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 orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Section 3, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit bids. The CITY OF TRINITY reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by CITY OF TRINITY for a period not to exceed 75 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. Adherence to the grant recipient's Section 3 Policy is required for all contracts and subcontracts. All contractors/subcontractors whose 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 TRINITY Billy Goodin, Mayor

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

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Policy	Announcements	Auctions & Sales	Work Wanted	Employment	For Sale
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PLEASE CHECK your ad the first day it appears. We will correct any error as quickly as possible. However, we cannot be responsible for errors beyond the first day of publication day.

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

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

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

Announcements

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. Kfceilonalaska.com (49-tfn-nc-PCE)

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

Auctions & Sales

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

Auctions & Sales

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)

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
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*Residential *Commercial
Year round full service maintenance- design, build & install flower beds, hydroseeding.
Fully Insured
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Livingston, TX
936-646-2661
(1-tfn-b-PCE)

Work Wanted

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PROFESSIONALS
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Free Estimates
INSURED
40+ Years Experience
DAVID FIELDS/OWNER
936-933-7454
www.fieldspaintcontracting.com
(34-12-cc-PCE)

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Trimming, Top Removal, Haul Off, Tractor Work. Now accepting credit cards.
Call for Free Estimate
Insured
25 yrs experience
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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)

AMTEK
House Leveling
Leveling-
Water leveling-
Beams- Pylons
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(1-tfn-b-PCE)

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Livingston, TX
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if no answer call for appt
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(1-tfn-b-PCE)

Cleaning Services

S & S Cleaning and Maintenance


Residential
Commercial
Construction
936-714-6226
(32-tfn-b-PCE)

We ♥ our readers
Trinity County News-Standard

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

FULL TIME Medical Assistant, part-time Receptionist needed. Fax resume to 936-327-1022 email to dr.lauroraoffice@yahoo.com or bring to 300 Bypass Lane, suite 208, Livingston, TX. (39-tfn-b-PCE)

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)

TWO RECLINERS, beautiful blue, wing-back with thumb nail decoration. \$200.00 each. Warren, Texas. Call 409-283-0022. (39-2t-cc-TCB)

PORTABLE GENERATOR, RS 5500, never been used, \$500.00 cash. 409-837-9704. (39-2t-cc-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)

2-BEDROOM 1-BATH home with stove, refrigerator and window units. Located at 1005 Champ Street. Call (936)967-3546. (39-1-pd-PCE)

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. No down payment for VA. \$48,000 Down payment with FHA. Call (979)482-7273. Located at 1000 W. Polk St. Livingston. (37-4-cc-PCE)

Pets & Supplies

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

SENIOR CITIZEN needs to get these Lab mix puppies a new home. Free to good home(s). Call (936)200-1826. (39-3t-nc-PCE)

Storage

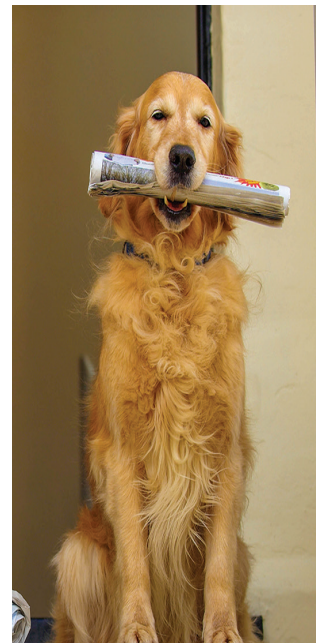
ENCLOSED BOAT STORAGE - Also climate & self storage. White Rock Storage. 6216 FM 356 Trinity (936)594-9283 or (713)249-1033. (25-tfn-b-TCNS)

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)



TRINITY STANDARD
936.534.2126

ESTATE SALE
First Methodist Church Groveton
in Edward Carter Hall
located behind the church
October 5th, 2024
from 9am-5pm.

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SMOKE SIGNAL

GROVETON EX-STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

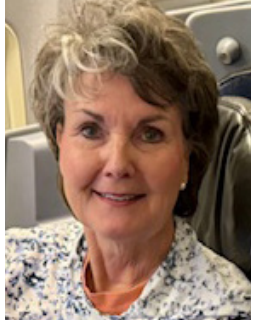
DEDICATED TO PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND STAFF OF GROVETON ISD

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

WELCOME

from the Groveton Ex-Students Association

This year's theme is Neon Nostalgia-Recognizing the 1984 Groveton Indian State Champs



Welcome home! We are excited to sponsor homecoming, 2024. Our theme is "Neon Nostalgia-Recognizing the 1984 Groveton Indian State Champs", and we look forward to seeing all of you for our homecoming activities. My name is Jo Ann Anderson Beken, Class of 1971 and I am the president of the Groveton Ex-Students Association. My siblings, Sue Anderson Smith, Class of 1966 and the late Bubba Anderson, Class of 1973, both graduated from Groveton High School. Our daddy, Jesse Anderson, attended school in Friday and Groveton. Our mother, Reba Conner Anderson, graduated from Centerville High School, Class of 1943. They lived their entire lives here in Groveton, so our roots are deep in Trinity County. We are so proud of that!

After graduating from Sam Houston State University in 1974 with a degree in Elementary Education, I taught at Groveton Jr. High. Mr. Dan Dominey was my principal. I went to Conroe ISD in 1975 and worked as a teacher, diagnostician, assistant principal, and principal during my 38-year tenure in Conroe ISD. During this time, I returned to SHSU and earned a master's degree in 1976 then a Doctorate in 2008. I have two children; Julie, who is the Chief Missions Officer for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and Brian, who is the fiddle player for Robert Earl Keen and a residential real estate appraiser. I have experienced many wonderful things due to the interests and passion of my children. I am blessed beyond measure to call them my kids. Julie has two little boys who are about anything involving a ball. They are in 4H and show heifers and goats. I love my time with them.

We are looking forward to this homecoming and we want to remember those who have gone on to their ultimate homecoming since we were last together in 2022. Their memories remain with us, always. We are proud, as an association, to remind you that we awarded more than \$80,000 in scholarships in May to our new graduates as well those who are currently attending college. They make us so proud! Please consider joining our association; 2-year memberships are \$10 and a Life Membership is \$50. Please help us make a GHS graduate's educational dream come true.

Welcome to homecoming 2024!



Welcome, Ex-Students! My name is Liz Kennedy Ledbetter, GHS Class of 2003, and I have served as the secretary of the Ex-Student's Association for the past two years. I am the daughter of Eddie Dean Kennedy, Class of 1970, and Dorothy Drake Kennedy, retired GISD teacher and counselor. My brother, Nick, is a graduate of the class of 2007. After high school, I attended Stephen F. Austin State University where I majored in General Business. While in Nacogdoches, I met and married my husband, Jack Ledbetter. We moved back to Groveton in 2009 and have two children: Ethan, 11, and Ella, 4. I have worked for Groveton ISD for the past 10 years as the Business Manager, and Jack has been the Technology Coordinator for the past 11 years. When we were first married and trying to decide where we wanted to live, we decided very quickly that there was no

place we would rather raise our children than in Groveton. We are both fortunate to be able to work for GISD and have the same schedule as our kids. It's also been so special to watch them get to know some of my favorite teachers and staff from when I was in school. The idea of family runs deep at Groveton ISD, for which I am forever grateful. I hope you are able to reconnect with old friends and teachers while you are here and enjoy a weekend filled with your Groveton ISD family!



