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TYLER COUNTY BOOSTER

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024 SERVING TYLER COUNTY SINCE 1930 75¢ | VOLUME 98 NUMBER 40

RIDES, FUN AND CELEBRATING THE YOUTH

TYLER COUNTY FAIR

IS THIS WEEK



By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – The time of year in Tyler County, in which Warren FFA instructor and indefatigable fair sponsor, board member and general go-to guy of all things having to do with the county fair, Jacob Spivey, has called “the most wonderful time of the year,” has arrived. The Tyler County Fair began on Wednesday and will run throughout this Saturday, Oct. 5. This year, the county’s fair board is showcasing the work of youth from across the county, in the

form of livestock animals, ag mechanics projects and so many other endeavors, such as home economics projects and fine arts. Last year, the fair raised more than \$346K for the county’s young people. For Spivey, who has been involved with the fair in various capacities since his youth in Tyler County, the event represents a chance for young people to experience the joys, as well as discomfords, of agricultural life “and hopefully have instilled in them an inborn fondness that they will never be able to deny.” See **FAIR** → Page 6A

Tax rate, budget set for Woodville

By Mollie LaSalle
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – Woodville City Council held a special meeting Monday evening to adopt a tax rate, with mayor pro-tem Joyce Wilson presiding. A workshop, followed by a public hearing on the tax rate began at 5:30, with the public hearing commencing at 5:45 p.m., in which city administrator Mandy Risinger said, “the proposed tax rate is 35 cents per \$100 evaluation. That is up a little from last year but does not exceed what we are allowed to increase by law. Our proposed budget is approximately \$7 million and there is approximately \$53K set aside in the budget to be utilized for special projects going forward. We don’t anticipate spending the full seven million, that is not the point, but we have budgeted for contingencies and increased expenses, and because of that, that is our anticipated budget.”

See **BUDGET** → Page 6A

VFW celebrates 125 years of service

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

On Tuesday, Woodville’s Robert M. Pate Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2033 was one of the nearly 6,000 posts across the country to celebrate 125 years of the organization. Al Lipphardt, who serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the VFW, nationally, called the anniversary an “extraordinary milestone,” and a means of reflection on the unwavering dedication of the nation’s veteran population.

See **VFW** → Page 6A

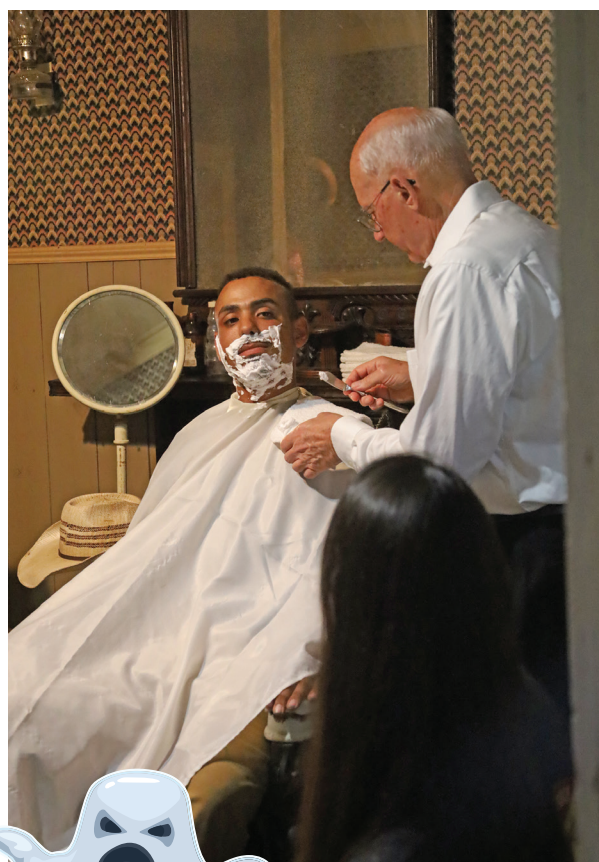
Judge Walker named ‘Distinguished Woman’

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

BEAUMONT – District Judge Delinda Gibbs-Walker has been named a “Distinguished Woman” by the Better Business Bureau of Southeast Texas (BBB).

The organization named its honorees recently, for the fifth year in its “Women of Integrity and Distinguished Women of SETX.” The event where Gibbs-Walker and the other

See **JUDGE** → Page 6A



TALES TO SEND CHILLS UP SPINES

Heritage Village hosted its annual “Ghosts and Legends of Texas Past” event on Saturday evening. Storytellers were set up throughout the Village to spin spooky yarns to attendees. Some of the tellers included Roy Bolding, who told a deadly tale inside the Village barber shop and Patsy Morris, who told the story of the Miller Twins inside the livery stable. PHOTOS BY DONNA HAMMER | TCC

“Amelia Carnival”

One of the highlights of the elementary school year was the annual Halloween carnival each fall. It was a big deal to all of us kids.

There were booths with fun activities: bottle ring toss, a dunking booth, a weight guesser, hole in one golf, bobbing for apples, and a bingo game in a cafeteria with a chili supper. But the big highlight was a scary spook house.

You see, Amelia Elementary had once been an independent school district five miles west of Beaumont, Texas. As such, it had a gym that was built with dressing rooms located under the bleachers below ground. It was dark and spooky down there - on a regular day much less at night. One year the spook house took on a whole new dimension. Instead of a couple of ghosts rattling chains and a few people howling like banshees, there was an added attraction of a homemade casket. The casket looked real. It was sitting on a



By the Way

By Mark Martin

platform. When you came into the dressing room, a ghost invited you to get into the casket. My friends and I looked at each other. No one wanted to do it. We dared each other, double dog-dared and even triple dog-dared one another until I got into the casket. Everything was fine for about two seconds.

You see, I was not alone in the casket. All of a sudden, two big arms came up from below my body squeezing me tight. Honestly, I yelled loud enough to wake the dead. I was so scared, kicking my feet and struggling. My friends, who were standing about three feet away, were scared to

See **CARNIVAL** → Page 6A



Mark and his sister Christy are shown here heading out for the Amelia Carnival in 1965 for a spooky good time.

Woodville, Texas
75 CENTS



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LAKE LEVELS

B.A. Steinhagen Lake Level:
• As of 10-1: 82.64 feet
• 94.8 % full

Sam Rayburn Reservoir Level:
• As of 10-1: 163.55 feet
• 96.8 % full

INSIDE

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LIFE TRIBUTES

Mark Ballard

Mark Allen Ballard, 61, of Sanger, Texas, passed away at his home on September 18, 2024.

A gathering of family and friends on Sunday, September 29, 2024 was followed by a graveside service at 2 p.m. at Campground Cemetery Pavilion in Woodville. Mark Tolar will officiate.

Mark was born August 30, 1963 to Charles (Buster) Ballard and Era Jo Henry Ballard in Bellaire, Texas. He spent his early childhood years in Deer Park, Texas where his father was owner of Bayshore Engineers, Inc. When Mark was eleven years old, his family moved to a farm outside Woodville. Mark and his brother, Chris, quickly learned how to run cattle, bale hay, operate farm equipment and learned how to enjoy a life of work and play in the country. During those years, Mark was an avid reader and enjoyed restoring old cars and riding motorcycles. He was a loving brother to his little sister, Melissa. Mark also began pursuing a boyhood dream of learning to fly airplanes, taking his first lessons in Deer Park and at the Tyler County airport in Woodville.

Mark graduated from Woodville High School in 1981 and began college at Texas Christian University in Ft. Worth, where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. He loved his time at TCU, making life-long friends. He would frequently bring his college friends to "the farm" in Woodville, giving them what one friend recalls as "the best time of his life." He graduated from TCU in 1986.

After college Mark continued pursuing his interest in flying and continued working toward his commercial pilot's license. His first job in the flight industry was as a flight instructor in Amarillo, Tx. He then flew as a captain for Mesa Airlines and also served as a pilot for Flight Safety International. For many years, Mark was chief pilot for Silicon Specialties, Inc. He was devoted to the company and was in his element flying and



overseeing the aircraft, a Bombardier Challenger 605.

Mark was a peacemaker, a kind man, a great listener, and was a loyal friend. Mark was a Texan at heart, descended from Republic of Texas settlers. Flying was his passion and was his boyhood dream come true. He loved and adored his daughter, Holly. She was the light of his life.

Mark was preceded in death by his parents, Buster and Jo Ballard.

He is survived by his daughter, Holly Ballard, and fiancé, Jonathan Grable of Ft. Worth; brother, Chris Ballard and wife Marian of Kingwood, Tx; sister Melissa Scrogins and husband Tommy of Lexington, South Carolina; aunt Barbara Calderon of Galveston, Tx and aunt Sue Helms of Pasadena, Tx; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Memorials may be made to The LeRoy W. Homer Jr. Foundation, P.O. Box 268, Marlton, NJ 08053.

Services are under the direction of Stringer Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville. 477



**Stringer & Griffin
Funeral Home**

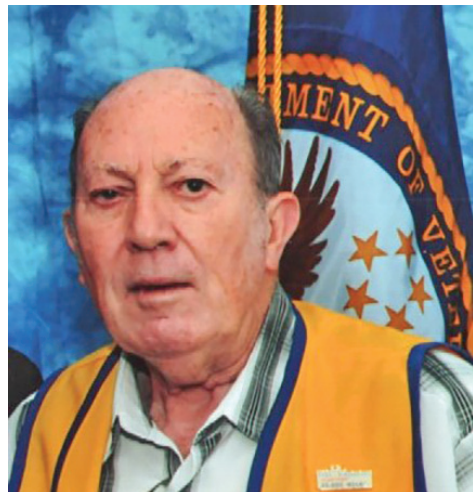
Melvin Young

Melvin Frank Young, 89, of Woodville, passed away on September 24, 2024.

Born March 2, 1935, in Marionville, Missouri, to Melvin and Violet Young, he lived in Houston before moving to Woodville many years ago. He retired as an assistant manager from Randalls Supermarket in Houston. A member of the Woodville Methodist Church, he was a loving Christian who enjoyed helping members install ramps at their homes and other things that needed to be done. Melvin loved his grandchildren and enjoyed the laughter that they brought into his life. He often told people that the happiest years of his life were when he met and married Margaret, the love of his life.

Melvin was preceded in death by his father, Melvin F. Young; mother, Violet Ruth Houston Young; son, Darryl Young; brother, Tommy Young; sister, Patsy Lockhart; and stepchildren, Brenda Brown, Billy Jennings, and Buddy Jennings.

He is survived by his loving wife of 24 years, Margaret Young; son Melvin Young and wife Jacquelin; brother Billy Young and wife Juanita; stepchild Bradley Woodrow Jennings; grandchildren David Young and partner, Kendle, Nathan Young and wife, Lauren and their children, Luke and Evelyn, Kristen Hunt, Jessica Hunt, Tanner Brown,



Logan Brown, Haley Jennings, Kayla Aynn Jennings, and Austin Jennings; numerous great-grandchildren and a host of other family members and friends.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2024, at 2 p.m., at the Woodville Methodist Church. Visitation will be held from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the church.

Services are held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville. 261



**Riley
FUNERAL HOME**

Lois Thompson

Lois Marie Thompson, 75, of Chester passed away September 27, 2024.

Born July 30, 1949 in Camden, Texas to Marvin and Johnnie Riley, she lived in Chester most of her life. She retired from Georgia Pacific and owned and operated T's Tax Service. Lois enjoyed hunting and fishing but her true love was her family. Her greatest loves called her "Nannie," whom she adored and treasured.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents, Marvin and Johnnie Marie Riley; son, Eric Jason Hubbard; grandson, Marshall Hubbard; brothers, Johnny Riley and Curtis Riley.

She is survived by her loving husband, Willie C. Thompson; son, Hal Hubbard, Jr and wife, Janie of Corrigan; daughter, Julie Hubbard of Corrigan; grandchildren, Matthew Hubbard and wife, Lauren of Corrigan, Jessica Osborne and husband, Tyler of Rockhill, SC, Jacy Scarborough and husband, Lawrence of Diboll; great-grandchildren, Hadilyn and Hartleigh Hubbard of Corrigan, Ellie, Emerie, River and Endy Osborne of Rock Hill, SC, Jacen and Layten Scarborough of Diboll; brother, Bobby Riley of Etoile; mother-in-law, Gladys Thompson of Chester; brother-in-law, Louie Thompson, Sr. of Chester; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Larry and Sandra Thompson of Chester; life long friend, Doris Thayer; numerous nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

Funeral service will be held Friday, Oc-



tober 4, 2024, at 10:30 am at the Riley Funeral Home Chapel with burial to follow at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Chester. Visitation will be held Thursday, October 3, 2024, from 6 pm until 8 pm at the funeral home.

