

Fire destroys Groveton eyesore

By Tony Farkas
 editor@trinityconews.com

GROVETON — A set of apartments on FM 355 south of town, formerly decent dwellings for newlyweds and others but now housing squatters, burned down on Saturday.

Firefighters and engines from numerous agencies helped battle the blaze, which Groveton Fire Chief Glenn Hammond said was “human caused.”

“I don’t know if it’s actually arson,” Hammond said. “It has been known to see drug-related activity there along with homeless

people staying there. We didn’t put it out; we just kept it off the other building and the vegetation around the property.”

He said that all the other county fire departments — Trinity, 356, Pennington, Apple Springs and Friday. A few minutes after GVFD was toned out, a second call went out about a gas smell at Lady in Action, which was attended by the Apple Springs VFD before they arrived at the apartment fire.

Sheriff Woody Wallace said that the fire appears to have started on the second floor in the middle of the building.

“There’s no power to the complex, and

we’re unsure what started it,” he said. “We will investigate further.”

“The property was on our list of places to get notice to the owner to clean the property or face legal action,” he said.

Property owner Khosrow Sadeghian said he has been trying auction off the property but has had little luck; he said the event was sad because the buildings could not be insured because of their condition.

Sadeghian said he even had approached the city to offer the land as a potential jail site.

He claimed that criminals have been living in the structures, and he has tried to get

them removed.

“They did us wrong,” he said.

Hammond said the city has condemned the complex and urged the council to do something about the ones still standing as they are a hazard to the community.

However, he posted on Facebook that as chief of the Groveton Volunteer Fire Department, he extends his appreciation to all the county fire departments that came and assisted with the apartment fires on FM 355 on Saturday.

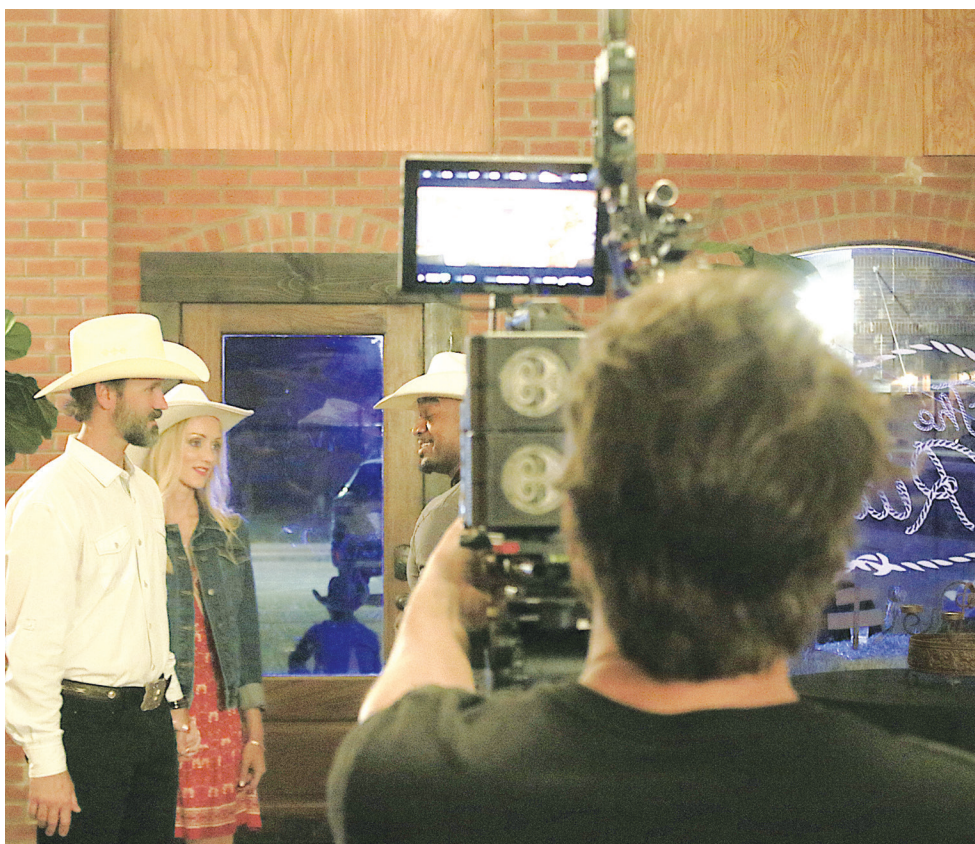
“I think as a County we have exceptional fire departments, and we all work well together,” he said.



One of several buildings on FM 355 that used to be apartments caught fire on Saturday, needing all fire departments in the county to respond for assistance. COURTESY PHOTO



Firefighters had to let an abandoned apartment burn because it was too dangerous to approach. COURTESY PHOTO



Terry Weaver (left) and Laynee Busse shoot a scene with Daryl Jones for the film “The Beast of Trinity Texas.” PHOTO BY TONY FARKAS

The Beast is loose

By Tony Farkas
 editor@trinityconews.com

GROVETON — With pre-production needs met, the production crew behind “The Beast of Trinity Texas” has let loose — the filming.

Lizzie Camp, a co-producer for the film as well as a cast member, said production officially began last week on the film, which is being shot at several locations throughout Trinity County.

Camp, who also plays Mariella Hastings in the movie, said all the working parts are in place, a process that has taken 10 months. Filming on Friday started with the end of the movie — films rarely are shot sequentially — and Camp said there are several more weeks of shooting left before heading into post-production.

“It’s been wonderful shooting in Trinity County,” she said. “Everyone has been so supportive, and we and the crew are having a blast getting to know everyone, and the cast is having a great time.”

Cam said there are a lot of incredibly tal-

ented people on board that are going to make a film as professional and as high quality as possible.

“That’s our goal,” she said. “I can’t give away any spoil-

ers, but people that think this isn’t a serious production will be surprised, as the film is more than just a monster movie. It has rich storytelling, and will be a surprise to many.”

Camp said they have a phenomenally rich and deep script with relatable characters — “characters you want to root for, characters you resonate with.”

“I think people are going to appreciate the story line; instead of just a creature feature — it will appeal to that fan base — but it’s so much more than that,” she said.

More information is available at thebeast-oftrinitytexas.com.



Lizzie Camp

TVFD battles fires, handles crash

TCNS staff

TRINITY — Trinity Volunteer Fire Department responded Friday afternoon to assist Onalaska Fire Department with a large pile of timber with a loading machine burning.

Fire Chief Keith Johnson said Trinity responded with a large tanker and three firefighters, and the Livingston, Scenic Loop and 356 Fire Departments responded to provide water supply. Firefighters were on scene for several hours before the fire was brought under control.

Also on Friday, TVFD responded to two brush fires.

The first one was just after 11 a.m. on FM 356 at Barker Road. Two trucks and 12 firefighters responded to a control burn that was out of control in thick timber, Johnson said. The fire was quickly

extinguished.

Then at approximately 1 p.m. a second brush fire was reported in Lake L on Winding Creek off FM 356. Three trucks and 14 firefighters responded to a control burn that the wind carried into a wooded area nearby.

The fire was brought under control in about 45 minutes.

Johnson urges caution with any outside fires as dry conditions and low humidity with windy conditions create ripe conditions for major wildfires. People should always have a water source available when burning and never leave a fire unattended, and the fire department should be notified if you are planning on burning to make sure no burn ban is in place.

On Thursday, Trinity Volunteer Fire Department responded to a two-vehicle

accident on FM 356 at Lakewood Subdivision.

Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers are investigating the crash; preliminary reports indicate that at approximately 5:40 p.m., a 2000 Dodge Dakota was traveling north, while a 2015 Jeep Cherokee was traveling south.

It is reported that the Dodge failed to yield the right-of-way while turning left and struck the Jeep.

The driver of the Dodge, 65-year-old Timothy Devine of Trinity, was not injured. Devine was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated, a misdemeanor offense.

The driver of the Jeep, 41-year-old Brandy Hill of Onalaska, was transported to MidCoast Medical Center-Texas for non-life-threatening injuries.

The investigation is continuing.



Trinity VFD firefighters assisted the Onalaska Fire Department with extinguishing a blaze that broke out on a large pile of timber. COURTESY PHOTO

Thursday’s it to apply for hurricane disaster assistance

Special to the News-Standard

AUSTIN — Texas homeowners, renters and businesses that experienced property damage or losses after Hurricane Beryl, including those who are insured, have one more week to apply for FEMA disaster assistance and/or a U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loan.

The deadline to apply for a grant from FEMA or an SBA disaster loan is Thursday, Oct. 10.

To apply with FEMA, visit DisasterAssistance.

gov; use the FEMA mobile app; call the Disaster Assistance Helpline at 800-621-3362; or notify FEMA staff at a Disaster Recovery Center. To find the closest center, use the DRC Locator. Insured applicants are also encouraged to file their insurance claims as soon as possible.

FEMA funding that duplicates what your insurance settlement covers must be repaid. FEMA assistance is not taxed and will not affect Social Security, Medicaid or other federal benefits.

Help is available in most languages. If you use a

relay service, such as video relay (VRS), captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA your number for that service. People who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability, may call 711 to access telecommunications relay services.

The U.S. Small Business Administration offers low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, private nonprofit organizations, and businesses of any size. Apply for an SBA disaster loan online at SBA.gov/disaster or call 800-659-2955. SBA representatives are available to provide one-

on-one assistance to disaster loan applicants at Disaster Recovery Centers and SBA Business Recovery Centers throughout the affected area. Please call the SBA’s Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 for further assistance.

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



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RIVER & RAINFALL DATA AS OF OCT 08
 Gauge Height..... 5.3 ft
 Condition.....Normal Flood Stage
 Weekly rainfall0.00in



Community shows its heart in fundraiser

Saturday was an awesome night for the Haley Burk Memorial Scholarship Foundation. The organization held a purse bingo gala at the YMCA Camp Cullen in Trinity.

I had forgotten how beautiful the ride through the forest to the campgrounds was. It was easy to drive there as ballons depicted the way. Several events were occurring Saturday, but the bingo fundraiser was the best.

Congratulations to the Foundation for their first purse bingo fundraiser as I am sure it will not be the last. Nestled against the trees, the banquet room was splendidly decorated, and the event was well organized.

The emcee was loud and clear, instructions were given, and the games began promptly at 6:30 p.m. after a delicious Mexican Fiesta meal of tacos, beans, and rice. There was a salad and tea bar, and cookies were certainly homemade for the occasion.



Julia's Tidbits

By Julia McMichael

Great job.

The crowd was jovial and had a great time, with everyone enjoying the ten games and door prizes received throughout the evening.

I left early because I have more difficulty driving after dark in the back woods. Congratulations to Shane and Kevin Pringle for a job well done and a beautiful evening for the generous people of Trinity County.

What a generous and delightful evening Camp Cullen presented to the Haley Burk Memorial Foundation, showing support for a community endeavor.

We have many organizations, churches, businesses, and people

that support our citizens in their quest for heart felt missions. I am proud to name each week in the newspaper some of the most notable events that happen in our community.

We have only 2,343 residents inside the city limits and 15,000 outside the city limits, but I think we are the most generous county in Texas. Statics say Trinity is the poorest county in Texas, but our hearts and giving say otherwise.

If I do not list your generous organization in this thank you, I will next week as you let me know of my short sightedness.

Here are some of Trinity City's generous benefactors: Brookshire Brothers, Calvary Baptist Church, Circle of Brothers Club, Circuit Physical Therapy, Dorcas Wills Memorial Baptist Church, First Methodist Church of Trinity, First Presbyterian Church, Liberty Christian Church, Knights of Columbus, McDonald's, Most Holy Trinity Catholic

Church, Martin Senior Citizen Center, River of Life Church, River Pointe Health and Rehabilitation, Reaching Outside of the Church, Rollo Insurance Agency, State Farm, The Way You Live, Trinity Community Fair Association, Trinity City Hall, Trinity ISD, Trinity Florist and Gifts, Trinity Lions Club, Trinity Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Trinity Police Department, Trinity Volunteer Fire Department, Trinity County Veterans Wall of Honor Society, VFW Post 6899 and many more.

I am going to list only the remaining October events, with two new ones added. Next week I will list November and December festivals and fundraisers.

Oct. 8, TISD Scholarship Info Night

Oct. 12, Brick Street Harmony Quartet, First Presbyterian Church on North Elm Street

Oct. 15, Pumpkin Patch opens, First Methodist Church of Trinity

downtown Lot

Oct. 19, The Calvary Boys in Concert

Oct. 20, Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church Fall Festival

Oct. 22, hamburger supper at Westwood Shores

Oct. 25, Martin Senior Center Halloween Contest

Oct. 26, Trinity Lions Club Pet Expo and Talent Show, Trinity Community Center

Oct. 26, Trinity County Veterans Wall of Honor, Scheelbilles on FM 356 East

Oct. 31, Treats on the Street

As you know there will be plenty of Veterans Celebrations and Thanksgiving activities happening in November, but everyone is asking me about the TPCC Christmas Show.

The TPCC Christmas Show is Dec. 7 at the Trinity Community Center starting at 10 a.m. The theme for the show and the parade is "A Cartoon Christmas".

See you there.

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EMBRACING NEIGHBORS

Westwood Shores held its annual Neighborhood Night Out on Saturday evening. Residents were able to meet their neighbors and learn about activities to get involved in. The highlights of the evening were the Trinity Fire Department with its equipment and the PHI helicopter, which landed by the clubhouse for the crew to give the residents a show and tell. COURTESY PHOTO

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TRINITY COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST FOR OCTOBER 10-16

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny 89°/58°	Sunny 91°/59°	Sunny 88°/67°	Sunny 92°/62°	Mostly Sunny 90°/59°	Sunny 82°/55°	Sunny 81°/54°
Chance of Rain 1% Wind NE 5mph	Chance of Rain 3% Wind E 4 mph	Chance of Rain 6% Wind SSW 4 mph	Chance of Rain 6% Wind SW 5 mph	Chance of Rain 4% Wind NW 5 mph	Chance of Rain 2% Wind NE 7 mph	Chance of Rain 1% Wind ENE 7mph

Information sourced from weather.com

Forecast Fire Danger
 twc.tamu.edu

Fire Danger Rating
 Low Moderate High Very High Extreme



Looking Back

By Marlena Stubblefield
grovetonnews@gmail.com

10 years ago

Trinity women injured after jumping out courthouse window; Christmas on the Square plans underway; "Smoke Signal" special section coming soon; County 4-H Clubs to host 'Omelet Supper'; Heart Institute of East Texas welcomes cardiologist

ogist Fethi Benraouane, M.D. Obituaries for the week: Sheila Denise Flowers, 59, of Groveton; and Charles "Chip" Theodore Monk Jr., 76, of Groveton.