Welcome to 2024 Groveton Homecoming. I am Tim Coker, class of 1970. I am Treasurer of Groveton Ex-student Association. I have fond memories of my days at Groveton ISD. My Dad James T Coker Jr. was Superintendent of schools, and I grew up in the large white house across the street from High School. It was tough getting up 15 minutes before bell rang and walk to school. I had the pleasure of walking home every day for lunch, where my mother had prepared a hot meal for both my dad and I. After Graduating form High School I continued to live at home and commute to Sam Houston State University where I obtained my undergraduate degree. There were always several Groveton Graduates that commuted to college every day. In fact, Jo Ann Anderson Beken, our Ex-Student Association President, and I commuted together, and both graduated from

SHSU in 1974. She showed off and did it in 3 years where it took me 4.

I hope each of the ex-students reconnect with classmates and enjoy tall tales of your high school days. I can certainly share some stories about classmates and teachers, like a good fishing story, all are exaggerated with time. Continue to stay in touch with one another. Enjoy the weekend of homecoming activities and continue to support your Groveton Indians. Current students enjoy your homecoming and your school friends. In the blink of an eye, you will be part of our ex-student organization and 50 years will have gone by.

Go Groveton Indians, keep up the winning tradition. It is always a good time to be a Groveton Indian.



Betty Kennedy Whittlesey is a Vice-President of the Groveton Ex-Students Association, a position she has held for over 25 years. She is the daughter of the late Cleaver and Ester Kennedy of the Magee Bend Community and a lifelong resident of Trinity County. She and her three siblings, Odessa Kennedy Whittlesey, Cleaver Kennedy Jr. and Vaunda Kennedy Harbuck, all attended and graduated from Groveton High School.

After her graduation in 1961, Betty attended Tyler Commercial College and worked for the USDA Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (presently Farm Service Agency) for 34 years before retiring in December 1995. She is married to George Whittlesey, who was a teacher in the Groveton School District for 32 years. Together they have three children, Randal (1983) and wife Lisa of College Station, Karen (1985) and husband Jim Key of Marietta, Georgia and David (1990) of Groveton. They have four grandchildren, Taylor Whittlesey Miskel and husband matt of Cary, North Carolina, Cole Whittlesey of College Station, Elizabeth key Steinbring and husband Trevor of Houston and Laura Key of Houston. The arrival of Emmett Miskel in 2023 made them great-grandparents.

Betty is an active member of the Groveton First Methodist Church, currently serving as receiving treasurer.

Betty welcomes all GHS exes back to Homecoming 2024.



Hello to all our Ex-Students and welcome back to town. My name is Kathleen Mochman Cockrell and I am one of the Vice Presidents of the Groveton Ex-Students Association. I graduated in 1962 from GHS. I am the secretary at Groveton Jr-Sr High School. This is my 44th year to work for Groveton ISD. In case you can't tell from the amount of years here, I love what I do at the school. Luther and I have been married for 61 years and have 5 children, who all graduated from Groveton. We have 10 grandchildren, several step-grandchildren, and a whole bunch of great grandchildren. We, also, have numerous other kids that we claim as ours that I call "My Babies".

I am looking forward to seeing all of you, hearing about your families, and how you are doing, (even though you may have to tell me who you are). Hope you all come by the school on Friday, go to the game on Friday night, to the street dance after the game and see us at the parade on Saturday. Have a great time while you are in town and I hope you get to visit with lots of your classmates.



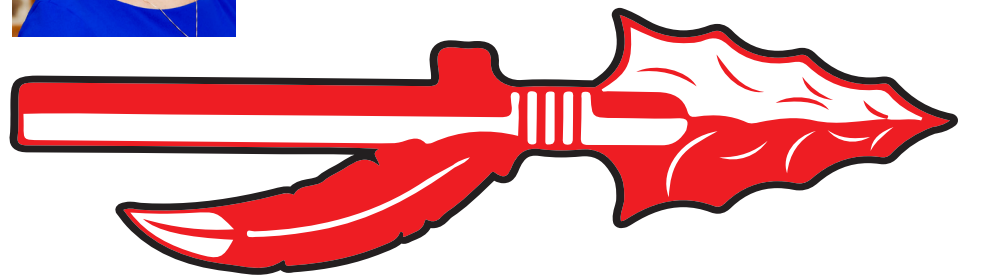
Welcome back Ex-Students! My name is Marlena Wooley Stubblefield, Class of 1979 and I am on the board of the Ex-Students Association in charge of Publicity.

My husband Harold Stubblefield, Class of 1978 and I have been married for 43 years. My roots in this town and county run deep, as my mother and father were both born and raised in Trinity County as were Harold's.

All four of our children were raised in Groveton and graduated from GHS also. This is home. I hope all of you enjoy your time here visiting with your family and your classmates. There truly is no place like home!



Welcome Home Indians! My name is Melissa Mericle Kemper. I have been the activities director for the Groveton Ex-Students Association since 2014. I graduated from Groveton in 1994. My husband, Jamie Kemper graduated in 1986 and was part of the 1984 State Championship football team. He was also a member of the team that went to State in 1985. Our children are all Groveton graduates. Weston-2013, Brandon-2015 and Alysse-2017. We are proud Indians & look forward to seeing you all for Homecoming 2024!



INDIANS GO Fight Win!



Janet Allen Batchelor
GHS class of '64

www.alandtheowligator.com

Carrying on the Groveton Indian Tradition

Bill & Jean Rasbeary

Great Nephews: Daxten Parker, Blake Klare
Great Granddaughter: Zoey Wars
Great Nieces: Summer Morris, Darbi Parker, Macy Klare

GO BIG RED

CARRYING ON THE GROVETON INDIAN TRADITION

GO BIG RED!

Betty Sellers



HOMECOMING COURT

Junior Duchess Caila Antley, Queen Candidate Stormee Stalsby, Queen Candidate Marie Gonzalez, Queen Candidate Anahi Hernandez, Queen Candidate Cassidy Mitchell, Freshman Duchess Madison Howard (Not available for photo Sophomore Duchess Jacey Chandler)



GROVETON INDIAN FOOTBALL

401 FARM AND NURSERY

Hayden Lee

320 Martin Luther King Dr.
Groveton, TX 75845
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401farmandnursery@gmail.com

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HOMECOMING 2024

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936-642-0841

James M. Cochran, M.d.
Keith Jones, Pa-C
Lisa Proctor, NP

GROVETON INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

Jay Clarke, Agent

We're backing the Indians!

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Phone: 936.642.1245
Fax: 936.642.1531
grovetoninsurance@yahoo.com

First Baptist Church

Groveton, Texas
Matt Sharrock · Pastor

Come worship with us!
1 John 5:13

HOME OF THE GROVETON INDIANS Fifth Quarter

Sunday school - 10 am
Worship Service 11 am
Sunday night - 6 pm
Wednesday night - 7 pm

126 N. Devine · Groveton, Texas 75845
936.642.1478 · admin@fbcgroveton.com

GO BIG RED

Alton Mericle - 1972
Martha Harrison Mericle - 1972
James B. Kemper - 1986
Melissa Mericle Kemper - 1994
Weston Cavness - 2013
Brandon Kemper - 2015
Alysse Cavness - 2017
Miranda Mericle Wooten - 1996
Jackson Pruitt - 2011
Lynsey Howell Pruitt - 2013
Lezlea Howell Wilson - 2013
Sean Wilson - 2009
Matthew Howell - 2019
Kaisley - 2037
Jasper - 2038
Lauryn - 2040
Isla - 2041

“Winning the game!”



By: Jo Ann Beken
Groveton Ex-Students Association President

As I prepared to interview Michael Horace from the 1984 Groveton Indian State Championship team for this article,

I did a little research and found the following in an article from the Groveton News: “Horace had 266-yard rushing for the evening and scored all 5 of the Indians’ TDs. Michael also ran an intercepted pass back 79 yards for a TD. This is the first ever State Championship for Groveton, and as far as anyone can recall, the first state championship for this district.” This certainly gave me some background! I was anxious to talk to Michael, 40 years after the big win.