Serving as pallbearers will be Matthew Hubbard, Tyler Osborne, Lawrence Scarborough, Jake Thompson, Chuck Thompson and Carson Thompson. Serving as honorary pallbearers will Louie Thompson, Jr., Tom "Peanut" Riley, Bobby Riley, Jacen Scarborough, River Osborne, Layten Scarborough and Chandler Berry.

Services are held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville. 297



**Riley
FUNERAL HOME**

Brenda Davison

Brenda Kaye Davison, 69, of Chester, passed away September 24, 2024.

Born May 14, 1955, in Corrigan, Texas, to Aubry and Vera Bradley, Brenda lived in Chester for many years. She retired from the Tyler County District Clerk and was very knowledgeable about district court proceedings. Brenda had a personality that radiated when she spoke. Everyone knew where you stood with her, and she never backed down. But when she loved you, she loved you with her whole heart.

Brenda was preceded in death by her father, Aubry Bradley; mother, Vera Welch Bradley; and a grandson, Brennan Davison.

She is survived by her loving daughter, Ashley Davison of Chester; son, Bradley Davison of Woodville; grandchildren, Bradley Davison, Jr. and Novie Davison; sister, Charlotte Barnes; brother, Ronnie Bradley; special friends, Debbie Ogden, Pam Wilson and Shirley Byrum; and a host of other family members and friends.

A graveside service was held Sunday, September 29, 2024, at 2 p.m. at the Mt. Hope Cemetery in Chester, with Brother Lesly Wilkinson officiating. Visitation was



held Sunday at the cemetery from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m.

Honorary pallbearers will be her nephews and great-nephews.

Services are under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville. 200



**Riley
FUNERAL HOME**

Basil Mooneyham

Basil Dee Mooneyham, 83, of Warren, Texas, passed away Friday, September 27, 2024, in Beaumont.

Dee was born to Basil and Laura Goodwin on March 7, 1941, in Port Arthur, Texas. She was blessed with an amazing sense of creativity, a passion for painting, and a love of music.

Dee is survived by her sons, Craig and Mark Mooneyham, both of Warren, Texas, and Tracy Mooneyham and his wife, Amy, of Nacogdoches, Texas; she is also survived

by five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.


Dee is preceded in death by her parents, Basil and Laura Goodwin, and by her husband of over 40 years, Charles Mooneyham.

A private graveside service was held at Allison Cemetery in Warren. Services are held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville. 127



**Riley
FUNERAL HOME**


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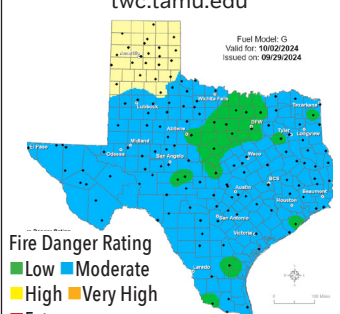
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TYLER COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR OCTOBER 3- 9 Information sourced from weather.com

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

Forecast Fire Danger twc.tamu.edu



Fire Danger Rating
Low Moderate High Very High Extreme



Each year the Georgia Pacific mill at Camden donates a load of shavings to the Tyler County Fair for our young people to use. GP donated the shavings, Hughes Trucking of Corrigan processed the delivery and Carlton Smith drove and managed the delivery. Tyler County Farm Bureau helps to manage the order, and The Tyler County Fair would not be possible without this generous donation. Tyler County Fair Board Members Megan Swinney, Lance Seamans and Derrick Grey pictured with Smith to thank him for his delivery on behalf of Hughes Trucking and Georgia Pacific. PHOTO COURTESY OF JACOB SPIVEY

JAIL BOOKINGS

William Louis Conkle, 40, of Port Acres – Possession of controlled substance PG 1/1-B >=1G<4G; Possession of marijuana <2 oz.
Clayton Dykes, 48, of Colmesneil – Driving while license invalid (driver license)
David Reckaway, 31, of Colmesneil – Agg. Assault /w/ deadly weapon
Tiffany Lairon Simental, 24, of Silsbee – Possession of controlled substance PG 3 <28 G; Possession of marijuana <2 oz.

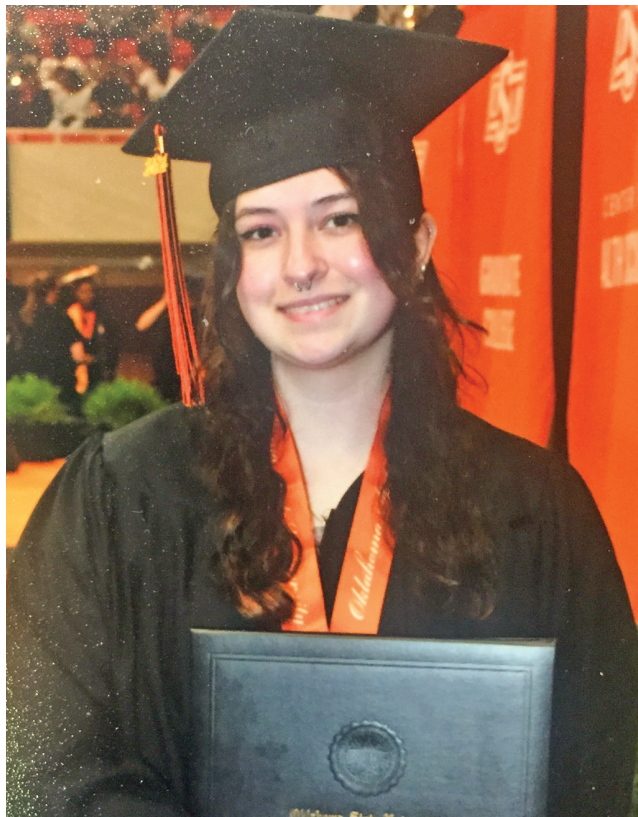
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Barker graduates from OSU

STILLWATER, OK – Alejandra D. Barker, a 2021 graduate of Big Sandy High School in Dallardsville, recently graduated from Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry from the university's College of Arts & Sciences. Alejandra, or "Ale," got her degree on May 11. Prior to graduation, she was 1 of 20 Oklahoma college graduates accepted into a special internship program whereby she would attend classes at, and also work in a hospital's laboratory. Classes are at one of the five major Oklahoma hospitals. She chose Mercy Hospital in Ardmore and relocated there after graduation. In May 2025, Ale will have earned, from OSU, a Bachelor of Science degree in microbiology with an emphasis in laboratory sciences.



POLITICAL CALENDAR

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
 Trent Ashby (R)
TYLER COUNTY SHERIFF
 Bryan Weatherford (R)
 Names within this calendar will appear in this column until election date. Candidates wishing to have their names appear in the calendar must contact the Tyler County Booster in person. Names are listed under each office according to the order in which candidates apply with the newspaper.

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OPINION VIEWING IT DIFFERENTLY

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

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.



Just Jim
By Jim Powers
jim@polkcountypublishing.com

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.

See **JUST JIM** → Page 5A

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 conditions in the country, especially regarding the economy. Inflation is down, 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



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

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.

Cheers and Jeers: A look at some recent happenings

It's been a while since I've done one of these, but with major happenings afoot in our country and in our world, well, the time seems ripe for pickin' a few fruits off the vine for cheering or jeering.



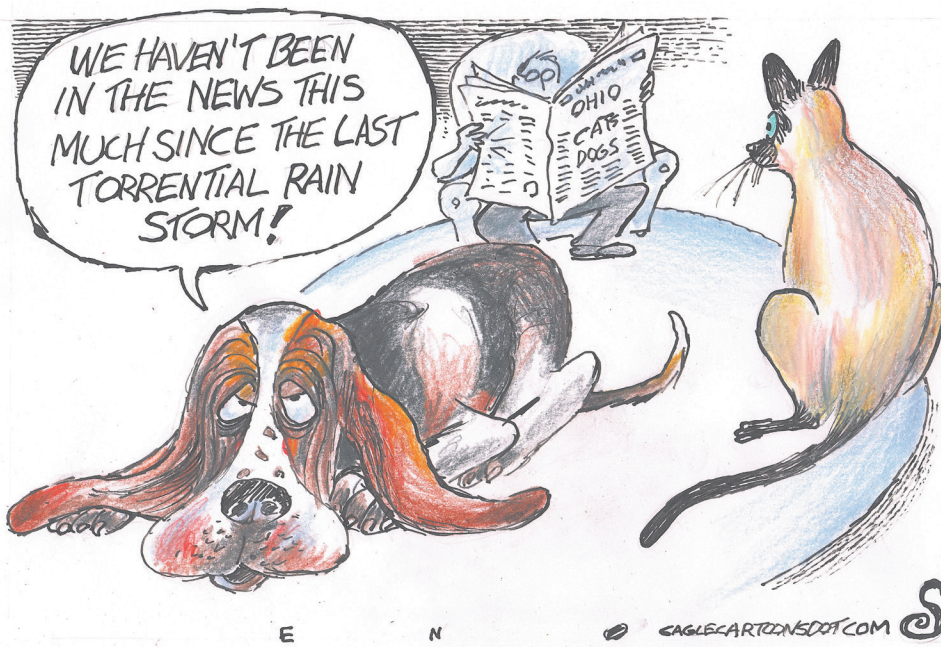
Meditations 'n Musings
By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

Jeers to Hurricane Helene — The Category 4 hurricane Helene made landfall last Thursday night in Florida, and left more than 100 people dead in several southeastern states. The catastrophic storm has left many communities isolated, in shambles and without power. Rescue, relief and clean-up efforts are already underway, but it will take a long time for things to get back to any semblance of normalcy for those affected by this catastrophe.

Cheers to govt. shutdown being averted — But jeers to the dog and pony show that has become standard accompanying fare with the process of funding the government. We the People are tired of this nonsense. A continuing resolution was passed to fund the govt. until Dec. 20, but partisan bickering and theatrics will accompany the next move, of course. Again, We the People are beyond tired of it all.

Cheers to Jimmy Carter turning 100 — The former president Jimmy Carter celebrated his 100th trip around the sun on Tuesday. Although Carter has been under hospice care since the beginning of 2023, family members indicate that he is still going strong, albeit with severe physical limitations. Reportedly, Mr. Carter, who is completely retired from public life, enjoys early morning discussions of politics, watching his beloved Atlanta Braves play and having breakfast foods

See **MEDITATIONS** → Page 6A



LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

It is the policy of The Tyler County Booster to encourage reader participation on its Opinion page. Diverse and varied opinions are welcomed. Because of space limitations, we must limit all contributors to one letter per person per month. Letters of 400 words or less will be published unless they contain language or content that the editors feel is inappropriate. Letters must either be about Tyler County, from a resident of Tyler County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Booster. Examples of content that will cause letters to be rejected include the following:

- Confusing or unclear points.
- Crude language.
- Poor taste.
- Disrespectful comments regarding a group's or individual's ethnicity, gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation or race.
- Other incendiary language or remarks.
- Endorsements for or complaints about individually named commercial products or services.
- Poetry.
- Personal attacks.
- "Thank You" letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or

political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid "Thank You" advertisement. During periods ahead of an election, The Booster does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections. Endorsements should be displayed in political advertising. In light of this policy, we reserve the right to reject or edit letters for references to candidates and whether or not they should be elected. The Booster will accept letters expressing views on bond measures, constitutional amendments and other such issues. Letters will not be accepted once early voting has begun. The Booster will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information. Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published. Letters to a third party or those written to more than one newspaper are not accepted. "Wallpaper" - submissions that are in large part copied-and-pasted from another author or organization - will not be published. All letters must be signed and include the writer's street address or route address telephone number, which will be used for verification purposes only. Further questions may be directed to Editor Chris Edwards, 409-283-2516.

GOVERNMENT

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Lufkin, TX 75901
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MEETINGS

County • City
School Board

COMMISSIONERS COURT
2nd Monday • 10am
CITY OF CHESTER
1st Monday • 6pm
CHESTER ISD
2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF COLMESNEIL
2nd Tuesday • 7pm
COLMESNEIL ISD
2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF IVANHOE
3rd Thursday • 6pm
SPURGER ISD
3rd Thursday • 7pm
WARREN ISD
4th Monday
CITY OF WOODVILLE
2nd Monday • 6pm
WOODVILLE ISD
3rd Monday • 7pm

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Original Texans only knew how to lose

The Dallas Texans, 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



This Week in Texas History

Bartee Haile
barteehaile@gmail.com

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 unselected 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 TD's.

Three days later, Giles Miller dumped the team in Bert Bell's lap. The commissioner gave Coach Jimmy Phelan marching orders for Hershey, Pennsylvania, 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.

Dallasites 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.

Strength Training

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



It Still Matters

By Darby Kethan
darbykethan@gmail.com

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.

Turnage named to Dean's List at U of Maryland global campus

ADELPHI, MD – Kaylene Turnage of Colmesneil was named to the Dean's List for the summer 2024 term at University of Maryland Global Campus. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

University of Maryland Global Campus was founded more than 75 years ago specifically to serve the higher education needs of working adults and military servicemembers. Today, UMGC is the largest provider of postsecondary education in Maryland and continues its global tradition with online and hybrid courses, more than 175 classroom and service locations worldwide, and more than 125 degrees and certificates backed by the reputation of a state university and the University System of Maryland.