20 years ago

Judge Mark Evans named CJCAT Vice President; Hunter education course set October 22-23 in Groveton; Parade set for Homecoming. No obituaries for the week.

30 years ago

Groveton Housing Authority gets \$482,000 grant; Go Texans plan cook-off; Trinity Editor dies; Frances Manry named to Hall of Fame. Obituaries for the week: Bessie Jo Dial, 55, of Pennington; and Velma Jeraline Hall, 90, of Groveton.

DPS bolsters One Pill Kills campaign

Special to the News-Standard

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety is increasing its One Pill Kills public awareness efforts as part of Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month.

Signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott last year, House Bill 3144 established the month of October as Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month — a statewide effort to bring awareness and education to the public about the dangers of fentanyl and the life-saving power of opioid poisoning reversal medication.

"Fentanyl is a clandestine killer, and it is now more important than ever that we talk to our families, children, friends and loved ones about just how prevalent it is in communities across Texas," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "This month, and really every month, we must do everything we can to get the word out about this deadly drug in order to save lives."

To help increase awareness throughout October, DPS will share a series of social media videos geared at educating Texans about the dangers of fentanyl and directing them to available resources through the One Pill Kills campaign. Governor Abbott launched One Pill Kills in 2022, as a way to educate Texans on how to prevent, recognize and reverse fentanyl poisonings. DPS also continues with its other OPK aware-

ness efforts including updating public service announcements which air in the waiting areas of more than 180 driver license offices across the state, educational signage in more than 350 public facing DPS buildings statewide and a dedicated webpage housing resources and information about the campaign. You can visit www.dps.texas.gov/onepillkills to learn more.

DPS would also like to remind Texans about its Safety Education team which offers specialized programming to schools, churches, community groups and other organizations that would like to learn more about the statewide OPK campaign and the dangers of fentanyl. This presentation can be tailored for a variety of audiences and age groups and is available free of charge. To learn more, contact a Safety Education team member in your area using the drop-down menu, here.

More About Fentanyl

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times stronger than heroin. Illicitly manufactured fentanyl has become widespread, often mixed with other drugs such as heroin, cocaine or counterfeit prescription pills.

Since the launch of Operation Lone Star in 2021, DPS has seized more than half a billion lethal doses of fentanyl — that's more than enough to kill every man, woman and child in America.

SENIOR MENUS

Oct. 14-18

Menus Subject to Change

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

All meals are \$6.

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

MONDAY: Chicken and dumplings, peas and carrots, cornbread.

TUESDAY: Barbecue baked potatoes or barbecue on a bun, corn on the cob, baked beans.

WEDNESDAY: Beef spaghetti, creamed corn, garlic bread.

THURSDAY: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, garlic bread.

FRIDAY: Fried catfish or chicken tenders, dirty rice, baked beans, deviled eggs.

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

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

MONDAY: Chicken and dumplings, fried okra, cabbage, cornbread.

TUESDAY: Chicken sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, baked beans, chips.

WEDNESDAY: Pork chops, purple hull peas, broccoli with cheese sauce.

THURSDAY: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, turnip greens, spinach, cornbread.

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

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

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

MONDAY: Chicken strips, scalloped potatoes, green beans, rolls.

TUESDAY: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, pinto beans, cornbread.

WEDNESDAY: Taco salad, pinto beans, chips and salsa.

THURSDAY: Chicken and dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans.

FRIDAY: Spaghetti and meat sauce, mixed vegetables, garlic toast.

ARREST RECORDS

The following people were arrested by Trinity County law enforcement officials through Oct. 7. All suspects are innocent until convicted in a court of law.

• **Wallace Campbell Finlay**, 48, warrant for criminal trespassing; disorderly conduct.

• **Jimmy Ryan Lindquist**, 30, assault.

• **Jonah Paul Gonzales**, 19, warrant for motion to revoke parole on a conviction for resisting arrest, search or transport.

• **Angela Leann Wars**, 32, possession of a controlled substance.

• **Janay Lashay Cridell**, 38, warrant for probation violation on a conviction for evading arrest or detention with previous convictions.

• **Shane Corbitt Strickland**, warrant for bail jumping and failure to appear; warrant for bond forfeiture on a charge of burglary of a building; warrant for criminal mischief; warrant for failure to appear

on an order enforcing child support obligation.

• **Timothy Alan Devine**, 65, driving while intoxicated.

• **Roger Lawrence**, 56, driving while license invalid with previous convictions.

• **James Harrison Lewis Jr.**, 62, warrants for two counts of failure to comply with sex offender's duty to register.

• **Brittany Renee Livingston**, 32, accident involving damage to vehicle; driving while license invalid and without financial responsibility.

• **Michael Sessions**, 33, warrant for theft of property with two or more convictions.

• **John Eric Taylor**, 48, warrant for indecent assault.

• **Ronald Wayne Busby**, 54, warrant for probation violation on a conviction for possession of a controlled substance.

• **Danny George Due**, 68, driving while intoxicated with an open container.



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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.

Hear me now: speech is speech, and deserves protection

If you were paying attention to the vice-presidential debate, you would have gotten a whiff of what the liberal goons are cooking, and that is true censorship.

It's part of the game played by the cretins who want to keep power: change the definition of things so it no longer fits into the protective cover provided by law — like claiming a fetus isn't a human being deserving of protection since it lives inside a woman.

Walz, in his goon-like manner, claimed that misinformation and hate speech are not protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution. However, the amendment quite clearly, and in less than a full sentence, states that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech.

Walz trotted out the tired, and judicially negated, "can't yell fire in a crowded movie theater" trope as a prop to show that there's a real good reason to limit speech.

But in the minds of the power-mad, if you call something bad, and call it bad often enough, then cultural zeitgeist will kick in and people will automatically say that bad things cannot be disseminated in any form.

Mark Zuckerberg admitted to throttling anything on Facebook deemed bad by the Biden administration over COVID because it went against the will of the powers that be; perpetual election loser Hillary Clinton is calling for criminal penalties for "misinformation" on the web; even emergency backup presidential candidate Kamala Harris said that social media is putting out "misinformation" with out any sort of regulation and it has to stop.

Of course, the sheeple who buy in to the whole "decency is on the ballot" trope will echo this sentiment wholeheartedly and even physically, all the while the lot of them will claim that free-speech proponents are actually the ones doing the censorship.

One of the many problems that exist with this "idea" is that who decides what is hate speech or misinformation? Obviously, the people pushing for limits are the people who decide what those limits will be, which is why the framers of the Constitution said no limits whatsoever.

But look at how the language is used



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

when calling out misinformation — it's carefully crafted to denigrate only the words that are in direct conflict with the politically correct stance. Look at how the word racism has expanded from people hating specific races to everything that even remotely — or not so remotely — affects a protected class of people. Attitude and proficiency tests are racist, voter ID requirements are racist, even the slogan "Make America Great Again" has been deemed racist. (However, calling racism when there is none, such as the fetid white privilege scam, is not racist, even though it's directed at a specific race. Go figure.)

Obviously, the mouth monitors will go with the winning side.

A second problem, again using the white privilege scam as an example, is these proposed rules will never be applied equally, and always to the benefit of the authority du jour.

A more recent example, also, is calling it racist, homophobic and even censorship for people wanting sexually explicit material removed from school libraries. Since it's deemed misinformative to want to keep books explaining oral sex away from children because it is hateful to the LBGTLMNOP crowd, we'll carry torches and pitchforks against any naysayers.

The argument that parents and others want to keep things age-appropriate (and maybe have teachers deal with things like math, science and language arts) is actually censorship flies in the face of other things, like the parental guidance ratings given to movies, television programs and music containing sexually explicit or expletive-laden lyrics.

The inequality in application of language laws, as well as the need for policing language deemed misinformative or hateful, is seriously not about anything other than control. Orwell said as much, saying control thought, you control the person.

It to me is amazing that the framers were so far-sighted as to predict the need for the protection of speech. It's up to us to keep the dream alive, and that must include being able to speak our piece.

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

Donald Trump's apocalyptic vision for America

Have you noticed the incredible decline in American society? According to Donald Trump, it's nearly impossible to miss. Just



Just Jim
By Jim Powers
jim@polkcountypublishing.com

step outside your front door, and you might encounter the dangerous world he describes—where, in his words, roving bands of immigrants with AR-15s have taken over, and even your pets aren't safe.

In a recent speech in California, Trump described the state as a "hellscape," blaming Democratic leadership for what he sees as a collapse of public order. At the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), he escalated his warnings, portraying the entire country as one of "bloodshed, chaos, and violent crime," specifically targeting cities like Chicago, Portland, and New York. These lawless cities, Trump says, are why he might need to deploy federal forces if elected in 2024.

Trump has also hinted at expanding the use of presidential power to address what he calls a crisis of lawlessness. During a recent town hall event, he suggested that he might use federal troops to "take back" cities he deems ungovernable, bypassing local authorities altogether. This echoes his actions during the summer of 2020, when federal agents were deployed to Portland against the wishes of local officials, escalating tensions rather than calming them.

Trump's rhetoric has taken a troubling turn, depicting the U.S. as a crumbling dystopia. More than political hyperbole, his language suggests a world where chaos reigns, crime is rampant, and the government is powerless. For his most fervent supporters, this vision of America resonates deeply, but it's a vision that poses serious risks to the nation.

Though exaggeration is common in politics, Trump's description of America in collapse is a calculated strategy. It stokes fear, deepens division, and undermines trust in the very institutions on which democracy depends. The consequences are dangerous: it could destabilize the nation by fueling political violence and widening cultural divides.

As the 2024 election approaches, Trump has ramped up this apocalyptic narrative, with constant references to cities overrun by crime and a nation on the verge of collapse. This dystopian framing taps into genuine fears—particularly among those feeling left behind economically or threatened by demographic shifts. For some, Trump's message offers a validation of their anxieties. But this dark portrayal of a failing nation is more than just an outlet for frustration; it's a dangerous tool that fosters paranoia and distrust.

One of the most harmful elements of Trump's rhetoric is its effect on public confidence in democracy. By painting the country as a failed state, Trump suggests that institutions—courts, law enforcement, and elections—are broken or corrupt. This isn't new; he has long challenged the legitimacy of U.S. elections, even falsely claiming the 2020 election was stolen. In a recent interview, Trump went as

far as to suggest that if he loses in 2024, it will be because of "rigged" elections, further undermining faith in the democratic process before the votes have even been cast.

Democracy thrives on citizens' trust. When that trust erodes, it opens the door to radical, even violent responses. If people believe that the system is rigged or ineffective, they may turn to extra-legal measures, including violence, to "save" the country.

Trump's words have already had real-world consequences, from the rise of political violence during his first campaign to the January 6 insurrection. His persistent calls to "fight" and "take back our country" have inspired some of his supporters to see themselves as soldiers in a battle for America's soul. In a recent rally, Trump praised the January 6 rioters as "patriots," signaling his approval of their actions. As Trump continues to depict the nation in apocalyptic terms, this dangerous trend could worsen, emboldening far-right militias and extremist groups who view themselves as defending the country from a corrupt government.

There is another aspect to Trump's vision: it sets the stage for authoritarian solutions. If America is as broken as he claims, then only a strongman—someone willing to break the rules—can fix it. This is a classic authoritarian tactic: invent a crisis, then present yourself as the sole solution. Trump's "law and order" promises fit this narrative, where restoring safety might require sacrificing democratic norms. His recent comments about wanting to "take back control" of the Department of Justice and purge officials he deems disloyal reflect his desire for unchecked power.

History shows that authoritarian regimes often rise by exploiting crises, real or imagined. Trump's dystopian rhetoric, combined with his authoritarian inclinations, threatens to erode America's democratic foundations. And by deepening divisions within the country, Trump's apocalyptic vision further pushes the U.S. toward unrest.

When political rhetoric becomes so extreme that it dehumanizes opponents, the possibility of reconciliation fades. Trump's dystopian narrative does not offer solutions; it accelerates polarization, pushing the country closer to civil unrest.

Ultimately, Trump's rhetoric represents more than exaggerated campaign talk. It's a deliberate and dangerous narrative that threatens to erode trust in democracy, incite violence, and pave the way for authoritarianism. In this critical moment, we must reject the apocalyptic vision Trump offers. The country is not beyond repair, and the solutions lie in renewing our faith in democracy and rebuilding trust in its institutions.

The views expressed in this editorial are those of Jim Powers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Polk County Publishing or its affiliates. In the spirit of complete transparency, I am politically Left-Libertarian. Readers are encouraged to engage with a variety of perspectives on this issue.



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WHY LEAVES CHANGE COLOR IN THE FALL

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE STILL 'UNDECIDED'!?!

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

GOVERNOR
Greg Abbott (R)
512-463-2000
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711-2428

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TX SENATOR
Senate District 3
Robert Nichols (R)
robert.nichols@senate.texas.gov
(C) 512-463-0103
(D) 903-589-3003

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trent.ashby@house.texas.gov
(C) 512-463-0508
(D) 936-634-2762

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Groveton, TX 75845

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(936) 642-1424
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(936) 642-1224
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(936) 594-2011
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(936) 642-1122

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Billy Goodin
936-594-2507

(C) = Capitol number

What Must I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?

An eminent psychologist was requested to testify in court. A severe, no-nonsense professional, she sat down in the witness chair, unaware that its rear legs were set precariously on the back of the raised platform.

“Will you please state your name?” asked the district attorney. Tilting back in her chair, the psychologist opened her mouth to answer, but, instead, catapulted head-over-heels backward and landed in a stack of exhibits and recording equipment.

Everyone watched in stunned silence as she extricated herself, rearranged her disheveled dress and hair, and was reseated on the witness stand. The glare she directed at onlookers dared anyone to so much as smirk. “Well, doctor,” continued the district attorney without changing expression, “perhaps we could start with an easier question.”

A rich, young man ap-



Dan's Divinities

By Rev. Dr. Dan Darby

proached Jesus with a very difficult question that could have knocked Jesus right out of his chair.

“Good teacher,” he said, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” (Mark 10:17.) It wasn't Jesus who got knocked out of his chair by the power of the question, however, it was the young man who ended up in shocked disbelief by Jesus's answer.

The answer was that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God (cf., Mark 10:25). The young man was floored by the answer.

So are we.

