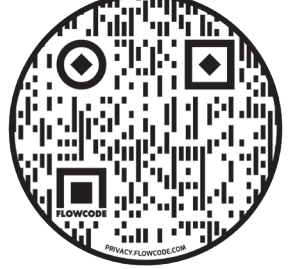


# SAN JACINTO NEWS-TIMES



easttexasnews.com

VOLUME 155 NUMBER 8 ©2026 USPS NO. 480-080 \$1.00 e-edition available at easttexasnews.com FEBRUARY 19, 2026



Alicia Plock was named Teacher of the Year at Lincoln Junior High School. COURTESY PHOTOS



Anne Gallmeier was named Teacher of the Year at Coldspring-Oakhurst High School.



Crystal Campbell was named Teacher of the Year at Coldspring Intermediate School.



Kourtney Bennett was named Teacher of the Year at James Street Elementary School.

## Coldspring-Oakhurst honors Teachers of the Year

**Special to the News-Times**  
**COLDSPRING** — The Coldspring-Oakhurst CISD has named exceptional educators who inspire, challenge, and empower our students every day, transforming classrooms into places where curiosity thrives and potential is realized.  
 The most important work in CO-CISD happens in the classroom, and these teachers exemplify that truth, making a lasting impact in the lives of the students and community, and

changing futures, one student at a time.  
 The honored teachers:  
 •James Street Elementary School: Kourtney Bennett  
 •Coldspring Intermediate School: Crystal Campbell  
 •Lincoln Junior High School: Alicia Plock  
 •Coldspring-Oakhurst High School: Anne Gallmeier  
 •Coldspring-Oakhurst High School February is Career and Technical

Education Month, and Coldspring-Oakhurst ISD is celebrating its achievements.  
 Coldspring-Oakhurst High School has achieved a 94 percent graduation rate, surpassing the state average. Even more impressive, 92 percent of graduates leave College, Career, or Military Ready — a remarkable leap from just 36 percent in 2022.  
 This milestone is due in large part to robust, hands-on CTE programs,

See **TEACHERS** ⇒ Page 3A

## Newly created district draws huge interest

By Tony Farkas  
 tony@polkcountypublishing.com

With San Jacinto County now in House District 10, and with current District 10 Rep. Michael McCaul opting for retirement, voters are faced with a host of candidates seeking to represent the county in Washington, D.C.  
 Nine candidates have filed for the March primary election seeking the Republican nomination for the November general election; early voting began Tuesday and continues through Feb. 27.  
 Polk County Publishing sought answers from all candidates; however, only two responded to inquiries. Other information was gained from campaign websites.

Jenny Garcia Sharon

**Q1: What skills would you bring to the position?**  
 I was raised by a United States Marine. I learned at an early age to have honor, courage and integrity. I believe that if you have no honor, you will have no courage. Without courage, it is impossible to act with integrity. It takes courage to run for public office and earn your vote. As



See **REPUBLICAN** ⇒ Page 9A

## EARLY VOTING

Early voting began Tuesday for the March 3 Republican and Democratic primaries and will conclude Feb. 27.  
 The sole location is the San Jacinto County Elections Administration office, 51 E. Pine Ave., in Coldspring; from Feb. 17 to 20, the hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and from Feb. 21 to 27, the hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m.  
 Feb. 20 is the last day to apply for a ballot by mail.  
 The primary election is March 3.  
 In addition to voting on national, statewide and local races — from U.S. senator all the way down to county chair — those casting ballots will also have propositions on which to vote.  
 There are 10 propositions that will appear on the Texas Republican Party's primary ballot and 13 propositions that will appear on the Texas Democratic Party's primary ballot. Those votes are not to enact law, but for the propositions to appear on the November general election ballot.

## Three seek Dem nomination for new district

By Tony Farkas  
 tony@polkcountypublishing.com

With San Jacinto County now in House District 10, and with current District 10 Rep. Michael McCaul opting for retirement, voters are faced with a host of candidates seeking to represent the county in Washington, D.C.  
 Three candidates have filed for the March primary election seeking the Democrat nomination for the November general election; early voting began Tuesday and continues through Feb. 27.  
 Polk County Publishing sought answers from all candidates; however, only one responded to inquiries. Other information was gained from campaign websites.

Caitlin Roark

**1. What skills would you bring to the position?**  
 I bring servant leadership, strategic problem-solving, and policy expertise grounded in real-world results. As a Military Intelligence officer in the Army, I led teams by listening first, building trust, and holding people accountable to clear objectives.  
 Professionally, I've worked



See **DEMOCRATIC** ⇒ Page 10A

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**INDEX**

|                       |     |                     |     |
|-----------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|
| Senior Menus .....    | 3A  | Sports.....         | 1B  |
| Crossword.....        | 12B | Public Notices..... | 8B  |
| Church Directory..... | 5B  | Classifieds .....   | 12B |

**LAKE LIVINGSTON DATA AS OF FEB 15**

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Current level .....         | 131.26 ft |
| Normal level .....          | 131.00 ft |
| Discharge.....              | 1997 cfs  |
| Weekly rainfall total ..... | 1.27 in   |

**TRINITY RIVER DATA AS OF FEB 15**

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Gauge Stage.....      | 5.29 ft |
| Category.....         | Normal  |
| Weekly rainfall ..... | 1.27 in |



Valentine's Day lunch for women's league with Commissioner Crystal Dominy. COURTESY PHOTOS



Coldspring Senior Center Valentine's Day lunch.



Coldspring Senior Center Valentine's dinner dance with Diane Clevenger, Diane Samoff and Linda Almaguer.



Commissioners Luke Sweeney and Crystal Dominy with Linda Almaguer and Roger Samoff at the dinner dance.

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## Last week was the week for love

Many organizations celebrated Valentine's Day last week. Women's League lunch had a beautifully decorated room for the occasion with balloons and roses.

Commissioner Crystal Dominy was the guest speaker. She gave a very interesting talk on current events in our area and her work in Precinct 3. She also attended the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance at the SJC Senior Center on Saturday.

Commissioner Luke Sweeney was there along with many others who had a very enjoyable evening. The decorations were wonderful, supplied by the Center with some items from Dianne Samoff. Dianne, who was there with her husband Roger, organized the decorations. Some of the Hot Steppers performed for the crowd and all enjoyed the delicious meal.

- It will be Fish Friday on Feb. 20 at the Coldspring Senior Center, sponsored by Judge Travis Kitchens. Call to reserve your place.

- If you have not yet voted for the Best of San Jacinto County you can go online to the Coldspring Chamber website to make your choices. The Banquet where the winners will be announced is on March 28, from 6-8 p.m. If you would like to give some item to the silent auction, the Chamber is asking for donations. This event will be held at the Jones Complex in Coldspring. Tickets are on sale at the office.

- Shepherd Library is planning future events. Follow the Facebook page and web

## Did You Know



By Yvonne Cones

site to see what is coming. Volunteers are also welcome. Come into the Library or phone at (936) 628-3515 for more information on this.

- County Treasurer DeeDee Bailey and her team have been working hard on the Memorial Park in Coldspring. We look forward to seeing this project completed and photos will be available soon.

- SJC Democratic Party met on Tuesday 10 at the Bullet Grill House in Point Blank. Located on Highway 156 this is a spot known for its burgers, sandwiches and barbecue, so the group had an enjoyable evening while they had their meeting.

The Democrats meet every month on the second Tuesday. [sjcdemocrats.org](http://sjcdemocrats.org).

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

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

## DING DONG THE ROACH IS DEAD

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## POLITICAL CALENDAR

**258th District Judge**  
Travis Kitchens (R)  
Rob Freyer (R)

The political calendar is paid political advertising. Names within this calendar will appear in this column until election date. Candidates wishing to have their names appear in the calendar must contact this newspaper in person. Names are listed under each office according to the order in which candidates apply with the newspaper.

POLK COUNTY PUBLISHING COMPANY

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### SAN JACINTO COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST

Information sourced from weather.com

| THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   | SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|
|   |   |  |  |  |  |   |
| Mostly Cloudy<br><b>81°/64°</b><br>Chance of Rain 23%<br>Wind SSW 11mph | Mostly Cloudy<br><b>79°/60°</b><br>Chance of Rain 17%<br>Wind SE 9mph | Partly Cloudy<br><b>77°/53°</b><br>Chance of Rain 24%<br>Wind N 9mph | Partly Cloudy<br><b>68°/44°</b><br>Chance of Rain 3%<br>Wind N 11mph | Partly Cloudy<br><b>64°/42°</b><br>Chance of Rain 2%<br>Wind NE 8mph | Partly Cloudy<br><b>69°/54°</b><br>Chance of Rain 2%<br>Wind SSE 10mph | Mostly Cloudy<br><b>78°/62°</b><br>Chance of Rain 21%<br>Wind S 14mph |

### Forecast Fire Danger

twc.tamu.edu

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

# AREA DIGEST

## Food bank events

Houston Food Bank has set a date for delivering a truck to First Baptist Church of Shepherd, 10850 FM 150. That date is Feb. 23. All food distributions start at 8 a.m. Volunteers are needed each of these days to assist with distribution. For information, call Chester Holloway at (936) 628-3130 or Trelis Urban at (832) 983-2033.

## Seminar and plant sale

SJC Master Gardeners will hold its Spring Plant Sale and Education Expo beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 28, in downtown Coldspring. Gardeners of all ages and sizes are invited to wander the tables filled with plants, shrubs, trees, herbs, succulents, houseplants, and more. For information, contact Sharon Gusman at (713) 851-3826 or gusmansharon@gmail.com.

## Banquet date changes

The Coldspring Chamber is currently organizing its upcoming Annual Awards Banquet. Due to conflicting activities with the original set date, it will be rescheduled for Saturday, March 28.

The chamber is reaching out to local partners to help make the silent auction a success.

Donations are being accepted through Feb. 22; if you are able to contribute, please let the chamber know so that the information will be included in the event materials.

Nominations for the annual awards are open now until Feb. 6. Online nominations can be made at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/27PHHBM>.

For information, email [chambercoldspringtexas@gmail.com](mailto:chambercoldspringtexas@gmail.com).

## Alcoholics Anonymous

AA meetings at 7 p.m. Sundays at Shepherd Methodist Church at the intersection of Highway 150 and FM 222.

For information, call (936) 628-3861.

## Association offers assistance

The Community Assistance Program offered by the Houston Food Bank provides application assistance for SNAP, Medicaid, and other state benefits. The Referral Partner Program goes a step further with assistance in finding resources beyond food assistance.

The goal is to help the individuals avoid sacrificing healthy nutritious food just so they can pay for their other expenses.

To apply, bring identification (driver's license, passport, work permit, residency card, or state ID), Birth certificates, Social Security cards and address verification (such as apartment lease, rental agreement, rent/mortgage payment receipt, utility bills, landlord letter) and income verification (last 3 paystubs, letter from employer, income tax, self-employment letter stating your weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly income, or award letters from child support, retirement, Social Security or disability).

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

## Libraries seeks donations

The Coldspring and Shepherd public libraries are partnering with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to provide free, high-quality, age-appropriate books to children from birth through 5 years.

To build a strong culture of reading for young children and increase early literacy in San Jacinto County, the library is seeking donors to contribute to our project.

For a \$25 annual donation, the Coldspring Library and the Imagination Library will mail 12 books directly to a registered child's home. The child must reside in San Jacinto County and be registered by an authorized adult.

Since launching in 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become the preeminent early childhood book-gifting program in the world. The flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has gifted more than 182 million free books in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and The Republic of Ireland.

For more information on the program, please visit [imaginationlibrary.com](http://imaginationlibrary.com). To register, visit either library.

## Veterans museum hosts events

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

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

# SENIOR MENUS

Feb. 23-27  
Menus Subject to Change

• **Senior Citizens of San Jacinto County** | (936) 653-4175  
Call by 10:30 a.m. to reserve a meal.  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday is Texercise. Tuesday is line dancing. Thursday is bingo. Friday is karaoke.

**MONDAY:** Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes and gravy, roasted corn and black beans.

**TUESDAY:** Albacore tuna on sourdough, vegetable soup, salad bar.

**WEDNESDAY:** Chicken alfredo, roasted butternut squash, salad bar, rolls.

**THURSDAY:** Shepherd's pie, zucchini sticks, rolls.

**FRIDAY:** Sheet-pan enchiladas, charro

beans, Spanish rice, chips and queso.

