



# Trinity jail committee urges county to move forward on bond issue

By Tony Farkas  
editor@trinityconews.com

**GROVETON** — The spokesman for the Trinity County Jail Committee told the Commissioners Court that it was the decision of the board to move forward with a bond election to build a new jail.

District Attorney Bennie Schiro told the court at the Sept. 24 meeting of the committee's decision, and that they were mindful of costs related to the election as well as the costs for construction and operation of a new facility.

He also said that there will be public forums to provide county residents with information about all aspects of the process.

"The jail has long been a point of contention, and personal and professional relationships have been strained because of this," Schiro said.

Commissioner Neal Smith praised Schiro's mediation with the county and members of the committee.

If an election is approved, it would take place sometime in 2025.

Separately, the court approved its proposed FY 2024-25 budget items, including a tax rate of 53.9 cents per \$100 of property valuation, which is the same as last year's rate.

The budget itself includes income and ex-

penses of \$11,995,529.

As part of the new budget, the court approved changing the county's pay scale to top out at 20 years of service, instead of 15 years, and approved pay scales for the County Auditor and assistant auditors and court coordinators, bailiffs and reporters.

In other business, the court:

- approved a surety bond for Lacey Mecham;
- discussed creating a Foreign Trade Zone Designation for the county;
- approved a petition from the Lakewood at Livingston Property Owners Association to set a public hearing to adopt all traffic laws, to be held Oct. 21;

- approved claims and invoices for disaster-related purchases;
- approved budget amendments;
- approved bids for the purchase of road materials and materials hauling;

- approved a bid from Strickland Plumbing for \$17,500 for plumbing repairs and the county jail, with Commissioner Steven Truss abstaining;
- approved an agreement with Deep East Council of Governments for WebEOC at a cost of \$1,500; and
- approved the coming year's slate of court meetings.



The Trinity County Commissioners Court accepted an \$180,000 check from the Texas Veterans Commission to be used to help veterans in Trinity County. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

# Nostalgia in Neon

TCNS staff

Every year, the Groveton Ex-Students Association celebrates homecoming; every two years, though, it's bigger and better, and this year was no exception.

With dances, pageants, reunions and parades, the 2024 Homecoming was two days of fun, with the coronation of Cassidy Mitchell as Homecoming Queen.

Groveton Ex-Students Hall of Fame inductees for the year are Taylor Hemness, Gina Safford Price, Jimmy Perry Price and Jean Parker-Rasbeary.

Parade winners are first, Freshman Class; second, Skills USA; and third, Food Service. Honorable Mention to Jerry Wilder with a Hot Dog entry.

Also, Jo Ann Anderson Beken retired from the association, and Tim Coker is taking over as president. New treasurer for the organization will be Laura Worsham Anderson, who is taking over for Coker. See more pictures on page 2A.



Pac-Man seems to be chasing students on a float during the Saturday Homecoming Parade. PHOTO BY MARTHA MERICLE



Homecoming Queen Cassidy Mitchell is escorted by Daxten Parker. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



The Groveton football team is hauled through the streets of Groveton during the Saturday Homecoming Parade, sponsored by the Groveton Ex-Students Association.. PHOTO BY MARTHA MERICLE



Members of the 1984 and 1985 state champion football teams were recognized at the Friday Groveton homecoming game and were gifted with shirts from Head Football Coach Michael Waldie. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

# Groveton sees the same rate, with a little extra

By Tony Farkas  
editor@trinityconews.com

**GROVETON** — The Groveton City Council opted to keep its tax rate the same, but will realize additional funds, nonetheless.

Mayor Ralph Bennett said that the council adopted a property tax rate of 91 cents per \$100 valuation at the Sept. 23 meeting; while the rate is the same, the city will see an additional \$27,282 based on increased property values from Trinity County Appraisal District.

Additionally, the council approved its 2024-25 budget. Bennett said the council approved an increase to the utility budget for water and sewage, mostly for repairs, and added \$50,000 for road and bridge improvements.

In other business, the council:

- approved providing copies of nuisance ordinances to deputies to begin enforcement throughout the city;
- approved a payment of \$9,245.94 for water and sewer costs to Inframark;

- granted permission to the Groveton Community Association to put up lights on poles for the Downtown Christmas celebration, and approved closing the Square for the event, set for Dec. 14;
- approved closing the square for National Night Out on Tuesday;
- tabled an application for a grant; and
- approve the use of Cash Management Service, which is new software to allow city to take direct deposits for utility payments. The city secretary will be point of contact for enrollment.

# Trinity police chief back on patrol

By Tony Farkas  
editor@trinityconews.com

**TRINITY** — Trinity Police Chief Daniel Kee is back at work after being placed on leave during an investigation.

City Manager Tim King said that Kee was under investigation by Texas Rangers after an accusation was made against him, but did not specify what allegations were involved in the probe.

According to District Court Clerk records, a Trinity County Grand Jury met on Sept. 27 and returned a "no bill" on a charge of official oppression. A no bill means there is insufficient evidence to render an indictment.

King said that because of the nature of the allegations, that the Rangers presented the case to the Grand Jury to have full scrutiny into the matter.

Kee was placed on administrative leave with pay after the allegation was made regarding an unspecified action on Aug. 27. At a closed special meeting of the Trinity City Council on Monday, the chief was taken off of administrative leave by Mayor Billy Goodin.

At another special meeting on Thursday, the council passed its FY 2024-25 budget, which includes a tax rate of .60 per \$100 of property tax valuation.

The budget shows total receipts of \$2,215,600 and expenditures of \$2,278,513.

King said the budget is business as usual and doesn't include new vehicles or high-ticket items.



Dylan Newman waits to hand off a bouquet to a member of the Homecoming Court during the Friday Groveton homecoming game. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS



VOLUME 119 • ISSUE 39  
To subscribe call 936-642-1726  
USPS 641-061

Julia's Tidbits.....	2A	Opinion.....	4A
LifeTributes.....	3A	Crossword.....	4B
LookingBack.....	3A	Sports.....	1B
Arrest Records.....	3A	Classifieds.....	8B

RIVER & RAINFALL DATA AS OF OCT 01	
Gauge Height.....	5.31 ft
Condition.....	Normal Flood Stage
Weekly rainfall.....	0.00in



# Busy lifestyle leaves little time for things that truly matter

This was the “Week that Was.” Do you remember that television show? Hot and cool weather, train and traffic jams, tragic decisions, and even deaths. I have felt every emotion this week.

Love, happiness, sorrow, kindness, selfishness, and prejudice are strong emotions, but to me, the feeling of guilt is the worse emotion one has.

A young man died alone and without help from anyone who might have cared several weeks ago, and I knew his plight. I didn't help. I was too busy.

The Christian Bible teaches that if you help someone in need, (an unknown brethren), it is the same as doing for the Savior. I lost the blessing.

How many times do we need to check on someone and we don't? They pass away before you talked to him or her knowing you should, but you don't, because you were too busy.

You feel guilty and promise you will not do this again, but you do. Guilt is horrible, but fleeting.



## Julia's Tidbits

By Julia McMichael

- The Garage Sale in Westwood Shores Subdivision was a huge success but was marred by tragedy. I heard a helicopter fly over my house Saturday night and learned later that Life Flight had to be called to help another young man who shot himself. He was not from Trinity.

- Community dates for October.

- Oct. 4-6, Huntsville Fair on the Square in Huntsville.

- Oct. 5, Purse Bingo at the YMCA

- Oct. 5, Trinity County Cleanup 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

- Last week I told you about the successful 42 Domino Tournament by Joseph's, but I did not tell you who the winners were. First-place team was Rob Hutchings and June Harrell; second-place team was Ivy Phillips and Mary Barnett; and third-place team was Dean Decker and Marian McMillian.

Kelly Hartsfield was the hostess of this event, and she did a great job. She is the wonderful singer at our Christmas show who wows everyone with her voice, and a

teacher in our school district. Thank you for all that you do for our community.

- Currently, I need to give recognition to people in our community who participate in organization and events that make a difference in our lives.

First, Charles Payne from Point Blank, who served 2 years as President of the Trinity Lions Club during the pandemic, then served again 2022 to keep out club functioning until old and new members could return to meetings.

Next is Areia Bacon, who was responsible for the Houston Food Bank Truck which came to the Trinity Community Center for years, and worked as an administrator for the Head Start Program of Trinity during this time.

She is now president of the Trinity Peninsula Chamber of Commerce with great plans for the Trinity Christmas Show, parade, and vendors while working for the Trinity Hospital District Board. She is also our newest

member in Trinity Lions Club.

You can hear her valuable nutrition, health, and aging programs at the Martin Senior Center on some Thursdays each month to help the elderly citizens in our community. She is invaluable. Thanks again Areia for loving our community.

- Speaking of Martin Senior Citizen Center, we have a new dollar store and raffle corner inside the building at 400 Walker St. For a chance on some beautiful items, visit the Martin Center from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., eat lunch, and win a valuable prize.

- Great news. Dr. Amol Deshpande has returned his pediatric practice in Trinity at 317 Prospect Drive located inside the MidCoast Hospital facility.

- Congratulations to Tristan Gustafson, the 2024 Fair Queen Winner.

Also don't forget the purse bingo at the YMCA campgrounds on Saturday, and the Trinity County Cleanup Day also on Saturday. See you there.

## THE PAPER YOU LOVE! SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Trinity County News-Standard

936.594.2126

936.642.1726



The 2023 Homecoming queen, Noelia Garcia, places the tiara on the head of the 2024 Homecoming Queen Cassidy Mitchell during the Friday Groveton homecoming game. PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

20th ANNIVERSARY

### JOIN THE CELEBRATION

CT4-V BLACKWING

**HUGE SELECTION OF CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES**

2018 Audi A3	\$17,585	2021 Ford Bronco Sport	\$26,295
2019 Kia Sorento	\$17,961	2017 Chevrolet Tahoe	\$26,989
2019 Chevrolet Colorado	\$21,788	2017 Toyota 4Runner	\$26,991
2022 Buick Encore GX	\$22,989	2024 Mercedes Benz C300	\$26,991
2021 Chevrolet Traverse	\$24,991	2023 GMC Terrain	\$27,832
2023 Mazda CX-50	\$24,995	2022 Ford Explorer	\$27,878

All prices include Wiesner Finance Cash. Must finance with Wiesner-approved lender to qualify. All prices include tax, title and license.

**WIESNER HUNTSVILLE**

WIESNERCADILLAC.COM  
936-291-7500

1-45 AT EXIT 116 BOTH WAYS IN HUNTSVILLE!  
ACROSS FROM HOME DEPOT - HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

The Dealership that makes a Difference

Wiesner in Huntsville sells vehicles for factory sticker price — whether it's in stock, on order or bought online. You don't pay over MSRP. Just say no to additional dealer markup, market price adjustments, Zaz, environmental packages or the security package.  
Wiesner of Huntsville is the only place where you will be treated fair and like family.

# Texas Renaissance Festival

## 50th Anniversary

Saturdays, Sundays, and Thanksgiving Friday

### October 12th - December 1st

To purchase tickets and for more information, scan the QR code.

[TexRenFest.com](http://TexRenFest.com)

### TRINITY COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR OCTOBER 3-9

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny 91°/65°	Mostly Sunny 90°/67°	Partly Cloudy 88°/67°	Partly Cloudy 90°/64°	Mostly Sunny 90°/60°	Sunny 86°/57°	Sunny 86°/57°
Chance of Rain 5%	Chance of Rain 10%	Chance of Rain 16%	Chance of Rain 10%	Chance of Rain 3%	Chance of Rain 2%	Chance of Rain 3%
Wind ENE 6mph	Wind NE 8 mph	Wind NE 7 mph	Wind NNE 6 mph	Wind N 7 mph	Wind NNE 6 mph	Wind NNE 5mph

Information sourced from weather.com

#### Forecast Fire Danger

twc.tamu.edu

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

LIFE TRIBUTE

Patricia Burwick

Born on Sept. 21, 1939, in Eagle Lake, to Raymond Earl Taylor and Elizabeth Lydia (Reuther) Taylor, Patricia passed away on Sept. 27, 2024, in Lufkin.

A devout member of her parish, Patricia served as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and a Lector, while also contributing to the floral committee for altar flowers. She was deeply dedicated to her family and cherished the moments she spent with them. Whether gardening, mowing, or simply enjoying the beauty of nature, Patricia found joy in working outdoors. Known for her warm personality, she never met a stranger, always eager to meet new people and make meaningful connections.

Patricia was preceded in death by her father, Raymond Earl Taylor; her mother, Elizabeth Lydia Taylor; and her son, Raymond Gilbert Burwick.

She is survived by her loving husband of nearly 66 years, Hampton Loyd Burwick, of Chita; her sons: Hampton Loyd Burwick Jr. of Dallas, Joe Pat Burwick of Fairport, N.Y., Paul Burwick of Redding, Calif., and Jason Burwick of Lufkin; her sister, Ray Beth Taylor Sills of Nursery; her granddaughter, Amanda Mosby of Chilton; and her great-grandsons, Riggan and Everett Mosby of Chilton; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The family will receive visitors on Wednesday, Oct. 2, at Groveton Funeral Home in Groveton, from 5-7 p.m., with a rosary service to follow at 7 p.m.



Patricia Burwick  
Sept. 21, 1939 - Sept. 27, 2024

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, Oct. 3, at 10 a.m. at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Trinity, officiated by Father Juan Carlos Rivera. Committal services will follow at 3 p.m. at Ryan Cemetery in Liberty County.

Pallbearers will be Hampton Burwick Jr., Edgar Burwick, Christopher Sills, Chad Sills, Russel Coaliron and Ryan Demming, 291

**Looking Back**  
By Marlena Stubblefield  
grovetonnews@gmail.com

10 years ago

Ambulance service concerns addressed at City Council meeting; Trinity residence searched-six arrested; Apple Springs FFA members to be awarded American Degree; Groveton FFA students busy with bevy of projects. Obituary for the week:

Estella E. DeLaFosse, 87 of Lufkin.

20 years ago

City to repair low water pressure on 287 N.; Mt. Zion Cemetery receives Historic Texas designation; Beware of Con Artists in county; State must fix the real tax problem; Turner calls for transformation of southern border. Obituary for the week: Henry Lee Lowery, 83, of Glens Park.

30 years ago

Property rights main topic of county convention; Council adopts tax rate; Bessie Poston Faver named to Hall of Fame. Obituaries for the week: Tracy Hadley, 28, of Salem, Oregon; and Eldon Bradley Salser, 66, of Houston.

Reading the public notice helps keep you informed of community, city and county business.

SENIOR MENUS

Oct. 7-11

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:** Beef stroganoff, corn, cornbread.

**TUESDAY:** Barbecue baked potatoes or barbecue on a bun, vegetables, baked beans.

**WEDNESDAY:** Meatloaf, pinto beans, corn on the cob, cornbread.

**THURSDAY:** Salmon croquettes, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread.

**FRIDAY:** Fried catfish or chicken tenders, vegetables, baked beans, deviled eggs.

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

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

**MONDAY:** Steak fingers with gravy, seasoned rice, green beans, rolls.

**TUESDAY:** Chicken sandwiches, lettuce,

tomatoes, pickles, ranch style beans, chips.

**WEDNESDAY:** Baked potatoes, barbecue beef, potato fixings, broccoli with cheese sauce.

**THURSDAY:** Pork chops, blackeye peas, steamed cabbage, cornbread.

**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:** Chicken spaghetti, green beans, tossed salad, garlic toast.

**TUESDAY:** Barbecue on a bun, potato salad, baked beans.

**WEDNESDAY:** Tortilla soup, Spanish rice, chips and salsa.

**THURSDAY:** Baked chicken, potatoes, okra and tomatoes.

**FRIDAY:** Lasagna, green beans, tossed salad, garlic toast.

ARREST RECORDS

The following people were arrested by Trinity County law enforcement officials through Sept. 30. All suspects are innocent until convicted in a court of law.