When I spoke to Michael, I asked about his family and was reminded that I went to school with most of his sisters and brothers. We laughed when I discovered that I taught his brother in 1974 at Groveton Jr. High! Michael comes from a great family who have beautifully represented the teachings of their sweet mother and daddy.

My first question was “What do you attribute the team’s success to?” He said, “Not any one thing”. He said that from the coaching staff to the managers to the fans, to the City of Groveton, they always had great support. Everywhere they turned, there were always encouraging words. That made him and his teammates want to do well. They worked as a unit and depended on each other.

My next question was “What was the best part of winning the championship? What is your best memory?” He said, “Winning the game!” They had been so close before and they finally got over the hump. He said, “It brought more joy and happiness because we fought so hard to get there.” They had lost to the Boyd Yellowjackets the year before. He said there were some hard-fought times during his senior year. They lost 3 games early in the season; they had a lot of underclassmen. They had

many meetings with and without coaches and they pulled together as a team. “We caught fire and took off mid-season. We pulled it all together.”

Next, I asked him, “What were the difficult parts?” He said it was never easy for them. They were never the bigger team. He said their offensive line averaged 160-190 pounds and it “took a lot of heart for us to get after it”. Nothing intimidated them. When they lost those first 3 games, it felt like they were losing sight of their goal; the coaches shuffled them around and were able to get the best from each player.

Lastly, I asked “How did being a Groveton Indian on the State Championship team change the course of your life?” He told me that experience helped him understand he didn’t have to take on anything by himself. When you have a team of any sort around you, they can be a part of helping you be successful.

As he answered my questions, it became apparent that Michael was not going to talk about himself. Knowing what I knew from that article I read, I asked him to talk to me about that game and how HE did. He said, “It was the game of my life!” We talked about the statistics and what a magical night it was, but he always talked about the blocking and help he got from his teammates and coaches. He told me that when he was in 7th grade, he really did not want to play football. However, his brothers said, “Oh, yeah, you WILL play!” He said once he got started, he was glad he was playing. He told me his success at football afforded him opportunities to play at Baylor, Texas Tech, and Iowa. However, he chose to play for Stephen F. Austin so his dad and other family could see him play.

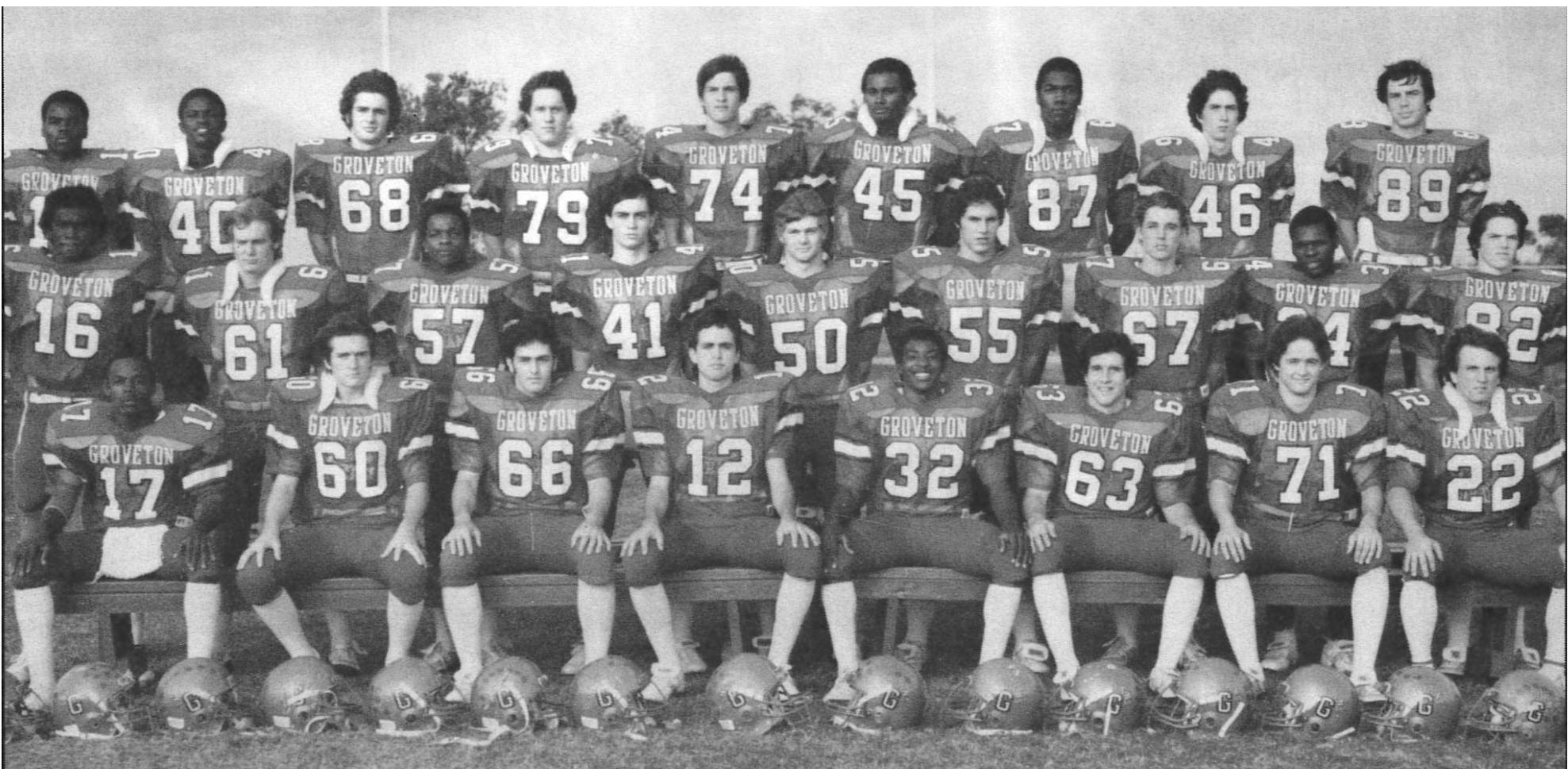
When Michael was a senior at SFA, his coach left. Michael was supposed to have another year of eligibility, but that was not honored by the new coaching staff. He had been working part-time for the Boys Ranch in Nacogdoches, a residential facility for boys who had behavioral challenges. Michael was hired full time and worked there as a counselor for 27 years. Michael used horses as a vehicle to work with the boys and taught them how to care for, groom, and show horses at halter. The students served were initially aged 5-18 but eventually the age criterion was changed to 5-14. Students came from abusive situations, had behavioral problems in the school system, and often suffered from depression. He guesses that he impacted the lives of approximately 500 boys over his 27 years at the Boys Ranch. He told me that he still hears from many of those boys, who are now men and have families of their own. They often remember and call him on his birthday.

Michael has a wife of 27 years, Chantay. He has 5 children: 2 girls and 3 boys. He has 8 grandchildren. His oldest child is 40 this year and the youngest will be 26 in a month. He has a grandson who is starting on the 9th grade football team at Klein-Collins in the Klein school district. How we wish he was in Groveton!

I asked Michael about his interest in horses, as I had a friend a few years ago who showed me a magazine about gaited horses. Michael and horse were on the cover! Again, I drug information out of him about his success as a showman. He has won 4 National championships at Halter in the Palomino breed, one with a Gelding, 2 championships with Stallions and a Reserve Mare championship. Are you noticing a pattern here with the word “Championship”? He told me he no longer has horses as he needs to have time to work them.