Can a camel go through the eye of a needle? Absolutely not. It is impossible. Likewise, it is totally impossible for any of us to earn eternal life. We cannot buy it with money, merit it with our accomplishments, or be good enough to receive it. We cannot get through the eye of the needle. We are mere mortals, and it is absolutely impossible for us to change ourselves into immortals. We are flesh and blood who will pass from this earth, and there is no way for us to change our nature. We are corrupt and cannot become incorruptible by our own efforts. We are temporal beings, and there is no way we can change ourselves into eternal beings.

There is good news, however. With God all things are possible. (Mark 10:27)

Who is the One who can give us eternal life? Who is the One

who died on a cross and rose from the tomb to ascend to all eternity? He is the Father's plan; no other plan will work. We do not merit eternal life; it only comes as a gift from above.

The conduit of that gift is the One who is “the way, the truth, and the life.” He is the living water which alone can quench the thirst of our souls for an eternal relationship with the Father. He is the bread of life who can nourish our souls, which are starving for the presence of God.

If we are to receive this gift, we must lay aside all the riches which we think are going to save us. None of them will give us a new birth into the eternal Kingdom. Only Jesus can do that.

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever

does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it” (Mark 10:14-15).

We cannot possibly understand with our temporal minds how Jesus can birth us into eternal life. We must receive the miracle like little children receive a Christmas gift. They may not know where it comes from or how it is possible; they only know it is given in love and it is theirs to receive and enjoy.

So it is with us. We do not know why God loves us so, nor do we know why he has chosen to adopt us as His children and give us the gift of eternal life. That love is why Jesus came into our world and gave his life for us. He gave that we might come as little children and receive the forgiveness of our sins and the grace of eternal life.

With God all things are possible. *Dr. Dan Darby is a retired United Methodist pastor.*



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TRINITY COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

BAPTIST

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

Country Campus Baptist

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

Pennington Baptist Church

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

CATHOLIC

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Sunday Mass, English 10 AM
Sunday Mass en Espanol 1 PM
Weekday Mass, English 10 AM
Weekday Mass en Espanol 7 PM
Saturday Confession 2:30-3:45 PM

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

CHURCH OF GOD

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

Revival Center Church of God, Onalaska

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

LUTHERAN

- Faith Lutheran Church & School LCMS**
Rev. Travis A Pitlock Sr., Pastor
Hwy. 30W & Sumac Rd., Huntsville(936)
295-5298
Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
- Grace Lutheran Church**
Rev. Thomas St. Jean
West Loop 304 at Hall's Bluff
Rd., Crockett 936-544-3508
Sunday School 9 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
- METHODIST**
- First Methodist-Groveton**
Jeff Hastings, Pastor
155 Church Ave. (936) 642-1249
Sunday School 10 AM
Sunday Worship 11 AM
Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 PM
- First Methodist Church**
Rev. Michael Bedevian
131 N. Elm (936) 594-3826
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Traditional Morning Worship 11 AM
- Glendale Congreg. Methodist**
Barbara Campbell, Pastor
184 Glendale Church Road
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 7 PM
Wednesday 6:45 PM
- Prairie View Methodist**
Jeff Hastings, Pastor
307 Denman Road (936) 642-1249
Sunday Worship 9 AM
Youth/Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM
Tuesday Bible Study 10:30 AM
Wednesday Nogalus Quilters 8 A
- Riverside United Methodist**
Max Nichter, Pastor
Worship 9 AM
Sunday School 10 AM
2nd & 4th Wednesday 7:30 PM

Sebastopol Congregational Methodist Church

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

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

Robinson hosts National Night Out

It was a great week back in TX-17. On Saturday, I attended National Night Out in Robinson, hosted by the Robinson Police Department.

National Night Out is "America's Night Out Against Crime." This community event increases awareness about police programs, including drug convention, town watch, and other anti-crime efforts. The event is an opportunity for neighbors to come together to promote crime prevention.

I enjoyed my time at National Night Out with the people of Robinson. Thank you to the Robinson Police Department for hosting this event and for all that you do to keep our community safe. I was proud to present



In Session

By Pete Sessions
US Representative, District 17

the Robinson Police Department with a flag flown over the United States Capitol to thank them for their endeavors against crime in our community.

Eagle Award from the Associated Builders and Contractors

Last night, I received the Eagle Award from the Associated Builders and Contractors.

I am honored to be recognized by the ABC for my support of the construction industry. Building

and construction are crucial to our economy. I am proud to continue to support our builders and contractors as they shape the future of our nation. The construction industry lays the foundation for growth and innovation.

Waco Northwest Optimist Club

Last Tuesday, I spoke at the monthly meeting of the Waco Northwest Optimist Club. Members of Optimist International are dedicated to uplifting their local youth by supporting various youth programs. They recognize that the future of our country depends on our young people and committed to optimism as a philosophy of life.

In the words of that great

American philosopher, Buzz Lightyear, our young people will take us "to infinity and beyond." I am grateful for the work of the Waco Northwest Optimist Club in encouraging the youth in our community.

Baylor Football

Also on last Saturday, I had the opportunity to attend the Baylor Bears football game against BYU. While my hometown Bears did not come away with a victory this time, I always enjoy getting to cheer them on. Game days are something truly special and it was a pleasure to spend some time at McLane Stadium.

Thank you to Manny Ruiz of the Baylor University Board of Regents for hosting me.

Service academy nomination applications

Applications to receive a nomination for appointment into a United States Service Academy from me will be closing on Thursday. Please be sure you have all the materials submitted by 5 p.m. on that date.

One of the greatest privileges I have as a Member of Congress is getting to nominate the best and the brightest from TX-17 to attend a U.S. Service Academy. Visit <https://sessions.house.gov/service-academy-nominations> for more information.

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

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

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Lawmakers to tackle soaring home insurance rates

Top state lawmakers plan to address soaring homeowners' insurance premiums when they return to Austin in January for the next legislative session, according to the Houston Chronicle.

The state's insurance commissioner, Cassie Brown, told a Senate committee that home insurance rates increased last year by more than 21 percent statewide, twice the average increase in 2022.

More severe and frequent disasters are blamed for the spike in rates. In addition to more severe and more frequent storms, higher home values and higher costs for construction and labor are also factors. The median home price in Texas has risen 40 percent in the past five years.

"All this new value needs coverage, which results in bigger bills for consumers," Brown said.

Lawmakers reportedly will consider changes to the state's file-and-use system, which allows insurance companies to raise rates and then seek regulatory approval. Brown said the Texas Department of Insurance reviews all rate filings but "rarely" disapproves any of them.

"If we tighten up the criteria that you have to look at in order to approve their rates — I would expect that if it's harder to get a rate increase approval, that would help Texans with their premiums on their insurance," state Sen. Donna Campbell, R-New Braunfels, said.

Alarm sounded over languishing farm bill

Texas farmers, ranchers and lawmakers are voicing concerns that an economic catastrophe is in the works if Congress doesn't approve a new farm bill by the end of the year. The 2018 version — good for five years — has finally expired. The Texas Tribune reported, after being extended until Sept. 30.

In a letter to the House Republican leadership signed by 140 members of



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

Congress, the signers warned that waiting until next year to pass a bill will have a nationwide effect.

"The negative impacts of failing to act will not just stop at the farm gate," the letter said, "but will (affect) Main Street businesses, rural communities, and the national economy."

The Farm, Food, and National Security act is considered a "must-pass" piece of federal legislation. The bill supports more than 230,000 farmers and ranchers in Texas, and the state's food and agriculture sectors reportedly contribute more than \$860.8 billion in economic activity while employing more than 4.5 million people.

The farm bill also funds the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which provides more than 3.4 million low-income Texans with food benefits.

"We need our members of Congress and leadership in Congress to recognize there's no room for delay anymore," said Laramie Adams of the Texas Farm Bureau, said. "It's time to actually work together to get something done."

Texas has more than 18 million registered voters

Texas has hit a high-water mark with more than 18 million registered voters. The voter registration rolls are growing at a faster pace than the population's growth, indicating increased interest in signing up to vote. The Chronicle reported the state has added nearly 2.6 million voters since 2018.

Most of the growth has come in Harris County and along the I-35 corridor, areas that tend to vote more Democratic. While Republicans have not lost a statewide race in 30 years, results are getting tighter.

"We are in a competitive state and we are not going to win just sitting on our laurels," said Dave Carney, a veteran Republican strategist who has been a key political adviser to Gov. Greg Abbott and former Gov. Rick Perry.

Judge ends probe into alleged vote harvesting

A federal judge has stopped the state's ability to investigate alleged cases of vote harvesting, such as the probe into the League of United Latin American Citizens by Attorney General Ken Paxton, The Tribune reported.

The probe was being conducted under a provision of a law passed in 2021 that targeted voter outreach groups suspected of offering vote-harvesting services. Voter outreach groups have complained of overreach by Paxton's office and widespread confusion over the law's implications.

Paxton last week vowed to appeal. "A ruling — weeks prior to an election — preventing my office from investigating potential election violations is deeply troubling and risks undermining public trust in our political process," he said.

Voter outreach groups hailed the ruling, saying the restrictions violated the U.S. Constitution by being vague and restricting free speech.

Texas leads nation in road rage shootings

A newsroom dedicated to reporting on gun violence reports Texas is leading the country in road rage shootings, according to data from 2014 through 2023.

The Austin American-Statesman reported on the findings by The Trace, which concluded the number of people

shot in road rage incidents surged over 400 percent during that time period, with 456 shooting incidents reported last year.

Two Texas cities topped the list of road rage shootings during that 10-year period. Houston reported 215 total incidents with 192 shootings and 207 victims shot, while San Antonio reported 107 total incidents with 83 shootings and 94 victims shot.

During that 10-year period in Texas, 146 people were shot and killed in road rage incidents, while 435 were wounded. In addition, 26 suspects were killed and 14 wounded.

Shorter days bring higher risks for pedestrians

The change in seasons brings fewer daylight hours and higher risks for pedestrian safety, according to the Texas Department of Transportation. Last October was the deadliest month for pedestrians, with 80 dying in Texas traffic crashes.

"As the fall and winter months usher in shorter days and less light, pedestrians are at increased risk on our roads," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said. "Drivers may struggle to see pedestrians in lower-light conditions and must stay alert to avoid preventable collisions."

Motorists are urged to stop and yield to pedestrians in crosswalks; yield while turning to pedestrians; put phones away; and observe the posted speed limit. Pedestrians are reminded to cross streets only at intersections and crosswalks; make eye contact with drivers before crossing; wear reflective material at night; and also put away all electronic devices.

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

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This Week in Texas History

Bartee Haile
barteehaile@gmail.com

Clutching a suitcase in one hand and a satchel full of cash in the other on Oct. 15, 1878, Mifflin Kenedy caught the train for Dodge City where his son Spike was charged with the murder of a popular female entertainer.

As the owner of the Laureles Ranch near Corpus Christi, the Pennsylvania Quaker and former sea captain had money to burn and had already spent a chunk of his fortune buying Spike's freedom. But the young hellraiser's past escapades could not compare to the world of trouble he had gotten himself into in the Kansas cowtown.

In the looks department, 23-year-old James "Spike" Kenedy took after his mother, the attractive daughter of a former provincial governor of Spanish Texas. Like so many rich kids before and since, the apple of his wealthy daddy's eye felt he was above the law and free to do as he pleased.

An incident in Ellsworth, Kan., six years earlier cemented that idea in Spike's head. When an argument over a poker hand resulted in gun-

shot wounds for the Texas teenager and an adversary, Mifflin greased enough palms to make his legal problems disappear.

Hoping to keep the near-do-well closer to home where he just might settle down, the frustrated father set him up with a cattle ranch in the Panhandle. Instead of taking the opportunity to grow up, Spike left the hard work of punching cows to the hired hands and made straight for Dodge City.

He arrived in the "Bibulous Babylon of the Frontier" about the same time as Dora Hand, a 34-year-old stage performer from back east who had relocated at the urging of her friend Fannie Garretson. An Old West historian outdid himself with this over-the-top description of Dora: "By all accounts, she was a beautiful creature, with a face and voice which gave men strange nostalgic dreams of better days and finer surroundings."

Spike fell hard for the singer and mistook her flirtatious manner for genuine affection. Dog Kelley, the mayor and part-owner of the Alhambra Saloon where Dora sang five nights a week, took pleasure in bursting the lovesick puppy's bubble. Humiliated by the revelation, Spike retaliated with his fists only to be beaten to a pulp.

When the bruised and battered prodigal son spurred his mount out of town, the mayor and everyone else in Dodge presumed he was going back to Texas to lick his wounds. But that was not the case, as a Wyatt Earp biographer

later explained: "Jim Kennedy (sic) elected to kill Kelley in his sleep by shooting through the flimsy wall of the bedroom at the front of the mayor's two-room shack" behind the Great Western Hotel.

In the predawn darkness of Oct. 4, 1878, Spike slipped unseen into Dodge, stopped his horse outside Kelley's shack and fired two shots through the wall where he believed his tormentor was sleeping.

What he did not know at the time was that Dog Kelley had given his bed to Dora Hand for the night. One of the .44 caliber slugs pierced her side killing the woman instantly.

Even though there were no eyewitnesses to the "ride-by" shooting, the unanimous opinion was that Spike Kenedy had committed the despicable crime. Sheriff Bat Masterson and Assistant Marshal Wyatt Earp at first resisted public pressure to pursue the suspect, but at two o'clock that afternoon the future legends grudgingly gave chase with a large posse at their backs.

Despite the fugitive's 10-hour head start, they caught up with him the following day. Spike tried to make a run for it, but Masterson used his .50 caliber rifle to knock him out of the saddle with a clean shot through the shoulder.

The first words out of Spike's mouth amounted to an admission of guilt. "Did I kill him?" he asked Earp. Told he had taken Dora's life instead of his intended target's, the Texan turned on Masterson. "You ought to have made a bet-

ter shot than you did!" "I did the best I could," was Bat's sarcastic response.

Mifflin Kenedy did not know the identity of the murder victim nor the circumstances of the crime until he met in private with Earp and Masterson. His sole concern was whether he had brought enough money.

Judging from the outcome, he had. A brief article in the Oct. 29, 1878, edition of a Dodge City newspaper reported the acquittal of James Kenedy. "His trial took place in the sheriff's office, which was too small to admit spectators. We do not know what the evidence was or upon what grounds he was acquitted."

Mifflin Kenedy outlived his three sons and one of two daughters. Spike died of natural causes in 1884 while awaiting trial for murder. His death came 12 years after his baby brother was laid to rest and four years before the lone surviving son was gunned down by a jealous husband.