• **Ashley Jasmin Martinez**, 22, warrant for motion to revoke probation on a conviction for assault on a public servant.

• **Jared Charlie Allen**, 45, warrant for fraud.

• **Francisco J. Rodriguez Garcia**, 28, reckless driving; no driver's license.

• **Amy Nicole Martinez**, 36, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon; possession of a controlled substance.

• **Joe David Sailer**, 38, violation of a bond or protective order.

• **Jamarian Deshun Hall**, 22, warrant for failure to appear on a charge of possession of a dangerous drug.

• **Clifford Ray Irby II**, 55, warrant for failure to comply with sex offender duty to register.

GRAND JURY INDICTMENTS

The following people were indicted by a Trinity County Grand Jury in the month of September. All suspects are innocent until convicted in a court of law.

• **Lazarus Crockett**, arson.

• **Kevin Currie**, possession of cocaine, a state jail felony.

• **Stephanie Fuentes**, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, a second-degree felony.

• **David Dalton Gillen**, evading arrest or detention with a vehicle, a third-degree felony.

• **Christopher Jones**, theft, a state jail felony.

• **Jack Kizer**, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, a state jail felony.

• **Ruhi Robert Komec**, theft from elderly, a third-degree felony.

• **Mark Jonathan Legg**, failure to register as a sex offender, a third-degree felony.

• **Jason Mark**, theft, a third-degree felony.

• **Jack Miller**, terroristic threat, a state jail

felony.

• **Ricky Miller**, three counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, second-degree felonies.

• **Brian Moon**, manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance, a second-degree felony.

• **Charles Morning**, possession of cocaine, a third-degree felony; tampering with evidence, a third-degree felony.

• **Joseph Papuga**, theft, a second-degree felony enhanced to first degree for a previous conviction.

• **Robert Redmond**, theft, a third-degree felony.

• **Andrew Sepulveda**, possession of marijuana, a state jail felony.

• **Shayan Spykes**, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, a second-degree felony.

The following people were not indicted by the Trinity County Grand Jury:

• **Daniel Kee**, not indicted on a charge of official oppression.

# It takes a powerhouse to power a houseful.

Now available in Pinehurst & Magnolia

**xfinity**

Only Xfinity can effortlessly handle a house full of devices. All at the same time. Which means that you and everyone else can seamlessly watch, work, stream, and play whatever you want on all your devices with ultra-low lag. Get ready for a network that can handle the entire house, no matter how full it is.

**Xfinity Gig Internet**

Unlimited data  
AND  
Peacock Premium included  
at no extra cost

**\$25** a month for 2 years

with no annual contract when you add Unlimited mobile

Equipment, taxes and other charges extra and subject to change. See details below. Regular Xfinity Mobile rates apply. Reduced speeds after 30 GB of usage/line. Data thresholds may vary.

Ask how to get a **FREE 5G phone**

Select models only.

📞 1-800-xfinity
🌐 xfinity.com
📍 Visit a store today

Ends 10/10/24. Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. New Gigabit Internet and Xfinity Mobile Unlimited customers only. Offer requires enrollment in both paperless billing and automatic payments with stored bank account. Without enrollment, the monthly service charge automatically increases by \$10 (or \$5 if enrolling with credit or debit card information). The discount will appear on your bill within 45 days of enrolling in automatic payments and paperless billing. If either automatic payments or paperless billing are subsequently canceled, the \$10 monthly discount will be removed automatically. All other installation, taxes & fees extra, and subject to change during and after promo. After 24 months, or if any service is canceled or downgraded, regular charges apply to internet service (currently \$96/mo). Peacock Premium (a \$7.99/mo value) included for 24 months. Service limited to a single outlet. May not be combined with other offers. **Internet:** Actual speeds vary and not guaranteed. For factors affecting speed visit www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement. Call for restrictions and complete details, or visit xfinity.com. All devices must be returned when service ends. **Mobile:** Requires residential post-pay Xfinity Internet service. Line limitations may apply. For Xfinity Mobile Broadband Disclosures visit: www.xfinity.com/mobile/policies/broadband-disclosures. For factors affecting speed visit www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement. Actual savings vary and are not guaranteed. Call for restrictions and complete details or visit xfinity.com. © 2024 Comcast. All rights reserved.

# 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.

### This is not a candidate, this is a cardboard cutout

A question that has been bouncing around my mind over the last few weeks is, "Is this the best we can do?"

I'm speaking specifically of our presidential candidates, of course, but I'm sure that there's quite a few candidates on the lower fight card that we can scratch our heads over.

Given the abysmal state of the national media and its overarching disgust with conservative politics, there's ample "stories" out there describing President Trump as the second coming of Hitler, combined with the antichrist, Stalin and Ron Jeremy.

That same abysmal state, however, has left off the non-existent morality and the ever-present lack of veracity of the Democratic opponent, Kamala Harris.

I have yet to hear a cogent policy statement from her that doesn't involve beating up taxpayers. All of them, by the way, not just the billionaires who must be made to pay "their fair share." Moreover, the "candidate" (sarcastic quotes intentional) does have a tendency to co-opt certain policy statements avowed by Trump, such as his idea to stop taxes on tips.

A further example of her mendacity is that it has been widely reported that she never was made border czar, despite information to the contrary, but she has the audacity to claim she plans to be tough on border crossings.

She repeatedly denies her failings while claiming she has been nothing but successful, that is, when she manages to string together a sentence with meaning (we'll leave the cackling alone).

Perhaps the most egregious example of Harris' failures, though, is that for the last presidential term of which she was the country's second-in-command, nothing has happened to improve the

**My Two Common Sense**  
By Tony Farkas  
tonyf@polkcountypublishing.com

conditions in the country, especially regarding the economy. Inflation is up, production is down, and jobs are being filled by illegal aliens. She is yet casting the blame on her opponent, saying over and over again how inflation was 9 percent when in fact it was less than 2 percent, and that despite the crippling idiocy of the COVID mandates.

There were four years for the current administration — you know, the one with Harris in it — to affect the change that every elected official campaigns on, and yet, things have gotten worse, and will get even worse under a new Harris regime.

Speaking of which, even the way she became the Democrat candidate flies in the face of the method of electing leaders in this country — anointed instead of elected, and enjoying the full slate of presidential candidate bennies without having to have campaigned for a single primary vote. Say nothing of all of the Democrat donors who expected their dollars to go toward electing the current president. That's Joe Biden, in case you've forgotten.

Given the massive shortcomings Harris has, it's astonishing that just like magic she is revered as the candidate to end all candidacy. But to the point, while Trump has a proven record as leader of the free world, his opponent is smoke and mirrors, much ado about nothing, a holographic representation resembling a con- tender but with absolutely no substance.

So to answer my original thought- question, this can't be the best we can do, for if it is, then we are truly doomed.

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

### Should a President be a person of character?

"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power." — Abraham Lincoln

In the months leading up to the 2024 Presidential election, I've watched numerous interviews with supporters of Donald Trump at his rallies and speeches. A common question posed to these supporters is whether they believe Trump is a man of character. The responses generally fall into a few distinct categories.

Some acknowledge Trump's very public character flaws—such as cheating on his wives, his affairs with porn stars, his reputation for stiffing contractors, and his fraud convictions. However, they argue that while they do not condone these actions, they support his policies on immigration, border security, and abortion. For these voters, the ends justify the means. They believe Trump delivers the political results they want, so his character flaws are less important.

Others, particularly evangelical Christians, agree that Trump has significant character issues, but they point to the Old Testament, where God used flawed leaders to accomplish His will. They draw parallels between Trump and these biblical figures, arguing that God works through imperfect people to achieve divine purposes, even if the individuals themselves are far from virtuous.

Still, others deny Trump's moral failures altogether, with some even believing he is divinely chosen to redeem the world. A few go as far as to claim he is the second coming of the Son of Man—a belief we'll address shortly.

To determine whether a person has character, we can look at core traits that are widely recognized as indicators of moral and ethical integrity:

- Integrity: A foundation for trust and ethical behavior, involving honesty and transparency.
- Honesty: The willingness to tell the truth, even when it is difficult.
- Accountability: Taking responsibility for one's actions and working to correct mistakes.
- Empathy: The ability to connect with others emotionally and respond with compassion.
- Humility: A willingness to learn from others and avoid arrogance.
- Courage: Acting ethically and standing up for what is right, even under pressure.
- Respectfulness: Valuing others and fostering positive relationships.
- Loyalty: Dedication to maintaining trust and reliability in relationships.
- Self-discipline: The ability to control one's emotions and behaviors in line with their values and goals.
- Generosity, perseverance, and fairness are additional traits that

define a person of strong character.

Donald Trump has been in the public eye for decades, and his moral and ethical shortcomings are well-documented. From his narcissistic tendencies to his dishonest business practices, Trump repeatedly demonstrates that he does not embody these traits of strong character. To suggest he is a man of character is inconsistent with the evidence.

For most voters in the U.S., character does seem to matter. Many polls and interviews suggest that people value integrity and ethics in leadership.

However, for those who believe character is irrelevant, the argument often comes down to either prioritizing political results over morality or believing that God is working through Trump to accomplish a higher purpose. While this belief might seem superficially plausible, it doesn't hold up when examined closely.

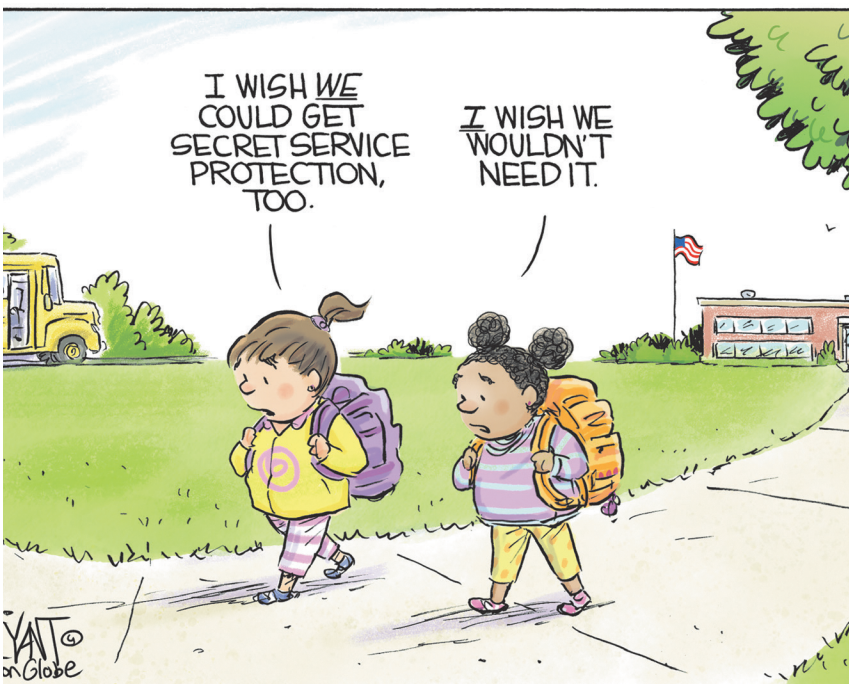
It is true that the Old Testament depicts God using flawed leaders to carry out His will. These figures often had significant character flaws, but they were used to deliver God's retribution or guide His people back to righteousness. However, we don't live in the world of the Old Testament. Modern society rejects the brutality of those times and strives to embrace the New Testament message of love, peace, and compassion.

While some believe God continues to use flawed leaders today, there are many modern leaders who possess strong character and Christian morals. Why would God choose someone like Trump—who has shown little regard for Christian values—when there are better candidates who align with His teachings?

If you believe Trump is the second coming of Jesus, you must also believe that Jesus seeks to rule the world as a cruel, despotic king. This contradicts the teachings of Jesus, who was not interested in establishing a kingdom on earth but in guiding his followers to a new heavenly creation. Jesus made it clear that he was not the earthly king that the Old Testament Jews expected.

Democracy in the U.S. is at a critical juncture. The upcoming election will determine the future of the democratic experiment. Now, more than ever, we need leaders who possess the moral and ethical character to guide the country through these challenging times. Leaders of character inspire trust and confidence in their people. We should not settle for agents of chaos in the White House when what we need are agents of integrity.

Jim Powers write opinion articles. All views expressed are his own and do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication.



**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**  
936-642-1276  
936-594-2126  
easttexasnews.com

### Texans' right to free speech is under attack...again

Americans' right to speak their minds is considered sacred, which is why we must fight to protect the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and the Texas Citizens Participation Act. Both measures were carefully written with protection of the individual — the "little guy" — in mind. They're designed to give a David a fighting chance if he finds himself in a legal duel with a Goliath.

Unfortunately, the Texas Citizens Participation Act is under attack once again. The Legislature is being lobbied fiercely by well-heeled business interests and law firms who want the law either repealed or gutted. On Wednesday the Texas House Committee on Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence will conduct a hearing to consider whether to gut the TCPA or stand up for a good law that's been giving David a fair shot since legislators passed it 13 years ago.

It appears that Committee Chairman Jeff Leach, R-Plano, who has taken aim at the TCPA over the last several legislative sessions, wants to make sure Goliath's side gets multiple shots at David. The panel of witnesses Leach invited to testify at his Wednesday hearing includes three witnesses from business and legal interests who have been opposed to the TCPA and one lonely First Amendment attorney.

Ironically, that same First Amendment attorney is also representing Leach in a lawsuit in which Leach is accused of defamation, and Leach has used the TCPA as part of his defense. It seems that even the chair of one of the most powerful committees in the Texas House finds himself feeling like David at times.

When they were omitted from Leach's invitation list, at least eight organizations who support the TCPA requested the opportunity to testify. They were all turned down. Among those denied the opportunity to testify are Texas Right to Life, the Young Republicans of Texas, the General Counsel for the Tarrant County Republican Party and the Protect Free Speech Coalition.

Regardless of his political persuasion, few things are more dangerous to a David than a defamation lawsuit filed against him by an angry Goliath with deep pockets. David may have the truth, the law and the man upstairs on his side, but Goliath can afford an army of lawyers to fight all the way to the Supreme Court. In the process, he can be bled to death financially from the thousand cuts of discovery and depositions that come with a lawsuit.

If he can get the court to grant a motion to dismiss the suit, David is off the hook. The odds of David winning a motion to dismiss a nuisance suit are higher in an appeals court than they are at the local trial court level, however. Without the current stay in the TCPA, David would have to pay lawyers to appeal his denied motion while simultaneously paying lawyers to handle the discovery and deposition tasks that are necessary before trial. With the TCPA in place, the discovery and depositions come to a halt until the appeals related to the motion are exhausted. This makes it faster and less expensive for David to win, which is why the angry plaintiffs who sue their Davids don't like the law.

Here's a fringe benefit that often goes unmentioned but should not be: The dismissal of a groundless suit not only helps the defendant but removes a case from the perennially overcrowded court docket. That makes it a win not just for David, but for judges and taxpayers.

The bottom line: The TCPA protects Texans from lawsuits designed to chill their First Amendment rights. It makes our court system more efficient. And most importantly, it assures that while free speech may not always be free, it should never be something that the Davids among us — which is most of us — cannot afford.

The Texas House Committee on the Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence would do well to remember that. So would the entire Texas House, the entire Texas Senate and the Governor of Texas.