My “take aways” from this interview with Michael: humble, quick to give praise to his coaches and teammates, grateful for his experiences as a Groveton Indian and as a Lumberjack; a man who is proud of where he came from and the contribution he made to the boys he worked with for 27 years. He is also a proud husband, parent, and grandparent. He’s a wonderful example of a Groveton Indian.

I invited Michael to join us at the homecoming game on Friday night, September 27, 2024 when we will introduce the championship team, band, and cheer members. Please come to homecoming and see Michael, his teammates and his coaches, 40 years after one of the most exciting accomplishments in Groveton ISD history. We are grateful for the memories!



THE 1984 GROVETON INDIANS

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Billie Mark Alford



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Class of '04

JULIA
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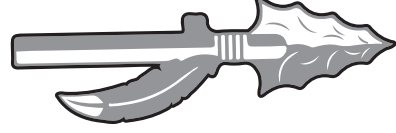


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Class of 2029 **Class of 2033**



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Taylor Hemness

From Kathleen Cockrell, nominator of Taylor for the Groveton Ex-Students Hall of Fame

As I prepared to write this letter supporting the nomination of Taylor Hemness, GHS class of 2000, I reviewed the criteria for consideration for induction into the Groveton Ex-Students Hall of Fame. One of the criterion states that those eligible for consideration are "former students who have attained distinction in a chosen field of endeavor. The recipient attained prominence through his or her efforts in worthy endeavors that form a record of accomplishment impressive to the citizens of our community/school district."

After you review my nomination form and Taylor's biography, I think you will unanimously agree that Taylor certainly meets this requirement of "impressive accomplishment". We were all so proud when we were able to watch him daily on KTRE in Lufkin, then also, when he moved to the Tyler station. That was where his outstanding talents were first recognized, and his first Lone Star Emmy for Best Small Market Evening Newscast was awarded in 2015. How exciting that must have been for the station and for Taylor and his family. It sure made our community and school proud!

In 2020, Taylor was the Gutenberg Award Recipient which is given yearly by the Abilene Christian University Department of Journalism and Mass Communication in recognition of alumni Distinguished Professional Achievement. Later, after moving to the big city, Kansas City, Missouri, this small-town boy of ours really distinguished himself as an exemplary newscaster/reporter in Large Market Morning Newscast and Feature Reporting by winning two Mid-American Emmys. This was in 2019. In 2022, Taylor was recognized as the Winner of Best News Feature by the Kansas Association of Broadcasters.

I might also mention that it was exciting to see Taylor's coverage of the Super Bowl this last year. Social media enabled us to watch him at his best at the most exciting sporting event in America! When you think about one of our own participating in this national event, it is truly incredible!

While Taylor has been outstanding as a news broadcaster and reporter based upon his awards and experiences, is wonderful to be able to say with conviction that he is an outstanding son, husband, father, brother and person. He has a beautiful family who is so proud of him and a community who would agree that his accomplishments are impressive and worthy of this highest honor of a Groveton Indian.

Taylor truly deserves recognition as a Distinguished Alumni of Groveton High School, and I hope you will select him as the newest member of our Groveton Ex-Students Hall of Fame.

Some additional facts about Taylor:
Born: 7/22/82 in Northwest Medical Center, Houston

K-12 student at GISD, class of 2000, graduating 4th in my class. Voted "Most Competitive," and "Most Likely to Succeed." Taylor's primary involvement in GISD was competing in UIL Academics in elementary, junior high and high school, including multiple state advancements in Spelling and Headline Writing (Journalism).

In Junior High and High School, Taylor added One Act Play competition. Taylor was



active in GHS band, marching with the high school from 6-12th grades, and serving as drum major from 10th-12th grade.

He was an active member of both the GHS Beta Club and GHS Student Council, serving as president of both during his senior year. Taylor served as editor of the GISD yearbook during his senior year. Taylor attended Groveton Church of Christ as a child, alongside fellow inductee Jean Rasbeary.

Taylor is a 2004 Graduate of Abilene Christian University, with a degree in Broadcast Journalism. He started his television career in 2001 (at 19 years old) as a weekend sports anchor at KTAB (CBS) in Abilene.

Taylor married Kathleen (Katie) Orr in January 2006. They met at ACU, where she graduated (also in 2004) with a degree in Theatre. Their oldest son, Tanner, was born in August of 2012, and twin sons Korben and Thatcher were born in July 2014.

His career has taken him from Abilene to San Angelo, then Lufkin, Tyler, and since November of 2017, Kansas City, MO.

"My strongest memory of being a student at Groveton is that I couldn't WAIT to get to school every day, especially as an older student, because of how much I had going on!

During high school, I had some sort of meeting or practice before school started, including MANY Friday mornings selling donuts for the student council, practically every day of the week. I loved being busy!

Also, I was so honored to find out that Kathleen Cockrell nominated me, because I think she spent more time with me than she did with her own children every spring semester. Between bus trips to UIL Regional competitions, Beta Club Conventions, Student Council Conventions, and UIL State competitions, she carted me all over the state!

Now that I'm a father, with school children of my own, I know how truly valuable my experience in a small, tight-knit school district was. I'm thankful every day for my experiences in Groveton ISD, and this recognition is truly one of the honors of my life."

We welcome Taylor to our Groveton Ex-Students Hall of Fame! Congratulations! ■

Juanita Jean Parker Rasbeary

Portions of this article are taken from the nomination letter written for Juanita Jean Parker Rasbeary, Class of 1958.

When I was preparing to write my nomination for the Groveton Ex-Students Association Hall of Fame, I first reviewed the criteria written by the founders of the association. It states, in part, that "this award is presented to those former students or supporters who, through their distinction in their chosen field of endeavor, selfless service to society, and/or dedication and loyalty to Groveton ISD, exemplify excellence in integrity, leadership, loyalty, respect, and selfless service. I was immediately certain that this is the perfect description of my nominee, Juanita Jean Parker Rasbeary, GHS class of 1958.

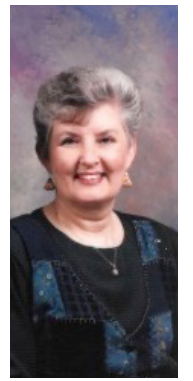
Jean was born on October 1, 1940, to Poston and Neva Parker at St. Joseph Hospital, Houston TX. Jean spent her public-school education at Groveton Elementary, Groveton Jr. High, and Groveton High School. She was named Miss GHS and received the Daughters of American Revolution award as a senior. She was a member of the Groveton band for 6 years and was a majorette/assistant drum major.

In 1964, she and Bill Rasbeary were married and they moved into their house in 1966. Sixty years later, they still live there. They have two sons, Robert (Bob) Rasbeary and Brad Rasbeary, both of whom graduated from Groveton High School. All four of them are lifetime members of the Groveton Ex-Students Association and are thankful for the support this group has given the graduates of GHS.

Professionally, Jean worked as payroll clerk for a construction company, was a medical records clerk at Memorial Hospital in Lufkin TX, was a secretary at Lufkin Industries for 12 years, and worked as a Support Services Specialist for the US Forest service. She served where there were wild fires, storms and/or hurricanes, as they were assigned to work the areas that needed supplies, meals, etc. She worked a wildfire in Libby, Montana, the Upper Yaak River, 10 miles from the Canadian border, then Hurricane George in Puerto Rico. When in Montana, Jean and the other workers slept in large, cardboard boxes used for their tents. Just before she retired, she was sent to London, Kentucky on a fire detail and stayed all of October and November that year.

What has come after her high school days is what truly distinguishes Jean from all others. Please be aware that Jean taught Sunday School at Groveton Church of Christ for 30 years. She also served as a Vacation Bible School teacher during these years. Jean taught classes at Camp Red Oak Springs. Her influence on the youth of Groveton is immeasurable. She taught students about the Lord, but also is an example of one who walks daily in the light of God to edify His goodness.