JUST JIM

continued from page 4A

•**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.

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Tuesday 10/8: Chicken n Dumplings, Peas, Salad, Cornbread, Rice Krispies

Wednesday 10/9: Lasagna, Corn, Salad, French Bread, Jello Pie: Exercise 9:30, Bingo:10

Thursday 10/10: Chicken Livers or Gizzards or Corndog, Tots, Salad, Lemon Cookies

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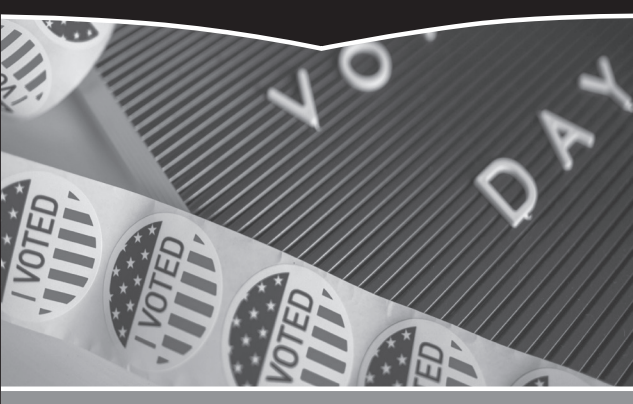
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NEWSPAPER READERS DETERMINE ELECTIONS



Almost 8 out of 10 newspaper readers vote in national or state elections.

Telling Our STORIES
CELEBRATING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK | OCTOBER 6-12, 2024

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

VFW
continued from page 1A

“As we look back on 125 years of service, we also look forward to the future. The challenges facing veterans today are ever evolving, and it is our duty to adapt and continue to be fierce advocates for those who came before us and those coming after us. Together, we will ensure that every veteran receives the care and support they need, and that their sacrifices are never forgotten,” Lipphardt said in a prepared statement.

The VFW began with several different veteran-centered groups coming together after the Spanish-American War in 1899, initially.

After several iterations and central locations, in August 1913, an encampment was held in Denver, where the groups merged into the organization we know today.

Similar shared experiences and a common language brought service veterans together initially, and the purpose of the VFW came to champion the rehabilitation and welfare of the country's disabled and/or needy veterans. The organization, according to its website, also assists veterans' widows, as well as orphans and the dependents of needy and/or disabled veterans.

There are many other avenues of service in which the VFW serves in their respective communities, including the awarding of scholarships to high school seniors and middle schoolers through the “Patriots Pen” essay contest. The Woodville post also takes part in many events, and hosts an annual Patriot Day celebration in September, which provides a family friendly festival, featuring live music and food and craft vendors.

Lipphardt said that since 1899, the VFW has been a beacon of hope and assistance for millions of veterans, as well as their families.

“We have fought for the rights, recognition and benefits that they earned and deserve. Our organization stands united in its mission of advocacy, service, camaraderie and honoring those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom,” he said.

Lipphardt added that the more than 1.4 million VFW members, and its Auxiliary, should reflect on shared achievements and renew their commitment to one another. “Our strength lies in our unity,” he said.

“Thank you for your service, your comradeship, and your support to our great organization. Here's to the next 125 years of making a difference, honoring our heroes who have answered the call to defend our nation and ensuring that their voices are heard. Let us all celebrate the legacy,” he added.

CARNIVAL
continued from page 1A

the point of screaming and turning around to run. The way we came in was blocked by a very big man made up to look like Frankenstein. More screaming, and then the panicked herd turned around to run out the other end. Meanwhile I was released from the death grip in the casket to join the stampede outside.

After a few minutes of gulping down air, we started telling each other how scared we looked and then laughing. About then we heard the next group behind us screaming their heads off. Of course, we thought that that was so funny. After a minute or two we went over to the chili supper for safety in numbers.

By the way, we avoided the spook house the next year.

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JUDGE
continued from page 1A

honorees were feted was at the BBB's fifth annual Professional Women's Conference, which was presented at Doggett Ford Park in Beaumont by Baptist Hospitals on Thursday, Sept. 12.

The “Women of Integrity” designation, according to the BBB, honors women leaders who exhibit “exceptional business leadership, community involvement and unwavering commitment to high ethical standards.”

In that award designation, Gibbs-Walker was recognized alongside Frieda White, of Cleveland, who founded Operation Refuge, Inc.

Gibbs-Walker has served as the judge for the 1-A District Court, which serves Tyler, Jasper and Newton counties. She has served in that capacity for 10 years.

Before that, she practiced law for 23 years, and even before becoming a practicing attorney, she worked for the legendary Jasper attorney Joe Tonahill, and later clerked for federal judge Joe Fisher.

She also served both Tyler and Jasper counties as an assistant district attorney prior to taking the bench in the District Court.

BUDGET
continued from page 1A

Council approved the tax rate as presented and moved on to the fiscal year 2024-25 budget. Risinger explained, “as presented, our expenditures are anticipated to be approximately 5% lower than last year, and revenue is anticipated to be 2% lower. The primary reason is sales tax has leveled off, but the big one is the price of natural gas is anticipated to be substantially lower”. After some discussion among council, the annual budget was approved.

Next on the agenda was the approval/review of Woodville's Investment and Strategy Policy and approval/review of the city's authorized Broker/Dealer list; both of these items were approved in short order, with minimal discussion.

Council quickly approved the retainer of Lufkin-based accounting firm Alexander, Lankford, and Hiers, Inc., to conduct the city's fiscal audit for the year 2023-2024, and approved to authorize the procurement of an administrator for TxCDBG TDA F/Y 2025-2026 Competition. Wilson was appointed to this position.

Lastly, council approved the appointment of a rating committee to evaluate administrator proposals for the TxCDBG TDA 2025-26 competition.

FAIR
continued from page 1A

Along with the live auction sales, the county fairgrounds and rodeo arena will be alive with the smells of food vendors, and there will be plenty of rides to excite even the most adventurous thrill-seekers.

Sam's Amusements is hosting the rides and games side of the fair, and is featuring rides such as the Swing, the Zipper and the Tilt-a-Whirl. Armbands for all the rides cost \$25 for the first two days of the fair, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., while the price is \$30 for Friday and Saturday, from 5-10 p.m.

Whether the young people are starting their day before the sun rises, in caring for livestock, or working on their home economics projects, or ag mechanics projects, the fair is a showcase of immense talent throughout our county.

The Tyler County Fair Board encourages everyone to come out and support the youth of the county in their endeavors.

MEDITATIONS
continued from page 4A

dinner. That combination could very well be the secret to longevity. Who knows? In any case, here's a big “Happy Birthday!” salute to a true-blue servant and one of the most genuinely good people to ever set a foot into the political realm.

Jeers to ableist language in campaigning – At a recent campaign stop, former President Donald Trump referred to his opponent Kamala Harris as likely being “mentally impaired” since birth, while also using such language to describe President Joe Biden. This, folks, is not disagreeing with someone on policy differences. This is hateful, ableist and tacitly mocks those who are living with mental disabilities. Language matters and how you treat people matters. Disagree with someone on policies, sure, but leave the schoolyard hate speech at home.

Cheers to a Cross Canadian Ragweed reunion – Those boys from Oklahoma have been up to something. In recent weeks, cryptic activity on social media platforms has indicated a possible reunion in the works. On Tuesday, the legendary quartet announced a reunion show scheduled for next April. Dubbed “The Boys From Oklahoma” (naturally), CCR will share the stage next April in Stillwater at T. Boone Pickens Stadium with Turnpike Troubadours, Jason Boland, the Great Divide and Stoney LaRue. Other shows could materialize if there is enough interest, according to frontman Cody Canada.

There are many of us who got to experience this life-changing band back when and miss them even more than Koe Wetzel does. However, for those of us old-school fans, we're excited about the prospect of kids of Wetzel's generation (and younger) getting to experience the magic of Ragweed live.

R.I.P. Kristofferson – Lastly, a big tip of the hat to the late, great Kris Kristofferson – If anyone embodied the term “Renaissance Man” in American culture, it was Kristofferson, who died on Saturday at the age of 88.

With songs such as “Sunday Morning Coming Down,” “Me and Bobbie McGee” and so, so, so many others, Kristofferson elevated the consciousness of what a song could be, and do, for people. Kristofferson joins the heavenly song-swap to pick alongside Hank, Townes, Guy, Merle, Waylon and others, just leaving Willie Nelson here among us. Enjoy these treasures while they're still here, folks. The legends aren't getting any younger.



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Lauren Citrano, Chester



Blanton Johnston, Colmesneil



Leane Jalomo, Colmesneil



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BITE by BITE

Conquering My Culinary
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By Emily Banks Wooten

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– KIERSTEN RANKEL

AN EASY, FLAVORFUL CHICKEN DISH THAT'S EVEN SUITABLE FOR COMPANY

Years ago, a friend gave me a cookbook for my birthday called “The Smitten Kitchen Cookbook - Recipes and Wisdom From an Obsessive Home Cook” by Deb Perelman. Little did I know at the time that that book would be the gift that keeps on giving. Prior to that, I was not familiar with Perelman or her blog smittenkitchen.com.

The book is a treasure, filled with frame-worthy pictures and recipes that are clear and easy to follow. I'd actually go so far as to say that it is a book of carefully curated comfort food recipes that are beautiful without being fussy.

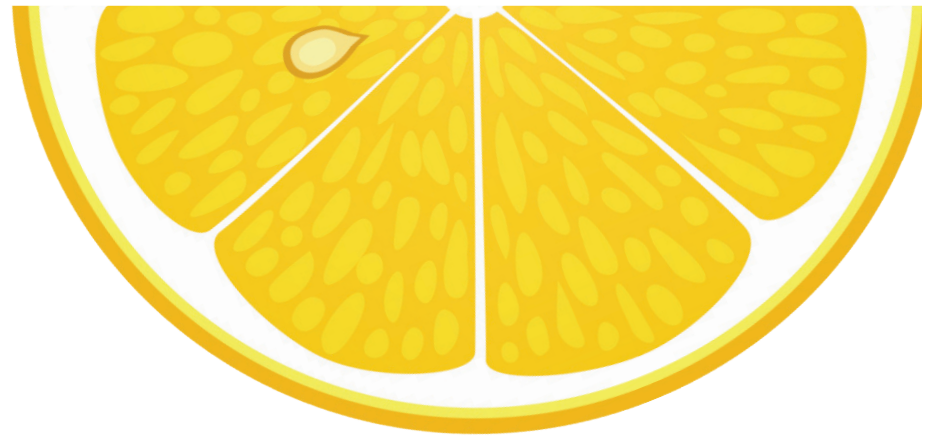
I read the blog regularly and between it and the cookbook, there's no telling how many of her dishes I've prepared over the years. And best of all? Every single one of them was a success and turned out exactly the way it was supposed to. What more can you say? She has practiced and fine-tuned the recipes to the extent that I know without any doubt that when I make one of her recipes, we're going to have a scrumptious and delicious meal that would even be suitable for company, although we don't actually entertain.

When she recently wrote about a recipe in which the original creator was on a mission to find a sheet pan chicken recipe that actually had crispy skin, I was intrigued. She tweaked it a bit to meet her needs and desires and prepared it in a baking dish instead of a sheet pan. The components of the dish also intrigued me – crispy-skin chicken thighs, lemons, onions, potatoes and chickpeas. And when she said she'd made the dish four times in the last month, that sold me.

And now that we're “empty-nesters” it seemed the perfect time to try the dish. If you're a regular reader then you already know that Daughter thinks I make too many chicken dishes. After she expressed that opinion more than once, I made a point of not cooking chicken for a while. However, now that she is happily ensconced in her residence hall at college and receiving her meals in the dining hall of said residence hall, I've started looking at chicken recipes again.

I made this on a weekday and was very pleased with how quickly and easily it came together. Hubby and I both loved it and were amazed at how much flavor it packs. And yes, the skin on those chicken thighs was gloriously crispy. Give it a shot. I think you, too, will consider it a winner. ■

“WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS, FORGET THE LEMONADE. MAKE A LEMON CHICKEN AND A RICH LEMON CHEESECAKE. BLAME LIFE FOR THE EXTRA POUNDS.”
– SUSIE SMITH.



LEMON CHICKEN WITH POTATOES & CHICKPEAS

From smittenkitchen.com

2 lemons, halved
1 teaspoon dried oregano, divided
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
4 medium-large bone-in chicken thighs (about 2¼ pounds total)
3 tablespoons olive oil, plus an additional drizzle
1 large yellow onion, halved and thinly sliced
3 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
1 15-ounce can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
¾ pound yukon gold potatoes (about 3 medium), unpeeled, each cut into 8 wedges
Big handful chopped flat-leaf parsley, to finish

Prepare the chicken thighs: In a large bowl, juice half of one lemon and whisk in 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano and 1 use 1 teaspoon kosher salt (Diamond brand; use less of others) per pound of chicken. Add chicken thighs and turn them over in the lemon juice mixture so they're coated. You can either finish the dish right away, or if you're getting ahead for later, cover the bowl with plastic wrap and chill until needed.