**TRINITY COUNTY News Standard**

ALVIN HOLLEY, OWNER  
KELLI BARNES, PUBLISHER

**Newsroom**  
Tony Farkas, Editor  
editor@trinityconews.com

**Classified Advertising & Subscriptions**  
grovetonnews@gmail.com

**Print Shop**  
printing@polkcountypublishing.com

**Display Advertising**  
Marlena Stubblefield  
grovetonnews@gmail.com

**Design Desk**  
Cheryl Lloyd, Page Design  
cheryl@polkcountypublishing.com  
Beth Faircloth, Graphic Design

936-642-1276  
easttexasnews.com

Our offices are closed on Fridays and weekends.

**CORRECTIONS:** If you see an error in this newspaper that reflects on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, please bring it to our attention. We will investigate and correct any errors.

**DISCLAIMERS:** Advertisements published in this newspaper are from organizations and citizens. The statements and opinions expressed in these advertisements are their own and do not imply an endorsement of the Polk County Publishing Company, its newspapers or employees. Opinions expressed in columns are those of the writer and not necessarily those of this newspaper.

**POSTMASTER:** Periodical postage paid at Livingston, TX. Please send address changes to P.O. Box 730, Groveton, Texas 75845. (USPS 230-680)

Call to report undelivered newspapers or damaged machines.

## CONTACT LIST

**Elected and Appointed Officials Representing Trinity County**

**PRESIDENT**  
Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500

**GOVERNOR**  
Greg Abbott (R)  
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

**State Board of Education**  
Dr. Audrey Young  
PO BOX 2683  
Trinity, Texas 75862  
(936) 662 - 4264  
audrey.young@tea.texas.gov

**TX SENATOR**  
Senate District 3  
Robert Nichols (R)  
robert.nichols@  
senate.texas.gov  
(C) 512-463-0103  
(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

**COUNTY JUDGE**  
Danny Martin  
(936) 642-1746  
P.O. Box 457  
Groveton, TX 75845

**SHERIFF**  
Woody Wallace  
(936) 642-2414

**Precinct Officers Precinct 1**  
Tommy Park (com)  
(936) 642-2743  
Lawrence Adamick (C)  
(936) 642-1424  
Mary Wallace (JP)  
(936) 642-1224

**Precinct 2**  
Mike Loftin (com)  
(936) 642-2743  
Mark Cole (C)  
(936) 594-2011  
Lyle Stubbs (JP)  
(936) 594-2011

**Precinct 3**  
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

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

**TRINITY MAYOR**  
Billy Goodin  
936-594-2507

(C) = Capitol number

# What God Hath Joined Together

The following want ad appeared in a local newspaper: "For sale: 52-year-old husband, never remembers anniversaries, birthdays, or special occasions, never says 'I love you,' never hugs, squeezes hand tightly, or tenderly touches. Will sell for 2 cents. Call 663-9666. Will dick-

er." While attending a marriage seminar on communication, David and his wife listened to the instructor declare, "It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other." He addressed the men, "Can you describe your wife's favorite flower?" David leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, "Pillsbury All-Purpose, isn't it?"

My kids still give me a hard time about the lovely, romantic gift I gave my wife for Christ-



**Dan's Divinities**  
By Rev. Dr. Dan Darby

mas one year. It was a beautifully wrapped vacuum cleaner. I think I may go all out and give her a chainsaw this year.

Once, when the Pharisees asked Jesus about the legitimacy of divorce as recorded in Mark 10:2-9, Jesus quoted Old Testament scripture to them from Genesis 1 & 2 about the sacredness of marriage. Jesus said, "At the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. Because of this, a man should leave his father and mother and be joined together with his wife, and the two will be one flesh. So,

they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, humans must not pull apart what God has put together" (Mark 10:7-9).

Tragically, divorces happen, but the most important question married couples should ask is not, "Can I get a divorce?" but "What can I do to nurture my spouse and be in unity and harmony with him or her?" Marriage is a sacred gift of God, and our spouses deserve our best efforts to make our marriages healthy.

The bedrock of every good marriage is mutual commitment. Husbands and wives must be committed to loving, honoring, and cherishing each other. Our spouses must know that we are committed to meeting their needs, even when that is very difficult for us. We all need to be nurtured and cared for, and mar-

ried couples must be committed to meeting as much of that need as possible.

None of us can make someone else happy, but we can all be there for someone else as they make the long, difficult journey toward wholeness and completeness. It is God's intention that every marriage be marked by intimacy, edifying partnership, and mutual service.

Every marriage partner has married someone very different from themselves. We will not always understand why our partners do the things they do, say the things they say, and feel the things they feel, but we can make the choice to always be there for them as they struggle with the issues of their lives. They will make mistakes along the way, and we will find it challenging to forgive them rather than hold onto our

resentments and hurt feelings.

The truth of the matter is, we will make mistakes, too. If we want to be forgiven, we must learn to be forgiving. As Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" (Matthew 5:7). When we reach out to fill the cup of another, somehow, we will find our own cups filled.

Jesus gave good marriage advice in Luke 6:37-38: "Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return."

Dr. Dan Darby is a retired United Methodist pastor.



## ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE



### TRINITY COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b></p> <p><b>Calvary Temple Assembly of God</b> 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</p> <p><b>Lovelady Assembly of God</b> 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</p> <p><b>Trinity Fellowship Church</b> Richard &amp; Jane Gonzales, Pastors 594-2423 Foundation For Life 9:45 AM Morning Worship 10:45 AM Evening Worship 6 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p><b>Trinity Tabernacle</b> Kevin Williams, Pastor Hwy 19 N Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 10:45 AM Wednesday 7 PM Sunday evening 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>BAPTIST</b></p> <p><b>Apple Springs Baptist</b> Mike Due, Pastor 9286 FM 357 (936) 831-3114 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 6 PM Wednesday 5 PM</p> <p><b>Baldwin Chapel Baptist</b> Curtis L. Ownes, Jr., Pastor 288 Martin Luther King (936) 642-1466 Morning Worship 9 AM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>Bowen-Pilgrim Missionary Baptist</b> Carl L. Brock, Pastor Sunday School 9:15 AM Morning Worship 11:15 AM Wednesday 5:30, 6 PM</p> <p><b>Burning Hope Baptist Church</b> Jim Parrish, Pastor 594-3623 Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 10:45 AM Friday Nite Church 7:00 PM</p> <p><b>Calvary Baptist Trinity</b> Dr. Randall Lowe, Pastor Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 10:50 AM Sunday evening 6 PM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>Calvary Baptist Nogalus Prairie</b> James Whittlesey, Pastor 2975 FM 357 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 6 PM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>Carlisle Baptist</b> Donnie Lawrence, Pastor Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Sunday evening 6 PM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>Chita Grace Church</b> Russell Lee Jr., Pastor Morning Worship 10:45 AM Sunday evening 5 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p><b>Clegg Chapel Missionary</b> Henry Lovelady, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Sunday evening 5 PM Brotherhood Tuesday 6 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p><b>Community Missionary Baptist</b> Dennis McKnight, Pastor 594-1615 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 1:30 AM Wednesday 6:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Country Campus Baptist</b> Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Bible Study 4 PM Thursday (May-Oct.) 6 PM Wednesday (Nov.-April) 6 PM</p> <p><b>Dorcas Will Memorial Baptist</b> 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</p> <p><b>Faith Baptist of Riverside</b> Kyle Costos, Pastor Sunday School 9:45 AM Sunday Worship 11 AM Sunday Evening 6 PM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church of Friday</b> 3247 FM 1280, Groveton Wesley May, Pastor 936)204-0739 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Wednesday Meal 6 PM Bible Study 7 PM</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church - Groveton</b> Matt Sharrock, Pastor 126 N. Devine (936) 642-1475 Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 7 PM Wednesday 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>Glendale Baptist</b> Harold Gates, Pastor Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11 AM Evening 6 PM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>Iglesia Bautista Hispana (Groveton)</b> Oscar Campos, Pastor East Second St. 936-222-0241 Escuela Dominical - Domingo 10 AM Servicio - Domingo 11 AM</p> <p><b>Josserand Independent Baptist</b> Bueford Rogers, Pastor 449 Josserand Rd. (936) 642-1403 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 5 PM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>Lakeway Baptist of Carlisle</b> 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</p> <p><b>Lone Star Baptist</b> Isaac DeBose, Pastor Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11:30 AM Thursday Prayer 6 PM</p> <p><b>Mary's Chapel Missionary Baptist</b> Rev. Nathaniel Jenkins, Pastor Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist</b> Jasper Callahan, Pastor Sunday School 10 AM Sunday Service 11:15 AM</p> <p><b>Groveton Greater New Hope MBC</b> Garry L. Brown Sr., Pastor 790 FM 3317 (936) 642-6991 Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 2nd &amp; 4th Sunday 11 AM Wednesday 5:30 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>Oaklawn Baptist Church</b> Lester McAdams, Pastor 4833 N. SH 94 (936) 642-1314 Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 6 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p>	<p><b>Pennington Baptist Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Pleasant Grove Baptist</b> Kenneth Myers, Pastor Sunday School 10 AM Worship Service 11 AM</p> <p><b>Riverside Baptist Church</b> Jim Newton, Pastor Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship 11 AM Evening 6 PM Wednesday Service 7 PM</p> <p><b>Trinity Missionary Baptist</b> Jim Golden, Pastor Hwy. 94 &amp; Jack Shaffer Rd. (936) 594-4974 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 6 PM</p> <p><b>Trinity Pines Baptist</b> Jonathan Davidson, Pastor Hwy. 356 at Pegoda Sunday School 9:30 AM Morning Worship 10:45 AM Wednesday 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>Weldon Baptist</b> Reggie Gregory, Pastor Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 5 PM</p> <p><b>Zion Hill Baptist</b> Dee Queen, Pastor 917 Zion Hill Rd. Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM</p> <p><b>CATHOLIC</b></p> <p><b>Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church</b> Fr. Cesar Betancourt, Administrator 401 Prospect Dr. 936-594-6664 Secretary   Thurs &amp; 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</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b></p> <p><b>Groveton Church of Christ</b> Tony Goins, Minister 169 Main St (936) 642-2382 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 6 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p><b>Riverside Church of Christ</b> Brother Jerald D. Bass, Minister (936) 744-0093 Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM</p> <p><b>Trinity Church of Christ</b> David D. Collier, Sr., Minister Bible Class 10 AM Worship 11:00 AM Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF GOD</b></p> <p><b>Campbell Memorial Church of God Inc</b> Christ Elder Cleven V. Thompson, Pastor 600 W. Main Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11:15 AM YPWW - Sunday 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>Church of God</b> Jack and Debbie Black, Pastors Hwy. 94 Adult Bible Study 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Wednesday Evening 7 PM</p>	<p><b>Revival Center Church of God, Onalaska</b> Gerald Reeves, Pastor Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Evening 5 PM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p><b>Westside Church of God in Christ</b> Bernard Boston, Pastor 594-7146 200 Israel Otis, Trinity, Sunday School 9:30 AM Morning Worship 11:30 AM Evening Worship 7:45 PM</p> <p><b>FULL GOSPEL</b></p> <p><b>Lighthouse Cowboy Church</b> Len Smith, Pastor Odessa St., Trinity 594-2228 Sunday Service 11 AM Wednesday Service 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>New Beginning Full Gospel Church</b> 522 Josserand Rd. (936) 675-2848 Worship 10 AM Wednesday Bible Study 6 PM</p> <p><b>The Risin' Sun Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Word of Love Worship Center</b> Travis &amp; 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</p> <p><b>LUTHERAN</b></p> <p><b>Faith Lutheran Church &amp; School LCMS</b> Rev. Travis A Pitlock Sr., Pastor Hwy. 30W &amp; Sumac Rd., Huntsville(936) 295-5298 Sunday School 9:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM</p> <p><b>Grace Lutheran Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>METHODIST</b></p> <p><b>First Methodist-Groveton</b> Jeff Hastings, Pastor 155 Church Ave. (936) 642-1249 Sunday School 10 AM Sunday Worship 11 AM Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>First Methodist Church</b> Rev. Michael Bedevian 131 N. Elm (936) 594-3826 Sunday School 9:30 AM Traditional Morning Worship 11 AM</p> <p><b>Glendale Congreg. Methodist</b> Barbara Campbell, Pastor 184 Glendale Church Road Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 7 PM Wednesday 6:45 PM</p> <p><b>Prairie View Methodist</b> 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</p> <p><b>Riverside United Methodist</b> Max Nichter, Pastor Worship 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM 2nd &amp; 4th Wednesday 7:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Sebastopol Congregational Methodist Church</b> Pastor Sue Koenig Intersection of FM 355 &amp; FM 356 (936)594-2840 Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:00 AM Singing on third Saturday</p> <p><b>Sebastopol Community Church</b> Michael &amp; Sharon Schuetz, Pastors Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11 AM</p> <p><b>Trinity Chapel A.M.E. Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>NON-DENOMINATIONAL</b></p> <p><b>Liberty Christian Center</b> 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</p> <p><b>Living Word Outreach Church</b> Lynn and Dana Gentry, Pastors (936) 594-8081 Sunday 11 AM Wednesday 7 PM</p> <p><b>Open Door Outreach Ministry</b> Billie J. Coleman Sr., Pastor 418 West Main St (936) 438-3923 Sunday Worship 11:30 AM Wednesday Bible Study 6 PM</p> <p><b>Remnant Faith Church of Pegoda</b> 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</p> <p><b>River of Life</b> Mike and Suzanne Loftin, Pastors 594-6262 Sunday School 9:30 AM Sunday Morning 10:30 AM Wednesday Night 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study Youth Ministry 7:00 PM</p> <p><b>The Gathering</b> 301 Church Street 594-9559 Sunday School 10 AM Sunday Worship 11 AM Wednesday 6:30 PM</p> <p><b>Westwood Shores Chapel in the Pines</b> A. Leroy Brown, Pastor Worship Service 9 AM</p> <p><b>PENTECOSTAL</b></p> <p><b>Calvary Tabernacle Apostolic P.C.</b> 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</p> <p><b>Sebastopol Friendship Harbor</b> Reagan Duncan, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Wednesday Service 7:30 PM Saturday Service 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>First Presbyterian</b> Dan Alexander, Pastor (936) 688-6674 Sunday Service 4 PM Coffee &amp; fellowship 5 PM Sunday School 10 AM</p>
---	---	---	---	--

Thank you to our church directory sponsor:

**CONSUMERS LP GAS | 9818 F&M 1617, TRINITY | 936-544-3161**

# Phelan's GOP foes back one challenger

Texas House Republicans who want to oust Speaker Dade Phelan have coalesced behind a single opponent: state Rep. David Cook, R-Mansfield. A total of 48 representatives are backing the two-term representative, including four who dropped their own bids for speaker.

Phelan's opponents, including Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, claim he has given too much power to Democrats by naming some to lead legislative committees.

"This vote highlights the growing momentum for change within the Texas House, as members rally behind a shared vision of a decentralized leadership model that empowers all members," Cook said in a statement.

Phelan is seeking his third term as speaker after narrowly surviving a challenge for re-election to represent his district in the GOP primary, winning a run-off election.

"Not only are their actions disappointing and unacceptable, they are futile, as I proudly have the clear majority votes needed to be the Speaker today and will have the clear majority support needed to become Speaker again come January," Phelan said in a statement.

**Polls show near tie in Cruz-Allred race**  
The U.S. Senate race in Texas has tightened, with a poll last week showing Democratic challenger Colin Allred nearly within the margin of error in his race against incumbent Republican Ted Cruz, the Austin American-Statesman reported. A poll released by the Texas Hispanic Policy Foundation shows Cruz ahead of Allred 48 percent to 45 percent, nearly within the margin of error of 2.83 percent.



## Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders  
Texas Press Association

Cruz is seeking his third term in the Senate. He won his last race against challenger Beto O'Rourke by just 2.6 points.