• **Shepherd Senior Citizens Center** | (936) 628-3733

Second Tuesday of each month includes birthday cake for dessert.

Bingo is every Wednesday. Craft Days are every Thursday. Bag Days are Feb. 13 and 27.

**MONDAY:** Garlic parmesan chicken, buttered rice, fried okra, rolls, cookies.

**TUESDAY:** Spaghetti, greens, garlic sticks, fresh fruit.

**WEDNESDAY:** Taco salad, refried beans, Spanish rice, sopapilla cheesecake.

**THURSDAY:** Chicken nuggets, French fries, pea salad, ice cream.

**FRIDAY:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, brownies.

# TEACHERS

Continued from page 1A

which bridge classroom learning with real-world career experience.

This achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our educators, students, and families, all working together to prepare the next generation for success beyond graduation.

Agriculture teachers include Beldon Rudloff, Ashlie Taylor, Morgan Legg and Kayla McMullin (LJH).

Welding teacher is Jason Payne.

Health Science teachers are Lindsey Smith and Kaitlin Cook.

Law/Forensic Science teachers are Paul Farr and Scott Whiting.

AFJROTC leader is Master Sgt. David Williams.

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# REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS

**Elect: George Brian Vachris** to State Board of Education District 8

Licensed Engineer, Former Teacher in Houston ISD, taught at a Title 1 School for 9 years.

Dedicated to improving: Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (S.T.E.M.) Curricula.

Familiar with the Texas Education Agency Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Course Framework.

He successfully testified against a bad proposed engineering course to have it rewritten and redesignated, in November 2024.

**He will proactively work to improve the TEKS in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Courses.**

**He understands the value of career education in our public schools.**

**He has 4 degrees in various fields, helped write the Republican Education Platform.**

**He testified at a Texas State Senate Committee against the use of incorrect pronoun designations and transgender transitions.**

**This should have no place in our public schools.**

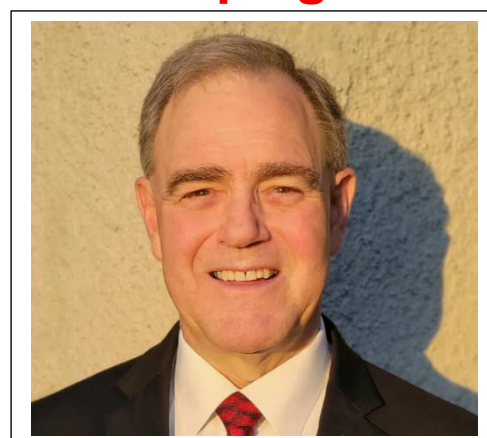
Patriotism and the benefits of free market economies versus socialist and communist economies must be taught. By Law, SB 24 requires that the State incorporate the teaching of the evils of communist regimes, the mass starvations, the terror under Stalin and Mao, the rise of communism in Latin America, etc. The provisions of the law must be incorporated into the TEKS for chapter 113 (social studies). This law is NOT on the list of new requirements on the TEA website! Why? He will pay attention to details and work to adjust the TEKS. Part of his testimony is shown below. On the current agenda for the new social studies TEKS, the requirements of the law are ONLY partially addressed in the seventh-grade course. The only REQUIRED high school course is United States History. At this level, the TEKS outline does not adequately address communism. There are scattered references in the World Geography and World History courses, but these courses are not required, although most students may take them. There is likewise a reference in the TEKS outline for the Economics course but the detailed TEKS must do more to comply fully with the law. For example, the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment mentions the right to private property. It should be clearly stated that communism abolishes the right to private property. The details must be addressed.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STATEMENT IS TO REMIND THE BOARD THAT SENATE BILL 24 REQUIRES THE STATE TO TEACH THE DANGERS AND CRIMES OF COMMUNIST REGIMES...THE KEY TO ADOPTING SB 24 INTO THE CURRICULUM IS TO ENSURE THAT ALL OF THE PROVISIONS ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE TEKS FOR THE ...REQUIRED COURSES...

[Part of his Testimony Before S.B.O.E. Nov. 19, 2025]

- **Support Republican Party Education Platform**
- **Strengthen TEKS and promote Educational Excellence**
- **Promote Civic Knowledge and Patriotic Education**
- **Support Classic Literature, Grammar, and Logic**
- **Support Parental Rights and Educational Transparency**
- **Ensure Textbooks are Free from Error and False Ideology**
- **Expand Educational Choice**
- **Grow the Texas Permanent School Fund**

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# OPINION

## Bad Bunny v Kid Rock Smackdown! We'll sell you the whole seat, but you'll only need the edge ...

I posed a question the other day because I truly was curious about the Super Bowl.

Not that I had a team in that, but I was truly interested in the final score. I went to every website I usually do, plus a few more, looking for the elusive score.

Not to be found. I did, however, see headline after headline about the competing halftime shows — Bad Bunny vs. Kid Rock — which on the surface sounds like the title match at a wrestling show but instead was yet another symptom of the us-vs.-them paradigm plaguing our country.

Even before the actual Super Bowl was played, this matchup was promoted worse than anything featuring Randy Savage or Hulk Hogan. Instead of being about entertainment and music, we focused on whether a cross-dressing Jamaican entertainer singing in Spanish was more appropriate for the premier sports competition that a rootin' tootin' rock



**TONY FARKAS**  
MY TWO COMMON SENSE

star and a bunch of mid-card country singers.

And I couldn't care less. Seriously, not even a little.

There was a line in a series of books by Stephen R. Donaldson that cropped up unbidden during all of this; one character told another that he would like to hear his story, but the second man was reluctant because the story was a tragedy. The first character, who was from a race of people that thrived on storytelling, told him, "Joy is in the ear that hears." Meaning, you decide if you like it

Another thing that leapt to mind was the "Serenity Prayer," which admonishes the supplicant to know the difference between what he could and could not change. Since the NFL and the broadcast entity made the decision about what was seen, nothing I or anyone else could do would make a difference. So that leads to ...

A song lyric that is really apropos here is from Dionne Warwick's "Walk On By," which is something anyone with an issue with the music could have and should have done.

From the beginning of television sets, even in the black-and-white days, every one of those appliances on through the current spate of 100-inch Smart TVs has an amazing feature called an off switch. Some of these, even in the Jurassic era of television design, came with a remote control that had an off button. Also a mute button, but that would be for the later models.

Don't like what you're seeing? Turn the TV off. Don't like what you're hearing? Mute the device. You can even do radical things like a quick game of touch football in the backyard with the kids, or toss a few basketballs at a rim, or look at the clouds, or cook a plate of eggs, or bang out a quick game of Skip Bo. There's no need to rail at the heavens wanting the world to cave to your whim.

The amount of drama ginned up over the competing events only drew more attention to the events, and further, had each side of the spectrum building forts from couch cushions to protect their fragile and really ineffective beliefs. They day could have been so much better by just ... walkin' on by.

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

## Watching the game film: Bad Bunny and family friendly competition

All the crackheads, the critics, the cities, and all my heroes at the methadone clinics... for the crooked cops and the cluttered desks for the shots of Jack and the caps of meth

— Kid Rock, "Bawitababa"



**CHRIS EDWARDS**  
MEDITATIONS 'N MUSINGS

Florida Rep. Randy Fine went a step further by claiming Bad Bunny's lyrics were explicit and called for federal punishment for the NFL and NBC for airing the show.

I'll confess that before the culture warriors began making hay over the halftime show, I had no idea who Bad Bunny was, but then again, I am not the target demographic that the Super Bowl halftime entertainment is geared toward. The last one I looked forward to seeing and sat through, with excitement, as well as open ears and eyes was when the late, great Purple One, Prince Rogers Nelson: His Royal Badness, performed in 2007. Of course, who couldn't love Prince, one of the greatest geniuses of the modern era? Other performers that I enjoy have performed the halftime show through the years, like Aerosmith, the Who and Hank Williams, Jr., but the more recent shows feature bookings of acts that I don't really know about nor care to listen to and watch. Bad Bunny is no exception to that.

What I do find amusing, though, is the choice of headliner for the Turning Point show: Kid Rock. What was, to my understanding, anyway, billed as a family friendly alternative halftime show, featured one of the most vulgar performers in the history of mainstream rock music. While I haven't the slightest inkling of what makes Bad Bunny so popular, I do know a bit about Mr. Robert Ritchie from Detroit.

When Kid Rock first rose to prominence on his Devil Without a Cause album in the late 90s, he was one of the reasons why I stopped listening to mainstream rock music. Before the dawn of acts like Kid Rock, Staind, Limp Bizkit and so many others, there was a lot

of great, catchy heavy rock bands out there, with well-composed lyrics and actual melodies, and there was a variation in vocal sounds. For example, Dave Mustaine of Megadeth sounded nothing like Phil Anselmo from Pantera, and NOBODY sounded like Alice in Chains' Layne Staley.

Kid Rock, who adopted the nascent rap-rock hybrid, with heavy metal guitars married to hip-hop beats and rapped verses and shouted choruses, purloined sounds and aesthetics from several popular rock acts who were huge before his initial wave of popularity, which began in 1998.

One thing that always drove me up the wall about him, aside from his inane lyrics and songs that all seemed to sound the same, was his attempt to appropriate a redneck/white trash vibe that was done, and done well, by musicians like Les Claypool of Primus and Beck (in his pre-Scientology "Loser" days).

Whereas Primus and Beck, as well as the Rev. Horton Heat, used redneck/hillbilly shtick in a sort of fun, post-modern way, Kid Rock applied it in a way that was all kinds of tacky, and in essence, became the de facto favorite musician for those who likely have their kids' names tattooed somewhere upon their body, but do not have custody of said kids.

One of the biggest complaints from most folks about Bad Bunny's performance, which I haven't yet seen, is that he did not sing in English. Kid Rock, however, opened his show with his trash-metal anthem "Bawitaba," which features a chorus of nonsensical gibberish and verses that celebrate an over-the-top Bachanalian rock star lifestyle.

From what all I have read, Bad Bunny avoided political messaging during his performance, and instead shared messages of love and pride in America. Seems pretty wholesome to me, but again, I

haven't watched the actual performance yet. I am curious about the budget for the show, however, and I'm sure that for the money it took to book Bad Bunny and for the overall production, the Super Bowl could've easily booked several acts like Tyler Childers, Sturgill Simpson, the Turnpike Troubadours and George Strait, but alas, I am not the target demographic, so my favorite current mainstream acts probably wouldn't get booked.

Having watched most of the TPUSA show, I can conclude that while Bad Bunny and others put on a show about why this country is great, and expressed it in their own way, it didn't line up with the expectations of MAGA, i.e. it wasn't all about them, henceforth an alternative program, or emotional support concert, if you will.

In America, capitalism presents a myriad of choices, and this dichotomy displays that exercise, but what is counter to our ways and beliefs is exclusion. From what I saw in a great many comments shared online about Bad Bunny is an idea that he should not have had the opportunity, nor the platform, to perform due to certain political convictions. That is woefully un-American. As much as Kid Rock, and other TPUSA halftime performers like Brantley Gilbert, cause me to yawn or question their success, I would never advocate for any of them to be denied a gig. That's gatekeeping, which is despicable and, again, antithetical to American ideals.

Bad Bunny does not have to agree with the people in power to have a platform and audience, for that would be fascism, and as a consumer, I'm not forced to listen to either him or Kid Rock.