The patriarch of the cattle clan went to his grave in 1895 with the knowledge there would be no one left to carry on the family name.

"Murder Most Texan" is a must read for fans of true crime and Texas history. Order your copy for \$24.00 by mailing a check to Bartee Haile, P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.

Shorter days bring higher risk for pedestrians

Special to the News-Standard

LUFKIN – While fall and winter give Texans a much-needed reprieve from the summer heat, the change in seasons also brings fewer daylight hours, making it harder for drivers to see pedestrians and keep them safe.

October is the deadliest month for pedestrians, with 80 pedestrians dying in Texas traffic crashes in 2023. In the Lufkin District in 2023, there were 48 traffic crashes involving pedestrians, resulting in 13 pedestrian fatalities and 13 pedestrian serious injuries.

"As the fall and winter months usher in shorter days and less light, pedestrians are at increased risk on our roads," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said. "Drivers may struggle to see pedestrians in lower-light conditions and must stay alert to avoid preventable collisions. Likewise, pedestrians can take extra precautions to be seen by drivers when walking after dark."

TxDOT is taking to the streets with its Be Safe. Drive Smart. Campaign during October's National Pedestrian Safety Month, reminding drivers to slow down and watch for people walking.

TxDOT's educational campaign includes TV and radio spots, billboards and digital advertising. TxDOT will also bring 34 street teams — walking billboards wearing safety messages — to areas that saw the greatest number of pedestrian fatalities last year. The street teams will be deployed in places where

motorists and pedestrians share the road.

TxDOT encourages everyone to follow these safety tips to prevent a deadly crash:

- For drivers
 - Stop and yield for pedestrians in crosswalks.
 - When turning, yield the right of way to pedestrians.

- Put your phone away before you begin driving and stay alert, so you're prepared if pedestrians enter your path.

- Be cautious when passing stopped buses or other vehicles that can block your view of pedestrians.

- Follow the posted speed limit and drive to conditions.

- For people walking
 - Cross the street only at intersections and crosswalks. Look left, right, then left again before crossing.

- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing. Don't assume traffic will stop for you.

- Follow all traffic and crosswalk signals.

- When walking, put away electronic devices that take your attention off the road.

- Stay visible. Wear reflective materials or use a flashlight at night.

- Be Safe. Drive Smart. is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

Leaning everywhere



It Still Matters

By Darby Kethan
darbykethan@gmail.com

Schools are not the only place children learn, and they were never meant to be. Long before there were formal schools, parents taught children important skills.

Helping kids learn any skill is what parenting is about, whether the skill to be mastered is learning to talk, to behave well, to ride a tricycle, to make biscuits, to repair bicycles, to play the piano, or read, add identify shapes and colors, and remember the names of the United States.

Teachers in the school setting are the guides for children's learning; learning goes on all the time, and parents can make the most of every opportunity to support the "school learning" wherever they are. In educational terms, this is called "generalization", which means kids learning colors at school can identify those colors outside of school and kids learning how to add can use this skill at home.

There are many important ways parents can teach and reinforce skills children need in school, every day, in casual and fun ways.

An important part of any child's development is language and vocabulary, learning to give names to objects, feelings, and to understand directions. They learn these words best from parents because parents are the most important persons in their lives. Daily activities such as

dressing, bathing, eating, and trips to the grocery store offer many chances for young kids to learn or practice important skills.

As children dress, talk about the colors of the clothes and identify the parts of the garments. Think about the words to learn about a pair of jeans ... zipper, snaps, belt loops, pockets, legs, waist, color, etc., not to mention directions such as pull up, button, zip, in, etc.

During bath time, words such as faucet, drain, shower, on, off, turn, hot, cold, empty, wash cloth, towel, soap, clean, dirty, wash, scrub, and identifying smells of soap, shampoo, and the sounds of running water are just a few of the words to learn. Young children need to recognize colors and shapes. Any walk along the street, any trip to the grocery store is a learning experience if parents talk to kids about what they are seeing.

Just like the jeans, there is much to identify and talk about that children need to know. The sad thing is that I often see parents with children who are not even walking BY their child much less talking TO their child.

The importance of such learning during every day at home, while walking or shopping, is impossible to emphasize too much. Children who are not taught vocabulary frequently have language problems and they become frustrated by not having the words to express themselves.

Most children come into this world with eager minds and exploring hands. Parents, who are the first and best teachers, ultimately determine how successful children will be in school and in their adult lives by how they guide children in their earliest learning. There is just too much kids need to know not to give them the earliest possible start.

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TRINITY COUNTY SPORTS

Tigers mauled by Lions

By Scott Womack
TCNS correspondent

KOUNTZE — In an effort to even their district record, the Tigers traveled to Kountze looking to spoil the Lion's Homecoming Festivities.

The Tigers received the ball to open the game, but in their second play, a Lion interception quickly halted the drive. The Tiger defense was able to make a stop and force a punt, but the the Tigers next possession resulted in an errant punt from their own end zone.

The Lions scooped up the ball at the 1-yard line for an easy score and a 7-0 lead. The Tigers were again unable to gain any offensive momentum, and a failed 4th-down try, set up the Lion offense for another score and as the first quarter ended the Tigers found themselves in a 14-0 hole.

The 2nd quarter started on a positive note as the Tigers were able to find the end zone on a 75-yard drive highlighted by a 17-yard pass from Turbo Maxie to Corde' Walker, giving the Tigers the ball at the 1-yard line and Maxie an opportunity to get the score on the next play. Misfortunes fell on the Tiger defense on the Lions' ensuing drive as they were forced to go for a 4th-and-1 from the 48-yard line. The Lions tried a quarterback sneak that broke loose for a 48-yard touchdown.

The Tigers Special Team's misfortunes continued on their next drive as the Lions were able to field a punt at the Lion 30-yard line and return it 70-yards to extend the lead 28-6. The Tigers were able to put together a 64-yard scoring drive to narrow the lead 28-12 as Maxie completed a 35-yard touchdown pass to Ayden DuBose. With time winding down in the first half, the Lions drove the ball deep into Tiger Territory and were threatening to add another score when the Tigers forced a turnover at the 3-yard line and were able to keep the score manageable at 28-12 going into the locker room at halftime.

The Tigers attempted to get momentum on their side with an onside kick to open the 3rd quarter, but the Lions were able to retain possession, but much like the opening of the game, the Lions threw an interception followed by a late hit that gave the Tigers a golden opportunity to get back to within a touchdown, but a 4th down sack ended their drive. The 3rd quarter resulted in a defensive struggle in which no team was able to gain any traction on offense.

Unfortunately for the Tigers, the 4th quarter resulted in their worst performance of the season as they fumbled the ball twice and gave up 21-points as the Lions cruised to a 49-12 beating of the Tigers.

The Tigers have a bye week and will host Warren for Homecoming on Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

Apple Springs

The Eagles won 74-27 over Campbell on Thursday. Nate Sanders went 29 of 35 passing for 428 yards and 10 touchdowns. Leading receivers were Peyton Williams, Joseph Ocasiones, Zeth Dugat and Reagan Davis. Leading defensive players were Noah Thompson and Bradyn Kaufman.



The Trinity Tiger boys cross country team claimed a first-place win in their home cross country meet on Wednesday. Cade Mauldin (left) took first individually. COURTESY PHOTO

Trinity 1st, 3rd in home cross country meet

TCNS staff

TRINITY — Cade Mauldin continues to lead the running pack by claiming a first-place finish in the home Trinity Tiger Cross Country meet on Wednesday.

The Tigers also claimed first as a team, while the girls took third place.

Meanwhile at the same meet, Jannett Bautista of Groveton won first in the girls competition, and the Lady Indians team took second.

Trinity Tiger Cross Country Meet Oct. 2 Trinity

Team results: 1st - Trinity, 2nd - Crockett, 3rd - Grapeland, 4th - Elkhart, 5th - Madisonville, 6th - Onalaska, 7th - Diboll, 8th - North Sulch

Individual Results (place, name, results)

Apple Springs

29, Dilyn Baird, 0:20:35
45, Grayson Hollis, 0:21:49
55, Joseph Ocasiones, 0:22:29
93, Tripp Turner, 0:34:21

Trinity

1, Cade Mauldin, 0:16:51
9, John Parrish, 0:18:36
19, Alejandro Zavala, 0:19:50
28, Cristian Lopez, 0:20:33
42, Austin Beasley, 0:21:28

Girls

Team Results

1st - Centerville, 2nd - Groveton, 3rd - Trinity, 4th - Diboll, 5th - Elkhart, 6th - Goodrich, 7th - Onalaska, 8th - North Sulch, 9th - Richards

Individual Results (place, name, results)

Apple Springs

28, Faith Smith, 0:16:38
60, Brooke Brister, 0:19:43
Groveton
1, Jannett Bautista, 0:14:03
15, Kayleigh Albus, 0:15:32
33, No Name, 0:17:07
17, Laney Peterson, 0:15:47
22, Madi Hobby, 0:16:07
43, No Name, 0:17:52
Trinity
8, Jasmine Jordan, 0:14:30
11, Karissa Rangle, 0:14:57
35, Alexa Manzaners, 0:17:13
27, Olivia Mills, 0:16:34
31, Lauren McDougale, 0:16:57
51, Natalie Stansberry, 0:18:50
52, Summer Ogden, 0:18:50
53, Elizabeth Amro, 0:18:53
55, Aliana Reyes, 0:19:05
57, Abril Puentes, 0:19:15
63, Marisol Lopez, 0:19:54
64, Asis Cerda, 0:20:00

Groveton sweeps match against Lady Bulldogs

TCNS staff

GROVETON — The Lady Indians took out Corrigan-Camden three straight on Friday — 25-18, 25-18 and 25-17.

Kayleigh Albus dominated the net with 10 kills, while Jannett Bautista and Caila Antley contributed 6 each.

Bautista and Antley each had 7 aces from the service line.

Kady Lee racked up 2 blocks, while Darbi Parker had 22 digs and Antley put up 21.

Alinda Veng and Aubrey Alexander both had 9 assists on the night.

Trinity

The Lady Tigers fell to the Onalaska Lady Wildcats 3-0 on Oct. 1 — 11-25, 18-25 and 13-25.

Apple Springs

The Lady Eagles lost to the Oakwood Lady Panthers 3-0 on Friday.

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 Conquering My Culinary
 Bucket List One Dish at a Time
 By Emily Banks Wooten

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A “sampler” plate with a little bit of
 everything at Mi Tierra Cafe y Panaderia.

I recently had the good fortune to get away to San Antonio for a few days. Hubby had some continuing education there and I decided to join him. The best part of all was that we made a detour through Austin on the way there and picked up Daughter to join us. It was the first time we’d seen her since we moved her to UT and it had been a long five weeks.

Knowing that we would be arriving at our hotel late at night, we stopped and got a quick bite at Cracker Barrel en route. Once we checked into our room, unpacked and got comfortable, she told us all about her classes. She seems to have acclimated well, which has been comforting for us, and she loves her classes. What more could we ask for?

The next day for lunch, we ate at Fiume Pizzeria and Wine Bar which is located in the Hilton Palacio del Rio on the San Antonio RiverWalk. We inquired about the sizes of the pizzas and determined that two pizzas would be perfect for the three of us. She had her eyes on the “Classico Pepperoni” which comprised San Marzano tomatoes, pepperoni, mozzarella, extra virgin olive oil and parmigiano reggiano. I had read good things about the “Sweet Texas Heat” so we selected that one for our second one. It was made with a white sauce, applewood smoked bacon, hot Calabrian peppers, basil and local hot honey sourced from Texas Farms. Both pizzas were absolutely delicious and we will definitely go back on a future trip.

That evening, Hubby and I joined some of his colleagues for a delightful dinner at Mi Tierra Cafe y Panaderia. Daughter opted to relax in the hotel room and enjoyed supper that she DoorDashed from Wingstop.

We had a wonderful meal of fajitas, enchiladas, tamales, tacos, rice, refried beans and fresh guacamole – followed up with some wonderful churros that were drizzled with chocolate and strawberry sauces.

The following day, Hubby was attending classes so Daughter and I ran a few errands and enjoyed lunch at the historic Guenther House. Carl Hilmar Guenther, the founder of Pioneer Flour Mills, built an elegant home on the San Antonio River in 1859. Beautifully restored, it now welcomes visitors as a restaurant, gift shop, museum and special events venue.

It’s a fascinating place with much to see, but as I’m planning a feature on it for an upcoming issue of East Texan magazine, I’ll just stick to talking about our lunch for now. Having studied the menu prior, I thought I knew exactly what I wanted – until I saw a waitress walk by with the thickest, most beautiful slice of quiche I’d ever seen. I then pivoted and selected the quiche of the day which on that day was chorizo, potato, jalapeno and cilantro. It comes with a side of fresh fruit or roasted potatoes. I opted for the roasted potatoes.

Daughter ordered breakfast tacos. There were multiple choices of components, but she went with scrambled eggs, shredded cheddar and applewood smoked bacon on flour tortillas. They came with the choice of fresh fruit or roasted potatoes with house made salsa. She, too, opted for the roasted potatoes. What can I say? We girls like our carbs.

I wanted a cup of coffee and noticed on the menu that they offered something called “Founders Choice Coffee - uniquely roasted and blended just for us.” I asked the waitress about it and she said it had hints of cinnamon, chocolate and vanilla. I was intrigued and ordered a cup. It was so good that I purchased a bag of it from the nearby gift shop and museum to bring home.

Our last night there, we joined our friends Richard, Will, Scott, Jana and Dana for a wonderful meal at Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar. I selected the 8-oz. petite filet mignon, Hubby chose the dry-aged ribeye and Daughter opted for the North Atlantic lobster chipotle cheddar mac and cheese. As the sides are plenty large enough to share, we opted for an array of them for the table. Therefore, we were able to enjoy a little bit of everything – roasted asparagus, crispy Brussels sprouts and bacon, roasted sweet potatoes, creamed spinach, mashed potatoes and chipotle cheddar mac and cheese.

After all that delicious food, we certainly didn’t need dessert. However, sometimes we do things because we want to and not because we need to. While I would have loved the 1230-calorie chocolate lava cake, I opted instead for the 180-calorie fresh fruit and chantilly cream which was a mixture of strawberries, blueberries and pineapple topped with house-made chantilly whipped cream and a tuile which is a baked wafer, French in origin. Daughter enjoyed a beautiful slice of New York cheesecake, classically prepared, with strawberry red wine sauce and fresh mint. Hubby exercised restraint and forwent dessert.