The tightening race prompted the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee to announce last week that it is sending millions of advertising dollars to Texas to boost his campaign. The committee plans to put its money toward airing more Allred campaign ads. Committee chair Gary Peters said the Democratic candidate needs more funding to get his message out.

"But it is his message," Peters said. "He knows Texas inside and out."

### Texas Supreme Court rules on gun ban at state fair

The State Fair of Texas opened last week with its newly enacted ban on weapons intact after the Texas Supreme Court rejected a challenge by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton just 13 hours earlier. The Statesman reported the court ridiculed the state's legal arguments in a five-page opinion, with Justice Jimmy Blacklock writing that "the State's filings do not even attempt to answer" the question at the heart of the case.

Two lower courts also rejected Paxton's attempt to lift the ban, enacted after three fairgoers were injured in a shooting inci-

dent last year.

The state fair runs through Sunday, Oct. 20.

### Party game company sues SpaceX for trespassing

Cards Against Humanity, makers of a humorous adult party game, is suing Elon Musk's SpaceX company for trespassing and damaging land the company purchased in Cameron County. The company purchased the land in 2017 to send a political message to then-President Donald Trump's campaign to not build a border wall.

KUT reported that the company raised money to purchase the land by soliciting \$15 donations from 150,000 people. It says the land has been kept in its pristine state, but SpaceX has dumped gravel, tractors, and space garbage on it.

A website maintained by the company announced it is seeking \$15 million in damages and displayed photos purportedly showing "before and after" images of its land. SpaceX did not respond for comment from Texas Public Radio.

### Going lights out for migrating birds

Audubon Texas is asking residents to not leave the porch lights on this fall, during peak migration season for millions of birds. The Texas Standard reported the 2024 Lights Out, Texas, campaign is underway, and Texans are urged to turn off unnecessary lights to minimize light pollution. Migrating birds can become disoriented when traveling through densely populated areas.

Up to 1 billion birds are killed each year due to collisions with buildings. Peak migration runs through Oct. 29, with fall migration ending around Nov. 30. One

of every four birds migrating through the U.S. passes through Texas, according to Audubon Texas.

Building owners, businesses, developers and homeowners can help protect migrating birds by turning off all non-essential lighting from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. each night. Lighting shields that direct light downward can reduce bird casualties. More information is available at tx.audubon.org.

### Looking back on last summer's weather

The summer of 2024 is in the books, and Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board, says it ended up in the middle of the pack when compared to the last 25 summers - the 12th most miserable during that time period.

The amount of the state in drought declined to 28 percent from a high of 88 percent during the summer of 2022, Wentzel wrote. Last summer certainly was an improvement over the two previous, which were considered the second and third most miserable in the past quarter century. But they both pale in comparison to the summer of 2011, which had the worst drought conditions in Texas history, and wildfires swept the state.

Relatively plentiful rain made last summer seem more tolerable, but records indicate it was the fourth-hottest summer of the past 25 years.

Thank goodness for autumn.

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.

**A/C & HEATING**

**WOLF CREEK AIR CONDITIONING**

HEATING COOLING

Insulation Call us for your A/C, Heating, or Insulation needs  
3601 FM 224, Coldspring, Tx 77331 TACLBO21695C  
Call 936-653-3888 or email service@wolfcreekair.com

**AUTO REPAIRS**

**Chris White** Free Estimates  
Owner All Insurance Claims Welcome Complete Body and Frame Repair

**White-Starr Collision**

1-CAR . ASE . STG  
whitestarrcollision@gmail.com 4300 US Hwy 190 W  
(936)967-2777 Livingston, Tx 77351

**BODY SHOP**

24 Hour Wrecker Service  
• Free Estimates  
• Complete Paint & Body Work  
• All Insurance Accepted

"We Meet By Accident" 936-327-1239 936-365-2707

Serving Polk County Since 1966

**FAWBUSH BODY SHOP**

Hwy 59 S. - 4 Miles South of Livingston

**BOWLING**

**Triple Lanes**

16 Lanes  
Kitchen  
Party Rooms  
Full Bar  
Leagues  
Pool Tables  
& Arcade  
5 Flat Screen TVs

936-967-BOWL (2695)  
6900 US Hwy 190 W • Livingston

**BULKHEADS**

**Bulkheads & Boathouses**

936-239-2357  
Ivy Construction, LLC  
www.ivy-construction.com

**East Texas BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

**Saens Concrete, helping you make the right decision**

Whether adding a room to your house, a Saens contractors have the experience and the knowledge to help you with every- or driveway, concrete is the most economical thing you need. Call 936-933-1911 today.

Find the right contractor that will work with your schedule and needs is also very important.

Make sure you choose someone who is updated on the types of materials needed for your particular project and also aware of the building codes for your area.

Saens Concrete has been busily working in this area for some time and can help you make the right decisions concerning your concrete needs.

Feel free to call us and get an idea of cost and time frame for your upcoming project.



For details and to advertise in the East Texas Business Directory, call Madison Bland at 936-327-4357 or email madison@polkcountypublishing.com

**BULKHEADS**

**Moseley Construction**

General Contractor - Waterfront Construction Specialist  
Mailing Address: 296 Fern, Livingston, Texas 77351  
Physical Address: 2055 FM 3126, Blanchard, Texas  
Office: (936) 967-8032 Fax: (936) 967-8033  
Email: mosco@dmoseley.com

A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches. Proverbs 22:1

**www.shoretechmarine.com**

936-662-5100

Shoretech Marine Consulting LLC Over 40 years of Design & Construction Experience

Steel & Wood Bulkheads  
Boathouses - Piers - Docks - Decks  
Timber Bridges - Marinas

**CONSTRUCTION**

**SAENS CONCRETE WORKS**

House Slabs  
Garages • Driveways  
Patios • Sidewalks • Walls

**936-933-1911**

**CONSTRUCTION**

**RILEY'S**

Ponds ★ Site Prep  
Land Clearing

936-398-4295

**GAS/PROPANE**

**Consumers L-P Gas & Appliance Co.**

Competitive Pricing and excellent service on all your propane needs.

Propane • Cylinder & Motorhome Filling  
Home Deliveries • Tanks • Sales and Rentals  
GE & Hotpoint Appliances • Sales and Service Heaters  
Rheem Water Heaters • Rinnai Water Heaters  
(Propane, Natural & Electric) In House Financing  
You can be sure day or night! Call 936-594-2156  
FM 1617 at Hwy. 195 • Trinity, TX (behind Roadside Park)

**HOUSE LEVELING**

**AMTEK HOUSE LEVELING**

Leveling - Waterleveling - Beams - Pylons - Concrete Blocks -  
Roof Covers - Deck - Floors • FREE Estimates • Senior Citizen  
Discount • For Your Protection Insured since 1980

936-328-1434

**INSURANCE**

**CARTER INSURANCE**

Your Protection is Our Business

Auto-Home-Mobile Home-RV-Boat-Motorcycle-Life-Commercial  
SR22's

612 Pan American Dr. (next to Boot Barn) • 936-327-3804  
Call today for a free quote!

**INTERNET SERVICE**

**HIGHLINE**

Welcome to real high-speed internet.

701 W. Church  
LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351  
888-212-0054  
HighlineFast.com

**LAWN & GARDEN**

**All-Curbs**

LANDSCAPING SERVICES

Pressure Washing and Garden Retaining Walls

Flower Beds | Tree Rings | Playgrounds  
Color Options • Stone Texture  
Rolled Texture • Continuous Edging

"Beautifying Lake Livingston, one yard at a time."

All-Curbs.com 936-247-2963

**RESTAURANT**

**El Burrito**

MEXICAN RESTAURANT  
Real Mexican Delights

936-327-3770  
100 SOUTHPOINT LOOP • LIVINGSTON



**ROOFING**

★ WILL COX ★  
Roofing

281-592-4997  
"We Are The Experts"

Serving for 40 years  
willcoxroofing.com



Will Cox

**REACH 9,500 HOMES & BUSINESSES IN 3 NEWSPAPERS FOR 13 WEEKS FOR ONLY \$30 A WEEK**

POLK COUNTY ENTERPRISE • SAN JACINTO NEWS-TIMES • TRINITY COUNTY NEWS-STANDARD

- Contract period is for 13 weeks at a total cost of \$390.
- Ad will continue to run until notice of cancellation is received.
- All ads are of the same size with a hairline border.
- Advertiser is allowed one change per month to ad.
- (Changes or corrections must be called in before 2 p.m. on Friday)
- A FREE feature story with company pictures and outline information will be requested at the end of the 13-week contract period. (photos may be of your place of business and/or your equipment) Information and photos must be provided by you at this time.

**FOR DETAILS AND TO ADVERTISE, CALL MADISON BLAND AT (936) 327-4357**

# Committee hearings center on DoD, SEC

We packed a lot into a quick week in Washington.

On Sept. 24, Chairman Gary Gensler appeared before the House Financial Services Committee along with other SEC commissioners. Under Gensler, enforcement in the SEC is neither fair nor balanced.

I told him that he should remind himself every day of the SEC's mission statement and uphold its charge of protecting investors, maintaining orderly markets, and facilitating capital formation. It's time to restore basic fairness in the SEC.

I also joined my colleagues on the House Oversight and Accountability Committee in a hearing entitled "Defending America from the Chinese Communist Party's Political Warfare, Part III."

We spoke with expert witnesses on the need to counter the influence of the CCP waging political war from within our borders. We need to address this threat, and it is concerning to me that we allow Chinese nationals to stay in our country illegally.

Ambassador Joseph Cella rec-



**In Session**  
By Pete Sessions  
US Representative, District 17

ommended that we address this threat with "eyes wide open." We can find common ground in identifying this problem and must find common ground in our solutions.

Finally, I chaired my Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Federal Workforce this week in a hearing to oversee the egregious spending habits of the Department of Defense. Taxpayers deserve transparency in how their hard-earned dollars are supporting them.

The DOD is the only federal agency unable to achieve a clean audit. Using the Oversight Committee's new DOD Financial Management Scorecard, we can identify where the DOD needs to improve.

### Texas Farm Bureau

Members of the Texas Farm Bureau paid my office a visit on Sept. 27.

The TFB serves hundreds of thousands of member-families, including myself. They are the "voice of Texas agriculture."

As part of their mission, the TFB advocates for legislation that would support and defend the agricultural community. As of today, the House has yet to vote on the Farm Bill, the most important piece of legislation for our farmers, ranchers, and foresters. The Farm Bill includes disaster relief funding, increases commodity prices, and ensures economic stability in our agricultural sector.

I am a proud supporter of the Farm Bill and hope to be given the opportunity to vote yes on this essential legislation that provides necessary funding and protection to our nation's agricultural providers.

### The Doctor's Forum fly-in

On Wednesday, I had the opportunity to speak with a group of physicians at the Doctor's Forum fly-in this week hosted by the Market Institute. These doctors are on the front lines, facing the failures and critical challenges of our health care system.

Providers and recipients of care alike recognize that our health care system is in urgent need of reform. Lawmakers must address these issues, and I appreciate this group of doctors for taking the time to visit Washington to join these crucial conversations.

### Legislation of the Week

HR 9747 — Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act 2025. This week, I voted in favor for the Continuing Resolution to fund our government through Dec. 20. While continuing resolutions are never the first choice, they are preferable to a harmful government shutdown.

Some wins of this legislation include a prevention of spending on existing programs, with the same terms and conditions. This prevents the Administration from starting new programs and ensures that existing riders, like the pro-life Hyde Amendment, remain in place.

Moreover, it includes more funding for the Secret Service — an absolute necessity in these dangerous times when our leaders face constant threats. This isn't

just about enhancing protection; it's a stark reminder of the escalating risks and the precarious state of our nation's security.

This funding is contingent upon the Secret Service delivering documents to the House Task Force on the Assassination Attempt, ensuring accountability.

HR 8790 — Fix Our Forests Act. Having seen first-hand the successes of good forestry management at the three national forests in TX-17, I was proud to vote yes to spread these practices nationwide.

HR 3334 — STOP CCP Act. This legislation sanctions the top policy-making entity of the CCP responsible for violating human rights. I voted yes.

HR 8205 — Keep Violent Offenders Off Our Streets Act. Violent crime is on the rise across America. By providing needed oversight of charitable bail bonds, this legislation ensures violent offenders stay off our streets. Another yes from me.

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

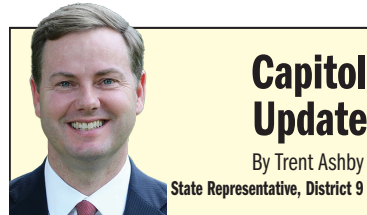
# Committee focused solely on state coffers

On a foggy morning of Oct. 2, 1835, a fight erupted in Gonzales, marking the beginning of the War for Texas Independence. The conflict began when a Mexican commander, informed that Texas settlers had refused to hand over a small cannon, sent 100 soldiers to reclaim it.

Facing them were about 140 Texan rebels, standing their ground under a hastily made flag that defiantly proclaimed, "Come and Take It." With that, the first shots of the Texas Revolution rang out.

This pivotal day would forever change the course of Texas history. The iconic "Come and Take It" flag has since become a lasting symbol of Texas pride, representing the unwavering courage and determination that still define the Texas spirit, nearly two centuries later. The events at Gonzales ignited a movement that ultimately shaped our state's enduring identity.

With that piece of history, we'll step



**Capitol Update**  
By Trent Ashby  
State Representative, District 9

back into our examination of House interim charges.

The Texas House Committee on Ways and Means oversees matters related to state revenue, encompassing taxation, state funding, and financial resource administration.

The committee has jurisdiction over the Office of Multistate Tax Compact Commissioner for Texas and the Comptroller of Public Accounts. Its primary focus includes shaping economic policy, managing property taxes, and ensuring effective revenue collection for the state budget, playing a pivotal role in the fiscal health of

Texas and the allocation of state funds. During last year's second special session, the committee was instrumental in passing Senate Bill 2, a significant piece of legislation that provided approximately \$18 billion in broad property tax relief.

This bill reduced school district property tax rates by compressing the maximum tax rate, effectively lowering the overall tax burden for Texas homeowners and businesses. Complementing Senate Bill 2, the committee also advanced Senate Bill 3, which raised the homestead exemption for school district property taxes from \$40,000 to \$100,000, significantly reducing the taxable value of homes and easing the financial strain on homeowners.

Together, these measures reflect the committee's commitment to delivering property tax relief while balancing the needs of school districts and local governments.

Over the interim, the Texas House Committee on Ways and Means has been tasked with monitoring the implementation of key legislation passed by the 88th Legislature, including overseeing the effects of Senate Bill 2 and House Joint Resolution 2, which provide property tax relief through reforms in public school finance and property tax administration.

Perhaps most importantly, the committee has been directed to assess the effectiveness of Senate Bill 2 and House Joint Resolution 2 in lowering property taxes and make recommendations for future policy proposals to further reduce the property tax burden on Texas taxpayers.

The mobile office is on the road again in September, and our District Director looks forward to seeing you on the following dates at the following times: Oct. 2 at the San Augustine County Courthouse in San Augustine from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Oct. 9 at the

Polk County Commissioner's Courtroom in Livingston from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and the Tyler County Commissioner's Courtroom in Woodville from 1:30-3:30 p.m.; and Oct. 16 at the Houston County Courthouse Annex in Crockett from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and the Trinity County Courthouse in Groveton from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office if we can help you in any way. My district office may be reached at (936) 634-2762 and my Capitol office may be reached at (512) 463-0508. Additionally, I welcome you to follow along on my Official Facebook Page, where I will be posting regular updates on what's happening in your State Capitol and sharing information that could be useful to you and your family: <https://www.facebook.com/RepTrentAshby/>.