*Chris Edwards is editor of the Tyler County Booster, a sister newspaper in the Polk County Publishing Group. He can be reached at cedwards@polkcountypublishing.com.*

### CONTACT LIST ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS REPRESENTING SAN JACINTO COUNTY

#### U.S. Representative

**MORGAN LUTTRELL (R)**  
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1320 Longworth House  
Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
202-225-4901

Magnolia District Office  
18230 FM 1488  
Magnolia, TX 77354

#### State Senator

**DR. CHARLES SCHWERTNER (R)**  
P.O. Box 12068  
Capitol Station  
Austin, TX 78711  
512-463-0105

#### State Representative

**JANIS HOLT**  
Capitol Address:  
Room E1.416  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, TX 78768  
512-463-0570  
District Address:  
1023 N. Main St Suite 103  
Liberty, TX 77575

#### State Board of Education

**DR. AUDREY YOUNG**  
PO BOX 2683  
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936-662-4264  
audrey.young@tea.texas.gov

#### County Judge

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San Jacinto  
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countyjudge@  
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www.co.san-jacinto.tx.us.com

#### Sheriff

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Coldspring, Tx., 77331  
936-653-4367

#### Constables

**RAE LYNN PHILLIPS**  
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111 State Hwy. 150,  
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Coldspring, Texas 77331  
936-653-5614

#### RAY ATCHLEY

Precinct 2 Constable  
11020 Hwy 150  
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(936) 628-1439  
ray.atchley@san-jac.us

#### KEVIN FREED

Precinct 3 Constable  
Animal Control Officer  
6311 FM 945 S.  
Cleveland, Texas 77328  
281-592-0919

#### BRIAN A. COSME

Precinct 4 Constable  
227 Boat Launch Rd.  
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**TODD DILLON**  
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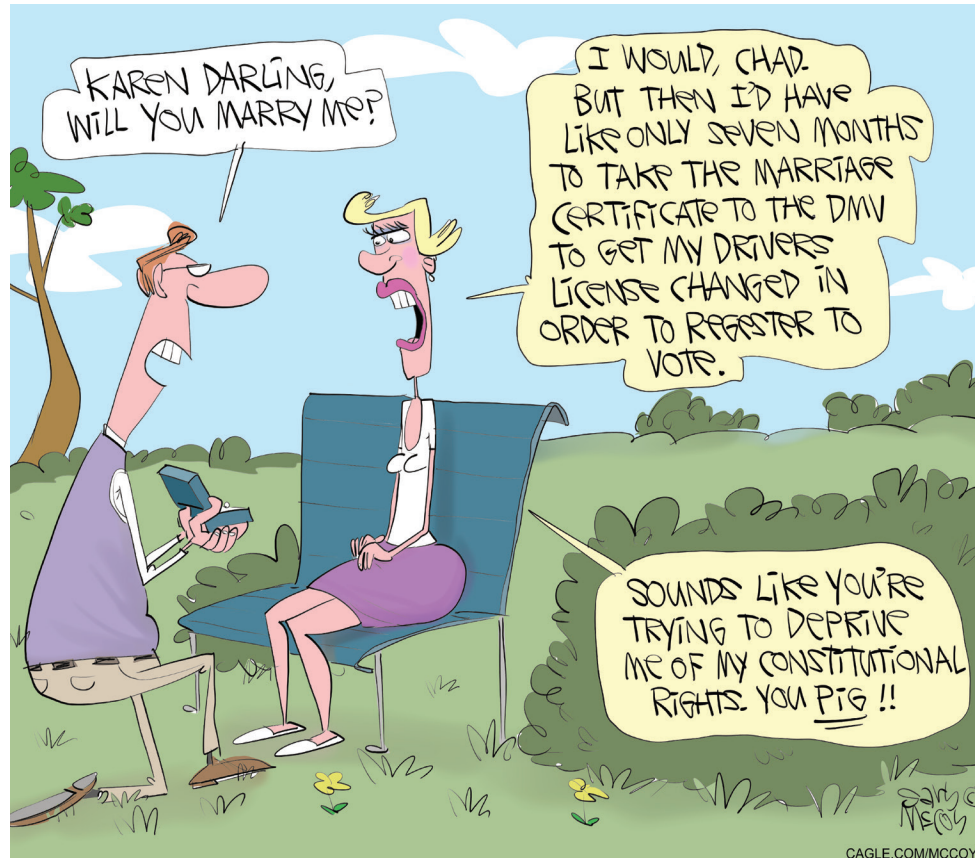
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# Republican party sample ballots

## Sample Ballot

PRIMARY ELECTION  
March 3, 2026  
SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS  
ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
03 de marzo de 2026  
CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

REPUBLICAN PARTY  
PARTIDO REPUBLICANO

Precinct 1  
Precinto 1

Page 1 of 2  
Página 1 de 2

Please use a black or blue ink pen to mark your ballot. To vote for your choice in each contest, completely fill in the box next to your choice.

Use un bolígrafo negro o azul para marcar su boleto. Para votar su selección en cada contienda, rellene completamente la casilla provista a la izquierda de su selección.

"I am a Republican and understand that I am ineligible to vote or participate in another political party's primary election or convention during this voting year."

"Yo soy Republicano y comprendo soy inelegible para votar o participar en la elección primaria o la convención de algún otro partido político durante este año electoral."

United States Senator  
Senador de los Estados Unidos

- Anna Bender
- Gulrez "Gus" Khan
- Virgil John Bierschwale
- John O. Adefope
- John Comyn
- Ken Paxton
- Sara Canady
- Wesley Hunt

United States Representative,  
District No. 10  
Representante de los Estados Unidos,  
Distrito Núm. 10

- Ben Blus
- Jessica Karlsruher
- Jeremy Story
- Chris Gober
- Brandon Hawbaker
- Jenny Garcia Sharon
- Kara King
- Robert Brown
- Rob Altman
- Scott Macleod

Governor  
Gobernador

- Kenneth Hyde
- Greg Abbott
- Mark V. Goloby
- Stephen Samuelson
- Charles Andrew Crouch
- R.F. "Bob" Achgill
- Nathaniel Welch
- Ronnie Tullos
- Pete "Doc" Chambers
- Arturo Espinosa
- Evelyn Brooks

Lieutenant Governor  
Governador Teniente

Attorney General  
Procurador General

Comptroller of Public Accounts  
Contralor de Cuentas Públicas

Commissioner of the General Land Office  
Comisionado de la Oficina General de Tierras

Commissioner of Agriculture  
Comisionado de Agricultura

Railroad Commissioner  
Comisionado de Ferrocarriles

Chief Justice, Supreme Court, Place 2  
Unexpired Term  
Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 2, Duración Restante del Cargo

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 7  
Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 7

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 8  
Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 8

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals,  
Place 3  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 3

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals,  
Place 4  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 4

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals,  
Place 9  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 9

Member, State Board of Education, District No. 8  
Miembro de la Junta Estatal de Educación Pública, Distrito Núm. 8

State Senator, District No. 5  
Senador Estatal, Distrito Núm. 5

State Representative,  
District No. 18  
Representante Estatal, Distrito Núm. 18

Chief Justice, 15th Court of Appeals District  
Juez Presidente, Corte de Apelaciones del Distrito 15

Justice, 15th Court of Appeals District, Place No. 2  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 15, Lugar Núm. 2

Justice, 15th Court of Appeals District, Place No. 3  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 15, Lugar Núm. 3

Chief Justice, 9th Court of Appeals District  
Juez Presidente, Corte de Apelaciones del Distrito 9

Justice, 9th Court of Appeals District, Place No. 1  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 9, Lugar Núm. 1

Justice, 9th Court of Appeals District, Place No. 2  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 9, Lugar Núm. 2

Justice, 9th Court of Appeals District, Place No. 3  
Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 9, Lugar Núm. 3

PRIMARY ELECTION  
March 3, 2026  
SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS  
ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
03 de marzo de 2026  
CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

REPUBLICAN PARTY  
PARTIDO REPUBLICANO

Precinct 1  
Precinto 1

Page 2 of 2  
Página 2 de 2

District Judge, 258th Judicial District  
Juez del Distrito, Distrito Judicial Núm. 258

Criminal District Attorney  
San Jacinto County  
Fiscal Penal del Distrito del Condado de San Jacinto

County Judge  
Juez del Condado

District Clerk  
Secretario del Distrito

County Clerk  
Secretario del Condado

County Treasurer  
Tesoro del Condado

Justice of the Peace,  
Precinct No. 1  
Juez de Paz, Precinto Núm. 1

County Chair  
Presidente del Condado

Proposition 1  
Propuesta 1

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

Proposition 3  
Propuesta 3

Proposition 4  
Propuesta 4

Proposition 5  
Propuesta 5

Proposition 6  
Propuesta 6

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

Proposition 3  
Propuesta 3

Proposition 4  
Propuesta 4

Proposition 5  
Propuesta 5

Proposition 6  
Propuesta 6

Proposition 7  
Propuesta 7

Proposition 8  
Propuesta 8

Proposition 9  
Propuesta 9

Proposition 10  
Propuesta 10

Proposition 11  
Propuesta 11

Proposition 12  
Propuesta 12

Proposition 13  
Propuesta 13

Proposition 14  
Propuesta 14

Proposition 15  
Propuesta 15

## Sample Ballot

PRIMARY ELECTION  
March 3, 2026  
SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS  
ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
03 de marzo de 2026  
CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

REPUBLICAN PARTY  
PARTIDO REPUBLICANO

Precinct 2  
Precinto 2

Page 2 of 2  
Página 2 de 2

District Judge, 258th Judicial District  
Juez del Distrito, Distrito Judicial Núm. 258

Criminal District Attorney  
San Jacinto County  
Fiscal Penal del Distrito del Condado de San Jacinto

County Judge  
Juez del Condado

District Clerk  
Secretario del Distrito

County Clerk  
Secretario del Condado

County Treasurer  
Tesoro del Condado

County Commissioner,  
Precinct No. 2  
Comisionado del Condado, Precinto Núm. 2

Justice of the Peace,  
Precinct No. 2  
Juez de Paz, Precinto Núm. 2

County Chair  
Presidente del Condado

Proposition 1  
Propuesta 1

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

Proposition 3  
Propuesta 3

Proposition 4  
Propuesta 4

Proposition 5  
Propuesta 5

Proposition 6  
Propuesta 6

Proposition 1  
Propuesta 1

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

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Propuesta 12

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Proposition 11  
Propuesta 11

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Propuesta 12

Proposition 13  
Propuesta 13

Proposition 14  
Propuesta 14

Proposition 15  
Propuesta 15

PRIMARY ELECTION  
March 3, 2026  
SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS  
ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
03 de marzo de 2026  
CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

REPUBLICAN PARTY  
PARTIDO REPUBLICANO

Precinct 3  
Precinto 3

Page 2 of 2  
Página 2 de 2

District Judge, 258th Judicial District  
Juez del Distrito, Distrito Judicial Núm. 258

Criminal District Attorney  
San Jacinto County  
Fiscal Penal del Distrito del Condado de San Jacinto

County Judge  
Juez del Condado

District Clerk  
Secretario del Distrito

County Clerk  
Secretario del Condado

County Treasurer  
Tesoro del Condado

Justice of the Peace,  
Precinct No. 3  
Juez de Paz, Precinto Núm. 3

County Chair  
Presidente del Condado

Proposition 1  
Propuesta 1

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

Proposition 3  
Propuesta 3

Proposition 4  
Propuesta 4

Proposition 5  
Propuesta 5

Proposition 6  
Propuesta 6

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Propuesta 14

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Propuesta 15

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Proposition 15  
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Proposition 26  
Propuesta 26

Proposition 27  
Propuesta 27

Proposition 28  
Propuesta 28

Proposition 29  
Propuesta 29

Proposition 30  
Propuesta 30

## Sample Ballot

PRIMARY ELECTION  
March 3, 2026  
SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS  
ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
03 de marzo de 2026  
CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

REPUBLICAN PARTY  
PARTIDO REPUBLICANO

Precinct 4  
Precinto 4

Page 2 of 2  
Página 2 de 2

District Judge, 258th Judicial District  
Juez del Distrito, Distrito Judicial Núm. 258

Criminal District Attorney  
San Jacinto County  
Fiscal Penal del Distrito del Condado de San Jacinto

County Judge  
Juez del Condado

District Clerk  
Secretario del Distrito

County Clerk  
Secretario del Condado

County Treasurer  
Tesoro del Condado

Justice of the Peace,  
Precinct No. 1  
Juez de Paz, Precinto Núm. 1

County Chair  
Presidente del Condado

Proposition 1  
Propuesta 1

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

Proposition 3  
Propuesta 3

Proposition 4  
Propuesta 4

Proposition 5  
Propuesta 5

Proposition 6  
Propuesta 6

Proposition 7  
Propuesta 7

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

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Propuesta 3

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Proposition 7  
Propuesta 7

Proposition 8  
Propuesta 8

Proposition 9  
Propuesta 9

Proposition 10  
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Proposition 11  
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Proposition 13  
Propuesta 13

Proposition 14  
Propuesta 14

Proposition 15  
Propuesta 15

Proposition 16  
Propuesta 16

Proposition 7  
Propuesta 7

Proposition 8  
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Proposition 9  
Propuesta 9

Proposition 10  
Propuesta 10

Proposition 11  
Propuesta 11

Proposition 12  
Propuesta 12

Proposition 13  
Propuesta 13

Proposition 14  
Propuesta 14

Proposition 15  
Propuesta 15

Proposition 16  
Propuesta 16

Proposition 17  
Propuesta 17

Proposition 18  
Propuesta 18

Proposition 19  
Propuesta 19

Proposition 20  
Propuesta 20

Proposition 21  
Propuesta 21

PRIMARY ELECTION  
March 3, 2026  
SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS  
ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
03 de marzo de 2026  
CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

REPUBLICAN PARTY  
PARTIDO REPUBLICANO

Precinct 5  
Precinto 5

Page 2 of 2  
Página 2 de 2

District Judge, 258th Judicial District  
Juez del Distrito, Distrito Judicial Núm. 258

Criminal District Attorney  
San Jacinto County  
Fiscal Penal del Distrito del Condado de San Jacinto

County Judge  
Juez del Condado

District Clerk  
Secretario del Distrito

County Clerk  
Secretario del Condado

County Treasurer  
Tesoro del Condado

Justice of the Peace,  
Precinct No. 3  
Juez de Paz, Precinto Núm. 3

County Chair  
Presidente del Condado

Proposition 1  
Propuesta 1

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

Proposition 3  
Propuesta 3

Proposition 4  
Propuesta 4

Proposition 5  
Propuesta 5

Proposition 6  
Propuesta 6

Proposition 7  
Propuesta 7

Proposition 2  
Propuesta 2

Proposition 3  
Propuesta 3

Proposition 4  
Propuesta 4

Proposition 5  
Propuesta 5

Proposition 6  
Propuesta 6

Proposition 7  
Propuesta 7

Proposition 8  
Propuesta 8



# Democratic party sample ballots

**PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**March 3, 2026**  
**SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS**  
 ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
 03 de marzo de 2026  
 CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

Please use a black or blue ink pen to mark your ballot. To vote for your choice in each contest, completely fill in the box next to your choice.