The last morning after checking out of our hotel, we wanted a good brunch and we ended up at a place called Camp Outpost that Hubby found online. He really hit it out of the park with this one. It was an old converted warehouse with an industrial vibe and nostalgic camp-like theme. It was unpretentious, yet cool at the same time. The menu describes the offerings as elevated camp fare featuring high quality, wood-fired rotisserie meats and seasonally fresh grilled sides. As soon as we walked in, we all inhaled in unison, breathing in that glorious campfire aroma.

Hubby and Daughter – being the two peas in a pod that they are – both ordered two bacon and egg tacos which comprised scrambled eggs, hickory smoked bacon, pepper jack cheese, wood-grilled onions, tomatillo salsa and cilantro, served with griddled potatoes and camp hot sauce.

I had my eyes on one thing until I read about the breakfast sandwich and was intrigued. It was fried eggs, hickory smoked bacon, slow roasted pork, smoked gouda and strawberry jam on a toasted French roll, with camp breakfast potatoes and camp tomatillo sauce. Initially, I was perplexed by the idea of the strawberry jam, but then I looked at Hubby and said, “It must work or they wouldn’t put it on there. Sign me up.” The sandwich – which was huge – was absolutely amazing. The toasted French roll was soft and fluffy. The hickory smoked bacon and slow roasted pork were savory goodness and the thin layer of strawberry jam was the perfect foil to cut through the natural saltiness of the meats. And the potatoes were some of the best I’ve ever had. We’ll definitely go back to Camp Outpost.

While we have some favorite places to eat in San Antonio, it’s always fun to explore and discover new places that quickly become favorites as well. This trip didn’t disappoint. ■

The churros at
 Mi Tierra Cafe y
 Panaderia.



Fresh fruit and chantilly cream
 with a tuile at Fleming’s Prime
 Steakhouse and Wine Bar.

The breakfast sandwich and camp
 potatoes at Camp Outpost.



The quiche of the day and roasted potatoes at
 The Guenther House.

**Where to find
 these restaurants:**

- **Fiume Pizzeria and Wine Bar**
 is located in the Hilton Palacio del Rio
 at 200 S. Alamo St.
- **Mi Tierra Cafe y Panaderia**
 is located at 218 Produce Row.
- **The Guenther House**
 is located at 205 E. Guenther St.
- **Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar**
 is located at 255 E. Basse Rd.
- **Camp Outpost**
 is located at 1811 S. Alamo St.



Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at www.kidscoop.com

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Kid Scoop Together

Respect Bingo

Directions: Play this game with a friend or a family member. When you see a person doing each of the respectful behaviors on the bingo card, mark it off. Who can complete one row first? Can you cross off all the behaviors?

HOLDING A DOOR OPEN FOR SOMEONE	SOMEONE SAYING "PLEASE"	SOMEONE SAYING "THANK YOU"
TWO PEOPLE SHAKING HANDS	SOMEONE SHARING WITH ANOTHER	SOMEONE PICKING UP LITTER
SOMEONE BEING KIND TO ANIMALS	SOMEONE LISTENING WITH RESPECT	SOMEONE SAYING A KIND WORD
FRIENDS HELPING EACH OTHER	SOMEONE SAYING "I'M SORRY"	SHOWING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

HOLDING A DOOR OPEN FOR SOMEONE	SOMEONE SAYING "PLEASE"	SOMEONE SAYING "THANK YOU"
TWO PEOPLE SHAKING HANDS	SOMEONE SHARING WITH ANOTHER	SOMEONE PICKING UP LITTER
SOMEONE BEING KIND TO ANIMALS	SOMEONE LISTENING WITH RESPECT	SOMEONE SAYING A KIND WORD
FRIENDS HELPING EACH OTHER	SOMEONE SAYING "I'M SORRY"	SHOWING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **RESPECT**

The noun **respect** means treating people, animals and things in a kind and thoughtful way.

Anya showed **respect** for her neighborhood by picking up litter.

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

The Winning Game

The Game of Respect

Why Play a Game That Everyone Wins?

To be a winner or to be successful in life, you need to be smart in a lot of different ways. Reading, writing and arithmetic are very important, but so is knowing how to get along with others.

Game Rules:

- 2-4 players or teams
- Find a marker for each player or team.
- Flip a coin to move. Heads: move two spaces. Tails: move one space.
- Play until everyone finishes and you are all winners!

Standards Link: Follow multiple-step directions. Recall information. Connect prior knowledge.

Bonus Challenge:

How can you turn losing a game into a win?

Extra! Extra! What is fairness?

Cut words and photos from the newspaper to show what you think fairness sounds like, looks like and feels like.

Standards Link: Make reasonable assertions through supportive citation. Analyze text.

START

Spoke kindly to family member. FREE TURN!

GO! Fed your pet. **TAKE THE SHORTCUT!**

Describe something your family did together.

Respected your sister's or brother's privacy. **MOVE AHEAD TWO SPACES!**

Cleaned your room without complaining. **Do a cheer!**

Shared your toys. **Give a high five to the person next to you.**

Find a newspaper article about people cooperating.

Act out making your bed.

Asked permission to play outside. **MOVE AHEAD ONE SPACE.**

Name two ways you and the person on your right are alike.

PUT-DOWNS! YELLING! INSULTS! LOSE A TURN!

Compliment the person on your left.

Local News

Find a newspaper article that shows teamwork. Explain why you chose it.

Interrupting. **LOSE A TURN.**

FREE TURN! Compliment each player.

You helped a younger student. Nice!

GO! Polite to yard duty teacher. **TAKE THE SHORTCUT!**

SHHHHHH! Talked when teacher was giving directions. **DO NOT TALK UNTIL NEXT TURN!**

Name two classmates who are respectful to others.

Listened quietly while a classmate spoke. **MOVE AHEAD ONE SPACE.**

Helped someone carry something. **FREE TURN!**

Name a law you must obey.

Shake hands with the person on your right.

Find an example in the newspaper of someone helping their community. Tell why you respect this person.

Tell about a time you helped at school.

Name a volunteer job you could do.

Planted flowers. **TAKE THE SHORTCUT!**

GO!

Gossiping? **LOSE A TURN.**

Close your eyes and draw your home.

Name something you own that is reusable.

Forgot to take out trash. **LOSE A TURN.**

Reduce: Find something you could do without.

FREE TURN! Find something at home you could recycle.

Tell what it feels like to be treated with respect.

Find something at home you could recycle.

Polite to school custodian. **MOVE AHEAD ONE SPACE!**

Tell how you help keep your classroom clean.

BE TOLERANT

SMILE!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

Does fair always mean equal? Should bedtime be the same for all family members?

BE HELPFUL

BE TOLERANT

BE HELPFUL

PRACTICE RESPECT AT SCHOOL

PRACTICE RESPECT IN THE COMMUNITY

SAY "THANK YOU" AND "YOU'RE WELCOME!"

FINISH

Kid Scoop Puzzler

FAIRNESS

Draw lines to divide the pizza into equal slices to share with your friends. Name friends you are sharing pizza with:

Standards Link: Recognize, name and compare fractional parts.

Double Double Word Search

CHEER
CLEAN
DRAW
FIND
FINISH
LISTENED
KINDLY
NICE
POLITE
RESPECTED
START
TWO
TURN
WIN
WORDS

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

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

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Give and Take

To receive respect, you must also be willing to give respect. Look through the newspaper and clip pictures and stories of people giving and receiving respect. Find examples of people not treating others or things with respect.

Standards Link: Recognize syllables in words.

What did the ocean say to the crab?

ANSWER: Nothing. It just waved.

Write On!

Can a Loss Be a Win?

How can you turn a losing game into a win?

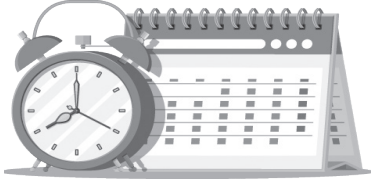
E

Brad Elrod

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AREA DIGEST



WCGS Genealogy Event

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

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

The event is free and open to everyone.

For information, visit the WCGS website at wcgtx.org or the Huntsville Public Library website at myhuntsvillelibrary.com, or call Mary Kokot at (936) 291-5471.

The presentations also are available online at these sites.

Vets hold raffle

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

The 17th annual fundraiser will be held from noon to 6 p.m. Oct.

26 at Scheelbillies Saloon, 5665 FM 356, in Trinity.

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

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

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

Inspirational speaker set

First Baptist Church of Groveton will host speaker and Olympic gold medalist Laura Wilkinson at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 30 at the church.

Wilkinson is a member of the Texas Sports Hall of Fame, the International Swimming Hall of Fame, and the University of Texas Women's Athletics Hall of Fame.

For information, visit fbc-groveton.com online.

Exercise class offered

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

Everyone is welcome.

Open gym night

The Groveton Change Club

presents Open Gym Night on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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

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

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

GOP Ladies meet

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

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

Church program set

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

For information, contact the

church at (936) 594-3611.

Band holds fundraiser

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

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

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

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

Veterans museum hosts events

HEARTS Veterans Museum hosts HAM radio class/testing at the Walker County Storm Shelter on the second Saturday of every month from 9-11 a.m.

For more info email festival@heartsmuseum.com or call (936) 295-5959.

Delivery available

Martin Senior Center in Trin-

ity now offers meal delivery to those over 60 that qualify for the service.

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

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

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

Helping hands

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

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

Soup kitchen available

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

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

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

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

Vehicle safety inspection changes to take effect January 2025

Special to the News-Standard

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety reminds Texans that changes to the state's Vehicle Safety Inspection Program — which eliminate most vehicle safety inspections — begin on Jan. 1, 2025.

These changes are due to House Bill 3297. The bill was passed by the 88th Legislature and signed into law by Governor Greg Abbott in 2023, abolishing the Vehicle Safety Inspection Program for non-commercial vehicles.

Starting New Year's Day, non-commercial vehicles will no longer need a vehicle safety inspection prior to registration. All non-commercial vehicles in the state will still be subject to a \$7.50 inspection program replacement fee. The inspection program replacement fee

will be paid at the time you register your vehicle with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

New vehicles (those of the current or preceding model year on the date of purchase) purchased in Texas that have not been previously registered in Texas or another state are required to pay an initial inspection program replacement fee of \$16.75 to cover two years.

Please note the inspection program replacement fee is not an increase in the cost of your vehicle registration. As its name suggests, this fee simply replaces the revenue source for state programs and operations — like the construction and expansion of state highways — once supported by vehicle safety inspections.

Vehicles registered in emissions counties

While comprehensive vehicle safety inspec-

tions will be eliminated for all non-commercial vehicles, Texans whose vehicles are registered in emissions counties will still be required to have emissions tests. The price of vehicle emissions tests varies by vehicle and county.

Emissions tests are required in major metropolitan areas, including Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris and Montgomery counties; Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall and Tarrant counties; Travis and Williamson counties; and El Paso County. Bexar County will be added to the list of counties requiring emissions tests in 2026.

Commercial vehicles

All commercial vehicles in all counties will still be required to obtain a passing vehicle safety inspection. Because they will still need

to pay for a safety inspection, commercial vehicles will be exempt from the inspection program replacement fee.

Remember, all vehicles will still need to be registered; the registration process will continue to be managed by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

Even though vehicle safety inspections are being eliminated for most vehicles, the department reminds Texans to regularly service their vehicles to keep themselves and other motorists safe on the road. Regular maintenance ensures the proper operation of your vehicle's headlights, taillights, horn, mirrors, windshield wipers, tires and other critical functions. Driving a vehicle without many of these properly working safety features is against the law and puts everyone at risk.

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ACROSS

- TXism: "he's _ _ _ to walk the river with" (reliable)
- a pocket bread
- our treat (2 wds.)
- Travis _ _ _ pleases 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

DOWN

- TXism: "sticks like _ _ _"
- Amtrak stop in Wood County
- TXism: "he can't carry _ _ _ bucket"
- noted 19th century political cartoonist, Thomas
- sailing in the Gulf
- lasting performance platform? (2 wds.)
- suffix denoting the female gender
- a former Ranger in "Lonesome Dove": " _ _ Eye Parker"
- "Star Trek's" Spock line: "Live long _ _ _"
- it predated 7-11's Slurpee
- 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 _ _ Sueur
- 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- _ _ _ is once flew over Texas
- 48-across played his "Carrie" (init.)
- most Texans are _ _ _ of their state
- _ _ _ up or ship out"
- picnic pests

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 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"

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Squirrel hunting, then and now

Some of my most fond childhood memories revolve around squirrel hunting and the great meals my mother prepared after a successful hunt. I remember way back in about 1958 when I was an 8-year-old whippersnapper making what was to be the luckiest shot of my life.

My Dad and I were hunting in the back 40 woods behind our little farm. The wind was blowing hard and in the top of a huge white oak, a big fox squirrel was eating acorns. I timed the sway of the branch perfectly and squeezed the trigger of my little single shot J.C. Higgins .22. A perfect head shot that damaged no meat.

I was amazed and my Dad was astonished as well. I remember thinking I was Daniel Boone as I put the makings of a fine meal in my game bag. The morning hunt progressed and I missed a couple of easy shots with the little rifle. Looking back my shot was mostly luck but tell that to a kid that just shot a squirrel high up in a tree from a branch swaying heavily with the wind.

White-tailed deer were just getting established from restocking in Red River County where we lived. Squirrel hunting remained a big deal with most of us country folks. Groups of hunters would set up wall tent camps using government surplus tents and camp for several days, hunting and eating squirrel.

Each camp would devise contests ranging from number of squirrels harvested to tournaments to voting on the best squirrel cook. I was too young to partake of these camps, but I did visit them during mid day a couple times and enjoyed some great meals the men made from the fruits of their hunt.

Mr. Guthrey owned a mixed-breed hound that did double duty on raccoons at night but served well as a squirrel dog during the day. We would occasionally borrow the mixed breed raw boned hound to hunt behind Mr. Guthrey's



cabin and to a budding young hunter; these hunts were highly anticipated events.

It was hard to keep my mind on classwork at the old Dimple School when October and cooler weather rolled around. The old hound had a lot of Black and Tan breeding and he could cover ground quickly. He knew the woods well and the spots the squirrels frequented most.

The drill was pretty simple; we turned the hound loose and waited until he barked, usually in a big old oak den tree. If the squirrel didn't disappear into a hole, one of us would remain stationary and the other circle the tree in efforts to move the bushy tail into position for a shot. I hunted with my single shot .22 and my brother in law used a tight choked 12 gauge.