*Trent Ashby represents District 9, which includes Trinity County, in the Texas Legislature.*

**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION**

Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685 for TRINITY COUNTY NEWS STANDARD, Publication Number 230-680. Issue date: September 19, 2024. Filed October 3, 2024. Frequency of issue: weekly. Number of issues published annually: 52. Annual subscription: \$45. Location of known office of publication: 134 E. First St, Groveton, Texas 75845 Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the Publishers: 100 Calhoun, Livingston, TX 77351. Publisher: KELLI BARNES, P.O. Box 1276, Livingston, TX 77351. Editor: TONY FARKAS, P O BOX 730, Groveton, Texas 75845 Owner: ALVIN HOLLEY, P.O. Box 1276, Livingston, TX 77351. Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities are: none. Extent and nature or circulation average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: A. Total number of copies printed (net press run): 1000. B. Paid Circulation: 1. Paid/Requested Outside County Mail Subscriptions stated on Form 3541: 68. 2. Paid In County subscriptions stated on form 3541: 344. 3. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales and other non-USPS Paid Distribution: 450. 4. Other classes mailed through the USPS: 0. C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 862. D. Free distribution by mail (samples, complimentary, and other free): 1. Outside-County as stated of Form 3541: 8. 2. In-County as stated on Form 3541: 10. 3. Other Classes mailed through the USPS: 0. 4. Free distribution Outside the Mail: (carriers or other means): 0. E. Total free distribution: 18. F. Total distribution 880. G. Copies not distributed: 120. H. Total: 1000. I. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation during Preceding 12 months: 97.9%. Actual number copies of single issue published nearest filing date: A. Total number of copies printed: 1000. B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 1. Paid/Requested outside County Mail subscriptions stated on Form 3541: 74. 2. Paid In-County subscriptions stated on Form 3541: 332. 3. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales and other non-USPS Paid Distribution: 450. 4. Other classes mailed through the USPS: 0. C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 856. D. Free distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free): 1. Outside County as stated on Form 3541: 2. 2. In-County as stated on Form 3541: 0. 3. Other classes mailed through the USPS: 0. 4. Free distribution Outside the Mail: (Carriers and other means): 0. E. Total free distribution: 3. F. Total distribution 859. G. Copies not distributed: 141. H. Total: 1000. I. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation. Actual no. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to filing date: 99.6%. J. Electronic Copy Circulation: 99. No. of copies published nearest to filing date: 961. Publication of Statement of Ownership will be printed on 10/3/2024 issue of this publication. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. s/KELLI BARNES, PUBLISHER

**COMMUNITIES DEPEND ON LOCAL NEWSPAPERS**

**1 out of 2 Americans read or access information from their local weekly newspaper every month.**

**Telling Our STORIES**

CELEBRATING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK | OCTOBER 6-12, 2024

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

# Original Texans knew only how to lose



## This Week in Texas History

Bartee Haile  
barteehaile@gmail.com

The Dallas Texans, the first pro football team in the Southwest, proved their season opening defeat was no fluke by losing 37-14 to the San Francisco 49ers on Oct. 5, 1952.

Seventy-two years ago, the National Football League did not remotely resemble the sports spectacle of today. No Monday Night Football, no Super Bowl and no fat contracts for gridiron gladiators who risked crippling injury every Sunday.

There were 12 teams instead of the current 31 and none between Chicago and California. The idea of selling new franchises to pigskin hungry cities had yet to dawn on current owners, so the rest of the country had to wait until a team became available.

At the end of the 1951 season, singer Kate Smith's manager begged the league office to take the money losing New York Yankees off his hands. Commissioner Bert Bell was happy to oblige because he had a buyer in football crazy Texas.

A group of businessmen headed by Giles

Martin, 31-year-old heir to a textiles fortune, paid \$300,000 for the privilege of moving the club to Dallas. Since no self-respecting resident of the Lone Star State would root for a team called the Yankees, the name was changed to the Texans.

Unlike the expansion teams to come, the Dallas Texans were not a bunch of over-the-hill veterans and green-as-grass rookies. Talent may have been in short supply, but Buddy Young was a nifty little runner and two linemen, Gino Marchetti and Art Donovan, were destined for the Hall of Fame.

Thirty-three players survived a scorching training camp in Kerrville and a flurry of cuts and trades. Six Southwest Conference alumni were on the opening-day roster: fullback Dick McKissack (SMU), ends Bruce Alford (TCU) and Stanley Williams (Baylor), guard Weldon Humble (Rice) and UT tackles Ken Jackson and Jim Lansford.

The 17,500 curious spectators, who showed up at the Cotton Bowl on the last Sunday of September, had lots of elbow room in the stadium built for \$75,000. Gov. Allan Shivers hailed "this new era in sports in Texas," and a beauty queen released helium-filled balloons that soared skyward with a gold football entitling the finder to an undisclosed prize.

Tom Landry fumbled the opening kickoff on the New York Giants' 22-yard line to set up the hosts' sole score. Crowd favorite Kyle Rote, Doak Walker's running mate at SMU, received

the biggest cheer of the day with an exciting 52-yard touchdown dash, and the visitors coasted to a 24-6 triumph.

Matty Bell, athletic director at Southern Methodist, generously blamed the disappointing turnout for the pro debut on football fatigue. The SMU-Georgia Tech game attracted 40,000 to the Cotton Bowl on Friday night, and the Texas Aggies packed the place the next afternoon for their contest with Oklahoma A&M.

Excuses were harder to come by the following Sunday, when the Texans' tussle with the 49ers drew 2,500 fewer fans. Y.A. Tittle, Marshall native and Louisiana State signal-caller, picked apart the Dallas defense as San Francisco rolled to a 23-point victory.

A change of scene failed to alter the outcome a week later in Chicago. The Texans managed to muster 20 points at Wrigley Field, but the Bears were 18 points better.

Returning to the wide-open spaces of the Cotton Bowl, the Texans actually led Green Bay 14-7 at halftime much to the surprise of the sparse crowd of 14,000. But the Rice Institute pass-and-catch combination of Tobin Rote and Bill Howton powered the Packers past the hapless home team 24-14.

The Texans suffered their fifth and sixth defeats on a road trip to the West Coast. The 49ers ran wild in a 48-21 rout, and the Los Angeles Rams shellacked them 42-20.

Giles and his partners had bought the franchise in the naive belief they would at least

break even that initial season. Finding themselves a quarter of a million dollars in the red by early November, they asked the Citizens Association for a \$250,000 loan to tide them over, but the unelected city fathers turned them down flat.

Ten thousand hardy souls braved the cold and rain to see what most expected to be the Texans' last game in Dallas. The Rams won the muddy melee by three TDs.

Three days later, Giles Miller dumped the team in Bert Bell's lap. The commissioner gave Coach Jimmy Phelan marching orders for Hershey, Penn., which the strays called home for the rest of the strange season.

The orphans were adopted by Baltimore and "became heroes for life," as colorful Art Donovan put it. Renamed the Colts, they developed into the NFL's best winning back-to-back championships in 1958 and 1959.

Dallas residents did not miss the original Texans, though in private they probably envied Baltimore's luck. The NFL gave the city a second chance in 1960 by awarding an expansion franchise to oilman Clint Murchison. Lamar Hunt, founder of the rival American Football League, countered with the second coming of the Texans, and for the next three seasons Big D had its choice of two professional football teams.

Order your copy of "Texas Depression Era Desperadoes" by mailing a check for \$24.00 to Bartee Haile, P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.

**THAT COUCH WOULD LOOK BETTER IN SOMEONE ELSE'S LIVING ROOM.**

Call the Trinity Standard today to advertise in Classifieds

**Melder Real Estate**  
936-642-0030 • 936-293-0030  
153 E. Front Street • Groveton, Texas 75845  
Phil Hathorn, Realtor  
philhathorn@windstream.net • www.melderrealestate.com

**9 acres, Hwy. 94/Bill Jones Rd.**, corner acreage with county road and paved frontage, new survey, utilities available, great location.  
**Home near Lake Livingston**, off FM 356, recently remodeled, 4/2, water view, boat ramp, subdivision.  
**2/2 Home in White Rock Estates** off FM 356 near Lake Livingston. Lots of storage for all of your toys and walking distance to the lake.  
**3/2, DWMH** on 2 acres and barn, in the Helmic community on Sullivan Rd.  
**3.49 Wooded Acres**, FM 233, public water and electrical available.  
**114 Acres on FM 2262**, RV and cover, 2 hay barns, ponds, fenced, mostly open.  
**2/1 Home in Groveton on Sunset**, needs TLC, priced to sell.  
**Vacant lot**, on MLK in Groveton, city utilities, pecan trees, ready for home.  
**3 vacant lots fronting FM 356**, Onalaska, city utilities, residential/commercial  
**4/1 Home on 7 Acres**, Hwy. 94 N., barn, generator, move in ready.  
**108 Acres**, fenced, mixed open/woods, ponds, good hunting, Neal Helton Rd.

Member of HAR, TAR, NAR, HOUSTON MLS

**SHELTER PET & WORLD FAMOUS PIANIST**

Amazing stories start in shelters and rescues. Adopt today to start yours.

KEYBOARD CAT SM - YouTube Views

Start A Story. Adopt theshelterpetproject.org

Ad Council

# Strength training

**It Still Matters**  
By Darby Kethan  
darbykethan@gmail.com

My mom knew me well. So well, in fact, that as I left for college she outfitted me not only in the latest fashions for my body but she also armed me for life by the gift of a ceramic "book, a slightly worn piece that had resided on the kitchen window sill as long as I had memory. She knew me well. The "Serenity Prayer, in faded gilt script has resided with me ever since, on dorm dressers, in apartment alcoves and finally, on my own kitchen windowsills.

The "Serenity Prayer, known to millions, was written by Reinhold Niebuhr, in the early 1940s. In original form it reads, "God, give us the grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other. It speaks to important, even life-saving, skills everyone who lives life successfully must develop. My mom had already seen to it that I had the models for courage, for wisdom, acceptance and serenity that I needed to learn those skills. The prayer, given to her by her mom, was to serve me as a reminder to use these skills.

How do children develop the strengths they will need to become

successful, happy, contributing adults? Where do the models for learning courage, serenity, wisdom and acceptance come from? Parents, obviously, are an important source. Children who live with kindness become kind, children who live with acceptance learn to love and children who live with anger become bitter. Beyond parents are aunts, uncles, grandparents and teachers, all who serve as examples for children to copy. Uncles who always have time for nieces and nephews teach them most of all the importance of having a caring special person who thinks they are important. There are others, those important members of our "extended families, the friends so close our children call them "aunt," or "uncle," and daily interact in our lives and from whom our children take their cues about the kinds of adults they will become. Our children watch and copy ... and they copy everything, good or bad.

Adults are the mirrors for what children will alter become; good examples are critical. By watching grown-ups cope successfully with joblessness, sorrow, hard times, death, disaster, children learn that adverse circumstances can be overcome, changed or accepted. By observing adults who look beyond imperfection of body to the inside perfection of spirit, who love the unlovable and forgive the unforgivable, children learn to do the same. Young people copy the way adults react to difficult situations ... by blaming or by problem solving. When their own tough times come, they remember and reach for the strengths that were planted in years past by the strong adults about them. They cannot use what we have not given them.

**WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?**

Be sure to check out your local classifieds.

Trinity County News-Standard

**DING DONG THE ROACH IS DEAD**

**BROKEN ARROW PEST CONTROL, LLC**

Pests | Termites | Lawn

Since 1976 **936-646-3600**

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

**TexSCAN**

TexSCAN Week of Sept. 29-Oct. 5, 2024

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/29/24.) Call 1-855-965-0841.

**MEDICAL**  
Medicare questions? Hermann Sons Life has you covered. Retiring, new to Medicare, questions about changes to your current coverage — real answers from your trusted Hermann Sons Life Medicare Agent. Hermannsonslife.org, 210-527-9113, 877-437-6261.

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 866-747-9983.

**DENTAL INSURANCE** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 www.dental50plus.com/txpress #6258

**OIL & GAS RIGHTS**  
We buy oil, gas & mineral rights. Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI). Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation. Call today! 806-620-1422. Lobo Minerals, LLC, PO Box 1800, Lubbock, TX 79408-1800, LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com.

**WATER DAMAGE**  
WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-727-3027. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

**WANTED**  
Need Extra Cash — I Buy RVs & Mobile Homes — Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels, Goosenecks, Bumper Pulls. In Any Area, Any Condition — Old/New, Dirty or Clean! I PAY CASH. No Title — No Problem, we can apply for one. We go anywhere in Texas. ANR Enterprises, 956-466-7001.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Texas Press Statewide Classified Network**  
200 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads  
Start At \$250 • Email ads@texaspress.com

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

TRINITY COUNTY News Standard

**1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION**

In County	Out of County	Out of State
\$45	\$55	\$65

E-Edition \$35

Send in this form today along with your check or money order!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

YOU CAN ALSO PAY BY PHONE OR ONLINE | ALL CARDS ACCEPTED

P.O. Box 730  
Groveton, Tx 75845  
936-642-1726

easttexasnews.com  
circulation@easttexasnews.com

CMYK



TRINITY COUNTY  
**SPORTS**







Groveton Colton Cox (No. 14) gets wrapped up by a host of Frankston defenders. PHOTOS BY TONY FARKAS

Groveton defenders swarm the Frankston runner.

# Indians fall to Frankston in a big way

By Scott Womack  
TCNS correspondent

**GROVETON** — Despite big games from Sophomore Haygen Townsend and Senior Carter Cox, the Indians couldn't overcome the Frankston offense and lost 61-0 on Homecoming night.

More than half of the scores — 34 points — came in the first quarter on the back of the Frankston ground game.

**Trinity**  
Coming off an impressive 4-0 start to the season, the Tigers opened district with the No. 9 ranked Woodville Eagles, an experienced and tough opponent, and lost 53-6.

The Eagles took the opening kickoff and after gaining 25 yards with a run and pass combination, the Eagle defense took over

and forced a punt after consecutive sacks. The fast-paced Eagle offense took their opening drive 75 yards and scored their first touchdown of the game.

After forcing another Tiger punt, the Eagles were able to again march down the field, but a defensive stop by the Tigers forced the Eagles to kick a field goal and take a 10-0 lead.

The second quarter did not fare any better for the Tigers as they were consistently stopped by the Eagle defense and were unable to stop their high-powered offense and the Eagles were able to add two more scores and take a commanding 32-0 lead into the locker room at halftime.

The Eagles received the opening kickoff of the 3rd quarter and drove the ball 61 yards and extend the lead to 38-0. The Ea-

gles were able to force another Tiger punt and again found the end zone and a 45-0 lead.

The 4th quarter opened with the Tigers in possession of the ball and on a drive that began on their own 30-yard line, were finally able to find the end zone with a 4-yard run by Jonathan Baker. With Trinity trailing 45-6, the Eagles were able to score another touchdown as time expired and defeat the Tigers 53-6.

The Tigers will try and even their district standings Friday night as they travel to Kountz to play the Lions. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

**Apple Springs**  
The Eagles dropped their Friday tilt against Leverett's Chapel 88-40.

On offense, Nate Sanders completed 21

of 48 passes for 329 yards and 4 TDs. Zeth Dugat carried twice for 24 yards and a TD, and pulled in 7 of 14 passes for 128 yards and another TD.

Rounding out the offense was Noah Thompson, who caught 3 of 6 passes for 62 yards and 2 TD; Preston Murray caught 2 of 3 for 47 yards and a TD; and Peyton Williams pulled in 4 of 9 for 64 yards. Nate Sanders went 5 for 5 at point after attempts.