Use un bolígrafo negro o azul para marcar su boleta. Para votar su selección en cada contienda, rellene completamente la casilla provista a la izquierda de su selección.

**\*I am a Democrat and understand that I am ineligible to vote or participate in another political party's primary election or convention during this voting year.\***  
 \*Yo soy Demócrata y comprendo soy inelegible para votar o participar en la elección primaria o la convención de algún otro partido político durante este año electoral.\*

**United States Senator**  
 Senador de los Estados Unidos

James Talarico  
 Ahmad R. Hassan  
 Jasmine Crockett

**United States Representative, District No. 10**  
 Representante de los Estados Unidos, Distrito Núm. 10

Dawn Marshall  
 Bernie Reyna  
 Caitlin Rourke

**Governor**  
 Gobernador

Carlton W. Hart  
 Andrew White  
 Patricia Abrego  
 Gina Hinojosa  
 Zach Vance  
 Angela "Tia Angie" Villegas  
 Jose Navarro Balbuena  
 Bobby Cole  
 Chris Bell

**Lieutenant Governor**  
 Gobernador Teniente

Courtney Head  
 Marcos Isalas Velez  
 Vikki Goodwin

**Attorney General**  
 Procurador General

Anthony "Tony" Box  
 Joe Jaworski  
 Nathan Johnson

**Comptroller of Public Accounts**  
 Contralor de Cuentas Públicas

Sarah Eckhardt  
 Michael Lange  
 Savant Moore

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY**  
 PARTIDO DEMOCRATA

**Commissioner of the General Land Office**  
 Comisionado de la Oficina General de Tierras

Benjamin Flores  
 Jose Loyola

**Commissioner of Agriculture**  
 Comisionado de Agricultura

Clayton Tucker

**Railroad Commissioner**  
 Comisionado de Ferrocarriles

Jon Rosenthal

**Chief Justice, Supreme Court**  
 Juez Presidente, Corte Suprema

Cory L. Carlyle  
 Maggie Ellis

**Justice, Supreme Court, Place 2**  
 Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 2, Duración Restante del Cargo

Chari Kelly

**Justice, Supreme Court, Place 7**  
 Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 7

Gordon Goodman  
 Kristen Hawkins

**Justice, Supreme Court, Place 8**  
 Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 8

Gisela D. Triana

**Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3**  
 Juez, Corte del Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 3

Okey Anyiam

**Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 4**  
 Juez, Corte del Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 4

Audra Riley

**Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 9**  
 Juez, Corte del Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 9

Holly Taylor

**Member, State Board of Education, District No. 8**  
 Miembro de la Junta Estatal de Educación Pública, Distrito Núm. 8

Dana Van de Walker  
 Shahzeb Meghani

**State Senator, District No. 5**  
 Senador Estatal, Distrito Núm. 5

Kevin Nelson  
 Paul Thomasson

**Precinct 1**  
 Precinto 1

**Page 1 of 2**  
 Página 1 de 2

**State Representative, District No. 18**  
 Representante Estatal, Distrito Núm. 18

Valorie Barton

**Chief Justice, 15th Court of Appeals District**  
 Juez Presidente, Corte de Apelaciones del Distrito 15

Jerry Zimmerer

**Justice, 15th Court of Appeals District, Place No. 2**  
 Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 15, Lugar Núm. 2

Tom Baker

**Justice, 15th Court of Appeals District, Place No. 3**  
 Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 15, Lugar Núm. 3

Marc M. Meyer

**County Chair**  
 Presidente del Condado

Benita Malone

**Propuesta 1**  
 Propuesta 1

Survey: Texas should expand Medicaid and ensure access to affordable healthcare for all.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería ampliar Medicaid y garantizar el acceso a una atención médica accesible para todos.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 2**  
 Propuesta 2

Survey: Texans should support humane and dignified immigration policies and pathways to citizenship.  
 Encuesta: Los habitantes de Texas deberían apoyar políticas de inmigración humanitarias y dignas, así como vías para obtener la ciudadanía.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 3**  
 Propuesta 3

Survey: Texans should have the right to make their own healthcare decisions, including reproductive rights.  
 Encuesta: Los habitantes de Texas deben tener derecho a tomar sus propias decisiones en materia de salud, incluidos los derechos reproductivos.

Yes Sí  
 No No

71242

**PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**March 3, 2026**  
**SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS**  
 ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
 03 de marzo de 2026  
 CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

**Propuesta 4**  
 Propuesta 4

Survey: Texas should address the state's housing crisis in affordability and access in both urban and rural communities.  
 Encuesta: Texas debe abordar la crisis de vivienda del estado en cuanto a disponibilidad económica y acceso, tanto en las comunidades urbanas como en las rurales.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 5**  
 Propuesta 5

Survey: Texas should fund all public schools at the same per-pupil rate as the national average.  
 Encuesta: Texas debe financiar todas las escuelas públicas con la misma tasa por alumno que el promedio nacional.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 6**  
 Propuesta 6

Survey: Secure online voter registration should be accessible to all eligible Texas residents.  
 Encuesta: Todos los habitantes de Texas que cumplan los requisitos para votar deberían poder registrarse de forma segura por Internet.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 7**  
 Propuesta 7

Survey: Texas should have a clean and healthy environment that includes water, air, and biodiversity. Texas must preserve the state's natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational resources.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería tener un medio ambiente limpio y saludable, incluyendo el agua, el aire y la biodiversidad. Texas debe preservar los recursos naturales, culturales, panorámicos y recreativos del estado.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY**  
 PARTIDO DEMOCRATA

**Propuesta 8**  
 Propuesta 8

Survey: Texas should legalize cannabis for adults and automatically expunge criminal records for past low-level cannabis offenses.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería legalizar el cannabis para adultos y eliminar automáticamente los antecedentes penales por delitos menores relacionados con el cannabis.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 9**  
 Propuesta 9

Survey: Texas should raise salaries to at least the national average and should provide a cost-of-living increase based on the national Consumer Price Index every two years to current/retired school and state employees.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería aumentar los salarios hasta alcanzar al menos el promedio nacional y proporcionar un ajuste por costo de vida cada dos años (basado en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor) tanto a los empleados escolares como a los estatales, ya sean activos o jubilados.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 10**  
 Propuesta 10

Survey: Texas should ban racially motivated redistricting, ban mid-decade redistricting, and create a non-partisan redistricting board to redraw lines every 10 years.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería prohibir la redistribución de distritos electorales motivada por razones raciales, prohibir la redistribución de distritos a mitad de la década en curso y crear una junta de redistribución de distritos no partidista para redefinir los límites cada 10 años.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 11**  
 Propuesta 11

Survey: The Working Class should be eligible for greater federal income tax relief and have their tax burden fairly shifted onto the wealthiest.  
 Encuesta: La Clase Trabajadora debería ser elegible para una reducción mayor en el impuesto federal sobre el ingreso y que su carga fiscal se transfiera de manera justa a los ciudadanos de mayor poder adquisitivo.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Precinct 1**  
 Precinto 1

**Page 2 of 2**  
 Página 2 de 2

**Propuesta 12**  
 Propuesta 12

Survey: Texas should expand accessible public transportation opportunities in rural and urban communities so residents can get to their workplaces, schools, and healthcare.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería ampliar el acceso al transporte público en las comunidades rurales y urbanas para que los residentes puedan desplazarse a sus lugares de trabajo, escuelas y centros de salud.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 13**  
 Propuesta 13

Survey: Texas should prevent individuals with a history of domestic abuse from purchasing firearms by implementing "red flag" laws.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería impedir la compra de armas de fuego a personas con antecedentes de violencia doméstica implementando leyes de "alerta-red flag".

Yes Sí  
 No No

71242

**PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**March 3, 2026**  
**SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS**  
 ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
 03 de marzo de 2026  
 CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

**Propuesta 4**  
 Propuesta 4

Survey: Texas should address the state's housing crisis in affordability and access in both urban and rural communities.  
 Encuesta: Texas debe abordar la crisis de vivienda del estado en cuanto a disponibilidad económica y acceso, tanto en las comunidades urbanas como en las rurales.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 5**  
 Propuesta 5

Survey: Texas should fund all public schools at the same per-pupil rate as the national average.  
 Encuesta: Texas debe financiar todas las escuelas públicas con la misma tasa por alumno que el promedio nacional.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 6**  
 Propuesta 6

Survey: Secure online voter registration should be accessible to all eligible Texas residents.  
 Encuesta: Todos los habitantes de Texas que cumplan los requisitos para votar deberían poder registrarse de forma segura por Internet.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 7**  
 Propuesta 7

Survey: Texas should have a clean and healthy environment that includes water, air, and biodiversity. Texas must preserve the state's natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational resources.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería tener un medio ambiente limpio y saludable, incluyendo el agua, el aire y la biodiversidad. Texas debe preservar los recursos naturales, culturales, panorámicos y recreativos del estado.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY**  
 PARTIDO DEMOCRATA

**Propuesta 8**  
 Propuesta 8

Survey: Texas should legalize cannabis for adults and automatically expunge criminal records for past low-level cannabis offenses.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería legalizar el cannabis para adultos y eliminar automáticamente los antecedentes penales por delitos menores relacionados con el cannabis.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 9**  
 Propuesta 9

Survey: Texas should raise salaries to at least the national average and should provide a cost-of-living increase based on the national Consumer Price Index every two years to current/retired school and state employees.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería aumentar los salarios hasta alcanzar al menos el promedio nacional y proporcionar un ajuste por costo de vida cada dos años (basado en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor) tanto a los empleados escolares como a los estatales, ya sean activos o jubilados.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 10**  
 Propuesta 10

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 Encuesta: Texas debería prohibir la redistribución de distritos electorales motivada por razones raciales, prohibir la redistribución de distritos a mitad de la década en curso y crear una junta de redistribución de distritos no partidista para redefinir los límites cada 10 años.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 11**  
 Propuesta 11

Survey: The Working Class should be eligible for greater federal income tax relief and have their tax burden fairly shifted onto the wealthiest.  
 Encuesta: La Clase Trabajadora debería ser elegible para una reducción mayor en el impuesto federal sobre el ingreso y que su carga fiscal se transfiera de manera justa a los ciudadanos de mayor poder adquisitivo.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Precinct 2**  
 Precinto 2

**Page 2 of 2**  
 Página 2 de 2

**Propuesta 12**  
 Propuesta 12

Survey: Texas should expand accessible public transportation opportunities in rural and urban communities so residents can get to their workplaces, schools, and healthcare.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería ampliar el acceso al transporte público en las comunidades rurales y urbanas para que los residentes puedan desplazarse a sus lugares de trabajo, escuelas y centros de salud.