Our plan was for me to take stationary shots but if the squirrel was on the move, the shotgun was a better choice. We encountered mostly grey or cat squirrels along the creeks and the larger fox squirrels when hunting the hardwoods or field edges.

My success rate was low on the cat squirrels. They seldom held still long enough for a rifle shot. I later switched to a .410 shotgun loaded with #4 or #6 shot and my success rate became much better. It was challenging to hunt with the .22 but squirrels in the game bag and ultimately in my mother's cast iron skillet was the name of the game back then.

I'm happy to say that squirrel hunting is still popular in east Texas; not as popular as it was back in the fifties and sixties but thankfully older hunters have passed their love of hunting

and cooking squirrel along to younger generations. I sometime get a chuckle out of uninformed 'city' folks that liken squirrels to rats.

When I tell them that I grew up in east Texas in an era when squirrel were considered a delicacy, I raise some eyebrows. When I tell them I still relish a big skillet of smothered squirrel with rice and gravy, I really get some 'looks. But that's OK, as the old saying goes "they don't know because they don't know"

How to cook squirrel Squirrels are a bit more challenging to clean (butcher) than most other small game, but the task is easily learned, there are plenty of good YouTube videos that detail the process. When teaching newcomers to the squirrel woods the art of cooking squirrel, I compare squirrel with chicken.

A big complaint is how tough some squirrels are when fried. I ask my student, "If you were going to butcher a chicken to fry, would you choose a tough old rooster or a younger 'fryer'?" Granted, it's possible to par boil or pressure cook mature squirrels and then dust the pieces with flour and fry but I usually reserve the older squirrel for stew or, better yet, dumplings. Young squirrel can simply be seasoned with salt and pepper, dusted with flour and chicken fried.

One of my favorite recipes is smothered squirrel, using my mother's tried and true method. Both young and older squirrels can be used in this slow cooking method. First fry the pieces until crispy and drain most of the oil, making sure to leave the crispy bits in the skillet. Next, add flour salt and pepper and either water or milk and make gravy. Place the squirrel back into the skillet and thin the gravy a bit with water. Cover the skillet or Dutch Kettle and bake at 300 degrees for an hour or so, checking half way through the process to make sure the liquid has not steamed out.

I like to stir the squirrel



Squirrel season is upon us. Luke with a fat bushy tail destined for the cast iron skillet. PHOTOS BY LUKE CLAYTON



Squirrel frying in skillet Tender fried squirrel is a delicacy that many younger hunters have never experienced. Cooking squirrel is much like cooking chicken, but the flavor is even better. PHOTOS BY LUKE CLAYTON

pieces with gravy at this point and add more liquid if necessary. Served with hot biscuits and white rice, this is a meal that will likely become one of your favorite dishes. Squirrel meat is often described as sweet. It definitely has a mild flavor. I like to describe it tast-

ing much like free ranging chickens but with even more flavor.

There's plenty of time to get out in the woods and hunt squirrel this fall and winter. Try preparing the above recipe at deer camp and see how many of your family and friends you can

enlighten. Once a properly prepared meal of squirrel is enjoyed, the term "tree rat" will likely not be in their vocabulary any longer.

Listen to Luke's weekly podcast "Catfish Radio with Luke Clayton and Friends" wherever podcasts are found.

B.A. Steinhagen

FAIR. Water stain; 85 degrees; 0.36 feet below pool. Mayflies are hatching, so expect some topwater bass action. Bass are fair on soft plastics in the cuts, or with frogs over grass. Crappie are fair with jigs in flooded timber. Catfish are fair on jugs.

Bob Sandlin

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 85 degrees; 0.68 feet below pool. Crappie are excellent in 15-20 feet of water on brush piles with minnows or jigs. Channel catfish are fair in 25 feet of water on baited holes with stink bait. White bass are fair at night in the lights with a white spinnerbait. Report by Joey Crews, Lake Bob Sandlin Chubby Chaser Guide Service. Black bass are chasing shad and bream. Windy retaining walls will produce marauding bass. Try topwater baits in a fish pattern and streamers in a Bream pattern. Report by Guide Alex Guthrie, Fly Fish Fork Guide Service. Water clarity is 3-5 feet of visibility. Bass are great under shaded docks with shaky head worms and jigs, and grass edges with bladed jigs, buzzbaits or frogs work well in shallow creek pockets. Topwater walking baits and Alabama rigs are great in the morning and evening. Report by Blake Doughtie, Lake Country Lunkers Lures and Guide Service.

Caddo

GOOD. Water stained; 80 degrees; 0.02 feet below pool. Bass fishing is tough after the weather has warmed. We need some cool nights to get these fish fired up again. There is still some schooling action on the lake hitting flukes, pop r's, buzz baits and frogs. To find the bait look for the lily pads and grass lines and listen for the pads popping. Fish in the cuts in the river with rattle traps or shad color crankbaits. Once you find fish you can switch to a dropshot, shaky head or Texas rig and catch more after they quit hitting a moving



bait. It is about to be a fun time on the lake and with majestic views as the lake turns red and the fall winter colors come around on this majestic lake that God spoke into existence. Report provided by Vince Richards, Caddo Lake Fishing & Fellowship.

Conroe

GOOD. Water stained; 85 degrees; 0.79 feet below pool. Catfish have been excellent this past week on catfish bubblegum, liver, worms, and punch bait in 8-30 feet of water. Bream have been plentiful as well in 4-20 feet of water using Worms and liver. Bass are good up shallow early and late with wacky rigged worms. Offshore structures and docks are good once the sun has risen, with some midday schooling on shad. Report by Brad Doyle with Bradley's Guide Service. Crappie are not as productive, but some can be caught on structure 12-25 feet. Hair jigs have been working better than plastic. Catch a few then move to the next spot, they have been turning off as quickly as they turn on. Hybrids have been schooled up this week in 12-24 feet with some whites mixed in, hanging on flats and drop-offs. Many folks are trolling with a deep diver and a pet spoon trailer, others are using slabs from Bradley Outdoors to jig for them, as well as casting swimbaits or crankbaits. Always wear your life jacket and stay hydrated in this heat. Report by Mike Cason, Fishical Therapy.

Fork

GOOD. Water Stained; 81 degrees; 1.74 feet below pool. The lake is turning over on the upper east and west arms. Early morning bite is good

on topwaters and flukes, and yum dingers around grass. Carolina rigs and Texas rigs are good on points and humps in 7-12 feet. Deep crankbaits are fair over brush piles and roadbeds. Report by Marc Mitchell, Lake Fork Guide Service. Bass are aggressive on top water and shallow. Windy banks can provide schooling action so be ready with a small top water or streamer. Catfish are shallow around boat houses. Bream are excellent in the shallows, wooly buggers and small poppers should bring a strike. Report by Guide Alex Guthrie, Fly Fish Fork Guide Service. The Lake Fork crappie fishing continues to be excellent as we head into fall. You can find fish in a very large range of depths from 12-40 feet. Timber still has some great white crappie if you cover water and pick off those fish. Brush piles are holding decent numbers with a combination of white and black crappie. You can find black crappie on underwater road beds and bridges. We should see more and more black crappie on the tops of timber in deeper water over the next month. Minnows are a great bait but we did catch fish on small hand tied jigs this week. Soft plastics will work and that bite will get better as water cools off. The catfish bite is on fire in 18-28 feet around timber along creek channels. These fish are following bait migrations and will load up under your boat as you begin to fish. They will even elevate off the bottom as they load up so you can fish up and down the water column to find the larger fish. Use any prepared bait of choice to catch this fish. Using some cattle cubes or sour grain will attract and hold even more fish. Report by Jacky Wiggins, Jacky Wiggins Guide Service.

Houston County

SLOW. Water stained; 85 degrees; 0.07 feet below pool. Fishing patterns are consistent, but this should change as the weather begins to cool.

Sunfish are good. Crappie are slow on minnows and jigs. Bass are slow midday, with the best bite in the morning.

Lake O' the Pines

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 90 degrees; 0.33 feet below pool. Water clarity is slightly stained with 2-3 feet of clarity. Bass can be caught on creek channel bends throwing Texas rigged creature baits, senkos, or compact jigs in black & blue. Grass edges are holding a high number of fish and can be caught on 3-4 inch swimbaits, flukes, or bladed jigs. Matted vegetation seems to hold the larger fish in fewer numbers, and you can be caught throwing a ribbit frog or hollow body frog. Report by Blake Doughtie, Lake Country Lunkers Lures and Guide Service.

Livingston

GOOD. slightly stained; 89 degrees; 0.73 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.

Martin Creek

GOOD. Water normal stain; 89 degrees; 1.57 feet below pool. Bass are fair along the edge of the hydrilla using rattletails, swimbaits and watermelon red Texas rigged worms. Crappie are good in brush piles and timber in 20-25 feet using Bobby Garland screamer jigs and minnows. Catfish are good along the dam drifting with night crawlers and shrimp. Reported by Hambone guide service.

Nacogdoches

GOOD. Water normal stain; 82 degrees; 1.34 feet below pool. The clarity has improved to 4 feet of visibility. Largemouth bass are excellent with 3-5 pound fish being caught on small swimbaits and topwaters. There is a lots of schooling action. Crappie are excellent on 1/16 ounce white crappie jigs. Catfish are fair on live minnows and cut bait. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service.

Nacogdoches

FAIR. Water slightly stained; 78 degrees; 0.00 feet full pool. Bass continue to be in a weird mood. They cannot decide if they need to stay or go from their typical summer haunts. Expect the next two cold fronts to get temps to drop back down to the mid 70s before heading further down to set off the fall turnover. Keep an eye on the thermocline. This tells you the exact depth to present your offering. Even over deep water, do not go below this line. The square-bill crankbait 5 feet depth got the most bites over the weekend. If you find them hugging the bottom in 8-10 feet, dragging a Texas-rig Mag-worm can be effective. Crappie population is good. Catfish are slow. Report by Eric Wolfe, NacoTack Fishing Services. Largemouth bass are good on topwaters and swimbaits. Crappie are excellent on brush and standing timber in 10-15 feet of water on 1/16 ounce white crappie jigs. Catfish are fair on cut bait in the fishing pier area. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service.

Pinkston

FAIR. normal stain; 82 degrees. Water clarity is clear. Largemouth bass are good on large or small swimbaits, and dropshots in 10-18 feet of water. Crappie are excellent on 1/16 ounce white crappie jig. Catfish are slow on live minnows or cut bait. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service.

Raven

FAIR. Water light stain; 85 degrees. Crappie are fair on minnows and artificial grubs. Bass are fair on soft plastic artificials. Catfish are fair on worms fished off the bottom. Bluegill are excellent at the boathouse dock on crappie bites and worms.

Sam Rayburn

FAIR. Water slightly stained; 80 degrees; 0.82 feet below pool. Bass are schooling more in the morning so expect more topwater action on grass edges and points.

Crappie are fair on standing timber in 27 feet on brush piles with minnows over jigs. Blue and channel catfish are fair in 24-27 feet of water and in the river bends on cut bait and minnows. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service. Lake 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 offshore 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; 85 degrees; 4.13 feet below pool. It's really back to summer again here the water temperature is back to the mid to high 80s. Bass bite is back to being just fair with shallow fish on topwater and chatterbaits. Creek fish are in 5-8 feet little better. Fish out deep, but most are small to keepers with dropshots and spoons. Crappie slow. Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

Tyler

GOOD. Water normal stain; 84 degrees; 0.84 feet below pool. Fishing patterns are holding steady. Crappie are good with minnows on brush in 16-20 feet of water, and off the barge. Catfish are good in 10-16 feet of water stink bait, liver and night-crawlers. Bream are good on red worms off the barge and throughout the lake. Bass are fair on topwater baits, crankbaits and spinner baits in 4-12 feet of water. Report by The Boulders at Lake Tyler.

Leaving on a high note

This article will conclude my service to the Groveton Ex-Student's Association as president. I am proud of the 10 years that I served and am grateful for all the support I have had from the executive board members, the school district and community.

Best wishes to Tim Coker, the new president, who will be replaced as treasurer by Laura Worsham Anderson. I know they will enable the association to continue in the successful way it has over these many years.

Homecoming 2024 was a huge success. The Smoke Signal was a great publication celebrating the 1984 State Championship football team. Special thanks to Tim Coker (treasurer) for his help in selling ads as well as Marlena Stubblefield (Publicity chair) for her assistance in editing ads and sending them to the publisher. Thank you to Betty Whittlesey as she helped with so many things, including the mailouts, registration, and Hall of Fame preparation. Liz Ledbetter, our secretary, assisted me with Hall of Fame information, printing, and everything else.

More than 25 members of the team, band, coaches and cheer squad gathered before the game to be recognized and celebrated. A special thank you to Coach Michael Waldie for gifting memorial shirts for those attending. What a special way to remember such a wonderful time for GHS and the community. The halftime show included the crowning of homecoming queen, Cassidy Mitchell. The street dance following the game was well attended and the weather was great. Folks reported to us that they loved the band. Thank you to Melissa Kemper and crew for her planning and implementation of the event. It was excellent.

Saturday morning brought the parade, and we thank all who participated and offered us the fun of watching. Thank you to Kathy Clark and Kathy Sharples from Conroe who came to judge. Congratulations to 1st place winner, Freshman Class, 2nd Place Skills USA/Cosmetology, and 3rd Place, GISD Food Service. Honorable Mention went to Jerry Wilder with his Hot Dog bike entry. Thank you to everyone who spent their time and money to create your entries. We enjoyed them all.

Leaders of the parade were our Hall of Fame Inductees Taylor Hennes, Gina and Jimmie Price and Jean Rasbeary. Thank you to the following people who loaned us a convertible for our Hall of Fame Honorees as they rode in the parade: Luther and Kathleen Cockrell, David and Tammy Perry, and Trendon Rose. We thank you. An extra thank you to Kathleen for her help in gathering information from lots of sources for our Hall of Fame nominations and her help in getting the word out about our recognition of the team before the game. It was a special time for us all.

Our Hall of Fame Induction ceremony was well-attended, and we were so proud to welcome Taylor, Gina, Jimmie, and Jean into the Distinguished Student Hall of Fame. This group is certainly worthy of the honor. We thank those who

nominated them as well as the committee who reviewed the nominations. Good job. Several reunions were held on Saturday afternoon. Our Facebook page documents the events so I hope you will visit our page. It was so wonderful to touch base with those we spent so much time with during our youth at GHS. Thank you for coming home. We hope to see you again in 2026.