For many years, Jean was also part of a concession stand team that worked home track meets, volleyball, basketball, softball, baseball, and all football games. This group also provided meals for the varsity football team after "away" games because it was difficult to locate eating places for the team after the games. The group did this so the team and coaches could get home earlier and




could have something good to eat. Jean was the secretary/treasurer of this group as well as a shopper, food preparer, and server. The group did this for 13 years. They were also able to fund athletic scholarships from the profits from the concession sales. Jean also worked the Bear Chase for 5 years, which was a variety of races involving community runners, including a marathon, a half marathon, and a 5-mile run.

The most important words that exemplify Jean's eligibility for our Hall of Fame are these: selfless service, dedication, and loyalty to GISD. I asked Jean to tell me about some of her volunteer time for GISD. She wrote "In 1980, I volunteered to keep football statistics for the Varsity Football teams the first year Coach Jim Wise coached football. This was such enjoyable work!" I wrote her back and said, "So you did this for one year?" She wrote, no, she kept the stats from 1980 until 2010 for Jim Wise, Scott Phillips, Brandon Craus, Don Hill, and Kevin Parker. Thirty Years! She was on the sidelines with those teams, no matter the weather or if they were winning or losing—she was an integral part of the Indian team! What a witness to selfless service, dedication and loyalty to GISD!

One would think that, with all these hours dedicated to service, Jean would be ready to kick back and be done. Not so! She and her husband can be seen at almost every competitive event that involves a Groveton team. I asked her about this, and she said, "We try to attend all competitive events... Unfortunately, some students never have anyone to support them and, believe me, they are looking to see who is supporting them!" How blessed our students and community are to have the selfless service, dedication, and loyalty of Juanita Jean Parker Rasbeary. Congratulations to Jean for her life of service to our Groveton Indian community which has earned her the well-deserved honor of her induction in to the Groveton Ex-Students Hall of Fame. ■

GO BIG RED!



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Betty Kennedy Whittlesey -1961
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**Lakyn Thornton
Class of 2034**



**Landyn Thornton
Class of 2037**

Jimmie & Gina Price

Jimmie Perry Price was born to JV Price of Trinity and Gene Taylor Price of Groveton ('46), Gina Safford Price's parents are Jim Safford of Carmona and Martha Dial Safford of Groveton ('48). Jimmie and Gina met in Mrs. Dawson's kindergarten classroom in the basement of the Groveton Baptist Church when they were 5 and attended grades K-12 together. Their first date was the end of their sophomore year. During high school Jimmie played football, ran track and was class salutatorian. Gina ran track, was in the band, a twirler, cheerleader and football sweetheart. Gina and Jimmie graduated in 1973. Their dads thought it best for the high school sweethearts to attend different colleges so Jimmie enrolled at Stephen F. Austin; Gina headed to Sam Houston State University. That arrangement lasted one semester before Gina transferred to SFA. Jimmie pledged Phi Kappa Alpha; Gina pledged Delta Zeta. College was a blast!

Jimmie graduated from SFA in the Spring of 1976 with a BS in Political Science, and moved to Houston where he enrolled at South Texas College of Law. Gina graduated in the Fall of 1976 with a BBA in Marketing. The young couple married in February of 1977 at the Groveton Methodist Church and Gina moved to Houston where she worked to support them while Jimmie attended law school.

Jimmie graduated from law school in 1979 and was hired by John Martin as an associate to practice criminal and family law while Gina continued to commute to Houston for work. The couple moved to Conroe, bought 2 new cars and a house and settled into their new life. Short months later John Martin announced he was running for district judge. Overnight, Jimmie was thrust into a solo practice. The phone didn't ring the first day or two but within a few weeks, a case or two came in. Within 6 months, the phones were busy and Jimmie never looked

back. About that time, Gina began to consider getting her MBA. With the encouragement of Jimmie and their parents, she instead enrolled in law school at South Texas. Just as Gina put Jimmie through law school, he put her through. She graduated in May, 1983. The next year, the law firm of Price and Price moved into a new building on the square in Conroe. That same year, Jimmie and Gina became the proud parents of a baby girl. Four years later they welcomed a second baby girl, completing their family of 4.

For over 45 years, Jimmie has practiced family law and criminal defense in Montgomery County. His practice encompasses negotiation, mediation and litigation of complex divorce cases involving contested property division and child custody issues, as well as representation of the accused in major felony crimes and serious offenses.

Jimmie is Board Certified in both Family Law (1986) and Criminal Law (1987) by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Less than 10% of Texas attorneys are board certified in even one area of law. Board certification requires substantial, relevant experience and specialized competence in a particular area of law. Jimmie has been selected as a Texas Super Lawyer by Texas Monthly in the practice area of family law and has received this prestigious honor each year since 2003. This selection process includes peer nominations, a panel review process and independent research of the candidates. Only five percent of Texas attorneys receive this honor annually. He has been recognized as a Top Lawyer by H Texas Magazine each year since 2003. Jimmie is also a licensed mediator.

Jimmie is active in county, state and national organizations established to further the practice of law, is a past-president of the Montgomery County Bar Association and recently

completed a three year term as a member of the State Bar of Texas Minimum Continuing Legal Education Committee, where he also served one year as the Vice-Chairman.

Gina's has practiced Estate Planning and Probate law for 41 years. She does estate planning, assists clients in getting their estates in order and after the death of a loved one, assists families in the transfer of Decedent's assets.

Gina has always had a heart for protecting the rights of children as reflected by her service to the community. She is the past President of the Montgomery County Community Foundation and the Montgomery County Children's Protective Services Board. Gina has received statewide recognition for her dedicated legal service to the children of Montgomery County. The Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards named her the Volunteer of the Year "For Outstanding Volunteer Service to The Children of The State of Texas." She was also honored by (Region 6) Montgomery, San Jacinto and Walker County Children's Protective Services as Outstanding Attorney Ad Litem for the Region for dedicated service to the children of Montgomery County." Gina was awarded the "Texas DFPS Lifetime Legacy Award" for the many years of personal and professional dedication to the Texas Foster Care System. She is a member of the Montgomery and Woodlands Bar Associations, the Pro Bono College and the College of the State Bar of Texas. Gina serves as executive director of the Teresa Maness Educational Foundation, a foundation providing college scholarships for deserving students. Gina is a certified mediator and a frequent speaker on the importance of Estate Planning.

Jimmie and Gina say the best part of working for themselves has been the opportunity to take off for their daughters (and now Jenevieve's) scholastic and sports endeavors, to serve their church and community and have time to travel.



Both served on the Conroe Chamber of Commerce Board, the Montgomery County Fair Association, taught Sunday school, facilitated Bible study and served on numerous church committees as well as volunteered for whatever activities their girls' were involved in.

Jimmie and Gina still practice part time. They live in Magnolia, close to their oldest daughter Jaime, her husband Jason and their granddaughter Jenevieve, age 7. Jaime received her undergraduate degree from Sam Houston State University. Jaime and Jason, Jenevieve's parents, are both graduates of South Texas College of Law. Their youngest daughter, Jordan, attended the University of Houston and lives in Galveston County where she is a building contractor and real estate agent. Jordan recently built Jimmie and Gina a second home in Galveston where they look forward to spending more time after full retirement. Jimmie and Gina will celebrate their 48th wedding anniversary in February 2025. ■

Edward Jones

Go Groveton!