Yes Sí  
 No No

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Survey: Texas should prevent individuals with a history of domestic abuse from purchasing firearms by implementing "red flag" laws.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería impedir la compra de armas de fuego a personas con antecedentes de violencia doméstica implementando leyes de "alerta-red flag".

Yes Sí  
 No No

71242

**PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**March 3, 2026**  
**SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS**  
 ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA  
 03 de marzo de 2026  
 CONDADO DE SAN JACINTO, TEXAS

**Propuesta 4**  
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Survey: Texas should address the state's housing crisis in affordability and access in both urban and rural communities.  
 Encuesta: Texas debe abordar la crisis de vivienda del estado en cuanto a disponibilidad económica y acceso, tanto en las comunidades urbanas como en las rurales.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 5**  
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Survey: Texas should fund all public schools at the same per-pupil rate as the national average.  
 Encuesta: Texas debe financiar todas las escuelas públicas con la misma tasa por alumno que el promedio nacional.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 6**  
 Propuesta 6

Survey: Secure online voter registration should be accessible to all eligible Texas residents.  
 Encuesta: Todos los habitantes de Texas que cumplan los requisitos para votar deberían poder registrarse de forma segura por Internet.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**Propuesta 7**  
 Propuesta 7

Survey: Texas should have a clean and healthy environment that includes water, air, and biodiversity. Texas must preserve the state's natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational resources.  
 Encuesta: Texas debería tener un medio ambiente limpio y saludable, incluyendo el agua, el aire y la biodiversidad. Texas debe preservar los recursos naturales, culturales, panorámicos y recreativos del estado.

Yes Sí  
 No No

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY**  
 PARTIDO DEMOCRATA

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Survey: Texas should legalize cannabis for adults and automatically expunge criminal records for past low-level cannabis offenses.  
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Yes Sí  
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 Página 2 de 2

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**Page 2 of 2**  
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71242





# REPUBLICAN

Continued from page 1A

your representative, I will take these beliefs with me to Washington D.C. and serve our district with integrity we can all be proud of.

As a mother to a school aged child and a caregiver to a senior parent I am now in what it is referred to as the 'Sandwich Generation.' A generation that has been blessed to honor the life of our parents and help shape the future of our children. This blessing has provided the ability to understand first-hand the grievances of many of our seniors and the grievances that many parents have concerning the future of their children.

As a three-time Republican Party Congressional nominee, I have had the opportunity to interact directly with thousands of great Texans across many counties over the past six years. I have knocked on doors and listened to countless stories directly from Texans. Throughout my life, people have consistently highlighted my ability to listen and see them when others do not. My approach to representing you in Congress will always be the same — to listen, put myself in your shoes, and think outside the box to address issues that are important to you, your family, and our community.

## Q2: What are the most important issues facing Texas and the nation?

Texas agriculture runs on water. I will promote initiatives that economically benefit Texans. Due to AI data center developers targeting buildouts in Texas, I will ensure that economic growth is achieved responsibly. I will be laser focused on ensuring that water and energy resources remain sustainable for generations of Texans to come.

Ranchers and farmers are the lifeblood of Texas. I will ensure they have a strong voice at the table in Washington D.C. The majority of Texas' farmers and ranchers are small businesses. I will consistently support initiatives that solidify the America First agenda of low taxes and maximizing American energy production to reduce domestic energy costs and keep America and Texas self-reliant.

Public safety in CD 10 starts with National security. I will push for urgently codifying President Trump's executive orders relating to border security. I will also propose legislation to address the dangerous practice of prosecutorial and judicial activism we have seen sweeping the country over the past decade. I will support legislation that ensures accountability for political activist prosecutors and judges that allow dangerous criminals back on our streets to repeat heinous crimes against our citizens.

My initial focus will be Medicare and Social Security reform, securing our elections through legislation such as the proposed SAVE America Act, strengthening our border security, and protecting taxpayers from waste, fraud, and abuse that has established deep roots in our government. I am passionate about research. My focus in Congress will be identifying issues that are most important for each constituent and then acting efficiently to address them. I want to do work that makes a positive impact in the lives of every constituent of CD 10.

## Q3: How would you balance the needs of rural East Texas with the larger communities, and how would you keep your constituents apprised of your work?

My work in Congress will focus on issues important to all Texans — border security, infrastructure security, food security, affordability, parental rights, and ensuring our senior generation of Americans, and those of us that follow, have seamless access to their earned benefits in their golden years. I will oppose special interest earmark funding for projects or programs that do not benefit the vast majority of constituents in the district.

I plan to establish streamlined communication channels for the constituents of CD 10, including in-person town hall meetings as well regular updates through electronic communication to provide ample avenues for feedback. The greatest goal I have is to ensure constituents feel heard and that their opinions are valued.

### Brandon Hawbaker

#### 1. What skills would you bring to the position?

I've been a software engineer for most of my life and as such I have been uniquely good at troubleshooting and solving complex problems. This also means I can offer unprecedented capabilities and representation at a level never seen before, by making dashboards, submission forms, polls, and collaborative tools to serve district 10 objectively and in clear alignment with the goals and wishes of the district.

Throughout my life, I've also had several technical support and customer service roles, making my service of Texans second nature to me. No matter how difficult the challenge, I've been trained throughout my life to satisfy people even when it is difficult.

Lastly and most importantly, my faithful service to Jesus Christ throughout my life, the fact that he has asked me to do this, and the fact that he has explicitly told me to be available to people in the district means they will have my absolute commitment, devotion, and love.

#### 2. What are the most important issues facing Texas and the nation?

The most important thing that Texas and our nation needs is Christ-like love for one another, which has the power to heal virtually everything. I've heard individuals tell me they wish we can get back to communicating and listening to one another. Charlie Kirk was a good example of this. I can't think of any problem that can't be solved with enough listening, patience, and hard work.

That being said, there are many important issues that have some urgency. One matter of urgency effecting district 10 are the water consumption concerns. I've heard multiple people raise water consumption concerns from one end of the district to the other. For example, one gentleman I talked to had to lower his well another 100 feet lower due to the water level dropping due to excessive water extraction. Multiple people have expressed concerns over the national debt, our budget, and reckless spending resulting in extremely high inflation and skyrocketing costs. Personally, I believe a very large contributor to this problem is the federal reserve system and fractional reserve banking.

Another major concern I have is the sovereignty of Texas and the United States of America. There is far too much foreign influence and control of our government. Before we can fix our country it needs to be ours to begin with.

Furthermore, election integrity is a serious issue as well, because without honest elections, how could we ever fix our state and country, once our elections are fully compromised.

#### 3. How would you balance the needs of rural East Texas with the larger communities, and how would you keep your constituents apprised of your work?

I would balance the diverse needs first by collecting as much information as possible to fully understand the needs of rural Texans and more populated areas. In addition to the online tools described above, every time I meet with Texans, I bring a box for people to submit their concerns and ideas anonymously, I have a binder where people can list their concerns, and I always have a notepad in my pocket to write down the exact issues brought up to me, so I can later organize this information to understand the more pressing pain points.

I plan to have regular online town-halls and also go from county to county in person periodically to stay continuously connected so I can listen to the concerns, ideas and suggestions of the residents. I've even proposed the idea of coming to a gathering, sitting down, and letting every person that wants to speak go up and talk about their concerns, while I record and capture the concerns. I plan on putting most of my focus on listening rather than talking, but after I've given people a chance

to speak, I will give regular reports both online and in person of the current status of achieving the district's goals, how I'm being blocked or slowed if appropriate, and what I'm currently doing about it.

For the prioritized list of issues raised by the district, I will form groups and committees which include people in our district, to brainstorm and find solutions so long as they are Constitutional, protect our liberties, and bring power back to the state of Texas. This will also make it possible to scale up, accelerate our ability to get the right legislation to the floor, and ensure quality in every action we take.

Also, I will always respond to every email and watch, monitor and interact via social media with the objective of being available as previously mentioned. Over time, I would like to directly visit every person, talk with them over the phone, or chat with them online to make sure I'm not missing individuals that would like to speak with me.

### Robert Altman

(Information from campaign website)

Rob Altman joined the U.S. Army at just 19, serving more than 25 years as both an enlisted Soldier and commissioned officer, leading teams from 16 to 600 personnel across multiple combat deployments.

After retiring from active duty, he continued his service in the private sector, bringing the same discipline, integrity, and results-driven leadership that guided his military career. Today, he serves in a senior role with a Fortune 500 firm, helping strengthen American businesses and create opportunities for working families.

A proud Aggie and graduate of Texas A&M University, Rob Altman remains deeply connected with his community, veterans, business owners, and families across the region who share his belief in hard work, faith, and freedom.

He believes leadership is about stewardship, serving others with integrity, courage, and humility. As a veteran, husband, father, follower of Christ, and civic leader, Rob Altman is committed to ensuring that every Texan, especially those in underserved and overlooked communities, has the opportunity to thrive.

Washington has lost its way, but Texas still knows what it means to stand for what's right. Rob Altman is committed to bringing common sense back to government, standing with leaders who put America First, and protecting the freedoms and values that define our nation.

#### Issues

- America First: Rebuild American strength, protect our borders, and put Texas first in every decision.
- Veterans and National Security: Honor those who served, care for those who sacrificed, and safeguard our nation's security at home and abroad.
- Small Businesses and Jobs: Champion entrepreneurs and power Texas' booming economy with less red tape and more opportunity.
- Cost of Living and Housing Affordability: Tackling inflation and addressing Texas's housing shortage, critical issues for young families, students, and recent graduates
- Freedom and Accountability: Restore trust in government, protect individual liberty, and hold Washington accountable to the people it serves.
- Faith and Family: Defend faith and strengthen the values that keep Texas families strong.

### Ben Bius

(Information from campaign website)

Ben Bius is an independent businessman with deep Texas roots, descended from generations of farmers, ranchers, and small-business owners. Raised on the values of faith, hard work, and family, Ben built his real estate investment and development company from the ground up, growing it into a respected regional firm known for creating jobs, opportunity, and long-lasting community impact.

His work includes major residential, commercial, and retail developments that have strengthened the region's economy. He has also led successful companies such as B&B Properties, Legacy Builders, Caliber Investment Corporation, and Bius Investments.

Ben graduated from Sam Houston State University with a degree in Finance and supporting coursework in Agri-Business. He is also a commercial pilot; experience and skills he has maintained and developed since his teen years. He applies the same discipline to business and public service.

#### Issues

- Defend the Constitution: Protect the fundamental rights of every American — life, liberty, and property — and uphold the principles our nation was built on.
- Strengthen Small Business: Cut red tape that hurts small businesses so they can thrive, create jobs, and expand opportunity across Texas.
- Empower Parents and Families: Return control of education to Texas by eliminating the federal Department of Education and sending those dollars back to the states.
- Fight Waste, Fraud, and Abuse: Root out corruption and the weaponization of government by cutting wasteful spending, reining in federal overreach, and keeping taxes low to safeguard Texas' economic future.
- Secure Our Border: Work with President Trump to enforce immigration laws, prioritize national security, and ensure a safe, orderly, and lawful border.
- Support President Trump's America First Agenda: Restore accountability in Washington by putting the interests of American families — not bureaucrats or special interests — first.

### Robert Brown

(Information from campaign website)

Robert Brown is dedicated to delivering real results for our community. With a focus on new leadership, he is committed to making a difference and bringing about positive change for the people of Texas.

After actively participating in running his family farm until he was 15, he went on to a 20-year career in retail corporate management as a turnaround specialist where he went into broken business units and making them function properly, so they stay in business and keep people employed.

After retiring, he took positions in consulting, manufacturing, logistics and guest speaking at universities and business conferences on organizational management and operations. These experiences broadened his horizons leading him to understand exactly how broken the government is.

Now he is focusing his attention on the largest broken organization in the world, the US Government.

He will work to repeal government infringement of your rights and instill fiscal sanity in congress where they are currently racking up dept that will not be paid back for 100 years, effectively taxing people that haven't been born yet.

### Chris Gober

(Information from campaign website)

Chris Gober is a 7th-generation Texan, a proud member of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Class of 2001, and a devoted husband and father raising two daughters in Austin. Born and raised in the rural Texas towns of Throckmorton and Graham, Chris learned early the timeless conservative values of Christian faith, family, and hard work — principles that continue to guide his life and service today.