•Our deepest sympathy to the family, friends and classmates of Winfred Buell Anderson, Class of 1963 and Elizabeth Lou "Becky" Dial Halpain, Class of 1976. They are loved and remembered by so many. Our prayers are with the broken-hearted and we wish them peace and comfort.

I ask God to continue to bless this organization, school district, and community. I am humbled and proud to have served in the footsteps of the visionaries who created this awesome organization. My best wishes.

Dr. Jo Ann Anderson Beken is the former president of the Groveton Ex-Students Association.

The following stories were inadvertently left out of the Smoke Signal.

Groveton High School Baseball Team: A Year of Triumph and Tenacity

By Cash Moore

As autumn settles in and summer's warmth gives way to cooler breezes, Groveton High School's baseball team is still celebrating a season filled with exceptional achievements. The Groveton Indians have once again proven their prowess on the diamond, capping off a year of notable success and setting a high bar for future seasons.

The 2023 season was a standout year for the Indians, marked by an undefeated run through their district games and a well-earned district championship. The guidance of Head Coach Wayne Williams, along with the strategic support of assistant coaches Kevin Parker and Richard Stuebing, played a crucial role in their remarkable performance.

Coach Williams' leadership was pivotal, combining experience with innovative strategies that propelled the team through a challenging season.

"He always kept us in line and brought much needed energy to the team," senior Dax Parker said.

The contributions of Assistant Coaches Parker and Stuebing were equally essential, refining the team's tactics and fostering a winning mentality that was evident throughout the year.

The Indians' success continued into the regional playoffs, where they faced the Grapeland Sandies in the first round. Tanner Stuebing, the team's ace pitcher, was instrumental in securing the playoff victory. His dominant performance on the mound kept Grapeland's hitters at bay, reflecting his exceptional skill and composure. Stuebing's contributions, combined with the collective effort of the team, were crucial in advancing further in the playoffs.

"There are some key losses to

overcome, none bigger than the loss of Tanner Stuebing, but more importantly this year's team will need to replace his leadership," Athletic Director Mike Waldie said. "His daily habits and high character will be hard to replace."

The success of the 2023 season was a team effort, with each player contributing to the Indians' impressive performance. Here's a look at the roster that made it all possible:

- Billy Thomas – 3rd Baseman
- Brody Thornton – Outfield
- Dax Parker – Catcher
- Austin Williams – Outfield
- Ty Torregrosa – Outfield/Pitcher
- Brendon Flinn – 1st Baseman
- Daiton Chandler – I/R
- Jake Plotts – 3rd Baseman/Pitcher

- Angel Maldonado – Outfield
- Tanner Stuebing – Pitcher/Outfield

- Trystin Ard – Outfield
- Jack Sullivan – 2nd Baseman/3rd Baseman
- Jackson Cathey – Shortstop/Pitcher

- Cash Moore – DH/1st Baseman
- Cade White – Outfield
- Logan Townsend – Outfield

Each player brought unique skills and dedication to the field, contributing to the team's overall success. The versatility and commitment of the roster were evident in every game, from defensive plays to offensive strategies.

With the new season on the horizon, the Groveton Indians are poised to build on their past achievements. The team will benefit from a blend of returning players and new talent, all set to continue the winning tradition. Coach Wayne Williams, along with Assistant Coaches Kevin Parker and Richard Stuebing, will continue to lead with their proven expertise and enthusiasm.

"This 25' Baseball season is going to be extremely exciting. A great nucleus of players return and Coach Williams does such a great job leading the program," Waldie said.

The upcoming season promises to be another thrilling chapter in Groveton's baseball history. Fans can look forward to seeing key players like Dax Parker, Jake Plotts, and Jack Sullivan as well as others from the current roster, and new talents eager to contribute to the team's success.

Groveton ISD Celebrates a Year of Unprecedented Achievements

By Shannon Klare

The 2023-2024 school year was a landmark period for Groveton ISD, marked by incredible victories, academic excellence, and noteworthy achievements across all levels. Our district's commitment to hard work, determination, and collaboration has set new standards for success and highlighted the talent and drive of both our students and staff.

Sweeping UIL Victories Across All Campuses

Groveton ISD proved itself as a powerhouse in UIL competitions, taking home first place at the elementary, junior high, and high school levels. These victories represent more than just awards; they reflect the countless hours of prepa-

ration, dedication, and resilience shown by our students, educators, and staff.

"There is such a positive and competitive energy at GISD right now," UIL Coordinator Jeremy Gentry said. "At every level, coaches continue to lead by example, devoting personal time and energy to guide their teams to success."

The competitive spirit and teamwork that led to this success were felt across the district, creating an environment where excellence is the standard.

"Even more inspiring is getting to see students taking ownership of their teams, teaching themselves and helping each other in competitions that often require them to go well beyond the high-school level," Gentry said. "This is the kind of thing that makes me proud to wear the red and white."

In addition to our district-wide victories, six students qualified for the state UIL meet, showcasing their skills on the biggest stage. Among the standouts, Megan Hannah shone bright by placing in both Copy Editing and Editorial Writing.

"Since Freshman year, I had put countless hours into journalism events," Groveton alumna Megan Hannah said. "This achievement was exciting and rewarding. Four years of hard work and dedication allowed me to achieve my final goal and allowed for scholarship opportunities."

A special highlight was the Groveton High School Literary Criticism team, which claimed first place in their category for the third consecutive year.

When asked about his team's victories, Gentry said, "It was kind of amazing to see us not merely continue to win--and I feel so lucky to be able to do so--but to see my students rewrite every GHS record? To watch them outscore every team in Texas in all conferences? To learn that one of my students would score higher than literally every student in Texas? I'm still kind of in awe of the whole thing. It's such a privilege to get to be part of the story."

College Signings: The Next Chapter

Groveton ISD continues to be a launchpad for student success, with numerous seniors signing on to continue their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level:

- Logan Townsend - Football, Centennial College
- Wyatt Lee - Football, Dubuque University
- Bryan Thomas - Football, Texas Wesleyan
- Tanner Stuebing - Baseball, Austin College
- Jarrett Loftin - Basketball, Tabor College
- Daiton Chandler - Basketball, Oklahoma Wesleyan University
- Landry Martin - Softball, Concordia University Texas
- Megan Luce - Softball, Angelina College
- Molly Parson - Theater, Panola College
- Adriana Vazquez, Andrew Gonzalez, and Jaden Hart - Band, Angelina College

These students have put in the work to not only excel in their respective fields but also to open doors for their futures. Their accomplishments are a source of pride for the entire community.

Madison Turrentine: A Musical Talent on the National Stage

In the realm of the arts, Groveton is honored to celebrate the achievements of Madison Turrentine, a member of the Groveton Tribe of Pride Band. Madison has earned a full scholarship to attend the prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy, where she will join some of the nation's most talented young musicians.

According to a press release from Interlochen Arts Academy, "Approximately 17% of the nation's professional orchestra musicians have roots at Interlochen, and the alumni community has been awarded more than 100 Grammy Awards."

Her journey is even more impressive as she was also named a UIL Outstanding Performer at the 2024 Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest—a rare and distinguished honor that speaks volumes about her talent, dedication, and hard work.

"Madi is one of only seven classical trumpet students to be accepted this year from across the country and around the globe," Groveton High School Assistant Band Director, Deb Turrentine said. "The opportunities she will have are unlike anything she could experience at any other high school."

Business Professionals of America: An Impressive Debut

Groveton High School marked a new milestone this year with the introduction of the Business Professionals of America (BPA) program. In just its inaugural year, the program saw overwhelming success, sending 20 students to the regional competition.

"It was a pleasant surprise to have so many students advance to state," BPA sponsor Crystal Antley said. "Of course, we know and believe in our kids, but BPA was a totally new experience for us as sponsors and them as competitors. It was a learning curve for sure, but the kids worked really hard to excel in their competitions."

All 20 participants placed in their respective events, with 18 advancing to the state competition — a phenomenal start for a program that is sure to continue growing and thriving.

"We look forward to another year of success and growth as we continue to build the Groveton High School business department," Antley said.

A Community of Excellence

As we look back on this school year, it is clear that the success of Groveton ISD is driven by a shared commitment to excellence and a belief in the potential of every student. The achievements of our students and staff reflect the hard work, determination, and spirit of our entire community. The future is bright for Groveton ISD, and we look forward to continuing this tradition of success in the years to come.

WE NEED YOUR NOMINATIONS!

2025 BEST OF EAST TEXAS

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NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITES, THEN COME BACK & VOTE THEM TO THE TOP.

NOMINATE OCT. 1-30 | VOTE NOV. 1-30

Sheriff sale scheduled for Nov. 5

NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRINITY By virtue of Tax Warrants issued out of the 411 th DISTRICT COURT of Trinity County, Texas in the following cases on the 10th day of September, 2024, by the Clerk thereof, and to me as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell at 10:00 a.m. on the 5th DAY OF November, 2024, at the Official entrance of the Courthouse of the Trinity County, in the City of Groveton, Texas, the following described property, to wit: Cause No: 5214 TRINITY/GROVETON CONSOLIDATED TAX OFFICE AND TRINITY COUNTY vs. LAURA CORNISH, ET AL TRACT 1: Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12, Block 33, in The Town of Glendale, Deed Recorded in Volume 49, Page 530, Deed Records of Trinity County, Texas, and also being described on the Tax Rolls and Records of Trinity County as Lots 7-12 & 20, Block 33. Pid #15333 TRACT 2: Being 0.249 Acre, Lots 4-6, Block 27, in The Town of Glendale, Deed Recorded in Volume 49, Page 530, Deed Records of Trinity County, Texas. PID #15332 Cause No: 5645 TRINITY-COUNTY, ET AL vs. DENNIS DURDIN, ET AL Lots Forty-Five (45) and Forty-Six (46), Lakeview Addition Deed Recorded in Volume 454 Page 741, The Deed Recorded of Trinity County, Texas PID#16505 Cause No: 5646 TRINITY COUNTY, ET AL vs. LAWRENCE ALLEN, ET AL Lot 2, Block 24-A, Westwood Shores Subdivision, Section 1, Deed recorded in Volume 740, Page 599 Deed Records, of Trinity County, Texas. PID #18280 Cause No: 5647 TRINITY/GROVETON TAX OFFICE vs. GORDON ADKINS TRACT 1: Lot 3, Block 13, Section 1, Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed, Recorded in Volume 594, Page 91, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas PID#17629 TRACT 2: Lot 4, Block 1, Section 10, Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed Recorded in Volume 480, Page 473, Deed Records of Trinity County, Texas PID#29178 Cause No: 5648 TRINITY/GROVETON TAX OFFICE vs. GAY BARROW, ET AL Lot 33, Block 75, Section 7, Westwood Shores Subdivision Deed Recorded in Volume 304, Page 199, Deed Records of Trinity County, Texas. PID# 28240 Cause No: 5649 TRINITY/GROVETON TAX OFFICE vs. EMILIA ROSA BASS, ET AL Lot 27, Block 30, Section 2, Westwood Shores Subdivision Deed Recorded in Volume 760, Page 814, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas PID #27666 Cause No: 5650 TRINITY COUNTY, ET AL vs. CHARLES W. STERLING, ET AL 2.00 Acres, Lot 16, Section 1, White Rock Acres Subdivision, Part of The Joel Clapp Survey, Abstract

130, Deed Recorded in Volume 636, Page 864, Deed Records of Trinity County, Texas. PID #27054 Cause No: 5652 TRINITY COUNTY, ET AL Vs. OWNERS OF VARIOUS PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN TRINITY COUNTY, TEXAS TRACT 1: Lot 32, Block 2, Section 12 Westwood Shores Deed, Recorded Volume 626, Page 25 Deed Records of Trinity County Texas. PID #28331 (BILLIE HARRELL) TRACT 2: Lot 6, Block 8, Section 1 Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed Recorded, in Volume 655, Page 33, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas. PID #27655 (KAMMY EVANS) TRACT 3: Lot 1, Block 15, Section 1, Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed Recorded in, Volume 279, Page 533, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas. PID #27861 (RENA WALTON ESTATE) TRACT 4: Lot 3, Block 1, Section 1, Westwood Shores Subdivision Deed Recorded in Volume 304, Page 280, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas. PID#28204 (C A MCCULLOUGH) TRACT 5: Lot 11, Block 13, Section 11 Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed Recorded in Volume 495, Page 175, and indeed Recorded in Volume 616, Page 124 Deed Records Trinity County, Texas, PID#28380 (GEORGE YOWELL) TRACT 6: 1.42 acres More or Less, John Johnson A-23 Deed Recorded in Volume 168, Page 89, and in Volume 383, Page 75, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas. PID #25315 (GERALD SIMMONS) TRACT 7: Lot 23, Block 6, Section 9, Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed Recorded in Volume 485, Page 665, Deed Records of Trinity County, Texas. PID #29310 (WILLIAM VALVERDE) TRACT 8: Being 4.72 Acres, more or less, in the M.V. Cruz Survey A-15, Deed Recorded Volume 168, Page 89, and in Volume 383, Page 75, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas. PID# 25314 (GERALD SIMMONS) TRACT 9: Lot 12, Block 1, Section 10 Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed Recorded in Volume 374, Page 568, Deed Records Trinity County, Texas. PID#27681 (ANNA JENNY OCASIO) TRACT 10: Lot 1, Block 5, Section 12, Westwood Shores Subdivision, Deed Recorded in Volume 483, Page 824, Deed Records of Trinity County, Texas. PID#28111 (RONALD TEMPLETON) Levied on the 30th day of September 2024. as the property of those persons listed above to satisfy taxes, penalties, interest, and all costs of seizure and sale against those persons listed in said Warrant and any other unknown owners in favor of the Taxing Unit listed in said Tax Warrants. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND ON THE 30th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2024. Woody Wallace Sheriff, Trinity County, Texas By Deputy

Estate of Clifford Schneider

CITATION IN PROBATE THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CLIFFORD SCHNEIDER, DECEASED. On February 26, 2024, Amanda Passmore filed an Application for Letters of Independent Administration and an Application to Declare Heirship. This proceeding is styled the Estate of CLIFFORD SCHNEIDER, Deceased, and is numbered P-2024-5678 in the County Court of Trinity County, Texas. The Court will hear the applications at 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten (10) days, exclusive of the date of publication, from the date this citation is published, or at such later time as may be set by the Court, at the Trinity County Courthouse in Groveton, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for the hearing by filing a writ-

ten contest or answer to the applications should they desire to oppose or contest it. The written contest or answer should be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Trinity County, Texas. The officer serving this citation shall, in compliance with the law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in this county, which is the county in which the proceeding is pending, for not less than ten (10) days before the return date of this citation, exclusive of the date of publication. The date of publication that the newspaper bears will be the date of publication. If this citation is not served withing ninety (90) days after the date of issuance, it shall be returned unserved. Given under my hand and seal of the Court on October 1, 2024 Shasta Bergman Trinity County Clerk By Jeanette Vasquez Clerk's Address: P.O. Box 456 2024 Deputy. Groveton, Texas 75845