Heat oven: To 450°F (yes, really!)

Assemble dish: Halve and very thinly slice second half of first lemon, fishing out any lemon seeds. In a 9x13-inch baking dish (or lasagna pan), combine lemon slices, 3 tablespoons olive oil, onion, garlic, remaining ½ teaspoon oregano, 1 teaspoon kosher salt, and many grinds of black pepper. Add potato wedges and chickpeas and stir until everything is evenly mixed and coated. Remove chicken thighs from bowl and place them atop the potato-chickpea mixture, skin side-up. Pour any juices left in the bowl over the potatoes and chickpeas. Pat the chicken skin dry and drizzle it lightly with more olive oil.

Cook: Transfer the pan to the oven and roast for 45 minutes, or until the chicken thighs are cooked through. The chicken skin should be crisp. Carefully transfer the chicken thighs to a plate. Stir the potato-chickpea mixture just to remix it and distribute it evenly in the pan, and return the pan to the oven for another 10-15 minutes, to ensure the potatoes finish cooking and everything gets a little brown.

Return chicken thighs (and any juices that have collected on the plate) to the potato-chickpea pan. I don't generally find that the thighs have cooled enough in 10 minutes that they need to rewarm, but if yours have, pop the whole thing back in the oven for a couple minutes. Cut remaining lemon into wedges.

To serve: Sprinkle with parsley, serve with additional lemon wedges for squeezing over the pan, and eat right away.



You can see how crispy the skin is before it's even taken out of the oven.



This is what it looked like right before putting it back in the oven after removing the chicken. I love the crisp, dark edges the onions and potatoes are getting as they roast.

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 definitely 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 eight 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 began!

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 5 fish 20 inches or greater in length may be retained, and no more than 1 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 5 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.



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

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.

Our goal on this morning was to boat a limit of slot fish for an upcoming fish fry I have planed. 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. But our plan changed quickly, the rod on the port side of the bow 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 Sportsmans Life". The action should now be on YouTube as well as Carbon TV www.carbontv.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.catfishradio.org

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Kasen Citrano (#31) breaks a tackle after receiving a handoff from Turner Johnson (#3). Also pictured are Bryson Swanson (#6), Kevron Green (#7), and Blake Zulpo (#4). BECKI BYRD | TCB

Lady Jackets take on Warren, Latexo; ‘Jackets fall short of homecoming victory

By Beck Byrd

The Lady Jacket volleyball team hosted Latexo and Warren on Tuesday, Sept. 24 for a double header matchup.

In the first match the Lady Jackets swept the Latexo Lady Tigers in three sets with scores of 25-13, 25-19, and 25-11. Marae Pounds led in kills with 16 and also in aces with 6.

Lily Read had 14 kills 2 aces, and 10 digs, and 8 service receptions. Lily Payne ended with four kills while Emma Byrd and Lauren Citrano each had 2. Byrd also had 33 assists and 7 digs. Citrano added two aces, a solo block, and 11 digs. Sydney Brock led defensively with 27 digs and 20 service receptions.

The next match was vs Warren but it took four sets to knock down the Lady Warriors. The Lady Jackets fell short the first set 22-25 but regained control the next three sets taking the win with scores of 25-19, 25-13, and 25-14. Lily

Read led in kills with 23, she also had 16 service receptions, 13 digs, and one ace. Marae Pounds had 19 kills, 4 aces, 10 digs, and three service receptions. Lauren Citrano, Emma Byrd, and Ty Cochran each had 2 kills. Byrd also had four aces, 9 digs, and 38 assists. Cochran had 2 solo blocks on the net. Citrano added one ace, 11 digs, and 16 service receptions.

On Friday, Sept. 27 the Lady Jackets hosted their district opener with Goodrich. The Lady Jackets made light work of the Lady Hornets in a sweep with scores of 25-7, 25-6, and 25-8.

This week the Lady Jackets continue district play on the road to Richards on Tuesday, Oct. 1, and then traveling to Leggett on Friday, Oct. 4.

‘Jackets take on Oakwood Panthers

The Yellowjacket football team fell to the Oakwood Pan-

thers 34-64 on Friday, Sept. 27.

Jaxon Gay had five carries for 103 yards with one touchdown, and two catches for 26 yards and seven tackles. Jesse Bittick had nine carries with one touchdown, and went 7 for 12 on passes with one touchdown, and 13 tackles. Kasen Citrano had 5 carries for 79 yards with one touchdown, 11 tackles. Turner Johnson caught a 45 yard pass for one touchdown and one tackle. Kevron Green had 1 carry for 27 yards with one touchdown and led tackles with 15. Coltin Kosina and Jayse Gay each had two carries.

Blake Zulpo helped defensively with 10 tackles. Bryson Swanson had 6 tackles. Clay Busey and Russell McDonnold each had one tackle.

At halftime Lily Read was crowned Homecoming Queen with Cutter Lowe as her escort. This week the Jackets have a bye but then will be back in action on Oct. 11, at Aubry Bradley Stadium vs Alpha Omega with a 7 p.m. kickoff time.



Lily Read was crowned Chester’s new Homecoming Queen. She was escorted by Cutter Lowe. Also pictured are Dallie Walker and Ava Odom. BECKI BYRD | TCB

Eagles tame Tigers, 53-6

From Staff Reports

TRINITY – The Woodville Eagles started district last Friday with a trip to Trinity County to take on the Tigers. The Eagles wound up knocking the Tigers off their heretofore perfect season with a 53-6 win.

The Tigers 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 third quarter and drove the ball 61 yards and extend the lead to 38-0. The Eagles were able to force another Tiger punt and again found the end zone and a 45-0 lead.

The fourth 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 four-yard run. With Trinity trailing 45-6, the Eagles were able to score another touchdown as time expired and defeat the Tigers 53-6.

The Eagles improved their overall 4-1 with their first district win. This Friday, they will take on their old cross-county rival Warren at home.

The Warriors are still smarting from their shut-out last week by New Waverly, and currently sitting 1-4 for the season.

Habitat and Angler Access Program enhances freshwater fishing

Special to the Booster

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

The HAAP is looking for project ideas and proposals for the third round of funding for fiscal years 2026-2027.

Potential partners are required to contact, discuss and develop project ideas, as well as draft and submit project proposals in coordination with TPWD Inland Fisheries Biologists.

“The Habitat and Angler Access Program is an exciting opportunity for us to collaborate and support partners interested in expanding fishing opportunities and bettering the quality of fisheries for Texans,” said Michael Homer Jr., fisheries biologist for the TPWD

Inland Fisheries Division. “The program is intended to identify and implement projects with the highest potential to enhance freshwater fisheries resources and improve bank and shoreline access in public waters.”

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

Funding is used to support individual fish habitat improvement and angler access projects on public ponds, reservoirs, streams and rivers. Example habitat projects include bank and shoreline stabilization proj-

ects, installation of erosion control features, deployment of habitat structures, native vegetation plantings, as well as dredging excessive silt and organic materials from reservoirs that have high potential for quality fisheries development.

Bank or shoreline-based angler access projects that could be supported through HAAP include the development or improvement of fishing piers, installation of fish attracting features (e.g., underwater dock lighting and habitat structures), the creation of jetties, as well as the construction of non-motorized boat launches for kayaks, canoes and other small watercraft for fishing access.

For more information or to submit a proposal, visit the TPWD HAAP webpage. Proposal submissions will be accepted through March 31, 2025. Proposal submissions as well as additional program information may be obtained by contacting FishGrants@tpwd.texas.gov.



plastics in the cuts, or with frogs over grass. Crappie are fair with jigs in flooded timber. Catfish are fair on juglines.

Livingston

GOOD. slightly stained; 89 degrees; 0.65 feet below pool. White bass are great on roadbeds in 6-16 feet of water hitting Duck Tracker slabs. Report by Michael Richardson, Lake Livingston Adventures.

Sam Rayburn

FAIR. Water slightly stained; 85 degrees; 0.61 feet below pool. Bass are schooling on points biting Carolina rigs. There is top-water action in the grass in the morning. Crappie are fair on 27 feet on brush piles with minnows over jigs. Blue and channel catfish are fair in 24-27 feet of water on cut bait and minnows. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service. Lake

B.A. Steinhagen

FAIR. Water stain; 85 degrees; 0.26 feet below pool. Mayflies are hatching, so expect some top-water bass action. Bass are fair on soft

level is holding steady, but expect the lake to drop to 5-7 feet low to continue to work on the dam in the future. Fish are in all stages of the transition. Target bass with jig head minnows and forward facing sonar. Bass are suspended at the mouth of creeks and on offshores flats chasing bait. When bass are schooling on the bottom cast a Carolina rig, dropshot, and shaky head. There is an abundance of shallow fish and this pattern should continue through the fall. Target the hay grass and flooded bushes early in the morning to catch bass chasing bait using a chatterbait, swimbait or frog. Report by Hank Harrison, Double H Precision Guide Service.

Toledo Bend

FAIR. Water normal stain; 82 degrees; 4.08 feet below pool. Bass fishing has improved, but forecast is showing lots cooler temperatures so this may slow the bite. Shallow fish coming on topwaters and chatterbaits, most of these fish coming on main lake points and in back of creeks.

Mid-range fish are coming on Texas rig and mid running crankbaits in 8-12 feet of water. There are a good number of fish schooling on some main lake ridges and half way back in creeks, as the water cools back off this week, these fish will really get going better. Good numbers of deep fish, action is good just not that many good ones, most are small to 14 inches.

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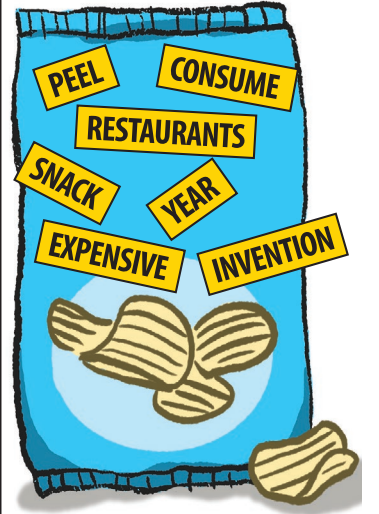
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Kid Scoop Together

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!

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:

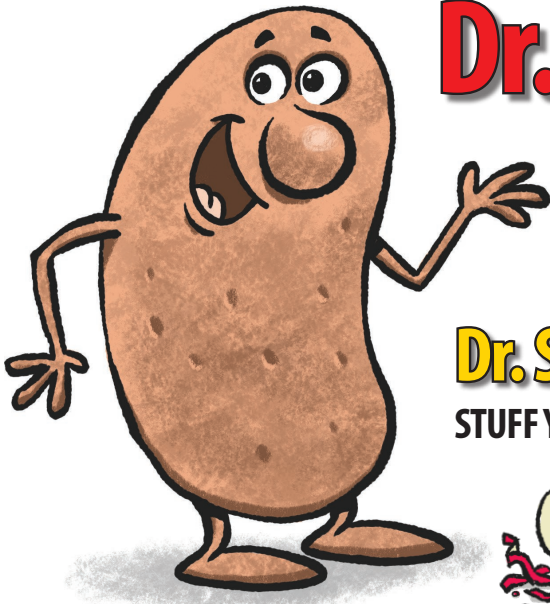
SPUD

The noun **spud** is a nickname for a potato.

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

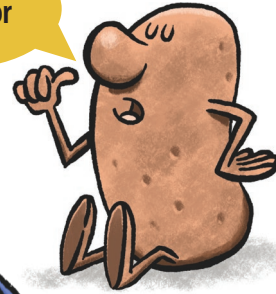
Try to use the word **spud** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

Dr. Spud Wants to Know!



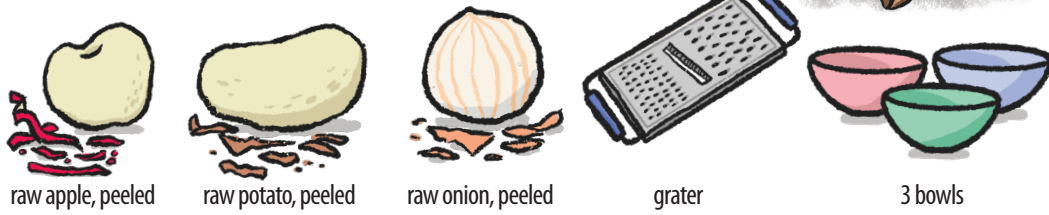
Can you taste the difference between an apple, a potato and an onion? Believe it or not, it is difficult to taste the difference between a potato and an onion if you can't smell it. Don't believe me? Try my experiment!