He is one of us — rooted in Texas, shaped by small-town values, and determined to defend the freedom, faith, and frontier grit that built Texas and will keep America free.

After graduating from Texas A&M and Harvard Law School, Chris worked on national security and border security issues at the Justice Department before serving as a top lawyer for the Republican Party. He moved back to Texas and built the nation's top conservative law practice, consistently winning for conservatives in the toughest legal and political battles of our time.

In 2024, Chris led Elon Musk's America PAC as its director and chief lawyer, deploying nearly \$300 million to help ensure President Trump defeated Kamala Harris and returned to the White House.

#### Issues

• Stop The Weaponization of Government: Stop the weaponization of government by radical Democrats against conservatives, President Trump, and America First patriots.

• Crush The Cartels: Crush the cartels by helping President Trump secure our border and empowering Texas law enforcement to halt the invasion of drugs, violence, and gangs into our community.

• Grow Texas's Economy and Beat China: President Trump's America First agenda is unleashing economic growth, and Chris will fight to keep Texas leading the way. He'll boost investment in cutting-edge defense and technology and position Austin and the Brazos Valley as America's center for innovation — ensuring we outcompete China and strengthen our technology infrastructure and national security.

• Fight For Rural Texas and Make Life More Affordable: Rural Texans are feeling the squeeze from rising costs and limited access to quality care. Chris will fight to cut burdensome regulations, expand small business opportunities, make essentials more affordable, and strengthen rural healthcare so families don't have to drive hours for treatment.

• Defend Election Integrity: Defend election integrity by stopping Democrats' unconstitutional attempts to rig our elections and deny the will of the American people.

• Safeguard Our Constitution: Safeguard our Constitution by protecting freedom of speech and our God-given rights under attack by unhinged Democrats and liberal judicial activists.

• Ensuring America's AI Dominance: Chris will fight for policies that protect American innovation from China's economic espionage and champion smart investments in American AI infrastructure that protect rural Texans from projects that drive up electricity rates and drain local water supplies. While we must win the global AI race, it is critical that we preserve our rural character and invest in infrastructure that benefits — not burdens — our local communities.

### Jessica Karlsruher

(Information from campaign website)

Jessica Karlsruher is a 5th-generation Texan and a lifelong conservative running to represent Texas's 10th Congressional District. Born in Kerrville and raised in Houston, she attended St. Thomas More for elementary school and high school at St. Agnes Academy. Jessica learned early the values of faith, family, and freedom that continue to guide her life today.

After graduating from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in Communication Studies, Jessica began her career at the Texas Capitol and later joined the Texas Association of Realtors in their government affairs department. Her work defending private property rights and advocating for Texas families set the stage for a two-decade career as a proven advocate and proven fighter for conservative Texas values.

Most recently, Jessica served as CEO of the Texas Real Estate Advocacy and Defense (TREAD) Coalition, where she fought tirelessly to defend landowners, protect Texas ranchers and farmers, strengthen rural communities, preserve our natural resources, and stand up for the state's vital oil and gas industry. During her time at TREAD, Jessica has worked with the Texas Wildlife Association, Texas Farm Bureau, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers, Texas Land and Mineral Owners Association, Land Trust Groups, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, working to protect our land and safeguard resources for future generations. She also built a coalition made up of industry experts, conservation leaders, and universities from around the state to address policy issues at the state level. In 2025, she joined the Texas Credit Union Association, continuing her work to empower families, small businesses, and communities across Texas.

#### Issues

• Make America Healthy Again: Support U.S. farmers and ranchers who produce the safest food supply in the world. Stop unregulated and untested food imports that are loaded with illegal chemicals. We must stop making our fellow Americans sick with toxic foods.

• Make America Affordable Again: Democrat fueled inflation is a crushing tax on American families. We need to rein in wasteful spending. We are robbing the American dream from our children, and their future is bleak if we don't continue turning our economy around and lowering taxes. We are suffocating the self-employed, the single parent and the hourly worker.

• Make America the Dominant Energy Producer: I come from an oil and gas family — my grandfather was a land acquisition attorney for Exxon. We must protect and advocate for this vital Texas industry. In my role as CEO of TREAD Coalition, I advocated for smart siting and construction of renewable energy projects. Personally, I was a part of a coalition that ran a wind project out of Fayette County where my family ranch is.

• Defend our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, and our fundamental freedoms, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to keep and bear arms: We must not take our country for granted and it needs to be defended. I come from a long line of fighters including my great, great grandfather who fought in the winning battle of San Jacinto during the Texas Revolution and my great grandfather who fought against Mexico, chasing Pancho Villa out of Texas.

• Seal the border and stop the illegal migrant invasion: My family had a contract during the first TRUMP administration to build the border wall in El Paso.

• Stop the migrant crime epidemic, demolish the foreign drug cartels, crush gang violence, and lock up violent offenders: Having family and many of my friends live along parts of the border, I hear about the threats they face daily by these dangers. Neither they nor any Texans should have to live in fear because of an unsecure



border and the dangers it brings into our country.

Continue to strengthen and modernize our military: America faces growing threats from China, Russia, Iran, and rogue actors. A modern, well-equipped military is the best way to prevent conflict before it starts and keep our adversaries in check. Our military must keep pace with rapidly evolving technologies — from cyber warfare and AI to hypersonic weapons and space defense. Strengthening and modernizing ensures our forces stay ahead of adversaries and can protect America's interests at home and abroad.

Fight for and protect social security and Medicare with no cuts, including no changes to the retirement age: Social Security and Medicare are commitments Americans have paid into and earned over a lifetime of hard work. We must protect these programs, honor that promise, and ensure they remain fully funded without cutting benefits or raising the retirement age.

Cut federal funding for any school pushing critical race theory, radical gender ideology, and other inappropriate racial, sexual, or political content on our children: I have been appalled by the radical movement on the left being forced on our children. From the "Pride Movement" to other toxic learning platforms that are inappropriate and not in alignment with our beliefs, as your Representative I will do everything in my power to stop it and return power to the parents.

Keep men out of women's sports: I will not stand for men attempting to participate in female sports or be in their locker rooms.

Cancel the electric vehicle mandate and cut costly and burdensome regulations: Most of our district does not want electronic vehicles nor are they conducive to the work they do — be it farming, ranching, and wildlife management.

Secure our elections, including same day voting, voter identification, paper ballots, and proof of citizenship: Americans deserve to know that every legal vote counts and that our elections are free from fraud and manipulation. Common-sense measures like same-day voting, voter identification, paper ballots, and proof of citizenship help ensure secure, transparent, and trustworthy elections.

Stand for Life and Liberty: Defend the unborn, protect religious freedom and the Second Amendment, and stop federal overreach that threatens our way of life.

Term Limits: There should be term limits for service.

**Scott MacLeod**

*(Information from campaign website)*

Scott MacLeod is a decorated veteran, strong conservative, and proven leader who has spent more than three decades defending America from foreign threats and fighting for Texas. He retired from the Army as a Colonel after a 31-year career that culminated as a Brigade Commander, leading thousands of soldiers at home and abroad.

When President Donald J. Trump gave the order, MacLeod led the 2,000-member Texas National Guard deployment to our southern border to stop illegal immigration, fight the drug cartels, and combat human trafficking. When Hurricane Harvey devastated the Texas Gulf Coast, MacLeod led the 6,000 Soldiers and Marines of Joint Task Force Harvey into the storm in one of the most destructive hurricanes in Texas history. Troops under his command protected property, enforced the rule of law, and were credited with saving thousands of lives.

**Issues**

Strong Domestic Economy and Lowering the National Debt:



Fiscal discipline is stewardship, and stewardship is a moral obligation. A free-market economy, powered by American energy and innovation, is the only sustainable path to prosperity. Lowering costs, reducing federal waste, and restoring confidence in long-term programs like Social Security protects seniors while ensuring our children are not handed a bankrupt nation.

Price Affordability: Inflation under Biden crippled this nation and created a hidden tax on families, retirees, and fixed-income Texans. Washington's spending addiction has driven up prices on groceries, fuel, and housing. Restoring affordability requires cutting spending, stabilizing the dollar, and unleashing domestic production.

Social Security Fortification: Social Security is a promise made to generations of Americans who paid into the system. It must be protected from bankruptcy through responsible reforms that prioritize seniors, not political games or fiscal denial.

Lower Energy Costs: Affordable energy lowers the cost of everything. Texas-led energy dominance, oil, gas, and next-generation innovation, strengthens national security while reducing costs for families and businesses.

Tackling the National Debt: A nation trillions in debt is not sovereign; it is vulnerable. Debt weakens our country and gives leverage to foreign adversaries.

Cutting Waste and Fraud: Federal programs riddled with waste and fraud undermine public trust. Every dollar wasted in Washington is a dollar taken from American families.

Growing the Economy: Growth comes from private investment, entrepreneurship, and hard work, not bureaucratic planning. Lower taxes and fewer regulations allow American businesses to outcompete the world.

National Security: Border security is inseparable from national security. Criminal cartels, traffickers, and potential terrorists exploit weak enforcement, while overwhelmed agencies struggle to keep pace. The federal government's first duty is to protect its people, and that starts at the border. Military readiness is equally critical. A hollowed-out military, depleted stockpiles, and delayed modernization invite aggression. America must project strength, not apologize for it.

Deporting Criminal Illegal Immigrants: Criminal illegal immigrants endanger communities and strain local resources. Swift enforcement and deportation restore the rule of law and protect innocent lives.

Funding and Supporting ICE and Border Patrol: Frontline agents need resources, authority, and political backing. Morale and effectiveness suffer when Washington Democrats and the Mainstream Media undermine the men and women doing the job.

Keeping the Border Secured: President Trump secured the southern border. But border security cannot depend on one president. Lasting solutions require laws, enforcement, and leadership that endure beyond political cycles.

Replenishing U.S. Arms Stockpiles: America cannot deter adversaries with empty warehouses. Rebuilding stockpiles strengthens readiness and supports domestic manufacturing.

Fighting for Texas Farmers and Ranchers: Texas agriculture fuels local economies, sustains rural communities, and anchors national food security. Yet Washington's policies often treat producers as obstacles rather than partners. Excessive regulation, unfair trade practices, and federal overreach threaten livelihoods passed down for generations. Conservatives understand that protecting agriculture is both an economic and moral imperative. Backing farmers and ranchers means respecting property rights, expanding market access, and defending them against threats that originate far beyond the fence line.

Water Rights: Water is life in Texas. Federal intrusion into water rights undermines local control and long-term agricultural planning.

Crop and Cattle Diseases: Diseases crossing the border

**DEMOCRATIC**

Continued from page 1A

at the intersection of policy and implementation, building bipartisan coalitions, navigating diverse stakeholder environments, and advancing solutions on issues ranging from energy security and deficit reduction. I understand how policy is developed, negotiated, and executed, and I'm pragmatic about what it takes to move ideas from concept to law to measurable impact.

In the private sector, I've managed communications and marketing strategies that translate complicated issues into clear, actionable priorities. Across every role, I focus on practical solutions, disciplined execution, and delivering measurable results, and I'll bring that same focus to Washington to deliver for the people of CD10 and for working families like mine.

**2. What are the most important issues facing Texas and the nation?**

In my conversations across the district, I hear two things over and over: the economy and healthcare. Families are working hard, but they feel like they're falling behind. The cost of housing, childcare, groceries, and healthcare keeps rising, while wages don't keep pace. For too many Texans, the foundation of a stable, prosperous life feels out of reach.

But this isn't just about rising costs; it's about a system that feels rigged. Economic inequality is growing because the rules in Washington aren't working for working people, and those rules are too often shaped by special interests, performative politicians, and executive overreach instead of transparent, accountable lawmaking focused on real solutions.

We need policies that expand opportunity: lowering everyday costs, strengthening access to affordable healthcare, supporting work with fair wages, and restoring integrity to how laws are written and passed. Government should help people get ahead, not hold them back.

**3. How would you balance the needs of rural East Texas with larger communities, and keep constituents apprised of your work?**

Rural communities aren't a monolith, and in CD10, the district was drawn to protect one party's power, not to represent shared interests. The result is a mix of rural, suburban, and urban communities with different day-to-day realities. But everywhere I go, I hear the same core concerns: affordability, healthcare, public schools,

infrastructure. The details may vary, but the underlying policy imperatives are shared and require steady, accountable governance.