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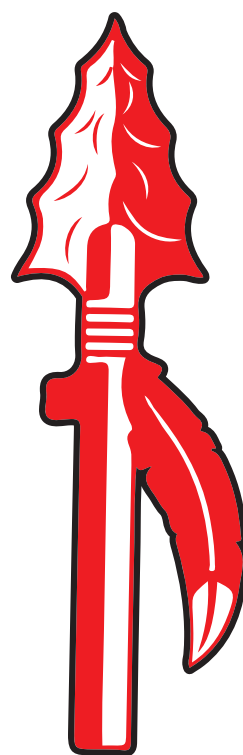
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**to our Senior
Dana Whitworth**

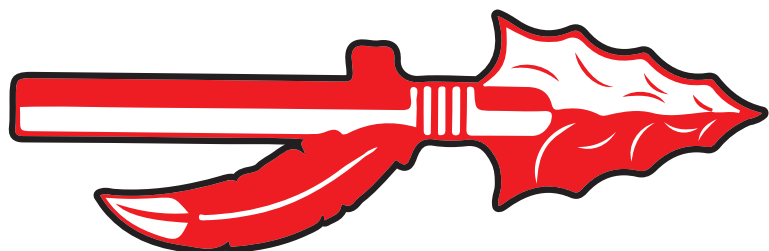
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WELCOME HOME EX-STUDENTS!

GO

BIG

RED

The Cockrell Clan



**County Seat Cafe
welcomes all Ex-Students!**

Nelson Due - 1967

Connie Worsham Due - 1971

Craig Spiller - 1996

Melissa Due Spiller - 1996

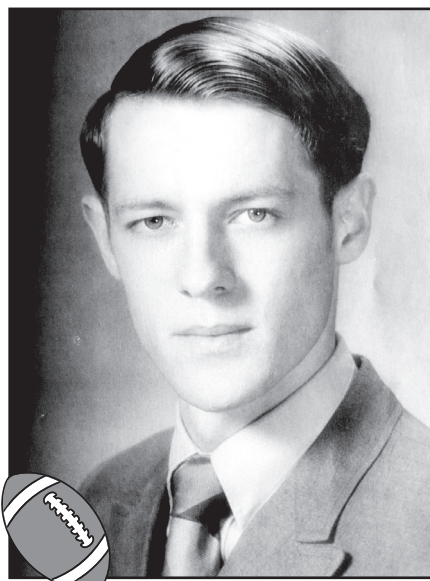
Sam Shanafelt - 2001

Nancy Due Shanafelt - 2002

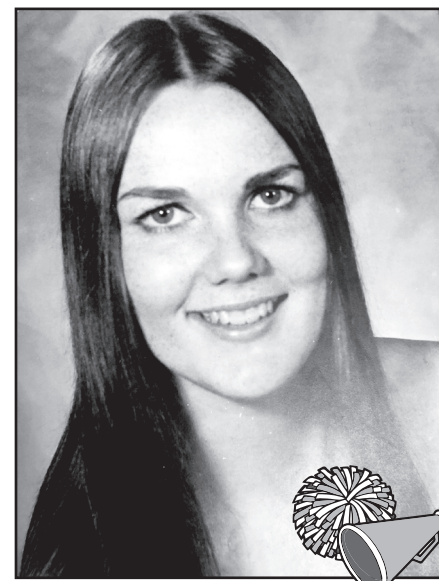
Cooper Nelson Shanafelt - 2028

Troop Allen Shanafelt - 2034

Welcome Home Ex-Students!



**Tim Coker
Class of 1970**



**Jo Ann Anderson Beken
Class of 1971**

Go Indians!

AG DEPARTMENT

Welcome home ex-students! We hope everyone is glad to be back in town, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. This is our big homecoming celebration and there are many exciting events planned. We hope that you will enjoy your time back at home.

For the past two years, the Ag Department and FFA chapter has been successful in many contests. The leadership teams of radio broadcasting, junior and senior chapter conducting, junior and senior skills teams, junior and senior quiz teams, junior and senior creed speakers did well in their respective competitions. In the fall, students also participated in the local NRCS hay judging and wildlife management contests, with several students being awarded scholarships for excelling in the contests. The wildlife contestants did extremely well in the regional competition, and three teams advanced to the state contest in the spring where they placed fourth, and eighth. Fall is also the time students begin preparing for Beef Skillathon. They compete in a knowledge based test, identifying tools used in the beef industry, and then if they are in the top 10 of their division, they participate in the finals, which consists of performing skills such as tagging, tattooing, and reading medication labels for administration protocols as well as participating in an interview with multiple beef industry professionals. Students participate in Skillathon contests at the State Fair, San Antonio, Rodeo Aus-

tin, and the Beef Skillathon Camp at SFA. In May, Reed Hawkins was the highest placing senior and received a scholarship to SFA. In the spring judging events, students participated in forestry, land judging, and livestock judging. Our students were successful in these contests and advanced to the area and state levels of competition. Our forestry students placed fourth and sixth this year in the state contest.

During the summers of 2023 and 2024, a selected group of students attended the Texas FFA Convention where they received their Lone Star FFA Degree. This is the highest degree awarded in the state. To receive the degree, these students had to keep a record book containing information about their hours of work outside of class, project expenses and income, FFA leadership activities and judging events, plus they had to complete 25 hours of community service. During the past two years, we have had a total of 18 students who met the qualifications to receive this degree. In addition, Hannah Page advanced to the state degree check as the Area 9 Star Green Hand in Production, and Kaileigh Lopez had a swine production proficiency award advance to the state degree check.

Our Ag Department volunteers with several organizations in the community. Every year, our students help out Ladies in Action, which helps citizens in the community by distributing groceries and produce. Our students also help out the Friday and Pen-

nington Buyers Groups as well as the Phillips and Due Foundation by working at the fund raising events and serving the meals at their annual fund raisers which benefit the local community organizations and the youth of the county.

The Trinity County Fair and Youth Livestock Show plays an important part in the lives of many of our students who participate in the fair each year. They are able to show market steers, market swine, commercial heifers, market goats, market lambs, market broilers (chickens) and market fryers (rabbits). Students are able to participate in the agriculture mechanics part of the fair with shop projects and also with baked goods. The students are very thankful for their buyers and the buyers groups who come out and support them at the auction.

The spring is a busy time as students prepare projects for not only the county fair, but also the major livestock shows held in Houston and San Antonio. We have ordered market broilers for show in the Houston Livestock Show. These day old chicks will be picked up in January; and will be continually fed and cared for until they are exhibited at their prospective shows in February and March. Students who will be showing commercial steers at the San Antonio Livestock Exposition and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo begin buying their pens of steers during the summer. At the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Trey Page had the high point rookie test score

and was also named the 2024 SALE Rookie. Reed Hawkins had the 6th place pen of steers in the contest. Lucas Sottosanti was one of the top 8 finalists at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Jr. Commercial Steer Show. Additionally, Malley Ecord was the Junior Rookie, and the 2nd place junior contestant. Jasper Due was the third place junior contestant. At this time, they have also attended camps and workshops to help them prepare for the show in March. These students not only have to feed out their pen of steers, but also prepare themselves for a test over their knowledge of the beef industry, and they participate in an interview with representatives from the beef industry over the care and feeding of their project. In 2025, we will have a total of ten students who will be participating in the Commercial Steer Competitions at both Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and San Antonio Livestock Exposition.

Over the past two years, we have had students partner with Frontera Feedyard to feed a pen of steers for the Texas Cattle Feeders Association's Youth Fed Beef Challenge Competition. This summer, we had two students attend the Texas Cattle Feeders Association's Feedyard Camp, where they gained hands-on experience in multiple aspects of the fed cattle industry.

Once again, we hope that you enjoy your time here. Please feel free to stop by or call the agriculture science department and see what activities we have going on.

Welcome Home Ex-Students! GO INDIANS!