On defense, Noah Thompson had 13 tackles, Peyton Williams had 6 and Rance Howell had 5, while Drake Pierce caused a fumble and picked up a fumble recovery.



Brayden Reynolds pulls in a pass.



Armando Bautista and a Frankston defender go up for the ball.



Indian running back Ramello Wolfe (No. 6) gets taken down.



Armando Bautista (No. 7) breaks through for a long gain.



Groveton quarterback Ruger McLain (No. 12) hands off to running back Trystin Ard.

# Lady Indians sweep in tough match

TCNS staff

**GROVETON** — The Lady Indians downed district rival Shelbyville 3-0 in Homecoming action on Friday.

Groveton won over the Lady Dragons 25-15, 25-19 and 25-23.

Jannett Bautista smacked 8 kills on the night, while Caila Antley added 5. Bautista had the hot hand on serves, putting up 5 aces.

Aubrey Alexander and Kady Lee each had a block at the net, while Darby Parker had 22 digs and Alexander had 19.

Alexander also had 13 assists. Groveton also mowed down Colmesneil 3-0

on Sept. 24, winning 25-14, 25-10 and 25-15. Kayleigh Albus had 8 kills in the match, and Antley served up 7 aces.

Albus had a solo block, and Parker had 13 digs to Antley's 12 and Alexander's 10. Alexander added another 11 assists.

**Apple Springs**

The Lady Eagles were downed by Spurger 3-0 on Sept. 24, losing 18-25, 20-25 and 24-26.

**Trinity**

The Lady Tigers lost to the Anderson-Shiro Lady Owls 3-0 on Friday — 6-25, 7-25 and 8-25.



Aubrey Alexander gets the save.

# Trinity runs to second at Elkhart Invitational

TCNS staff

**ELKHART** — The Trinity Tigers cross-country team placed second in the Elkhart Invitational, while the Lady Tigers came in seventh at the event.

The Groveton boys also participated, claiming a fifth-place team standing.

Trinity again was led by Cade Mauldin, who came in first place in the Varsity Boys division, and Jasmine Jordan, who took seventh place and secured a medal.

**Elkhart Elks Invitational**  
Wednesday, Sept. 25  
Elkhart High School

**Trinity**  
Boys individual results (place, name, results)  
1, Cade Mauldin, 7:54.55  
19, John Prarish, 20:35.27  
20, Alejandro Zavala, 20:37.37  
31, Austin Beasley, 21:30.11  
55, Christian Lopez, 22:48.89  
73, Jose Lopez, 24:20.38

88, Michael Ramirez, 28:49.12  
92, Hilario Zaragoza, 29:56.72  
Girls individual results (place, name, results)  
7, Jasmine Jordan, 13:37.28  
27, Karissia Rangle, 14:44.48  
38, Alexa Manzaneras, 15:14.03  
74, Natalie Stansberry, 17:07.47  
83, Aliana Reyes, 17:50.75  
87, Elizabeth Amaro, 18:31.97  
90, Marisol Lopez, 18:37.84  
91, Converse Zoey, 18:59.59

**Groveton**

Boys individual results (place, name, results)  
16, Armando Bautista, 20:29.00  
26, Landon Conley, 20:59.55  
27, Gabriel Constante, 21:02.69  
39, Hunter Bowling, 21:55.00  
41, Luis Chavez, 22:01.64  
43, Jay Smith, 22:08.00  
56, Jack Sullivan, 22:50.78  
72, Jesus Maldonado, 24:18.38  
78, Dylan Newman, 25:08.42  
87 A133 Colton Cox-28:25.89



Caila Antley returns the serve.

# Centerville splits in JH road games

TCNS staff

**KENNARD** — The Centerville Lady Bulldogs continued their district road wins, while one basket kept the Bulldogs from their win.

The Lady Bulldogs downed Kennard 24-

12, while the boys lost their game 28-31.

Top scorers for the girls were Avery Brown with 16 points, Olivia Teeters with 6 points and Emilie Davis with 2 points.

Top scorers in the boys game were Aiden Conner with 8 points, Trinity Nerren with 6 points, Tanner Kellum with 6 points, Hunter



Alinda Veng sets up the kill shot.



Kady Lee goes for the kill shot.



Aubrey Alexander puts in maximum effort for the dig.

## PUBLIC NOTICE INDIGENT HEALTH CARE Sept. 1, 2024-Aug. 31, 2025

The Trinity County Indigent Health Care Program (TCIHCP) will use procedures from Chapter 61, Health & Safety Code and the CIHCP Handbook. Applications are available in the County Judge's office or online. If you meet all requirements you may be eligible for basic medically necessary health care benefits.

TCIHCP provides help only to non-hospital district residents. If you have a Trinity, Texas address, contact Mid Coast Medical Center for assistance.

TCIHCP is payor of last resort. If an applicant qualifies for another state program, he/she is not eligible for Indigent Health.

Trinity County Indigent Health Care  
Trinity County Courthouse ~ County Judge's Office  
162 West First Street  
P. O. Box 312  
Groveton, TX 75845  
(936) 642-1736

### Playing It Safe

In recent years, some "new" investments have found their way into the marketplace. Many of these "new" investments promise a high rate of return, but are not insured, and as a result involve a

high degree of risk. When you have money to invest, we recommend **playing it safe** with insured investments from our bank. Each depositor is insured to **\$250,000** by the FDIC.

"Hometown banking with your neighbors and friends"

 <b>Citizens State Bank</b>	Citizens State Bank- Groveton 117 E. First St. Groveton, Texas 75845 936-642-1444	Citizens State Bank- Corrigan 300 N. Home Corrigan, Texas 75939 936-398-2566
--------------------------------	--	---

Member FDIC



# Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

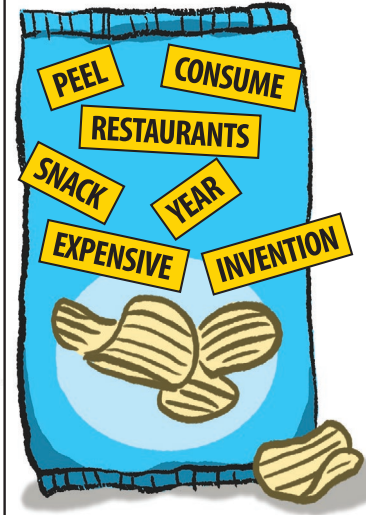
Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at [www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

© 2024 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 40, No. 45

**Kid Scoop Together**

## The Potato Chip Story

Replace the missing words.



The first potato chips were a rare and \_\_\_\_\_

treat, served only at special \_\_\_\_\_.

That was because it took a long time to \_\_\_\_\_ potatoes by hand.

Then in 1920, with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the mechanical potato peeler, potato chips jumped from a special restaurant treat to a top-selling \_\_\_\_\_ food.

Today, Americans \_\_\_\_\_ more potato chips than any other people in the world. We eat about 1.85 billion pounds each \_\_\_\_\_. That's an average of about 6.6 pounds per person!

**FREE DOWNLOAD: KID SCOOP TEACHER ACTIVITY PACK!**

With hundreds of topics, every Kid Scoop printable activity pack features six-to-seven pages of high-interest extra learning activities for home and school! Get your free sample today at: [kidscoop.com/activity-pages/](http://kidscoop.com/activity-pages/)

### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SPUD**  
The noun **spud** is a nickname for a potato.

Mashed or baked are popular ways to eat a **spud**.

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

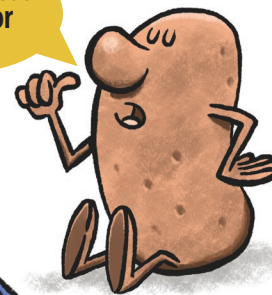
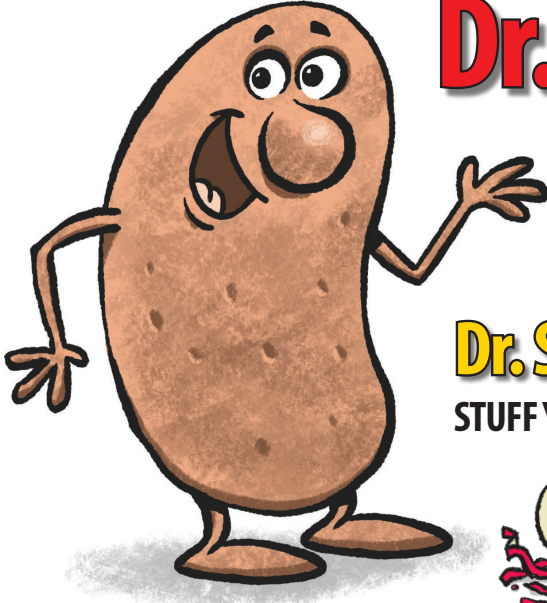
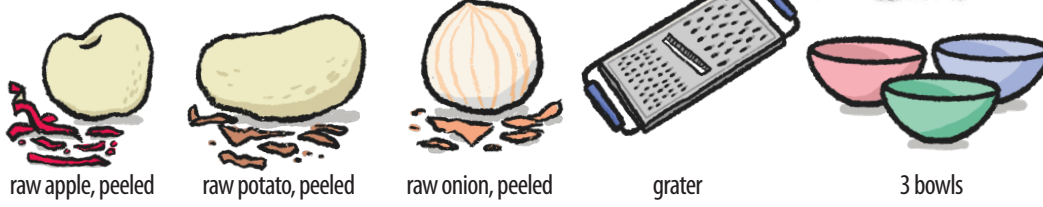
# Dr. Spud Wants to Know!

Can you taste the difference between an apple, a potato and an onion? Believe it or not, it is difficult to taste the difference between a potato and an onion if you can't smell it. Don't believe me? Try my experiment!

Only the nose knows for sure!

## Dr. Spud's Tasteless Experiment

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



1. Grate the apple, potato and onion separately. Wash the grater before grating each of the foods. Put each grated food in a separate bowl.



2. Blindfold a friend or partner. Have your partner hold their nose tightly.



3. Place a small amount (about ¼ teaspoon) of one of the foods on your friend's tongue. Tell your friend not to chew the food, but to roll it around their mouth. Ask your friend to guess which food is in their mouth.



4. Repeat with each of the foods. Be sure to have your friend rinse their mouth between tastings. Do three taste tests with each food item. Use the chart to keep track of the taste tests.

WHAT WAS TASTED	WHAT TASTER THOUGHT IT WAS

### Potato Maze

Find your way through this spud-filled maze!



The "Keystone State" could also be called the Potato Chip State, since it's known as the Chip Capital of the World! Dozens of snack food companies got their start in this state. Use the code to find out the name of this state.

**SECRET CODE**

A = [red square]	N = [red square]
E = [red square]	P = [red square]
I = [red square]	S = [red square]
L = [red square]	V = [red square]
M = [red square]	Y = [red square]



### Extra! Extra! Find 5

Look through today's newspaper to find:

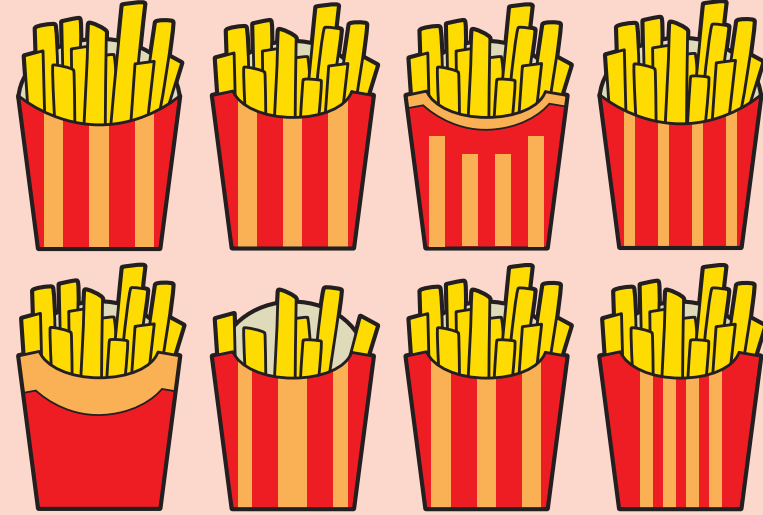
- 5 words that describe a taste
- 5 snack foods
- 5 fruits or vegetables

Standards Link: Use the newspaper to locate information.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### French Fry Fun

Look closely! Can you find the two identical boxes of fries?



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

### Double Double Word Search

- APPLE
- BOWL
- CHART
- CHEW
- CHIP
- CODE
- FOOD
- NOSE
- ONION
- POTATO
- SMELL
- STATE
- TASTE
- TESTS
- WORLD

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



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

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

#### One Potato, Two Potato...

Find examples of one-syllable, two-syllable, three-syllable and four-syllable words. Find the words themselves, or cut out the letters to spell the words. Paste words with the same number of syllables into groups on a chart.

Standards Link: Recognize syllables in words.



How do you know when your fries are being stolen?

ANSWER: When the burger alarm rings.

### Write On!

#### Ode to a Spud

Write a poem about a potato or your favorite way to eat one. Be sure to include descriptions using the five senses.





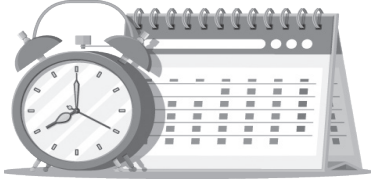
# Brad Elrod

## Attorney At Law

130 S. Charlton St., Woodville, TX 75979  
409.283.8288 | [elrodlawtx.com](http://elrodlawtx.com)



# AREA DIGEST



### Scholarship event

Trinity ISD will hold an informational scholarship night from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity High School Cafeteria.

Available scholarships and application processes will be discussed.

For information, contact Rana Wingo at rwingo@trinityisd.net or call Tricia Hortman at (936) 662-2137 or Shane Pringle at (936) 662-8180.

### WCGS Genealogy Event

The Walker County Genealogical Society and Huntsville Public Library will host its annual Genealogy Network of Texas Genealogy Smorgasbord starting at 10:30 a.m. Oct. 18 at the Huntsville Public Library Staggs Community Room.

Five genealogy programs that range from basic genealogy to naturalizations to writing family stories and more are available.

The event is free and open to everyone.

For information, visit the WCGS

website at wcgstx.org or the Huntsville Public Library website at myhuntsvillelibrary.com, or call Mary Kokot at (936) 291-5471.

The presentations also are available online at these sites.

### 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 republicanwomen@trinityco.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.

## CROSSWORD SPONSORED BY Consumers's LP Gas & Appliance Co.

**ACROSS**

1 TXism: "jumpy as \_\_\_ on ice"

5 an Astro evading a tag at second base in Fort Worth: "\_\_\_ Carter Museum of American Art"

7 late TX Swayze film: "\_\_\_ of Kin" (1989)

8 in Amarillo: "\_\_\_ & Rodeo"

17 TX George W. to TX George H.W. sunglasses that go to the sides too

21 TX Willie Nelson's "\_\_\_ the Road Again"

22 praise in public

23 TXism: "wouldn't cut warm \_\_\_" (dull)

24 a Christmas game uses \_\_\_ Wrap ball

29 TX Dennis Quaid 2023 film: "On a \_\_\_ and a Prayer"

30 TX Christopher Rich sitcom (2001-07)

31 dir. from Seymour to Dublin, TX

32 singing under the window of a girl

34 Drake of 1953 film "Down Laredo Way"

35 org. for one country music award show

36 TXism: "\_\_\_ whipped pup"

37 Dak knows how to \_\_\_ a football

38 TXism: "\_\_\_ to" (intend)

### TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
Copyright 2024 by Orbison Bros.

39 symptoms of people with the flu (2 wds.)