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.

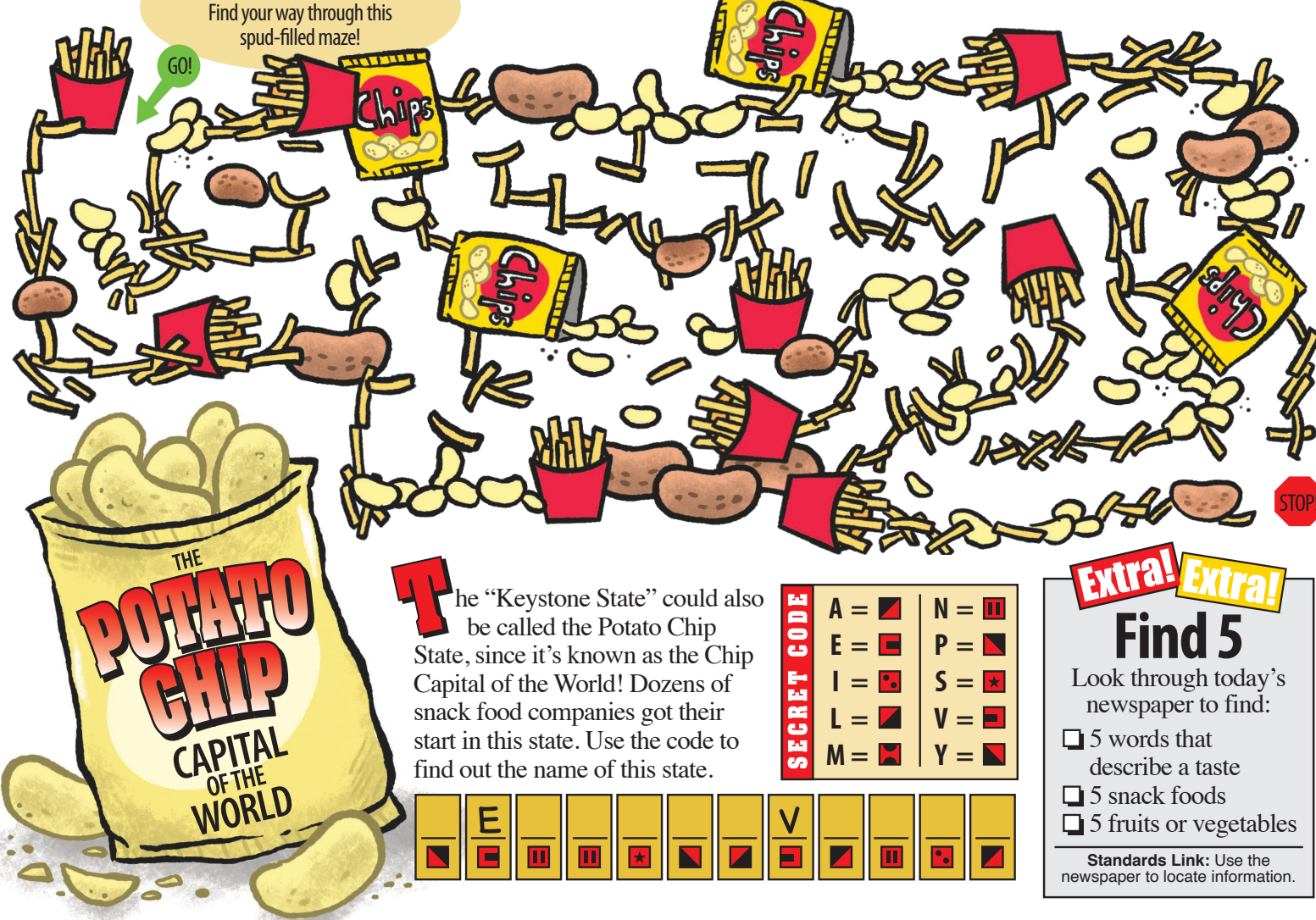


4. Repeat with each of the foods. Be sure to have your friend rinse their mouth between tastings. Do three taste tests with each food item. Use the chart to keep track of the taste tests.

WHAT WAS TASTED	WHAT TASTER THOUGHT IT WAS

Potato Maze

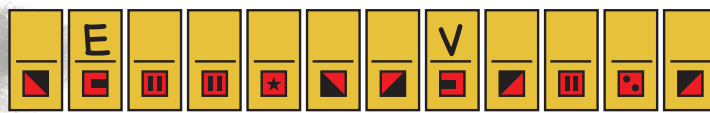
Find your way through this spud-filled maze!



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 =	█	N =	█
E =	█	P =	█
I =	█	S =	█
L =	█	V =	█
M =	█	Y =	█



Extra! Extra!

Find 5

Look through today's newspaper to find:

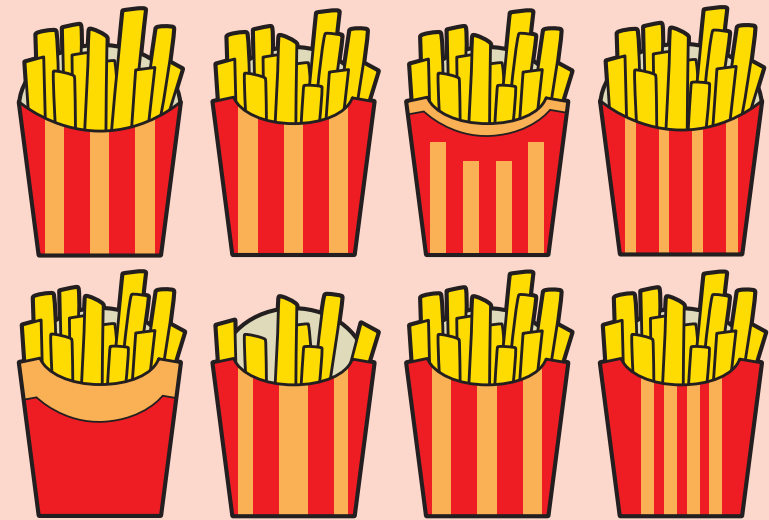
- 5 words that describe a taste
- 5 snack foods
- 5 fruits or vegetables

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 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.



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
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A PATH OF PEACE

First Baptist Church of Woodville welcomes everyone to "The Grove," which is the church's gift to the community providing a place to reflect on God's goodness. The park is located behind the church and is a good place to take a stroll, or to just sit a spell and enjoy all the good things. CHRIS EDWARDS | TCB

County's schools showcased by Allan Shivers Museum

By Roschelle Springfield

WOODVILLE – The Allan Shivers Museum is hosting the Tyler County Schools for a Pop-Up Exhibit Sept. 24 – Oct. 12.

Each school district in Tyler County has been invited to participate in providing a display of activities, events, and other special happenings going on in each local district. Warren, Colmesneil, Chester and Woodville will be featured this fall.

Spurger had accepted the invitation, but due to unforeseen circumstances, had to postpone until next year. All of the county schools are doing great things to prepare students for a productive, successful future.

There will be an Open House Oct. 1, 2024, from 4-6 p.m. at the Museum for the public to be able to view the exhibit after regular Museum hours of 10-3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and Saturday 10-2 p.m. The ASLM boasts a cadre of 35 Museum Tour Hosts at their monthly scheduled times when they are available to facilitate tours.

These supportive volunteers are a huge asset to the Museum goal of sharing Allan Shivers gift of the ASLM to Tyler County. You are always invited and welcome to visit your local public library and museum.

“

”

My wife is an online subscriber, and I have been buying your paper for decades...every time I visited my timber farm between Chester and Colmesneil. Now that we have retired here full time, a full understanding of the local players and mechanisms of governance has become of paramount importance.

-P. Karl Muench

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Diverse speakers, topics at Landowner meeting

By Betty Zimmerman

WOODVILLE – Tyler County Forest Landowner Association's September meeting, which took place on Saturday, Sept. 28, hosted three diverse speakers.

Texas Representative Trent Ashby (R-Lufkin), who is a tree farmer, shared information regarding several Texas Bills that impact landowners, especially rural tree farmers.

One of the issues to be addressed during the next Texas legislative session is the acquisition of aircraft to fight wildland fires.

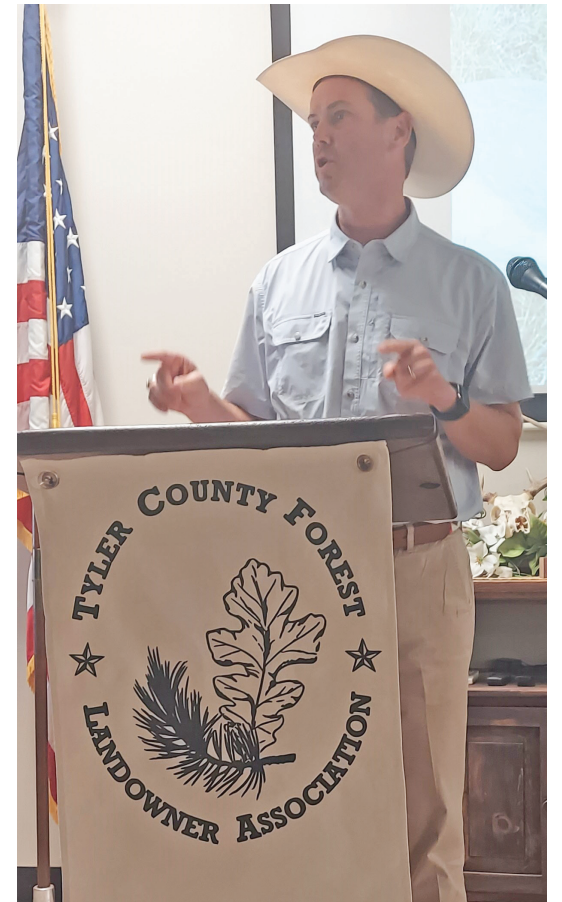
The state of Texas does not currently own any firefighting aircraft and is subject to the availability of such aircraft from other sources. Additionally, Ashby wants to craft a program that will provide funds to rural counties for road repairs after a declared natural disaster.

Caitlin Gallegon, Jasper County Extension Agent, explained that most wildflowers adapted to Tyler County – whether native or imported – should be planted in the fall from Oct. 1 through Dec. 1.

Gallegon's list of wildflowers for our region included bluebonnets, Texas paintbrush (Indian paintbrush), black-eyed Susans, Texas bluebell, butterfly milkweed, compass plant (sunflower family), crimson clover, drummond phlox, foxglove (imported from western Europe), giant purple coneflower, Indian blanket, lemon mint, prairie coneflower, purple passionflower, silverleaf nightshade, standing cypress, Texas thistle and wine cup. Sources of native Texas seeds are Bamert Seed Company at <https://bamertseed.com/> and Roundstone Native Seed Company <https://roundstoneseed.com/>.

Bobby Allcorn, Wildlife Health Specialist with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), stated that while there is no recorded instance of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) among the deer populations in Tyler County, there was an instance in Trinity County. CWD, once contracted by a deer, is 100% fatal and all white tail deer are susceptible.

Hunters should take note that if a deer carcass is transported off the property from which the deer was harvested, then the carcass must be either returned to the property, buried, or included in bagged trash for normal public trash handling.



Rep. Trent Ashby speaks to the Tyler County Forest Landowner Association. PHOTO BY BETTY ZIMMERMAN



Entergy Texas welcomes fall with safety reminders

Simple tips can help you avoid accidents and injuries

Special to the Booster

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 overhead 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.

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STATE 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.



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

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 incident 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: gboards@texaspress.com

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% to 45%, nearly within the margin of error of 2.83%.

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

Oct. 2 pivotal date in Texas history

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 back into our examination of House interim charges.

House Interim Charge: Ways and Means

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 prop-



Capitol Update

By Trent Ashby
State Representative, District 9

erty 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.; October 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 October 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/>.