Don Hamilton - GHS Class of 1981
Revette Hamilton
Whitney Hamilton - GHS Class of 2007
Clint Hamilton - GHS Class of 2008
Payton Hamilton · Hoyt Hamilton
Lainey Hamilton



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Cristin Cartwright Brown
 Class of 2000

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 Ex-Students*

*The
 Riata*

on Main

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 For rental information call 936-635-3238.

Proudly supporting the Groveton Indians
 Doug (1982) and Cathey (1983) Page

In Memory of

Reba Anderson



IN MEMORY OF
 MRS. REBA ANDERSON

Mrs. Anderson was the Groveton Elementary school secretary and worked with principals A.B. McBride, Joe David Driskell, Frank Minton, John Reynolds, Mr. Henderson, and Jim Wise. She touched the lives of so many and was so proud to be a part of the Groveton Indian Family.

1926-1984



In loving memory of
Neil Kemper, Jr.
 February 4, 1966 - January 27, 1999
 Senior 1984



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OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBERS

Luke Martin

Howdy, Groveton Ex-Students!
My name is Luke Martin, and I am honored to take a position here in GISD. This is my first time being in a small-school environment, and the people have made it great so far! I am coming over after two years as a math teacher, as well as a football/baseball coach at my alma mater, Bryan High School. I attended Mays Business School at Texas A&M University, and received a Bachelor's of Business Administration in Accounting. I am excited to help contribute towards the success of Groveton ISD in my new role as math teacher, football's offensive coordinator, and an assistant in powerlifting & softball. Let's make it a great school year, GO INDIANS!

Matthew Gholston

Hello, Indian Nation!
My name is Matthew Gholston, I am the teacher in the DAEP classroom. I am fired up to be the Defensive Coordinator for your Groveton Indians. I will also be coaching Powerlifting and Track. Previously I was at Bangs High School for 5 years. While there I was a varsity position coach and transitioned to the Defensive Coordinator. I graduated high school from Austin Bowie in 2011. I attended Angelo State University on a Football scholarship, earning my undergraduate degree in Exercise Science and a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction. After graduating I was a Football graduate assistant at Angelo State, I also did my student teaching at Austin Bowie where I was able to coach my first high school football season. I have only heard great things about Groveton from my coaching buddy and

alumni Logan Galloway. I am honored to have the opportunity to coach and be a part of this great community. ROLL TRIBE

Laura Worsham Anderson

Hi there!
My name is Laura Worsham Anderson. I am a graduate of Groveton High School, Class of 2008. I received my Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX. Axe 'Em Jacks! I have been married to my husband, Casey, for 5 years and we have three children: Reagan, a junior at Groveton High School, Malachi, a junior at Nacogdoches High School, and Kennedy, a 4th grader at Raguet Elementary. Even though I have lived in Groveton my entire life, this is my first time teaching at Groveton ISD. I can't accurately describe in words what it means to me to be walking these halls again. The same halls my dad, aunts/uncles, and siblings walked. The same halls my daughter walks now. We wear the Indian red loudly and proudly! I am so thrilled to be HOME! Go Big Red!

Mike Waldie

Hello Groveton America!
My name is Mike Waldie and I am honored to be the Director of Athletics and Head Football Coach. My wife Amy, a 4th grade teacher here in GISD and I have 4 children, two that are still of school age and have joined us here in the District. Bodie Luke is a 7th grader and Brooks Landry is a 4th grader. Our daughter Brynn is a Junior at SFA, and our oldest son Brock runs his own business in Florida.

I am a graduate of Sam Houston State University and I am beginning my 30th year in education, 10 at the Collegiate Level serving as the Defensive Coordinator at Bethany College, Washburn University, and Kansas Wesleyan University. The last 20 years have been here in Texas High School football and I have been the AD/HFC at Luling, Woodville, Daingerfield, and Gonzales ISD. I was blessed to be a part of 8 National Championship playoff teams in College and have been a part of 12 playoff teams at the High School level.

We are so excited to call Groveton home, the community, the kids, the administration have all made our transition here absolutely wonderful. Please come introduce yourself, my door is always open. GO BIG RED!!!

Forrest Reddick

Hello Tribe! My name is Forrest Reddick. This is my 13th year in education and I could not be more excited to be apart of the proud Groveton tradition. I have spent the last 12 years as a teacher and coach for Trinity High School. I have taught all levels of social studies at the High School level and will be serving as the World History teacher at GHS. I have coached football, basketball, track, and served as the Head Powerlifting coach for Trinity where I proudly was able to bring home 2 state champions, the only in school history. I am married to my high school sweetheart of 18 years Monica and together we have 2 sons, Logan who is 11, and Liam who is 8.

Amy Waldie

Hello Groveton! My name is Amy Waldie and I am looking forward to a successful year as an In-

dian! I am super excited to be teaching 4th grade math. This will be my 18th year to teach. I have previously taught grades 3-8 in all subjects. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M-Texarkana. My family is new to Groveton and eager to make this our home!

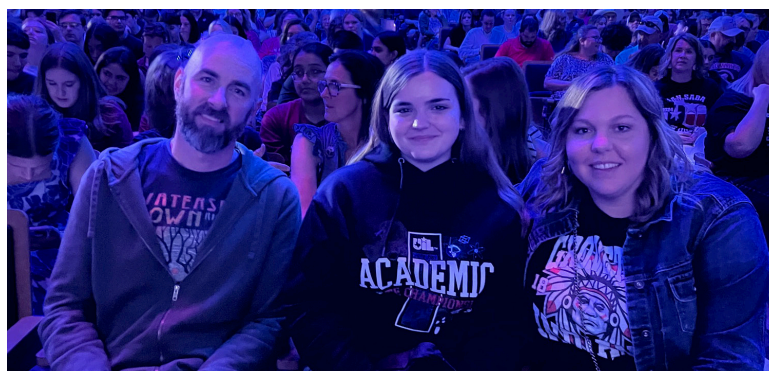
Ralph Wilson

Hello, Ex-Students, my name is Ralph Wilson. I graduated from Brookshire Royal High School and went on to earn both my bachelor's and master's degrees at Sam Houston State University. I funded my education through scholarships and worked as a farm hand at the University Dairy, where I milked cows twice a day, six days a week, gaining firsthand experience in the relentless demands of maintaining dairy cattle. After completing my studies, I faced a tough job market with only three agricultural teaching positions available in Texas, and I accepted one in McLeod. My teaching journey continued in Dayton and Anahuac, and for 28 years, I taught agriculture science at Barbers Hill alongside my wife, Mary, who also taught there for 29 years. Together, we raised our son Rhett, who is also an ag teacher at Crockett ISD. Throughout my career, I took great pride in training poultry, livestock, tractor, ag mechanics, and farm skills teams.

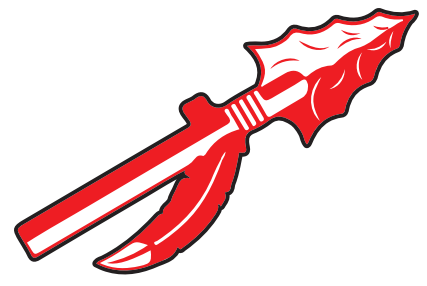
Currently, I'm in my second year at Groveton High School, teaching auto tech, small engines, and agricultural power. I enjoy coaching tractor technician teams, teaching tractor restoration, and ag mechanics teams. Since moving to Friday in 2020, my wife and I have come to appreciate why so many of our friends, lifelong residents of Trinity County, consider it the best-kept secret.



High School UIL Regional Qualifiers



Megan Hannah (center) with her coaches Jeremy Gentry (left) and Shannon Klare (right). Megan won medals in copy editing and editorial writing



GO INDIANS!



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2021



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WELCOME GROVETON EX-STUDENTS!

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Welcome Home Ex-Students!