Balancing those priorities means listening first and making accessibility a cornerstone of my work. I won't assume I know what's best for any part of the district; instead, I'll engage directly with constituents through in-person and virtual town halls, district office hours in every region, and advisory councils that reflect CD10's full diversity. Transparency will also be central: plain-language explanations of my votes, regular progress updates, and dashboards showing how our work translates into real outcomes.

I'll also use my committee and subcommittee assignments strategically to ensure that rural, suburban, and urban priorities are represented in legislation and funding decisions. My goal is consistent, accountable representation so no community is overlooked and every constituent has a real voice in Washington.

**Dawn Marshall**

*(Information from campaign website)*

Dawn Marshall knows the meaning of hard work because she's lived it every step of the way. One of five children, she got her first job at just 15 and never looked back. From working the assembly line and ringing up groceries as a cashier to serving as a pharmacy tech, salesperson, and even volunteering as an EMT, Dawn has always rolled up her sleeves to get the job done.

Determined to build a better future, she put herself through college — becoming the first in her family to earn a degree. Her journey didn't stop there. She worked as an archaeologist, volunteered in underfunded schools, and earned both a Master's and Ph.D.

As a college professor, Dawn returned to the kind of institution that changed her life: a local community college. There, she dedicated herself to helping students from working-class backgrounds find their footing and achieve their goals—just like she did.

Dawn Marshall's story isn't just inspiring — it's proof that when determination meets opportunity, anything is possible.



threaten food supply and livelihoods. Strong biosecurity and border enforcement are essential protections.

Eminent Domain Abuse: Property rights are foundational to liberty. Government abuse of eminent domain destroys trust and family legacies.

Fair Trading Markets: Farmers deserve fair access to domestic and global markets. Trade policy must protect producers from foreign manipulation and dumping.

AI and Technology: America must lead, not follow, in artificial intelligence, advanced computing, and emerging technologies. AI presents an enormous opportunity when guided by moral clarity and constitutional limits. A free-market, innovation-friendly environment is the only way to beat China and secure America's technological future.

Leveraging AI for Society and Safety: AI can accelerate cures, improve infrastructure, and enhance public safety. Ethical use must always place human life and liberty first.

Defeating China in the Tech War: China seeks technological dominance to expand authoritarian control. America must out-innovate, out-build, and out-compete.

Training More American Tech Workers: America's workforce should power America's future. Education and training must prioritize domestic talent over foreign dependence.

**Jeremy Story**

*(Information from campaign website)*

Jeremy has started and sold several small businesses. He currently owns a restaurant that serves up scratch-made Southern dishes and an event center that hosts large events on a large ranch. He has also started and led several national movements among Christians on college campuses.

In addition, he has been Chaplain of the Republican Party of Texas multiple times, was elected to the State Republican Executive Committee, served as a precinct chair and a delegate to the Republican National Convention.

**Issues**

Reducing the deficit, shrinking government, eliminating fraud: The deficit has grown to be completely unsustainable. \$1 Trillion dollars of our annual \$7 trillion budget goes just to pay interest for our deficit. Fraudulent use of foreign aid, domestic welfare programs and government grants must be stopped. Congress needs to stop passing the buck to future generations through ongoing continuing resolutions rather than making tough choices.

Continue securing our borders and reforming immigration laws: Border security and immigration reform is crucial to Texas and America. Jeremy will press forward to ensure illegal immigration is curbed. It is simultaneously important that the current ambiguous maze of our current immigration laws is reformed to be clear, fair and consistent for all seeking to immigrate to America. We should only encourage and allow immigration by people who share our values for democracy, a constitutional republic, God given rights rather than government given, and who will not advocate for socialist, Marxist or other forms of government foreign to our constitution or other contrary laws like Sharia law.

Promoting religious freedom and stopping woke agendas to silence conservatives: Jeremy is a committed Christian. He knows that the first amendment guarantees religious freedom for all. Our founders linked this right, the right to free speech and the right to petition your government before all other constitutional amendments because these three God-given rights help preserve many other constitutional rights.



**Issues**

In Central Texas, the challenges are real — from skyrocketing housing costs and rural hospital closures to unfair redistricting and threats to vital research funding at our universities. Dawn Marshall is running to fight for what matters here at home. That means protecting and expanding access to affordable healthcare, including Medicare and Medicaid, so families and seniors aren't forced to choose between prescriptions and groceries. It means tackling the housing crisis head-on, so working Texans aren't priced out of the communities they help build. Dawn will stand against gerrymandering that dilutes our voices and work to restore fair representation for all. She'll champion research funding that drives innovation and jobs in our region, not cuts that set us back. In Congress, Dawn will be a relentless advocate for a fairer, healthier, and more affordable future for every family in Texas' 10th District.

**Bernie Reyna**

*(Information from campaign website)*

Howdy, my name is Bernie, and I'm running to serve and protect American workers and senior citizens in the 10th Congressional District of our blessed State of Texas.

**Why I'm running for Congress**

I'm running because Congress has been captured by a narrow political class — overwhelmingly lawyers, lobbyists, career politicians, and financial speculators — who do not represent the lived reality of ordinary Americans.

For decades these idle "representatives" have bled the middle class dry and laid heavy burdens upon the working class — burdens they never feel themselves.

Research shows that policymakers from elite professional backgrounds consistently prioritize the interests of donors, corporations, and political insiders over working people. We feel the consequences every single day.

**Who I am**

I am not just another one of these typical politicians perched up high upon a pedestal.

No — I am a working family man, and I have spent 22 years in the trenches of the working class, alongside the same people I'm asking to represent: rising early, putting in an honest day's work, and paying my fair share of taxes.



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- ✓ **Ten Commandments & Prayer in Schools:** Charles Schwertner voted to restore the Ten Commandments in classrooms and protect voluntary student prayer.
- ✓ **Protects Girls' Sports:** Charles Schwertner passed legislation to keep biological males out of girls' sports, protecting fairness and safety for female athletes.
- ✓ **Bans DEI Programs:** Charles Schwertner led efforts to ban taxpayer-funded DEI programs in public schools and universities.
- ✓ **Stop Illegal Immigration:** Charles Schwertner passed laws empowering sheriffs to work with ICE and enforce immigration laws.

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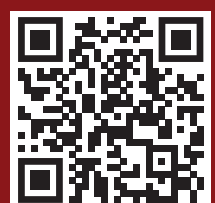
- Lt. Governor Dan Patrick

Election Day: Tuesday, March 3  
Early Voting: February 17 - 27



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# BITE by BITE

Conquering My Culinary Bucket List One Dish at a Time

By Emily Banks Wooten

# My favorite meals I ate in restaurants last year

As much as I enjoy cooking, I also enjoy the opportunity to go out for a good meal. In the Jan. 18 issue, I shared with you my favorite things I cooked in 2025. Today, I'm going to tell you about some of my favorite meals that I enjoyed in restaurants last year.

Reviewing the list, it consists of four seafood dishes, two brunch-type dishes, two different versions of "loaded fries" (which I didn't realize was a thing) and one barbecue outing.

In March, Mother and I traveled to Austin to pick up Daughter and bring her home for spring break. It was the perfect opportunity to introduce Mother to one of my favorite restaurants in Austin - Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill located at 303 Red River St. Having eaten there numerous times, and having enjoyed everything I've ever ordered there, this time I opted for the blackened catfish which came topped with crawfish, hot sauce, pecan meunière and stone ground grits on the side. It did not disappoint. Every bite was delicious.

The last week of July we spent a few days in Galveston soaking up the sun, sand and surf before Daughter headed back to school the first week in August. We selected a restaurant we'd never eaten at before - Nick's Kitchen and Beach Bar at 3802 Seawall Blvd. - and loved it so much that we went back a second time before our trip was over. The first night we were there I ordered blackened shrimp tacos with a side of grilled vegetables. It was all very good, but those grilled vegetables may be the best I've ever had.

I'm not sure what they were seasoned with or marinated in, but they were excellent.

On our subsequent trip to Nick's a couple nights later, I selected the panko-encrusted blue crab cakes that were served with a summer arugula and corn salad and house-made remoulade sauce. It was a perfectly delightful summertime meal and the super garlicky vinaigrette that dressed the arugula and corn salad was to die for if you're a garlic lover like I am.

When we dined at Miller's Seawall Grill at 1824 Seawall Blvd., a favorite of ours since Hubby's and my dating days, I ordered "The 16" which was 16 medium shrimp - half fried and half grilled - with hushpuppies and a baked potato. Basic? Yes, but come on! Sometimes basic is best, especially when it comes to shrimp, hushpuppies and a baked potato.

The two brunch-type dishes I enjoyed the most last year both came from Kerbey Lane Cafe at 2606 Guadalupe St. in Austin. One was called a Texas Benedict. It was two poached eggs, grilled Texas wagyu beef, avocado, queso and pico de gallo served atop housemade cornbread and your choice of a breakfast side. (I think I selected roasted sweet potatoes.) Oh my goodness! There's nothing better than a good Benedict and while I love the various iterations, I'd have never thought to put it on cornbread but it was simply delicious!

Another brunch I enjoyed at Kerbey Lane Cafe was so rich and decadent that I could only finish half of it. Called chicken and pancakes, it was a fried chicken breast on top

of cinnamon beignet pancakes and topped with maple syrup and powdered sugar. The combination of maple syrup and buffalo sauce was surprisingly delicious - sweet, hot and tangy all at the same time. I'd order it again, but only if someone would split it with me.

As I mentioned earlier, I hadn't really realized that loaded fries were a thing, but evidently they are. I had my first at Pit Row Pit Stop on the Lake at 150 Emerald Ln. in Onalaska. It was a heaping pile of crinkle-cut fries smothered in nacho cheese with your choice of meat (chopped beef, rib meat or grilled chicken) and topped with onions, jalapenos and shredded cheese.

My second foray into loaded fries was at Rodeo Goat at 2105 Dallas St. in Houston. It was another heaping pile of cheddar, bacon and jalapenos over a large helping of hand-punched fries. Both of these pair quite nicely with an ice cold beer or other cold beverage of your choice.

Rounding out my list of my favorite meals eaten out in 2025 is a family style meal we enjoyed at Black's Barbecue at 3110 Guadalupe in Austin. We ordered a pound of beef brisket and a pound of pork spare ribs to share and each of us selected our own side. Hubby went with Norma Jean's Beans, Daughter selected mac & cheese (no surprise there) and I opted for garlic butter green beans.

I promise we really did go to other places last year besides Austin, Galveston, Houston and Onalaska. I guess it's just a coincidence that these happened to be my favorite meals out. I'll try to broaden our travels a little bit in 2026. ■





SAN JACINTO COUNTY

# SPORTS



Senior Night found (from left) Jamal Horton, Brayson Goodman, Darrian Matthews standing with Head Coach Jeremy Bennett. PHOTOS BY CHARLES BALLARD



Brayson Goodman and the Shepherd Pirates enter the game against Livingston with first-class style.



Ryan Figgs from Livingston and Brayden White of Shepherd got the evening started off in a grand style.



Ben Coyle finds an opening in the Livingston defense and takes a shot at the basket.



Ben Coyle grabs 18 points for the night and went 1-for-2 at the line.



Senior Jamal Horton grabs a nice layup.



Surrounded by Trinity Tigers, Walker goes up for the layup. PHOTOS BY TONY FARKAS



Dacoryn Barnes finishes the fast break.



Coldspring's Joel Houston wins the battle for the ball.



Tyler Stuckey is all alone for the score.

## Pirates end season on a down note

By Charles Ballard  
SINT correspondent

Tuesday night presented a tough challenge for the Shepherd Pirates as district-leading Livingston came to town. The Lions, sitting atop the standings with an 8-1 district record, showed why they hold the top spot, earning a decisive victory over the sixth-place Pirates.

Shepherd entered the matchup short-handed but never backed down from the challenge. From the opening tip to the final buzzer, the Pirates continued to compete, even as Livingston

established control on both ends of the floor.

The Lions jumped out quickly, closing the first quarter with a 28-11 lead. Their offensive tempo and defensive pressure created early separation, and by halftime Livingston held a 48-22 advantage. While the margin was significant, Shepherd continued to battle, using rotations and adjustments to slow the pace in the second half. As Livingston began to work in younger players, the Pirates' starters found opportunities to regroup and continue competing through the final quarters.

Ben Coyle led Shepherd offensively with 18

points, going 1-for-2 from the free-throw line. Brayden White added 10 points and also shot 1-for-2 from the stripe. Jamal Horton contributed 6 points, while Brayson Goodman added 3 points and went 1-for-2 at the line.