City of Groveton to apply for DRRP

CITY OF GROVETON PUBLIC NOTICE DISASTER RECOVERY REALLOCATION PROGRAM (DRRP) ADMINISTRATION/PROFESSIONAL SERVICES The City of Groveton plans to apply for the upcoming Disaster Recovery Reallocation Program (DRRP) of the Texas General Land Office (GLO). These services are being solicited to assist the City in its application and administration of the DRRP contract, if awarded, to support the following eligible activities in the City of Groveton. Accordingly, the City is seeking to contract with a qualified Professional Administrator or Service Provider (individual/firm) to prepare the application and/or administer the awarded contract. Please submit your proposal of services and a statement

of qualifications for the proposed services to the address below: City of Groveton Ralph Bennett, Mayor 115 W. Front Street Groveton, Texas 75845 Proposals shall be received by the City no later than 5:00 pm on the Wednesday, October 10, 2024. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Groveton is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Claim of ownership of certificate of title

I, Latanya Germaine Cochran, a natural living person, states that I am familiar with the facts recited, I state that I am the party named in said Certificate of Live Birth, and I am the same party as one of the owners named in Certificate of Title, I woman, verify under penalty of perjury under the laws

of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct; Executed on this second day of October 2024 By: Cochran, Latanya Germaine, Not in individual capacity, without the United States, Held in Trust, All Rights Under Reserve. Publication dates 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/22

NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO RECONCILE FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER COSTS

On September 30, 2024, Entergy Texas, Inc. ("Entergy Texas") filed an Application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") to reconcile its eligible fuel and purchased power costs incurred during the period of April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2024 ("Reconciliation Period"). This filing was made pursuant to Section 36.203 of the Texas Utilities Code and 16 Texas Administrative Code § 25.236. The Commission has assigned Docket No. 57134 to the Application.

In its Application, Entergy Texas seeks to reconcile approximately \$1.61 billion of fuel and purchased power expenses incurred during the Reconciliation Period to generate and purchase electric energy for its retail customers. In this reconciliation proceeding ETI seeks Commission review of Entergy Texas' eligible fuel and purchased power expenses incurred during the Reconciliation Period and a determination they were reasonable and necessary to serve retail customers.

Entergy Texas's under-recovery balance for the Reconciliation Period totals approximately \$30.0 million, which includes interest expense on the under-recovered amounts. Entergy Texas does not seek to implement a fuel-related refund or surcharge of its eligible fuel costs in this case. Entergy Texas proposes to roll any ending fuel balance resulting from this proceeding forward to serve as the beginning balance for the next reconciliation period.

All customers and classes of customers receiving retail electric service from Entergy Texas whose electric service rates include charges pursuant to Rate Schedule FF (fixed fuel factor) will be affected by the Application. This Application has no effect on Entergy Texas' non-fuel rates.

Persons with questions or who want more information on this petition may contact Entergy Texas at Attn: Customer Service—Fuel Reconciliation, 350 Pine Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701, or call 1-866-981-2602 during normal business hours. A complete copy of this petition is available for inspection at the address listed above or by email at tcr@entergy.com.

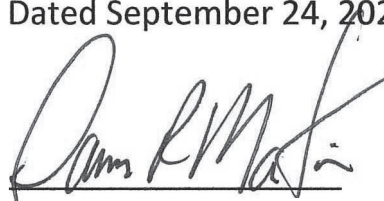
Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this petition should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Customer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call (512) 936-7120 or toll-free at (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones ("TTY") may call (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) 1-800-735-2989. A deadline for intervention will be established for this proceeding. All communications should refer to Docket No. 57134.

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TO THE CITIZENS OF TRINITY COUNTY, TEXAS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
By Order of the Commissioners' Court:
Notice is hereby given that on October 21, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Trinity County Courthouse, in Groveton, Texas, the Commissioners' Court of Trinity County, Texas will conduct a public hearing to extend Texas Transportation Code Laws to all roads included in the Lakewood at Livingston Subdivision.
Dated September 24, 2024

Danny R. Martin
Trinity County Judge

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Policy	Auctions & Sales	Work Wanted	Work Wanted	Employment	For Sale
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>HUGE GARAGE SALE, Saturday, October 12, 8 am, 1613 W. Bluff, Woodville, (Pentecostals of Woodville Church). Explore a variety of treasures, furniture, household items, and more. All proceeds support our community programs. (41-1t-cc-TCB)</p> <p>Community-Wide Garage Sale Indian Hills Subdivision (end of FM 2457 at Lake Livingston) Friday and Saturday Oct 11th-12th 8AM-4PM</p> <p>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)</p> <p>YARD SALE, Friday & Saturday, October 11-12, 605 Anderson, Woodville. Household items, misc. (40-2t-p-TCB)</p> <p>GARAGA SALE Friday-Saturday, October 11th-12th 8am-5pm, Timber Bay Subdivision Pavilion, Trinity of FM 356. Too much to list. (41-1t-cc-TCNS)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>YARD SALE October 11th & 12th. 8-4. 440 Schooner-Timber Bay Subdivision, Trinity. 15 speed bicycle, crystal kitchenware, collectibles, dog stroller, stereo cabinet, baby clothes, RV ladder and adult clothes. (41-1t-cc-TCNS)</p>	<p>Vickery Dirt Dirt, Clay, Sand Free Delivery Rock, Dozer Work, Land Clearing, Tractor Work, Driveways, House Pads www.vickerydirt.com</p> <p>936-329-4159 Vickery Propane Tanks & Service 936-327-HEAT (50-tfn-b-PCE)</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>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</p> <p>936-328-1434 (1-tfn-b-PCE)</p> <p>Vickery Lawn Service *Stump Grinding *Land Mulching *Land Clearing *Tractor Work *Driveways Fully Insured 936-329-1653 Livingston, TX (1-tfn-b-PCE)</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>Notice of Position Opening TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICER October 3, 2024</p> <p>The CITY OF LIVINGSTON is accepting applications for two (2) Telecommunications Officer positions for the Livingston Police Department. Experience preferred but will train. Candidates must be willing to work nights and/or weekends and are subject to emergency call-in. This is a full-time position with benefits. Applications will be accepted at the Police Department, 208 W. Church Street, Livingston, Texas from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. The deadline for accepting applications will be Friday, October 18, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. For job description, starting salary, required knowledge and training requirements, please contact Trisha Patton, Telecommunications Supervisor, at 936.327.3117. No interviews will be scheduled until after the deadline. The City of Livingston is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. (40-3t-b-PCE)</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>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)</p> <p>1999 GMC JIMMY 4.8lt V6, automatic, needs some work, \$700 OBO. Call (936)239-3365. (41-1t-cc-PCE)</p>
<p>Announcements</p> <p>ATTENTION GOODRICH parents! Text (936)223-4477 if you would like your child to receive a FREE Halloween costume. (38-2t-cc-PCE)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>HABITAT FOR Humanity located at 321 N. Beatty, Livingston. Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm Saturday 9am-1pm. (35-tfn-nc-PCE)</p> <p>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. Kfceanalaskatx.com (49-tfn-nc-PCE)</p> <p>CHRISTINE'S PLACE Resale Shop accepts donations and is open M-F, 501 W. Bluff in Woodville. 409-331-9939. www.westrengthfamilies.org. (1-tfn-nc-TCB)</p>	<p>Work Wanted</p> <p>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)</p> <p>LOCAL: CHIMNEY Sweep, Fireplace repair, Fix leaks, Tree Limb Services. Call Aaron 936-328-1679. (40-4t-pd-PCE)</p>	<p>E's Construction General Contractor For all your construction & handyman needs Carpentry, painting, decks, siding, fencing, pressure washing, rotten wood replacement, electrical, and much more FREE estimates 281-433-8105 (19-2t-cc-PCE)</p> <p>LOYD'S REMODELING located in Tyler County (Serving all areas) Add-ons, decks, metal roofs, cabinets, piers, docks, and boat houses. No job too small. Call 409-429-6164. (1-tfn-b-TCB)</p>	<p>Employment</p> <p>WAITRESSES AND COOKS needed at Lone Star Charlie's, 4591 US Hwy 59 S, Livingston. 936-365-3017. (41-1t-b-PCE)</p> <p>DAVID NORTON TIRE CENTER, Woodville, TX is accepting applications for a mechanic. Apply in person, 1116 S. Magnolia. (46-tfn-b-TCB)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>Rentals</p> <p>1-BEDROOM HOME available for rent in Leggett, DIRECTV/water/trash pick-up included \$600/month plus deposit Call (832)277-3737. (49-tfn-cc-PCE)</p> <p>VERY NICE One Bedroom, out building, in Ivanhoe. 409-429-4752. (39-tfn-b-TCB)</p> <p>BRICK HOUSE in quiet neighborhood. 3/2/2, central AC, fireplace, office, big garage, 148 Cardinal, Livingston. No pets. No smoking. \$1,400/month (936)329-2213. (28-tfn-cc-PCE)</p> <p>HOUSE FOR rent in Woodville area, good references and deposit required. Call 409-283-8286. (43-tfn-b-TCB)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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)</p>	
<p>Auctions & Sales</p> <p>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)</p> <p>HUGE YARD SALE, Friday & Saturday, October 11 & 12, 8-5, 546 Hwy 287, past high school, Woodville. Four families, jewelry, fall clothes, men & women, small-xl, antiques, art, xmas, bedding, curtains, so much more, priced to move. (41-1t-p-TCB)</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY Garage Sale, Oct 11 & 12, 8-4 Friday, 8-Noon Saturday, 720 FM 1745, Colmesneil. Household items, Christmas, clothes, exercise equipment, furniture. Lots of stuff. (41-1t-cc-TCB)</p>	<p>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)</p> <p>HOKE STUMP Grinding- No job too large or too small. Call (936)295-6089 or (936) 581-3781. Trinity, TX. (11-tfn-b-TCNS)</p>	<p>TLC Toole's Lawn Care & Landscaping *Drainage *Retaining Walls *Residential *Commercial Year round full service maintenance- design, build & install flower beds, hydroseeding. Fully Insured Tree Removal, Irrigation Livingston, TX 936-646-2661 (1-tfn-b-PCE)</p> <p>J.W. KOLB Construction and Renovations. We do it all. Nojob too big or too small. 25+ years experience. Free estimates in Polk County. Call (936)200-1254 or email: kolb2650@gmail.com. (40-tfn-cc-PCE)</p>	<p>Cleaning Services</p> <p>S & S Cleaning and Maintenance  Residential Commercial Construction 936-714-6226 (32-tfn-b-PCE)</p>	<p>Apply at www.burgerworkshr.com (1-tfn-b-PCE)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>THE CITY OF CHESTER Water Supply Corp. and the Chester Gas System is taking applications for a Public Works Director Position. Please submit your resume to secityofchester@eastex.net or drop off at city hall in Chester, Tx. Office hours are: 8-Noon, M-F. (38-4t-b-TCB)</p> <p>ADVANCED PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LLC is hiring a skilled laborer and operator. Call for an Interview, 409-224-6674, Woodville. (37-3t-cc-TCB)</p>	<p>Homes for Sale</p> <p>GOLF COURSE LIVING! 3-bedroom 2-bath on Fairway & Greenbelt-Trinity, TX. All electric & fireplace. 1-830-484-3356. (40-3t-cc-TCNS)</p> <p> 4-BEDROOM 3.5-BATH home on large secluded lot, 4800sq.ft., \$795,000.00 w/owner financing available. No down payment for VA. \$48,000 Down payment with FHA. Call (979)482-7273. Located at 1000 W. Polk St. Livingston. (37-4-cc-PCE)</p>
<p>Employment/Medical</p> <p>TYLER COUNTY HOSPITAL  OPEN POSITIONS</p> <p>Lab Tech Training Program-FT Medical Lab Tech (MT/MLT)-FT Admissions Clerk-PRN Dietary Cook-FT Pharmacy Technician, CPHT-FT LVN, Med. Surg., Nights-FT</p> <p>Equal Opportunity Employer. To inquire about positions at the hospital, check the employment section of our website at: www.tchospital.us Human Resources Department: (409) 283-6590 • 1100 West Bluff • Woodville</p>	<p>Work Wanted</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>Field's Paint Contracting PROFESSIONALS *Commercial & Residential Painting *Commercial & Residential Building Restoration Free Estimates INSURED 40+ Years Experience DAVID FIELDS/OWNER 936-933-7454 www.fieldspaintcontracting.com (34-12-cc-PCE)</p> <p>Lester Bros. Tree Service Trimming, Top Removal, Haul Off, Tractor Work. Now accepting credit cards. Call for Free Estimate Insured 25 yrs experience 936-223-9265 or 936-365-4955 Livingston, TX (23-tfn-b-PCE)</p>	<p>Employment</p> <p>DAVID NORTON TIRE CENTER, Woodville, TX is accepting applications for a mechanic. Apply in person, 1116 S. Magnolia. (46-tfn-b-TCB)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>Employment/Domestic</p> <p>PART-TIME HOUSEKEEPER needed. Call (832)465-6013 for details. (41-2t-cc-PCE)</p>	<p>Pets & Supplies</p> <p>SIX KITTENS, male and female, different colors. Free to good home(s). 936-230-9192 (37-3t-nc-PCE)</p> <p>BARN/FERAL CATS. I can trap or you can. Free to good home(s). Call (936)200-1517. (41-2t-nc-PCE)</p> <p>FIVE CUDDLY kittens, seven weeks old, weaned, shots and wormed. One white, four black/calico. Free to good home(s) (936)327-5109. (41-2t-nc-PCE)</p> <p>SENIOR CITIZEN needs to get these Lab mix puppies a new home. Free to good home(s). Call (936)200-1826. (39-3t-nc-PCE)</p> <p>FOUR BEAUTIFUL kittens, seven weeks old, weaned. Multiple colors, black, gray, brown, white. Call (936)200-1517. Free to good home(s) (41-2t-nc-PCE)</p>
<p>Storage</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>Land For Sale</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>Want to Lease</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>For Sale</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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)</p> <p></p>	<p>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)</p>	

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