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Ex-Students,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Groveton ISD, I would like to welcome each of you back for all of the 2024 Homecoming activities. Homecoming is a perfect time to reconnect with classmates, old friends, and enjoy some Friday Night Football. Homecoming week will be packed full of student activities each day. Beginning on Monday, September 23rd our jr. high volleyball teams will compete in Corrigan with games starting at 4:30PM. Tuesday, September 24th you can see the junior varsity and varsity volleyball teams play at home against Colmesneil beginning at 4:30PM. Wednesday, September 25th the jr. high, junior varsity, and varsity boys cross-country teams will travel to Elkhart to compete in an invitational meet. Thursday, September 26th our sub varsity football teams will all compete in Frankston. Our seventh-grade boys will start at 4:30PM followed by the eighth-grade boys at 5:30PM, with the junior varsity to begin play at 6:30PM. Friday, September 27th will be a good day to see most of our kids in action at home. Our varsity volleyball team will play Shelbyville in Groveton, beginning at 4:30PM and our varsity football team will host Frankston at 7:00PM. The Groveton Ex-Student's Association will sponsor the street dance downtown after the game, and on Saturday, September 28th, the homecoming parade will begin at 10:00AM. We hope that while you are in town you get the opportunity to visit the school or enjoy watching our students compete in their events.

If you do come by and visit, we ask that you would check into the office at the Jr./Sr. High School campus or the Elementary campus. While you are back home visiting you may notice a few changes or updates around the school or other district facilities. We also hope that you notice that there are still some things that have not changed. Discipline, hard work, and good manners are expected from all of our students, and the values of respect, integrity, and competitiveness are modeled by our staff every day. Many of the traditions that were established long ago which you may have experienced or took part in as an ex-student still exist at Groveton ISD today. Years ago, students at Groveton ISD who were members of the student senate during the 1974-1975 school year created a sign that still remains in our high school campus. It simply reads, "Welcome...through these halls pass the finest students in America," and I can assure you that statement is as true today as it was back then. As a school community we are extremely proud of our students and enjoy celebrating the success they achieve when working toward their goals. I am sincerely thankful for the opportunity to serve our district as superintendent, and I appreciate all of you for supporting our students, teachers, and staff throughout the year. We would like to thank the Ex-Students for their continued involvement within Groveton ISD and for establishing a tradition for future graduates to follow. I am blessed to be a part of the Groveton ISD family and to live within this fine community. We look forward to seeing you this weekend and hope that you get the opportunity to enjoy all of the Homecoming festivities.

Sincerely,
Jim Dillard-Groveton ISD Superintendent

Dear Ex-Students,

On behalf of the Groveton Independent School District, I would like to say, "Welcome home Groveton ISD alumni". As we celebrate with Neon Nostalgia-Recognizing the 1984 Groveton Indian State Champs, Homecoming 2024 provides fun, meaningful, and magical moments for students, faculty, alumni and the entire community.

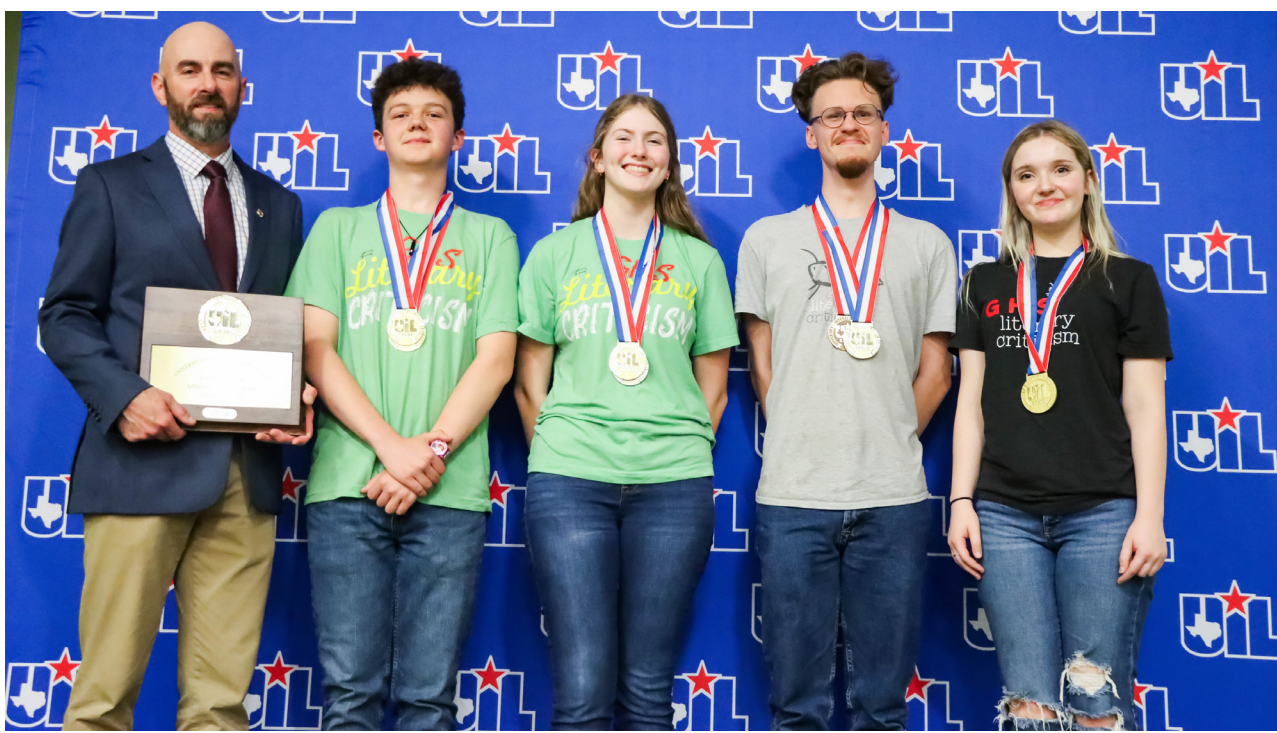
I am excited to be celebrating Groveton Homecoming with all of you. Let me take a moment to briefly introduce myself to each of you and say "Thank you" for establishing an environment of excellence and pride. My name is Rebecca Huff and I am honored to be your Assistant Superintendent. I began my career in Groveton in June of 2021 and as the saying goes, "I wasn't born here, but I got here as fast as I could." Having previously worked with Mr. Dillard, I gladly took the opportunity to come be a part of a winning team. My husband and I live in Grapeland where we own our own business and do our best to support both communities. My door is always open and I believe I am called to serve those around me. I look forward to meeting and serving you.

Thankfully, since I began in 2021, we have opened the doors of GISD once again to our community. This has allowed campus leaders to welcome families on to our campuses. Parents are coming back for Meet the Teacher, Thanksgiving lunch, Grandparents' Day and more! We are having awesome turnouts and love seeing everyone's smiles and laughter. We look forward to continuing with more events in the near future.

No matter what the situation, student safety is always our first priority. Our team is dedicated to the continuous protection of our students, staff, and families. We have spent many hours reviewing our safety plans and procedures. We are continuously making adjustments and are always strengthening our preparations and possible responses. Controlled entries, video cameras, privacy fences, emergency notifications and more are important tools we utilize. We believe our students and community members are a powerful part of keeping our schools safe.

Homecoming 2024 will be one for the record books! We look forward to personally thanking the Ex-Students for their continued support and involvement within Groveton ISD. Together we will celebrate the Groveton Indian tradition of excellence from our past, in our present, and in our future.


Sincerely,
Rebecca Huff, Groveton ISD Assistant Superintendent




State champion Literary Criticism team (l to r: Jeremy Gentry, Mason Mosley-1st place, Lauren Gentry-2nd place, Jaden Hart-3rd place, Madison Turrentine)

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