41 TXism: "he's new to these \_\_\_"

42 TXism: "worn \_\_\_ frazzle" (tired)

43 TX Sam Rayburn was in Congress 48 \_\_\_

44 country singer, Hill

45 TXism: "blister \_\_\_" (handle)

46 drink slowly

**DOWN**

1 TXism: "numerous \_\_\_ worm"

2 Milam County seat

3 TXism: "active as \_\_\_ a hen house"

4 camping shelters

9 Texas tone

10 TXism: "snug as a bug in \_\_\_"

11 small amount

12 "The Pelvis" init.

13 in El Paso County on I-10

14 Caribbean island

15 tiny bit

16 TXism: "he's lower than a snake's belly in a wheel \_\_\_"

19 Texas "Monkee," Michael

20 TX Roy Orbison's "In \_\_\_" (1963)

22 first Texas Lottery Commission director, Nora

24 TX Strait's "Gone \_\_\_ a Girl Can Get"

25 TXism: "it ain't \_\_\_ in cement"

26 Greek given name

27 TV controller

28 TXism: "she could talk the legs off \_\_\_ stove"

29 "\_\_\_-washy"

30 TX Perot who twice ran for president

33 New Orleans Saints, "Who \_\_\_?"

34 movie chewies

35 transports for amateur golfers

37 historic Port Aransas hotel (2 wds.)

38 song written by TX Rodney Crowell: "\_\_\_ Living Long Like This"

40 TX "Bum" Phillips real first name

41 least valuable chess piece

44 Tex-Mex, e.g.

47 Baylor basketballer "\_\_\_" Carter

49 TXism: "\_\_\_ holler" (call me)

Consumers's LP Gas & Appliance Co.  
9884 FM 1617 • TRINITY, TX 75862 • (936) 594-2156

**Groveton Funeral Home & Monuments, Inc.**

*Serving families as we ourselves wish to be served.*

Terry & Cristin Cartwright, Directors  
Obituaries: 936-642-2053  
Office: 936-642-1125

**1019 West First Street • Groveton, Texas**  
www.grovetonfuneralhome.com

**CORRIGAN SQUARE APTS.**  
**Peace & Quiet**

NOW leasing to over income residents.

TDD# 800-795-2889

1 Bedroom From \$520  
2 Bedroom From \$650  
Security Deposit \$150

**Call 398-4172**

Office Hours: 8-5 Monday-Friday  
★ ★ ★ Some Rental Assistance Available ★ ★ ★  
116 Blue Bonnet Circle, Corrigan

**Last Puzzle Solution**

S-1708

*"I didn't know you did THAT!"*

# Door Hangers

AS WELL AS:

- Invitations
- Business Forms
- Graphics

- Promotional Products
- Banners/Magnets
- Raffle Tickets

**POLK COUNTY PUBLISHING**  
100 E Calhoun • Livingston • 936-327-4357

*Come see us and find out what else we can do!*

# Playing the 'slots' at Lake Tawakoni

Guide Tony Pennebaker slowed his big catfish guide boat and studied the sonar closely.

"This is the spot we fished yesterday and landed limits of 'eater' blue catfish in the slot and a couple of trophy catfish which we released that measured over 30 inches and weighed 35 to 40 pounds apiece."

The water was relatively shallow, about 5 feet deep and we were positioned a long cast from the edge of a big patch of standing timber. Long casts improve the bite when fishing for blue catfish which are sensitive to vibrations. With power poles lowered into the soft lake bottom, the big craft was stationary.

Eight rods with fresh shad rigged Santee Cooper-style with small floats set about 8 inches above the hook to keep the baits dangling up from bottom were positioned around the boat and we didn't wait long before the action to begin.

I've fished with Tony many times and he knows ole' Luke is all about a fish fry. I share his love of catching these hard-fighting fish and eating those snow-white blue catfish fillets but I won't snub my nose at a platter of tasty channel cat fillets either. We could have baited a spot with cattle range cubes or soured grain, used his Tony P's Punch bait and undoubtedly landed our limits of channel catfish weighing 1.5 to 2 pounds but with the bigger blue catfish on a dependable bite, our choice of species was a no-



brainer.

At Tawakoni the daily limit on blue and channel catfish is no minimum length limit; daily bag and possession limit is 25 blue and channel catfish in any combination. In the 25-fish bag, no more than five fish 20 inches or greater in length may be retained, and no more than one of those can be 30 inches or longer. This slot between 20 and 30 inches is made up of what we refer to as good eaters — fish weighing from about 5 to 15 pounds. Any catfish angler/eater understands that five of these slot fish equate to several freezer bags full of tasty fillets.

We were fishing a big shallow flat with what's left of a ditch or old creek channel near the edge of standing timber. Through the years, most of the submerged creek channels have silted in but a close look at sonar will show many of these depressions still visible. It doesn't take much elevation difference in bottom structure to attract and hold not only catfish but the bait fish they feed upon.

This is one style of fishing where I'm convinced more hook ups will occur with the rod in a holder rather than in the fisherman's hands. The drill went like this; heave the

baits out far from the boat, as far as we could cast, allow the weight to pull the bait to bottom and the floater suspend it up a few inches—which makes it easier for the catfish to scent and position in its mouth. With the butt of the rod in a rod holder, crank the reel handle to take up slack.

With all the rods positioned, it was a waiting game. I kept an eye on the rods in front of the boat and Tony watched the rear rods. Blue catfish usually don't nibble a bait as is common with channel catfish. The bigger fish simply grab the bait and run with it. The circle hooks we were using are designed to thread into the corner of the fish's mouth as it swims away. Shaped with a bit of a corkscrew twist, these hooks are ideal for this style fishing. When the rod is bowing heavily toward the water, begin cranking as fast as possible on the reel (with the rod still in the holder). This takes the slack out of the line and ensures pressure is maintained on the fish.

You'll know when the hook set is solid, the rod will be bending in a sharp arc and it's time to reach down and winch the rod from the holder. This can be a trick when a big trophy blue is applying pressure. When fighting these big fish, it's best to grab the rod a few inches forward of the reel and place the butt of the rod somewhere around your beltline. This gives more control, the trick is to let the rod and the reels drag system do the work to tire the fish.



Tawakoni guide Tony Pennebaker with a big blue catfish landed last week. The trophy blue catfish season is under way but now is prime time for catching lots of big 'slot' fish between 20 and 30 inches. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

Our goal on this morning was to boat a limit of slot fish for an upcoming fish fry I have planned. If we were lucky enough to catch a trophy, then photographs and quick release was the plan. After only a couple hours fishing, we had a big ice cooler filled with big slot fish weighing from about 4 to 15 pounds and were thinking about heading to the marina to transform our catch into several gallon bags of tasty snow-white fillets.

Our plan changed quickly; the rod on the port side bowed heavily and there was no need to crank on the reel to take up slack line. The big blue had already accomplished this. My goal was to get the action on video and as Tony muscled the rod out

of the holder, I grabbed the video camera and had it rolling on the action. Big blues are known for making long, strong runs and this one didn't disappoint. We were lucky it didn't tangle up with a couple of lines still in the water.

As the fish began to tire, it was time for the net man to go to work. Because there were only two of us in the boat, the cameraman (me) had to do double duty with the net. I was able to get most of the fight on camera before setting the video camera down and reaching for the net. With the big blue in the boat, I resumed filming duties for our TV show "A Sportsman's Life." The action should now be on YouTube as well as Carbon TV at [www.carbonTV.com](http://www.carbonTV.com).

bontv.com.

Tony says the blue catfish bite is right on schedule — the majority of fish he's landing now are in the slot but as the water continues to cool more and more of the trophy class fish weighing from 25 to 50 pounds will begin taking the bait.

It's a challenge for some of us to get out of the fall woods and go fishing but take it from me, a few hours on the water with someone like Pennebaker is likely to pay off in not only a box full of some of the best eating in freshwater but memories to last a lifetime as well.

Contact guide Tony Pennebaker at (903) 474-3078.

Email Luke Clayton through his website [www.cattfishradio.org](http://www.cattfishradio.org).

## Texas Game Wardens provide archery season tips

### Special to the News-Standard

AUSTIN — Texas' 2024 archery-only hunting season for white-tailed deer, wild turkey and mule deer began Saturday and will run through Nov. 1. Before Texans start filling their freezers, Texas Game Wardens have some tips for hunters to keep in mind before they hit the woods, high plains or fields.

#### Safety is paramount

Hunters should always make safety a top priority for hunters, no matter the season.

While bows and crossbows are not firearms, they should still be treated like they are when an arrow is on the bow's string, or a bolt is cocked on a crossbow. Always keep them pointed in a safe direction and remember while handling that arrow broadheads are very sharp.

"The number one injury we see with archery hunters is people falling out of tree stands," said Kurt Kelley, Wood County game warden. "I recommend anyone hunting off the ground wear a safety harness, use a safety line while climbing and maintain three points of contact."

#### Licensing, hunter education and archery-specific requirements

In addition to having a valid hunting license, hunters must have an archery endorsement to hunt during the archery-only season. Hunters 17 years or older must have completed their hunter education certification, unless they have elected to participate in the one-time deferral or were born before Sept. 2, 1971.

Hunters under 17 may

hunt alone if they have completed their hunter education certification. If not, they and anyone using the deferral, must be accompanied by a licensed adult who is hunter education certified or exempt.

Hunters must have proof of a valid hunting license and hunter education while hunting.

#### Species identification and antler restrictions

If hunting in an area where mule deer and white-tail deer are present, species identification and knowledge of regulations for each is very important. Some Texas counties have antler restrictions while others don't (13-inch spread or wider for white-tail deer; 20-inch spread or wider for mule deer).

Hunters may also harvest antlerless white-tail deer during the archery-only season but may not harvest antlerless mule deer.

"Mule deer in some areas of the Panhandle offer hunters a pretty high percentage of success due to lack of pressure," said Ryan Hunter, Potter and Randall County game warden. "With them being fairly common to see, I encourage hunters to do their research ahead of time. Know the bag limits, restrictions and be able to distinguish between the two deer species open for hunting."

#### Public land hunting

There are multiple types of public land available for archery hunters. The managing authority for each property sets specific requirements, so be aware of those before going hunting.

To hunt on property owned or leased by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, an Annual

Public Hunting Permit is required in addition to standard licensing requirements.

Those hunting on TPWD property are required to wear at least 400 square inches of hunter orange material, including orange headwear and at least 144 square inches appearing on both chest and back during daylight hours. Even if hunter orange is not required to hunt other public property, it can be beneficial to wear as other seasons can run concurrent with archery season and additional hunters can be in the woods.

Hunters should also be aware of other regulations surrounding baiting, hunting blinds, alcohol consumption and more.

#### Archery-only counties and county-specific ordinances

Hunters need to know which county they are hunting in and follow all state, local and federal regulations.

Texas has four archery-only counties: Collin, Dallas, Grayson and Rockwall. These counties allow crossbows to be used during the general white-tailed deer season, Nov. 2-Jan. 5, but hunters may only use a compound, recurve or longbow during the archery-only season.

Hunters should also keep in mind that county and city municipalities may set their own ordinances such as no archery hunting within city limits or on property smaller than 10 acres.

"Regulations are updated from time to time and can sometimes be complex, especially in counties with unique requirements," said Daron Blackerby, Grayson County game warden. "If

there's anything you're unclear on after reviewing the regulations in the Texas Outdoor Annual, call the game warden for the county you will be hunting in. We're here to help."

#### Preparation and equipment maintenance

It's a good idea to carry basic survival gear like a first-aid kit, tourniquet, GPS, compass, zip ties, rain gear and enough water and food to get you through a day or two in case you get lost.

Know your equipment and practice with it regularly. Wardens recommend keeping bows in good working order and wearing proper safety equipment like arm guards.

"Don't buy a new bow at the beginning of September and then hunt with it opening morning," said Randy Stovall, Nacogdoches County game warden. "Practicing with it regularly will not only improve accuracy but can also help prevent accidents."

#### Ethical hunting practices

Ethical hunting should be the goal of every hunter. This includes knowing the target and the area around it, avoiding rushed shots or shots outside effective range, knowing equipment and ensuring quick, humane kills. Waiting at least 30 minutes before tracking a deer is also recommended.

"While we know hunters always try to do their best, sometimes things happen and a shot doesn't turn out as intended," said Zack Fisher, Childress and Hall County game warden. "In those cases, it's a good idea to have contact information for someone with a blood tracking dog. That way, if a deer runs far and you need help track-

ing it, you are prepared and will stand a greater chance of recovering the animal."

#### Weather and terrain challenges

Texas weather is often unpredictable, especially during archery season. Some parts of the state may still be hot while others could experience unexpected cold snaps. Temperature swings can happen quickly, so don't be caught unaware and without proper gear. Warmer temperatures can also be a concern post-harvest. Have a processing plan in place ahead of time to prevent meat spoilage.

Additionally, if participating in a spot-and-stalk style hunt, do your research ahead of time and familiarize yourself with the terrain and challenges that may arise.

#### Retrieving an animal

It is not uncommon for deer shot with a bow to travel immediately after being shot, which can mean leaving the property you have permission to hunt. Going onto someone else's property without permission from the landowner is trespassing, even if it is to retrieve your deer. If the deer crosses multiple properties, permission is needed from each landowner before entering the property.

"It's a misconception that game wardens can go onto private property to retrieve a deer for you," said Ryan McGinley, Comal County game warden. "I suggest hunters mark the fence or property line where the deer crossed and then use one of the outdoor apps that provide property owner information or go knock on the door of a house if you see one to ask for permission. Getting to know

neighboring landowners pre-season is also helpful."

#### Harvest reporting, check stations and carcass disposal

In certain counties, white-tail deer must be tagged and reported within 24 hours of harvest via the Texas Hunt & Fish app or online. For digital license holders, execution of a digital tag serves as completion of mandatory harvest reporting in applicable counties.

Hunters who harvest white-tail or mule deer within designated Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) areas must comply with mandatory testing requirements at a TPWD designated check station within 48 hours of harvest. Hunters that are within the voluntary testing areas are strongly encouraged to have their harvest tested so biologists can monitor the potential presence or spread of CWD.

Statewide carcass disposal requirements must also be followed to help reduce the risk of unintentional transmission of CWD.

#### Get outside

All in all, archery hunting is a unique challenge that the whole family can participate in while spending time outdoors, something game wardens also enjoy.

"I hope hunters know that as game wardens, we aren't out to get them and are here to help," said Kelley. "If you blatantly do something wrong on purpose, we will address that, but if you're trying to do the right thing, we want to help educate you and help you enjoy the outdoors just like we do."

Many of the tips above focus on regulations and the issues wardens commonly come across in the field. All hunting regulations for this year's hunting season can be found in the Texas Outdoor Annual mobile app or at [OutdoorAnnual.com](http://OutdoorAnnual.com).

END THE STORY OF HUNGER.

FEEDINGAMERICA.ORG



# Entergy Texas welcomes fall with safety reminders

## Simple tips can help you avoid accidents and injuries

### Special to the News-Standard

**THE WOODLANDS** — Although warmer weather is still lingering around, soon cooler temps will be here.

This time of year can also bring opportunities for customers to tackle home improvement or landscaping projects. As fun and gratifying as these activities can be, no one wants them to result in an accident or injury. Entergy Texas has some helpful tips for staying safe this fall.

#### Stay safe outdoors

The Halloween season brings children the fun of wearing costumes, enjoying candy and attending fall festivals and carnivals. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers tips to help children celebrate safely.

Prepare to welcome trick-or-treaters to your home safely by checking outdoor lights and making sure walkways and steps are well-lit and free of any tripping hazards.

Any extension cords should be specifically designated for outdoor use.

Use rubber gaskets in light sockets or hang sockets downward to keep water out and remember to turn outside lights and decorations off when you are away from home or asleep.