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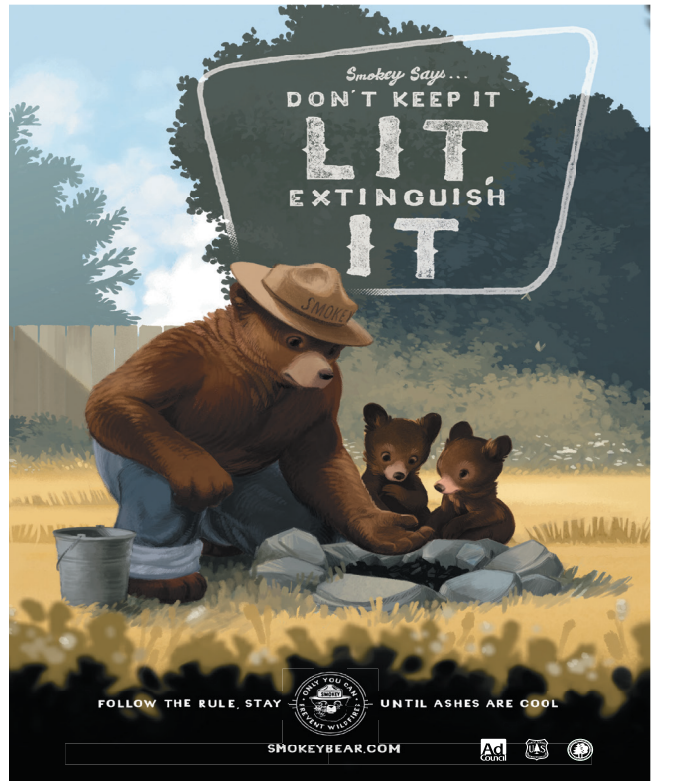
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TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- TXism: "he's _ _ _ to walk the river with" (reliable)
- a pocket bread
- our treat (2 wds.)
- Travis _ _ _ pleas for more men at the Alamo
- TXism: " _ _ _ the mark" (follow rules)
- a gorilla, e.g.
- Texas-born Aaron Yoo 2009 comedy film: "Labor _ _ _"
- assumed names
- the founding name of the city Uvalde
- male geese
- TXism: "hot as _ _ _ stove"
- "he _ _ _ holding the bag"
- TX JoBeth 1983 film about kidnapping/murder of a child
- annoying person
- " _ _ _ him wrapped around her little finger"
- church table
- camping shelter
- Aikman shout in 1993: "I'm going to _ _ _"
- in Nueces County on highway 44 (2 wds.)
- milk _ _ _ quickly if left out of fridge
- West Asians who settled in Waller County in 1880s
- Texas actress Sissy
- Friday high school event: " _ _ _ rally"
- Monte _ _ _ , Texas
- TXism: "if _ _ _ rooster, he'll crow" (inevitable)
- clairvoyance (abbr.)
- "Houston Museum of Fine _ _ _"
- TXism: "mobile mouse _ _ _" (cat)
- TXism: "busy as _ _ _ armed paper hanger"
- TXism: "rot _ _ _" (liquor)
- TX Ross Perot founded this company (abbr.)
- "Star Trek's" Spock line: "Live long _ _ _"
- it predated 7-11's Slurpee
- puppy bites
- TXism: " _ _ _ slinging mad"
- "it don't _ _ _ up" (doubt it's true)
- Austin: "Asleep _ _ _ the Wheel" band
- Levi's inventor (init.)
- Texas-born actor Hawke (init.)
- Greek cheese
- mall clothing store (2 wds.)
- cow dung
- Joan Crawford was born in Texas as Lucille _ _ _ Sauer
- Burrell of 2011 film "Butter" with TX Jennifer Garner
- cowboy humility: " _ _ _ shucks ma'am"
- horse color
- pelvic bones
- " _ _ _ down" (reduce)
- beef
- A.F. _ _ _ organized the drilling of Spindletop
- A&M's original 12th Man: _ _ _ King Gill
- fleur- _ _ _ lis once flew over Texas
- 48-across played his "Carrie" (init.)
- most Texans are _ _ _ of their state
- " _ _ _ up or ship out"
- picnic pests



Last Puzzle Solution

S-1709

Attend the church of your choice



Please send us your upcoming church events. Church news is published on a space-available basis free of charge. Send us an email at news@tylercountybooster.com or bring your event information to our office located at 205 W Bluff in Woodville. You can also call us at 409-283-2516.



TYLER COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>APOSTOLIC JESUS' NAME APOSTOLIC TABERNACLE 120 FM 3290, Warren 547-2238</p> <p>LAKESIDE APOSTOLIC 4712 FM 92, Spurger 201-8295</p> <p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD ASSEMBLY OF GOD 493 CR 4450, Hillister 283-2725</p> <p>FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD 404 N. Wheeler St., Colmesneil 837-4496</p> <p>HILLISTER ASSEMBLY OF GOD 493 CR 4450, Hillister 283-7549</p> <p>OAK GROVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 18459 FM 92 Rd. S., Fred 429-5318</p> <p>SHADY GROVE COMMUNITY CHURCH Hwy 190 W. & CR 2175 936-208-0453</p> <p>TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD 120 CR 1095, Woodville 283-2447</p> <p>ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP 12065 Hwy 190 E., Woodville 283-3324</p> <p>BAPTIST ALINE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST 250 FM 3065, Colmesneil</p> <p>BETHANY BAPTIST 1880 CR 2570, Colmesneil</p> <p>COMMUNITY BAPTIST 15156 FM 92 Rd. S., Spurger 429-3101</p> <p>BEECH CREEK BAPTIST 437 CR 4540, Spurger 429-3537</p> <p>BETHEL BAPTIST 334 FM 1943 W., Warren 547-3201</p> <p>CALVARY BAPTIST 911 N. Magnolia St., Woodville 283-2004</p> <p>CAMPGROUND BAPTIST 295 CR 2075, Woodville 409-385-7350</p> <p>CAMP ZION BAPTIST 268 CR 3100, Doucette 283-5497</p> <p>CANEY CREEK BAPTIST FM 1745, Chester 969-2220</p> <p>CHESTER BAPTIST</p>	<p>Chester 969-2311</p> <p>CHURCH NEW LIFE BAPTIST 105 Avalon Ct., Woodville 283-2333</p> <p>CHURCH NEW LIFE BAPTIST 213 CR 1075, Woodville 283-7002</p> <p>DOGWOOD HILLS BAPTIST 823 US Hwy 190 W., Woodville 283-3202</p> <p>EMMANUEL BAPTIST Hwy 69, Colmesneil 837-5260</p> <p>ENON BAPTIST FM 1745, Chester 969-2394</p> <p>FAIRVIEW BAPTIST 3025 FM 92 S., Woodville 489-3083</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WARREN 11645 US Hwy 69 S., Warren 547-2215</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST DOUCETTE 2245 Hwy 69 N., Woodville</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST COLMESNEIL 208 W. Elder St., Colmesneil 837-5439</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST SPURGER 12676 FM 92 S., Spurger 429-3116</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST WOODVILLE 202 S. Charlton St., Woodville 283-2588</p> <p>FIRST SHILOH BAPTIST 114 CR 2310, Woodville 283-8700</p> <p>GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 148 CR 3260, Colmesneil</p> <p>HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH 3020 FM 2565, Woodville</p> <p>HEBRON CHURCH 504 CR 1875, Village Mills 409-834-6240</p> <p>HILLISTER BAPTIST 258 FM 1013 Rd., Hillister 283-3350</p> <p>HILLTOP BAPTIST 11472 US Hwy 190 E., Dam B 409-550-6371</p> <p>KATY BAPTIST N. Pitzer St., Colmesneil 837-2022</p> <p>LITTLE BAPTIST 351 CR 4494, Hillister</p>	<p>LITTLE FLOCK BAPTIST 1284 CR 4490, Hillister 547-3336</p> <p>MT. HOPE BAPTIST 400 N. 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Caney Loop, Chester 969-2524</p> <p>PILGRIM REST BAPTIST 80 Cobb Mill Rd., Woodville 283-3904</p> <p>PINEYWOODS BAPTIST 4945 FM 256 E., Colmesneil 837-9669</p> <p>PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST 4274 FM 2992, Spurger 268-1129</p> <p>PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST 401 Elm, Woodville 283-3008</p> <p>ROCKLAND BAPTIST Rockland 409-504-6124</p> <p>SPRINGHILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST Springhill Rd., Woodville 283-5792</p> <p>TEJAS ROAD BAPTIST Hwy 69 N., Colmesneil 837-9717</p> <p>TRUE VINE BAPTIST 2626 US Hwy 69 N., Doucette 283-6863</p> <p>VICTORY IN JESUS BAPTIST 13626 FM 1746, Woodville</p>	<p>409-429-3460</p> <p>WARREN CHAPEL BAPTIST 1482 CR 4470, Warren 547-0165</p> <p>WOODVILLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST 1446 FM 1746, Woodville</p> <p>ZION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST Hwy 69, Colmesneil 837-2064</p> <p>BIBLE GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP 23276 FM 92 S., Fred 429-5115</p> <p>CATHOLIC OUR LADY OF PINES 1601 N. Pine St., Woodville 283-5367</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST</p> <p>HILLISTER CHURCH OF CHRIST CR 4455 #1262, Hillister</p> <p>WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 357 CR 4475, Warren 547-0064</p> <p>WOODVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST Hwy 190 W., Woodville 283-5977</p> <p>COGIC WHITE'S CHAPEL 302 Blackgum St., Woodville 200-4676</p> <p>HOUSE OF PRAYER CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 1098 CR 4470, Warren</p> <p>COWBOY CHURCH TYLER COUNTY COWBOY CHURCH 685 FM 256 N., Woodville 409-200-2014</p> <p>EPISCOPAL ST PAUL'S EPISCOPAL TABERNACLE 1703 W. Bluff St., Woodville 283-3710</p> <p>GOSPEL WOODVILLE GOSPEL TABERNACLE 1561 US Hwy 69 N., Woodville 283-2156</p> <p>JEHOVAHS WITNESS KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH'S BAPTIST Highway 190 W., Woodville 283-7579</p> <p>LUTHERAN FAITH LUTHERAN 704 W. 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Beaver St., Woodville</p> <p>WOODVILLE GOSPEL TABERNACLE 1561 US Hwy 69 N., 409-283-0090</p> <p>PENTECOSTAL FAITH TABERNACLE PENTECOSTAL Hwy 1013, Hillister 720-9864</p> <p>THE PENTECOSTALS OF WOODVILLE 1613 W. Bluff St., Woodville 283-2049</p> <p>PROTESTANT SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 16140 CR 4755, Warren 409-547-3733</p> <p>INTERDENOMINATIONAL GOOD SAMARITAN FELLOWSHIP 21544 FM 92 S., Fred 429-3777</p>
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CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

'The Shed' men's Bible study starting

WOODVILLE – The Shed, a men's Wednesday morning in depth Bible study. Video steaming lesson, then discussion. Coffee, fellowship, prayer, and fun as we find the answers that have concerned us. Non-denominational, all welcome. Bring your Bible and your coffee cup. 7:30 a.m., 1125 CR 1020, Woodville (metal building in rear). Please call Bill Hall at 512-567-0103 with questions.

Ebenezer hosting homecoming

COLMESNEIL – Ebenezer Baptist Church is hosting its homecoming on Sunday, Oct. 20, with worship services and gospel singing beginning at 11 a.m. The service is followed by dinner on the grounds at noon, and then a cemetery association annual meeting at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to join to celebrate another year of ministry and memories. Attendees can bring a covered dish and plan to stay for dinner, as well as the cemetery meeting. For those unable to attend, but wishing to make a contribution to the cemetery fund, contributions can be sent to: Ebenezer Cemetery Association, 817 Gulf Avenue, Port Neches, Texas 77651. Ebenezer Baptist Church is located at 556 Private Road 7620. Directions: from Colmesneil, go east on FM 256 for 10 miles. Turn right on CR 3625 where a sign indicates directions to Ebenezer Church and Cemetery.

Why?

Do you ever ask Why? The late Kris Kristofferson penned words to many songs. He asked in one song, "Why Me Lord?" I never met the man. However, I did know a good man who went to school with Kris in Brownsville, Texas. When my wife became ill from cancer in 2019, I asked God why her. How many people reading this article are asking why? How many of you feel that your life would be improved if only you could spend more time asking why? Whether you know worry as an occasional visitor or a constant companion, whether you find it to be mildly uncomfortable or intensely painful, or whether you experience worry as a slight distraction or as a force that completely immobilizes you, we all would like to worry less (except for those only seem happy when they're miserable). The good news is that you can worry less. God has given us an antidote. It may sur-



The Preacher Says
By Keith Bellamy

prise you to learn that God has something to say about worry. In His book, filled with cosmic events like the creation of the universe, heaven and hell, the rise and fall of kingdoms, and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, He also considers it important to give us some help with this very ordinary human emotion. Why is that? Because He is not just a God out there somewhere. He is a God here, with us. Why do we ask why? The Good news is, He is still in control! So, when you ask Why, God will answer.

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Guards, inmates endangered in Texas's prison system

A new state report says the prison population will outgrow capacity by the end of next year.

By Pooja Salhotra
The Texas Tribune

Texas' sprawling prison and criminal justice system is facing a dangerous staffing crisis that puts inmates and staff at risk — and it could soon run out of room to house the projected number of incarcerated people, according to the state commission that reviews the performance of Texas agencies.

The 189-page report documents severe staffing shortages among both correctional and parole officers that have become extremely costly and diminished public safety. Some prisons are operating with up to 70% of prison guard positions unfilled and the turnover rate among all Texas Department of Criminal Justice staff is 26%. The staffing challenges come as the growing prison population is expected to exceed bed capacity by the end of next year.