Help children learn about safety with videos, activities and other resources.

#### Keep safety first with home projects

Fall is a great time to tidy up and prep your property for winter. When cleaning up fallen leaves and branches or trimming trees, always use caution and be aware of overhead lines.

Position your ladder away from over-

head wires, so trimmings will not fall onto power lines. If this happens, always assume downed wires are energized and call 1-800-ENTERGY for help.

If your fall spruce-up includes digging up flower beds, trees or shrubs, remember to call before you dig. Calling 811 before you dig will keep you safe and prevent disruption of utility services to your neighborhood.

When performing maintenance activities that require a ladder inside or out, be sure to wear proper footwear, position the ladder on a flat surface, and have someone nearby to spot you.

#### Daylight Saving Time ends Nov. 3

When Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, Nov. 3, fewer hours of daylight will make it harder to see children going to and from the school bus in the mornings and evenings. When driving, avoid distractions and watch for children in the neighborhood.

The National Association for Pupil Transportation offers additional tips for ensuring children arrive to and from school safely.

When setting your clocks to fall back an hour, take the time to check the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. All homes should contain a carbon monoxide detector to help identify the colorless and odorless gas that can cause serious illness or death.

#### Stay safe and warm indoors

Candles can add a warm ambience to an autumn evening, but remember it is never safe to leave candles burning unattended. A small sputter or an errant flame can cause a fire in an instant.



Space heaters should only be used with caution. They are large consumers of energy and a fire hazard and should be kept at least three feet away from draperies, rugs and furniture. Additionally, homeowners who use a gas or electric furnace should schedule an appointment for service by a certified technician to make sure it is safe for operation and for greatest efficiency.

A wood-burning stove or fireplace can add warmth and coziness to a room but should also be used with caution and proper preparation. Have your chimney cleaned by a professional before the first fire is lit.

Fallen leaves, animal nests and other debris can cause the smoke to vent into your home rather than outside and cause a fire.

Remember to replace dirty air filters inside and remove debris from the unit outside to ensure your HVAC unit works efficiently through all seasons.

#### Be ready for inclement weather

Hurricane season lasts through the end of November, so it is important to not let your guard down even when the weather begins to cool. Prepare now for severe weather that may come your way by making a plan and a kit.

# Grants given to East Texas veteran service organizations

### Special to the News-Standard

**AUSTIN** — Gov. Greg Abbott announced eight Fund for Veterans' Assistance grants totaling more than \$1.4 million were awarded to eight organizations in East Texas as part of the Texas Veterans Commission's (TVC) Grants Across Texas presentations.

Presented by TVC, the funding will provide services to more than 690 veterans and their families across 38 counties.

"Texas will always stand with the brave men and women who fought for the freedoms we enjoy today," Gov. Abbott said. "These Fund for Veterans' Assistance grants will provide financial support and other crucial services to veterans and their families in East Texas. Texas is home to more veterans than any other state, and we will continue to support them to help ensure our nation's heroes prosper for generations to come."

"The Pineywoods of Texas is home to

many veterans who have served our country and now call East Texas their home," said TVC Commissioner and Marine veteran Chuck Wright. "These grant awards will improve the lives of veterans in the area with important services, such as home modifications in the Housing for Texas Heroes program to transportation programs to help veterans get to their appointments and other necessities."

Wright presented the grants at Habitat for Humanity of Smith County in Tyler. This is the sixth stop of Grants Across Texas. The grant presentations will continue through the second week of October with a total of 10 stops.

The FVA grant recipients and their services include:

- Cass County: a \$300,000 grant for financial assistance
- Deep East Texas Council of Governments and Economic Development District: a \$70,000 grant for financial assistance

- Habitat for Humanity of Smith County: a \$250,000 grant for home modifications

- Northeast Texas Habitat for Humanity: a \$230,000 grant for home modifications

- RISE-Resource Information Support and Empowerment: a \$145,000 grant for transportation programs and services

- Sabine Valley Regional MHMR Center: a \$145,000 grant for peer support services

- The Salvation Army - Lufkin: a \$100,000 grant for financial assistance

- Trinity County: a \$180,000 grant for financial assistance

In May, the governor announced 181 grants totaling over \$44 million to 161 organizations across Texas. It is projected to provide direct services to more than 41,000 veterans, their dependents, and surviving spouses.

Since 2009 through the current 2024-2025 grant cycle, more than \$313 million in grant funding has been awarded

through 1,400 FVA grants.

The grants support a wide range of services from emergency financial assistance to transportation, legal services to family support services, and home modification to rental and mortgage assistance. The TVC awards grants in five categories: General Assistance, Housing for Texas Heroes, Veterans Mental Health Grants, Veterans Treatment Courts, and Veteran County Service Officers.

Funding for these grants is generated primarily by the Texas Lottery Commission's games designated for veteran support. Other sources of funding for the grants come from individual donation options on drivers' licenses, licenses to carry a handgun, outdoor recreation licenses for hunting and fishing, and vehicle registrations.

Texas veterans in need of assistance can find the organizations providing help in their area and how to contact them at <https://tvc.texas.gov/fund>.

# USDA launches assistance network for distressed farmers, ranchers

### Special to the News-Standard

**SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y.** — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is announcing the launch of the Distressed Borrowers Assistance Network, an initiative designed to provide personalized support to financially distressed farmers and ranchers across the nation.

Through a series of Cooperative Agreements, this national network will connect distressed borrowers with individualized assistance to help them stabilize and regain financial footing. USDA's Farm Service Agency made this announcement Sept. 21 at the Farm Aid Festival in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

"Having someone with experiences in ag finance help producers work through financial difficulties can be the difference between them losing the farm or prospering," said FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. "The Distressed Borrowers Assistance Network underscores our dedication to farmers and ranchers receiving the tailored support they need. These partnerships also illustrate that USDA acknowledges the importance of these advocates and sees them as part of the solution to ensure program access for all farmers, ranchers, and producers."

Network partners include Farm Aid, Ru-

ral Advancement Foundation International, the University of Arkansas, the Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Center at Alcorn State University, and the University of Minnesota.

Through this initiative, the FSA is collaborating with community-based organizations to better serve financially distressed producers. Network partners will provide farm loan policy training to the community-based organizations so the organizations can work alongside FSA to help producers understand financing available through FSA, ensuring that when they visit an FSA office, the partner organization representative and FSA staff can better assist.

FSA, in collaboration with farm support organizations and land-grant institutions, will facilitate this network, which will provide the technical resources and guidance of USDA partners to experts from distressed and underserved communities. The network's approach includes integrating knowledgeable service providers to deliver one-on-one support to borrowers so they can best make plans and understand options to overcome their financial challenges.

The Distressed Borrowers Assistance Network will address the immediate needs of distressed borrowers and provide com-

prehensive, wraparound services aimed at addressing the unique challenges faced by financially distressed producers.

Once stabilized financially, these borrowers will be better positioned to access new opportunities and continue contributing to the agricultural economy. These investments will also build a system of service providers that can better support agricultural communities for years to come. Investing in a network of agricultural financing service providers to help bridge access to FSA loans is a benefit for rural and agricultural communities.

#### Additional programs

FSA recently announced significant changes to Farm Loan Programs through the Enhancing Program Access and Delivery for Farm Loans rule. These policy changes, which took effect Sept. 25, are designed to expand opportunities for borrowers to increase profitability and be better prepared to make strategic investments in enhancing or expanding their agricultural operations.

FSA also has a significant initiative underway to streamline and automate the Farm Loan Program customer-facing business process. For the over 26,000 producers who submit a direct loan application annually, FSA has made several meaningful improvements including:

- The Loan Assistance Tool that provides customers with an interactive online, step-by-step guide to identifying the direct loan products that may fit their business needs and to understanding the application process.

- The Online Loan Application, an interactive, guided application that is paperless and provides helpful features including an electronic signature option, the ability to attach supporting documents such as tax returns, complete a balance sheet, and build a farm operating plan.

- An online direct loan repayment feature that relieves borrowers from the necessity of calling, mailing, or visiting a local USDA Service Center to pay a loan installment.

- A simplified direct loan paper application, reduced from 29 pages to 13 pages.

- A new educational hub with farm loan resources and videos.

USDA encourages producers to reach out to their local FSA farm loan staff to ensure they fully understand the wide range of loan making and servicing options available to assist with starting, expanding, or maintaining their agricultural operation. To conduct business with FSA, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center.

For more information, visit [fsa.usda.gov](https://fsa.usda.gov).

# \$5,000 reward offered for information on Tren De Aragua gang members

### Special to the News-Standard

**AUSTIN** — Gov. Greg Abbott announced that the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to the identification and arrest of known or suspected members of the dangerous Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua who have been or are involved in criminal activity and pose an increasing danger to the public safety of Texans.

"Tren de Aragua has spread terror and carnage in every country they've been in,

and Texas will not allow them to gain a foothold in our state," Abbott said. "I am announcing a reward for any information that leads to the identification and arrest of known or suspected members of this gang who have been or are involved in heinous crimes. Texas will not let these thugs use our state as a base of operations to terrorize our citizens. I encourage anyone with information on Tren de Aragua to call the Texas Crime Stoppers hotline or submit an anonymous tip online. With the public's help, combined with the hard work of federal, state, and local law en-

forcement, we will capture these dangerous gang members and put them behind bars for good."

To be eligible for the cash rewards, tipsters must provide information to authorities using one of the following methods:

- Call the Texas Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-252-TIPS (8477)

- Submit a tip online through the Texas Department of Public Safety

All tips are anonymous regardless of how they are submitted, and tipsters will be provided a tip number instead of using a name. Callers' anonymity is guaranteed

by law, and you could earn up to \$5,000. Fugitives should be considered armed and dangerous. Texans should never try to apprehend a fugitive.

Recently, Gov. Abbott launched a comprehensive, statewide operation to aggressively target TdA to disrupt their criminal operations and deny their foothold in the state. The Governor also designated TdA as a foreign terrorist organization and directed the Texas Department of Public Safety to elevate them to a Tier 1 gang and to create a TdA Strike Team that will identify and arrest TdA gang members.

# Schools mull oil change and a haircut, for a few bits

By Tony Farkas  
editor@trinityconews.com

TRINITY — The Trinity ISD Board of Trustees is investigating the need to institute additional Career and Technical Education programs, and heard a presentation from CTE director Misty Coleman and High School Principal Brittney Cassidy about two schools that recently have

added to their offerings. Superintendent Dr. John Kaufman said that at the Sept. 23 board meeting, the two administrators related their finding after visiting Crockett ISD, which is in its first year, and Livingston ISD, which is in its second year after adding cosmetology and auto mechanics programs. Kaufman also said that the district polled its students from sixth through

12th grades about participating in those classes, and of the 311 responses, 186 students, or 60.2 percent, said yes to a cosmetology program, and 179, or 59.9 percent, said yes to auto mechanics. “We’re pursuing it, looking at what we need to do to get this done,” Kaufman said. In other business, the trustees:

- approved hiring a full-time LVN for

the junior high and high schools, as the current provider is also a teacher and is missing too much classroom time. Kaufman said the district is now seeking qualified applicants; and

- divided 700-plus votes between candidates for the Trinity County Appraisal District board, and 28 votes for the candidates for the Walker County Appraisal District.



The Trinity ISD Board of Trustees honored the employees of the month at the Sept. 23 board meeting. Pictured are Support Staff winner Audrey Clauson, Professional Staff winner Kelly Peavey, Paraprofessional winner Ashley Coughlin, and Elizabeth King, Board Member; Allen Ramsey, Transportation Director; Jerry Herd, Middle School Principal; and Brittney Cassidy, High School Principal COURTESY PHOTO



The Trinity Community Fair Queen Court was recognized at the Sept. 23 Trinity ISD board meeting. The court includes Freshman Duchess Emma Sustaita, Sophomore Duchess Aspen Sanford, Junior Duchess Grace Tullos, Fair Queen Senior Tristyn Gustafson. Also pictured are Erin Riddle and Hope Williams of the Fair Queen Committee. COURTESY PHOTO

## Legal Notices

### Estate of James Dalton Dickey

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James Dalton Dickey, Deceased, were issued on 8/27/2024, in Cause No. 5717, pending in the County Court of Trinity County, Texas, to: Tammy Dickey Engle. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being ad-

ministered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Respectfully submitted, By: Colton Hay, Texas Bar I.D. 24096614, The Hay Law Firm, PLLC., PO Box 979, Groveton, TX 75845, 936-642-1725, email:colton.hay@thehaylawfirm.com, Attorney For The Estate.

### Constable sale on November 5

Constable's 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

## Legal Notices

### Estate of Mary Francis Franklin

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Francis Franklin, Deceased, were issued on 9/24/2024, in Cause No. 5744, pending in the County Court of Trinity County, Texas, to: Charles Goodwin. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being adminis-

tered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Respectfully submitted, By: Colton Hay, Texas Bar I.D. 24096614, The Hay Law Firm, PLLC., PO Box 979, Groveton, TX 75845, 936-642-1725, email:colton.hay@thehaylawfirm.com, Attorney For The Estate.

### Estate of Wanda Sue Dickey

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Wanda Sue Dickey, Deceased, were issued on 8/27/2024, in Cause No. 5716, pending in the County Court of Trinity County, Texas, to: Tammy Dickey Engle. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being ad-

ministered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Respectfully submitted, By: Colton Hay, Texas Bar I.D. 24096614, The Hay Law Firm, PLLC., PO Box 979, Groveton, TX 75845, 936-642-1725, email:colton.hay@thehaylawfirm.com, Attorney For The Estate.

### Estate of Linda Gaylene Trevathan

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Linda Gaylene Trevathan, Deceased, were issued on August 14, 2024, in Cause No. P-2024-5694, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Trinity County, Texas, to: Catherine Diane Lewis. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within

the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: Devan D. Dawson Attorney at Law 1300 11th Street, Suite 405 Huntsville, Texas 77340 Devan D. Dawson Attorney for Catherine Diane Lewis State Bar No.: 24104106 1300 11th Street, Suite 405 HUNTSVILLE, TX 77340 Telephone: (936) 295-3712 Facsimile: (936) 295-3714 Email: ddawson@hmp-attorneys.com

### Estate of Larry D. Barak

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Larry D. Barak, Deceased, were issued on 9/24/2024, in Cause No. 5737, pending in the County Court of Trinity County, Texas, to: Larry Dean Barak, Jr. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being adminis-

tered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Respectfully submitted, By: Colton Hay, Texas Bar I.D. 24096614, The Hay Law Firm, PLLC., PO Box 979, Groveton, TX 75845, 936-642-1725, email:colton.hay@thehaylawfirm.com, Attorney For The Estate.

Get all your local news from the Trinity County News-Standard!

Check us out on the world wide web at or subscribe to our online edition

[easttexasnews.com](http://easttexasnews.com)

Everyone loves options!

**NEW! CSCU FLEX DRIVE**

With Flex Drive you get lower monthly payments than traditional financing without all the restrictions and hidden costs of leasing. Plus, you'll enjoy all the flexibility and benefits of vehicle ownership.

Explore your options at [cscutx.com/flexdrive](http://cscutx.com/flexdrive) and apply today!

Text or Call 936-295-3980

Huntsville, TX: 250 FM 2821 Rd. W 2526 Montgomery RD

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDIT UNION**  
CSCUTX.COM

NCUA Federally insured by the NCUA

All Loans Subject to Credit Approval. Membership Eligibility Required. Other terms and conditions may apply.

ES EXCESS SHARE INSURANCE

MILK, EGGS AND BREAD?

IT'S TEXAS, THEY WOULD PROBABLY BE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS.

Call the Trinity Standard today to advertise in Classifieds