The Texas Sunset Advisory Commission staff, which published the report, recommends TDCJ reallocate its staff, close the facilities with persistent staffing challenges and retrofit existing units to add more beds. The staff report suggested the agency prioritize closing prisons that lack air conditioning. About two-thirds of prison beds are in areas without climate control, which creates sweltering conditions that are the subject of an ongoing lawsuit.

The report also details the department's outdated record-keeping practices, which largely rely on paper-based processes and manual data entry. That system has led the prison system to wrongfully release 34 inmates in the past decade. It also doesn't fully record the type

of force used in guards' physical altercations with inmates and doesn't completely track the types of employee grievances. TDCJ is also not fully tracking the use or effectiveness of rehabilitation and reentry programs that cost taxpayers millions of dollars, the report found.

"Without data on whether a program is achieving its intended goal, whether that is reducing recidivism or increasing employment after incarceration, the report rightly notes that Texans cannot be assured that their money is being put to the best use," said Marc Levin, Chief Policy Counsel on the Council on Criminal Justice.

The Commission reviews the performance of state agencies, identifies problems within them and forwards recommended changes to the Legislature. It is overseen by 10 state lawmakers and two members of the public. The speaker of the Texas House and the lieutenant governor, who presides over the Senate, appoint the commissioners.

Last week's report from Commission staff focused on Texas' Department of Criminal Justice, the Board of Pardons and Paroles, the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee and the Windham School District. Together, those entities house about 139,000 inmates and manage roughly 437,000 people on parole and probation.

Commissioners are scheduled to hear public testimony on the staff report on Nov. 14. Commissioners' final recommendations are expected to be sent to lawmakers on Dec. 12 ahead of the legislative session that begins in January.

Prison staffing crisis

TDCJ's staffing crisis has put both inmates and staff at risk, the report found.

Forty percent of respondents to a correctional staff survey said they feel unsafe in prison. In 2023, the

agency recorded more than 2,000 "adverse events," surpassing a pre-COVID-19 high. Adverse events include inmate assaults, sexual assaults, homicides and escape attempts. Correctional officers say exposure to these events negatively impacts their physical and mental health and makes their jobs more difficult.

Most staff report working beyond normal hours to compensate for the staffing challenges, and some understaffed facilities have a rotating schedule of mandatory overtime. Although internal policy prohibits staff from working more than 16 hours a day or 10 days in a row, violations of both of these rules are common.

Staff who are ineligible for overtime instead earn compensatory paid time off, which lapses after two years. Staff report difficulty taking that time off and in 2023 reportedly lost time equivalent to 95 years of time off due to the expiration.

Adding to employees' frustration is a delay in performance evaluations. As of April 2024, TDCJ was overdue on performance evaluations for 14,453 individuals, contributing to delays in pay raises.

In survey responses, employees also pointed to punitive leadership and unfair treatment from supervisors as well as unrealistic expectations. For example, a correctional officer who is responsible for 300 inmates would have just six seconds to perform each inmate check in order to comply with their primary duties.

"Sunset staff repeatedly heard from employees about a culture trickling down from upper levels of agency leadership of 'doing more with less' and 'making it work,'" the report states. "Under this dynamic, the crush of tasks described above creates a lose-lose scenario for officers and other staff who risk punishment for admitting failure to complete all required tasks, feel

they must deceive supervisors or falsify recordkeeping, and wind up having to make high-stakes prioritizing decisions."

To address staffing shortages, the report recommends that TDCJ submit a 10-year plan that identifies facility and capacity needs amid a growing population and ongoing staffing issues. The Sunset staff also recommends phasing out certain facilities, particularly those with high vacancy rates and high deferred maintenance costs. The report also recommends that TDCJ streamline how employees file workplace complaints, since the current process is not confidential and is unclear.

Outdated record keeping

TDCJ uses outdated technology and lacks streamlined processes to manage complicated systems, the Commission staff found. The agency's IT staff has built different case management databases for departments instead of customizing one system to fit the needs of different groups, for example.

Sunset staff also found numerous examples of incomplete data. For example, while TDCJ collects data on use-of-force incidents, it doesn't document what type of force was used, nor does it categorize the type of employee complaints and grievances that are filed.

"TDCJ too quickly defaults to a cultural inertia of doing things the way they have always been done," the report later says, noting that staff showed a "deep resistance" to moving away from paper-based processes.

Staff often have to enter the same data into multiple databases, and manual entry has resulted in critical errors. Over the past 10 years, 34 inmates were wrongly released because of incorrect data entry.

Sunset staff advised TDCJ to establish an office of modernization that would identify ways to modernize the agency and recommended that

they prioritize improving data collection.

Rehabilitation programs lack oversight

The Legislature has allocated millions of taxpayer dollars toward rehabilitation, reentry and education programs, but TDCJ does not keep a list of active programs. The agency provided a range of estimates, from 97 to 2,000 of the number of active programs. Only a small fraction of the total number of programs are evaluated, even though state statute requires TDCJ to evaluate their effectiveness.

Some programs, the report noted, are associated with increased rates of recidivism. At times, these adverse outcomes are because TDCJ over-enrolls the program, not because of issues with the program itself.

TDCJ also relies on about 27,500 volunteers to help provide programming for inmates but does not evaluate these programs. Although TDCJ wardens are legally required to identify volunteer organizations and submit a report annually to summarize their activities, most do not do so.

Sunset staff recommends that TDCJ comprehensively inventory rehabilitation and reentry programs and conduct biennial program evaluations. They also suggest that TDCJ track parole program placements to understand placement delays.

In an emailed statement, Hernandez, the agency spokesperson, said TDCJ "appreciates the work of the Sunset Advisory Commission staff, and will continue to collaborate with that staff as they present the results of their review to the Commission."

"This report is just one step of the process, and we are eager to continue collaborating with the Commission staff, the Commission, and the Legislature during the upcoming session," she said.

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Legal Notices

CISD Board election Nov. 5; early voting Oct. 21-Nov. 1

COLMESNEIL ISD ORDER OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE The Colmesneil Independent School District Board of Trustees hereby orders an election to be held on November 05, 2024, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing (2) trustees for the three-year terms. Polling places will be as follows: Voting Precinct #5: True Vine Baptist Church, Day Care Building, Hwy 69N, Doucette. Voting Precinct #8: Bethany Baptist Church, 880 CR 22570, Colmesneil. Voting Precinct #9: Ebenezer Baptist Church, 9440 FM 256 E, Colmesneil. Voting Precinct #10: Colmesneil Community Center, 204 Elder St., Colmesneil. Voting Precinct #11: Rockland Baptist Church, 125 PR 7388, Rockland. * Angelina Co. #17: Solid Rock Missionary Activity Center - Solid Rock Missionary Church Activity Center, 16663

FM 2109, Zavalla, TX 75980. Jasper Co. #1: Three Corners, CR 001 Dudley, Zavalla, TX. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted on each day which is not an official holiday at the Tyler County Nutrition Center (201 Veterans Way, Woodville, TX). The hours for early voting will be as follows: October 21st 25th Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. October 26th Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. October 27th Sunday: 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. October 28th November 01st Monday through Friday: 8:00a.m. to 8:00 p.m. NOVEMBER 5th: LAST DAY TO RECEIVE BALLOT BY MAIL* Applications for ballot by mail should be addressed to: Donece Gregory, County Clerk, 116 S. Charlton, Woodville, TX 75979. Inquiries: Claire Kenesson ckenesson.cc@co.tyler.tx.us (409) 283-2281.

Local business seeks TABC mixed beverage permit

LEGAL NOTICE: Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit with Food and Beverage Certificate by Grand Jury Restaurant And Bar, LLC DBA

Grand Jury Restaurant And Bar, located at 209 S Magnolia St, Woodville, Tyler County, Texas. Officers of said corporation are John Mouisset and Richard Tubb.

Public auction October 22

Notice of Public Auction Tyler County, TX is selling surplus items on purplewave.com in the Oct 22 government auction. Items include Cat backhoe, Volvo dump truck, Ford F150 XL supercrew pickup, millermatic

welder, diesel engines, tools, etc. All items will sell to the highest bidder, regardless of price on the auction date. View the complete list of inventory, detailed descriptions, photos and bidding at www.purplewave.com.

Spurger ISD public meeting October 17

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss the Spurger Independent School District's 2023-2024 School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) Rating. Spurger ISD will hold a Public Meeting at 6:45 pm on October 17, 2024, in the Board Room of the

John Mooney Hicks Administration Building, 12212 Highway 92 South, Spurger, Texas. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Spurger ISD's rating on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas.

Hatch's Towing: '24 Kia Forte

Hatch's Towing, L.L.C (VSF# 006601409C) has the following 24' KIA FORTE at 1116 STATE HWY 87 NEWTON TEXAS 75966. VIN: 3KPF54ADXRE777696 LICENSE

PLATE: 5N8817Y. The Charges per day in storage are \$22.76 per day plus the original Tow bill. Please contact us at 409-622-9100 for more information.

Estate of Lynard Harper

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LYNARD HARPER, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of LYNARD HARPER, Deceased, were issued to the undersigned on the 4th of September, 2024, in the proceeding indicated below, which is still pending, and that she now holds such Letters. All

persons having claims against said Estate are required to present the same within the time prescribed by law to Claudia Harper, 186 CR 1920, Warren, Texas 77664. Dated this the 4th day of September, 2024. /s/ CLAUDIA HARPER Independent Executrix of the Estate of LYNARD HARPER deceased; No. PR-10107; County Court of Tyler County, Texas in Probate.

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PLEASE CHECK your ad the first day it appears. We will correct any error as quickly as possible. However, we cannot be responsible for errors beyond the first day of publication day.

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

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

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

Announcements

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

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

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

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

Announcements

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

Auctions & Sales

Call or Come by Today
Livingston
Senior Citizens
Country Store
1310 North Houston
Open 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
Weekdays
Open during noon hour

Come by for bargains anytime (1-tfn-nc-PCE)

GARAGE SALE Friday-Saturday, October 4th-5th 8am-3pm, 440 Sequoia, Livingston. Home decor, armoire, glassware, electrical tools, divider screen, entertainment center, books and lots more. (39-2-cc-PCE)

DOWNSIZING SALE at Lady Bugg's Spott, too much to list, 11031 Hwy 69 S. Warren, TX, October 3 & 4, 9-4. (40-1t-cc-TCB)

MULTI FAMILY garage sale Friday-Saturday, October 4th-5th 8am-5pm, 207 S. Marsh, Livingston. Household items, tools, clothing, toys and more. (40-1-cc-PCE)

GARAGE SALE, Friday & Saturday, October 4 & 5, 8-4, Jesus Name Apostolic Church, 200 FM 1943 E, Warren, TX. Christmas decorations, Fall Decorations, infant, children & adult clothes-all sizes, some furniture and vintage items. (40-1t-cc-TCB)

YARD SALE, Friday & Saturday, October 11-12, 605 Anderson, Woodville. Household items, misc. (40-2t-p-TCB)

Auctions & Sales

Community-Wide Garage Sale Indian Hills Subdivision (end of FM 2457 at Lake Livingston)

Friday and Saturday Oct 11th-12th 8AM-4PM

There are generally 8 to 10 sales at individual homes around the peninsula with a wide variety of items for sale including lake toys, household items, furniture, and tools. (40-2T-CC-PCE)

GARAGE SALE Thursday-Saturday, October 3rd-5th 9am-4pm, 100 Magnolia Place, Coldspring Terrace Subdivision. Too much to list! (39-2t-cc-PCE)

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

GARAGE SALE Friday-Saturday, October 11th-12th 8am-5pm 4944 Old Israel Rd, Livingston. Furniture, clothes, toys, housewares, baby items and more. (40-2t-cc-PCE)

Work Wanted

HARD WORKING TYLER COUNTY WOMAN, Landscaping, fence line clearing, painting, clean out flower beds, any outdoor jobs. Christal-409-224-5293. (42-tfn-p-TCB)

LOCAL: CHIMNEY Sweep, Fireplace repair, Fix leaks, Tree Limb Services. Call Aaron 936-328-1679. (40-2x-pd-PCE)

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

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936-329-4159 Vickery Propane Tanks & Service 936-327-HEAT (50-tfn-b-PCE)

I WILL clean out your garage, barn, old building and/or haul off your old junk like cars, trucks, tractors, etc. (936)328-1679. (40-4t-pd-PCE)

Work Wanted

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

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

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

Employment

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

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

Cleaning Services

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

Employment

PART-TIME WORKER needed in the Livingston area for general yard work and maintenance. No mowing. Call (936)327-5109 or text (713)305-0961. (40-1-cc-PCE)

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

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

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

Linebarger Attorneys at Law

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

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EVENTS
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Employment

Nursery Worker
Part-time nursery worker wanted for Pine Forest Baptist Church 10537 US HWY 190 W Livingston Tx. Sunday AM & PM services and Wednesday PM services. Background check and drug test required.
Call 936-646-4803
or stop by for more information.
(39-2-cc-PCE)

Now Hiring!
Looking for honest, hard working, outgoing, self motivated individuals with a good attitude looking to build a career in the fast food industry. Looking for a Team Leader with one year experience and an assistant with 2-3 years experience. Must have good references, Livingston, TX.
Apply at www.burgerworkshr.com
(1-tfn-b-PCE)

Financial Secretary Position Available

The Pine Forest Baptist Church is seeking a dedicated and detail-oriented Financial Secretary. Criminal background check, drug test and adequate credit score required for further consideration. Responsibilities include managing church finances, preparing reports, and maintaining accurate financial records. Requirements: - Previous financial/accounting, strong organizational skills, Proficiency in accounting software, and a commitment to confidentiality and integrity This is a part-time position (16 Hours). To apply, please send your resume and references to the pfbc@eastex.net or stop by Tues - Thurs 9 am-5 pm - 10537 US HWY 190 W, Livingston, TX 77351 For more information, contact 936-646-4803
(39-2-cc-PCE)

Employment

Employment

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

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

For Sale

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

LARGE BIRDCAGE w/35-40 Zebra Finches, some white, some brown/white. Selling cage and birds \$100 OBO (207)754-9856.
(40-2t-cc-PCE)

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

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(39-2t-cc-TCB)

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1-BEDROOM HOME available for rent in Leggett, DIRECTV/water/trash pick-up included \$600/month plus deposit Call (832)277-3737.
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VERY NICE One Bedroom, out building, in Ivanhoe. 409-429-4752.
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Rentals

BRICK HOUSE in quiet neighborhood. 3/2/2, central AC, fireplace, office, big garage, 148 Cardinal, Livingston. No pets. No smoking. \$1,400/month (936)329-2213.
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HOUSE FOR rent in Woodville area, good references and deposit required. Call 409-283-8286.
(43-tfn-b-TCB)

3-BEDROOM 2-BATH in Pine Hollow, Moscow. Has washer/dryer connections and a large yard, \$650/month plus deposit. Call (936)414-5869.
(40-2t-cc-PCE)

1-BEDROOM 1 Bath Apartment for rent. Perfect for 1 person or a couple. For information call 1-936-293-0516 or 936-662-3031. After noon.
(40-2t-cc-TCNS)

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Pets & Supplies

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(39-3t-nc-PCE)

Storage

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

Land For Sale

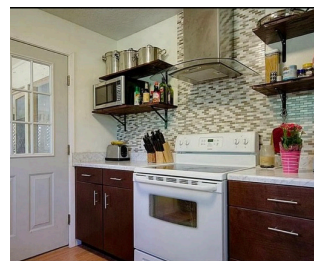
LAND FOR SALE, 20 Acres, parcel# 001-03387-000 on Charcoal Rd, Searcy County, Arkansas. 20 Acres, parcel #001-03388-000 on Charcoal Rd, Searcy County, Arkansas. Call 409-201-5472 or 832-285-7641.
(38-5t-cc-TCB)

Want to Lease

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

Rentals

BRICK HOUSE in Quiet Neighborhood, 3/2, 2 carports, CA/H 1700 sq.ft, fenced backyard, NO SMOKING, NO PETS, \$1400/month, Woodville. 409-692-1131.
(39-4t-cc-TCB)



Employment/Medical

WOODVILLE HEALTH AND REHABILITATION CENTER
by Cantex Continuing Care Network
Currently hiring for the following positions:
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is hiring for the following position:
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Country living dream!

RARE 39 Unrestricted acres with your own 3.6+/- acre private lake and two creek-fed ponds. Ideal for hunting, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, or simply relaxing. Two older homes being sold with the property. One is currently occupied by the owners, and the other has a new roof. There is a carport near the house and a large open workshop on the property. Enjoy approximately 1 mile of meandering, hillside 4-wheeler or hiking trails and idealistic country living only 3 miles from Colmesneil. 10 minutes from Woodville. 40 minutes to the Lufkin Shopping Mall or to Livingston, 1 hour to Beaumont, 2 hours to Houston Astros Minute Maid Park. Call today to make an appointment! **\$625,000**

WOODVILLE



A great location!

Well-maintained, neat and clean, three-bedroom, two-bath home sitting high and dry inside the city limits of Woodville. This adorable brick home offers approximately 1,282 square feet of living and features a large living room with laminate flooring, open concept kitchen/dining with tile flooring, and an inside utility room with plenty of room for extra storage items. Outdoors, you'll love the 17x8 screened back porch, a 27x17 workshop with air conditioning plus a half bath, two storage buildings, and an outdoor cookshack with a sink. Enjoy cook-outs and sitting around the fire pit on cool evenings. The backyard is a great place for entertaining friends and family! A great location near schools, shopping, churches, and medical clinics. Conveniently located just 90 minutes from Houston or an hour's drive from Beaumont or Lufkin. Measurements approximate. **\$239,000**

WOODVILLE



Serence country side retreat Nestled at the very end of the county road, this 4-acre property boasts a 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom brick home surrounded by a beautiful canopy of trees. Step inside to a cozy yet spacious interior, perfect for family gatherings or peaceful evenings by the fireplace. Outside, explore the sprawling grounds and envision endless possibilities for gardening, outdoor recreation, or simply basking in the beauty of nature. Complete with a shop on a slab foundation and a tractor barn, this idyllic setting offers a harmonious blend of comfort and rustic charm. Don't miss the chance to make this your own private oasis! **\$225,000**

WOODVILLE



Adorable home! on an impressive 1.5+ acre lot. There are 3 bedrooms and a large updated bathroom with double vanities and a tub/shower combo. There are also beautiful original hardwood floors. The living room has great natural light from the large windows and flows nicely into the dining room with french doors leading to your large covered back porch, perfect for entertaining. The kitchen is open to a breakfast room with another door to the back porch and the utility room leads out to a 1 car garage. The fenced backyard is enchanting with its massive oak trees. Conveniently located within the city limits of Woodville. **\$195,000**

COLMESNEIL



Perfect for your dream home!

15 beautiful acres with a large, scenic pond perfect for your dream home. Previously used for horses, with divided pasture and small barn. Utilities already in place for three homes (electric, septic systems, and Tyler County water), with the ability to sub-divide. No restrictions, no-flood zone. 1 hour to Beaumont. 2 hours to Houston, 45 minutes to Livingston, 10 minutes to Woodville or Colmesneil, 20 minutes to Jasper. Beautiful place with amazing potential! **\$180,000**

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FEATURED LISTING
Ski Lake Brick 4 bed, 2 bath
1813 sq. ft. open plan
Concrete bulkhead, cov. deck, boat slip
\$389,000



DARLING DUTCH STYLE COTTAGE, 2 bed, 2.5 bath, electric and solar power, open plan, vaulted ceiling, wood stove, garden & green house, gazebo, chicken coup, sheds, storage, approx. .82 acre fenced, Prince Valiant \$175,000
2 LEVEL LOTS, landscaped 120'x135', water tap, Katherine Dr. \$18,000
CLEARED LOT, All utilities, lg storage, 28th St. \$26,000
NEEDS TLC, Mfd. home on 4 lots, 28th St. **PENDING** \$52,000
VINTAGE 2 bed, 2 bath mfd. home, garage, .60 acre, 28th St., \$72,000
LAKE TRISTAN WATERFRONT, Cleared, electric, water, 23rd St. \$70,000
SKI LAKE WATERVIEW LOT, level, cleared, .25 acre, new survey, homes only, Charmaine Drive East... \$29,900
2.5 ACRES, part cleared for home or MFD home, RV, water well, electric, driveway, Durwood \$53,000
5.5 ACRES, Partly cleared, 1995 mfd home, 3 bed, 2 bath plus addition, 3" well, storage, needs TLC, negotiable, Ivanhoe Ranchettes Dr. **SOLD** \$130,000
LAKE TRISTAN WATERVIEW LOTS, Approx. .37 acre homes only, 23rd St. \$18,000
SKI LAKE WATERVIEW, 3 bed, 1 bath, updated, CH/A, open concept, F.P., Princes Cir. **NOW** \$135,000
WOODED 3.45 acre Ranchette, Sir Henry \$40,000
HANDSOME BRICK, 3/2, completely fenced, double carport, new roof in 2023, custom built Tilson home-1998. Level yard, beautiful trees, use your VA Loan, Sir Jim Dr. \$190,000

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FEATURED: Spendix 3BR/3BA/2GA open design stucco/stone home on 2 pretty acs., salt water pool & pavillion, Colmesneil...\$485,500

--- RESIDENTIAL ---
WOODVILLE: Rustic 2BR/1BA Country home set on 3+/- acs. horse pond, **SOLD** FM 256N. **\$145,000**
CUSTOM: Recent 3BR/2BA on .69 ac lot. **\$324,900**
2.4 ACS: Stylish 3BR **SOLD** on lg. wood lot in Colmesneil, recent updates, lg. workshop. **\$329,000**

--- HOMES ON LAND ---
20+ ACS: Wildwood 3BR/2BA/2GA on 20+/- acs, golf/boating, but room for horses/cricket/hunting! **\$749,500**
HILLISTER: Spryling 3BR/2BA hill top home, 1BR/1BA guest apt, pond, no other acres... **\$521,300**
6+AC: 1BR/1BA cabin **SOLD** in Colmsn. **\$129,500**
2 AC: Splendid stucco/stone 3BR/3BA/2GA, open floorplan, saltwater pool, nice landscaping. **\$485,500**
15AC: Azalea Springs, pretty woods, (b/o). **\$494,900**
46AC: 2BR/2BA home, lg barn, nice woods. **\$551,600**
299+/- AC: Rolling **SOLD** woods, neat 3BR/2BA cabin, creek, lake, FM 1745 in nr. Chester. **\$1.895MM**

--- LAND & ACREAGE ---
280+/- AC: Rolling woods, developable tract, two county rd frtgs., home & lake bldg. sites. **\$6,500/AC**
220+/- AC: Mix woods, lg. live sandy creek, electricity, rolling terrain, camp site, nr. Colmesneil... **\$4,990/AC**
196+/- AC: Natural pine/hardwoods fronts US 190E and co. road, live creek, elect., homesite. **\$5,390/AC**
152+/- AC: Nr. Fred on FM 92, mixed woods, creek, great hunting, lake/home sites, electricity. **\$5,490/AC**
126+/- AC: Good hunting & timber land. **\$3,595/AC**
103+/- AC: Rare untouched rolling hardwood forest, elect. avail, poss. home/lake sites, Wdvl. **\$5,500/AC**
77+/- AC: Rolling timber **SOLD** in creek. **\$5,890/AC**
62+/- AC: Hilly mixed acres, huge hardwoods, 2 live sandy creeks, acc. to elec. great hunting. **\$5,990/AC**
53 AC: Remote mixed timber, rustic campouse, electricity, 2 creeks, pretty rolling terrain. **\$5,500/AC**
50 AC: Live crk, hilly terrain, good hunting **\$6,490/AC**
49+/- AC: Mature mix woods, nr Warren **\$5,990/AC**
48+/- AC: On U.S. Hwy. 287, mixed woods, live creek, access to elect. potential bldg. site. **\$6,500/AC**
43+/- AC: U.S. Hwy. **SOLD** in woods. **\$6,490/AC**
33+/- AC: Rolling nr. **SOLD** in hills, hmsite. **\$6,490/AC**
28+/- AC: Pretty rolling pasture, large lake, electricity avail, ideal country home big site Warren **\$11,990/AC**
27+/- AC: Mixed woods on CR 3000, long frontage, sloping terrain, elect. available, pot. bldg. **\$6,990/AC**
25+/- AC: Pasture, **SOLD** hill home... **\$9,995/AC**
22+/- AC: Heavily mix-wooded acres on CR 2150, access to elect., potential homesite, lv. crk. **\$6,490/AC**
19+/- AC: Nicely wooded good terrain for building site, end of private rd., access to electricity. **\$6,900/AC**
17+/- AC: Outside of **SOLD** in hills, fronts two roads, mixed woods w/ building sites, acc. electr. **\$6,900/AC**
9+ AC: Acreage nr. Chester, fenced/elect. **\$119,900**
LOTS: Woodville lots ready-to-build, off 69 **\$24,900**
LOTS: .50 wood ac. on US 69N, electricity. **\$14,500**
LOT: 411 W. Wheat St, Wdville, lot in town... **\$5,000**

--- COMMERCIAL ---
18.96 AC: Woodville cleared on US 69S. **\$495,000**
9+/- AC: Ideal develop site, US 69S Wvle **\$430,000**
INDUSTRIAL: 20 **SOLD** build., office **\$999,000**
KIRBYVILLE: Com property downtown. **\$384,560**
IN TOWN: 3/2 Cor. **SOLD** 99sf, W. Bluff **\$199,500**
2+/- AC: Outstanding bldg. lot on US 69S **\$200,000**
6.9+/- AC: 600ft of comm front. US 69S. **\$230,000**
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