Livingston was paced by high scorer Cruz Julien, who helped anchor the Lions' strong performance.

Tuesday also marked Senior Night for the Pirates. Prior to tipoff, Head Coach Bennett honored seniors Jamal Horton, Brayson Goodman, and Darrian Matthews for their dedication and contributions to the program. Though the final

score did not fall in Shepherd's favor, the seniors' leadership and the team's effort throughout the night reflected the resilience of the program.

On Friday, Shepherd got beat by Hardin-Jefferson 96-46 and finished their season a 6th in district.

### Coldspring

The Trojans lost to Crockett 52-46 on Friday. Coldspring led at the half 27-19, but Crockett took the game in the last 2 quarters.

On Feb. 10, the Trojans lost to 18th-ranked Trinity 73-51.

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Alaya Goffney spreads out on defense. PHOTOS BY TONY FARKAS



Alyxandria Cooper sneaks in a steal attempt.

# Shepherd season ends with loss to Livingston

By Charles Ballard  
SJNT correspondent

**SHEPHERD** — There was joy and sadness on Feb. 10 as the Lady Pirates lost 47-31 to Livingston but celebrated the accomplishments of the seniors who dedicated their time and effort to the program.

Once the celebration concluded, it was time for basketball.

The neighboring Livingston Lady Lions were ready from the opening tip, bringing high energy and defensive pressure. Shepherd matched that intensity early, staying within striking dis-

tance throughout the first quarter. By halftime, the Lady Pirates trailed 23-14 but remained firmly in contention.

Shepherd opened the second half with a quick 3-0 run, prompting Livingston to call an early timeout to regroup. The Lady Pirates continued to compete and battle on both ends of the floor, but Livingston slowly began to create separation. By the end of the third quarter, the Lady Lions held a 35-24 advantage and maintained control down the stretch to secure a 47-31 victory.

Despite the loss, several seniors made strong contributions in their final home appearance.

Da'kiyah Clark led Shepherd with 12 points, going 3-for-4 from the free-throw line and connecting on a three-pointer. Kiona King added 8 points, including two shots from beyond the arc. Jazilyn Richardson contributed 4 points, knocking down two three-point field goals.

At senior night, the gym was filled wall to wall as friends, family, and fans packed the stands to celebrate eight seniors who have helped shape the program. Addison Kowis, Jazilyn Richardson, Kiona King, Da'kiyah Clark, Kaci Roberts, Jaylyn Solorzano, Katelyn Solorzano, and Madison Hickman were honored in a pregame ceremony surrounded by loved ones.

## Coldspring

After being in charge the first three quarters, a 2-point fourth quarter doomed the Lady Trojans to a 47-33 road loss to Trinity.

Coldspring outpaced the Lady Tigers throughout ¾ of the game and entered into the fourth quarter with a two-point lead. Trinity opened up under the basket in the fourth, outpacing the Lady Trojans 17-2.

Still, Coldspring ended the regular season with a 6-5 district record (13-18 overall) and a first-round spot against Huntington in the playoffs.



Kiona King gets the night started. PHOTOS BY CHARLES BALLARD



Senior Kaci Roberts takes her last 3-point shot as a Lady Pirates basketball team member.



Kiona King scored 8 points for the night and had 2 3-point shots.



Da'kiyah Clark led the team with 12 points and went 3-4 at the line with a 3-point field goal.



Payje Jackson ends a coast-to-coast run with a short jumper. PHOTOS BY TONY FARKAS



Camiyah Hines goes up for two in the paint.



Ciara Phillips shoots over the Trinity center.



Ciara Phillips lets fly a hopeful basket.

# Lady Trojans win three at Hudson Tournament

SJNT staff

The Lady Trojans won three in the recent Hudson softball tournament, beating Huntsville 4-1 on Thursday, Lufkin 4-2 on Thursday and Diboll 10-3 on Thursday.

However, Silsbee downed Coldspring 10-0 on Thursday.

Against Huntsville, Cassidy Loll, Taonna McGraw and Jasper Williams each posted

2 hits apiece, with Loll and McGraw each posting a double. Loll had mound duty, tossing 2 strikeouts while allowing 3 hits.

Against Silsbee, Addison Headley had the lone hit for the Lady Trojans. Trinity Rosales was the pitcher, striking out 8 but allowing 8 hits.

Against Lufkin, Loll posted 3 hits while Jasper Williams had 2 to lead the offense. Rosales struck out 5 and allowed only 3

hits.

Against Diboll, Williams and Olivia Moreno each had 2 hits to lead the offense. Rosales and Loll shared mound duty, combining for 3 strikeouts but allowing 7 hits.

On Feb. 10, the Lady Trojans lost to Dayton 5-4 in 10 innings. Rosales, Headley, Olivia Lee and Williams all had two hits apiece. Rosales got the win, tossing 14 strikeouts but giving up 11 hits.

## Shepherd

On Friday, the Lady Pirates edged out Cypress Ridge 5-4.

Swayze Nelson and Skyleigh Lagow both had two hits to lead at the plate, with Nelson cracking a double and Lagow hitting a double and triple. Isabelle Hooper picked up the win with 14 strikeouts, while allowing only 6 hits.

# UIL releases biannual district realignments

SJNT staff

Every two years, the Texas University Interscholastic League shakes up sports districts to keep a keen edge on competition.

For the 2026-27 school year, Coldspring has a few changes for the major sports.

In football, the Trojans will face Anahuac, Buna, Cleveland Tarkington, East Chambers, Kirbyville and Orangefield, while losing Hardin.

In basketball, the Trojans will face Anderson-Shiro, Cleveland Tarkington, Crockett, New Waverly, Onalaska and Trinity.

In volleyball, the Lady Trojans face Ander-

son-Shiro, Crockett, New Waverly, Onalaska and Trinity, which is essentially no change.

For Shepherd, the Pirates face Hamshire-Fannett, Hardin-Jefferson, Jasper, Silsbee and West Orange-Stark, while losing Cleveland Tarkington.

In basketball, the Pirates face Hamshire-

Fannett, Hardin-Jefferson, Huffman Hargrave, Liberty and Livingston, just losing Cleveland Tarkington.

In volleyball, the Lady Pirates will face Hamshire-Fannett, Hardin-Jefferson, Huffman Hargrave, Liberty and Livingston, just losing Cleveland Tarkington.



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### RAISING A RACKET

It was another successful day for Coldspring-Oakhurst Tennis as players brought home awards from the Madisonville tournament. Gold medals went to Cali Coker, Tess Phillips, Ashlynn Holley and Cain Daigle; bronze medals went to Brayden Coker and Jacob Savell; and Consolation went to Jessie Coker. COURTESY PHOTO

## Powerlifting results

Newton Eagles Invitational  
Newton High School  
Feb. 7

#### Shepherd Girls

Team results: 3rd

Individual results (weight class, place, athlete)

- 132, 1, Cantera, Debanhi
- 148, 2, Mayorga, Julissa
- 148, 4, Morton, Addison
- 148, 7, Cruz, Adrianna
- 165, 3, McCain, Bree
- 198, 1, White, Brooklyn
- 198, 2, McCain, Arianna
- 242, 1, Gonzalez, Emily

#### Boys

- 123, 1, Batey, Clint
- 123, 3, Osorio, Cristian
- 132, 1, Orozco, Diego
- 148, 1, Hansford, James
- 165, 1, Orozco, Alex
- 165, 2, Seagroves, Levi
- 198, 1, Neal, David
- 220, 3, Lopez, Joan
- 242, 1, Husband, Kellyn
- 242, 2, Najera, Luis
- 275, 1, Cheek, Kobie
- 308, 1, Garcia, Aharon



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| <br><b>LEONOR SHUKAN</b>                   | <br><b>ELLEN MOSELEY MAY</b>                       |
| <br><b>CHRISTIE HANCOCK-JONES</b>          | <br><b>DANA WILLIAMS</b>                           |

**CHAD ETHERIDGE, TERRY BACON, BEN JEFFERIES, LINDSAY WALKER, LANA SHADWICK, GENE BUSH, PERRY TANNER, JOE SCOTT EVANS, SETH EVANS, FORMER SHERIFF BILLY RAY NELSON, BENNY RUSH, CARLA EDWARDS, JESSICA DAY, ALYSSA MARSHALL, ANTHONY PAGE, BOBBY PHILLIPS, CONNIE DUE and many more.**



Pd political ad by Travis Kitchens Campaign, Deanna Bell Treasurer



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# Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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

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**Kid Scoop Together**  
**ZIGZAG MAZE**  
 Can you find your way through this maze in under 2 minutes?

## THINGS THAT START WITH Z

### Amazing Zebras

The stripes on a zebra are like the tiny lines of human fingerprints: No one zebra is striped exactly like another.

### Why Stripes?

Zebras protect themselves by grouping together. When a group of zebras stand close together, it's hard to see where one zebra starts and another ends. This optical illusion protects zebras from the lions, hyenas, leopards and cheetahs that hunt them.

**Standards Link:** Life Science: Adaptations improve an animal's chance for survival.

Find your way through the maze!

START



### Are Zebras Fast?

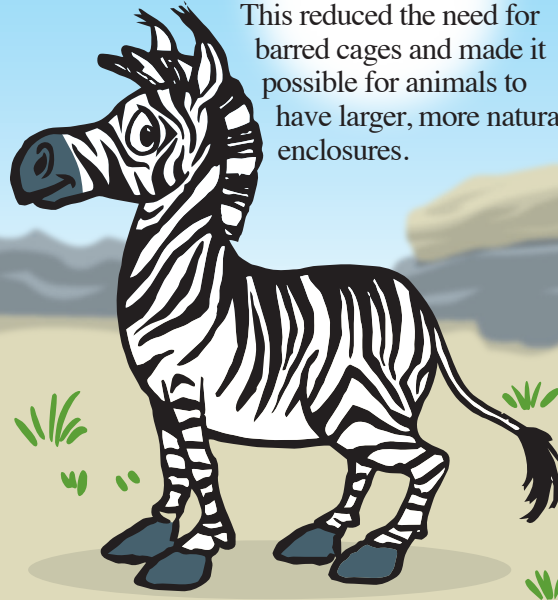
Zebras are *very* fast! And they have to be in order to outrun lions and other predators.

Zebras can run up to 65 miles (105 km) per hour, while lions can reach up to 50 miles (80 km) per hour in short bursts. Cheetahs can reach up to 70 miles (112 km) per hour, so zebras must be alert at all times!

### New Zoo Idea

In 1907, German zoo owner Carl Hagenbeck came up with an idea that improved zoos. He dug moats around animal living areas.

This reduced the need for barred cages and made it possible for animals to have larger, more natural enclosures.



Hold this page up to a mirror to discover more zebra facts!

no zygwls zi bndr s ni stds 9n0 un0 zps9tq tot rhtsw

.zbruo9 ztsc0l of stst0t n0w z169 stds

.lwo ns 26 ll9w 26 992 n0w stds s ,trp0n tA

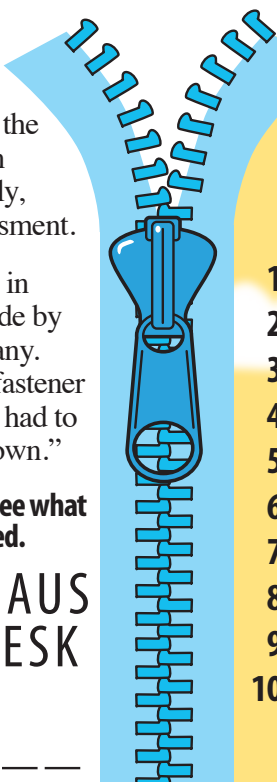
### Zip It!

Zippers were invented in the late 1800s. But they often popped open unexpectedly, causing a lot of embarrassment.

The zipper was perfected in 1923 on rubber boots made by the B.F. Goodrich Company. The company called the fastener a zipper because you just had to "zip 'er up" or "zip 'er down."

Circle every other letter to see what zippers were originally called.

**S** **T** **L** **I** **S** **D** **B** **E** **C** **F** **J** **A** **U** **S**  
**V** **T** **W** **E** **K** **N** **I** **E** **L** **R** **E** **S** **K**  
**S** **L** \_\_\_\_\_



Draw a line from each Z word to its definition. Stuck? Use a dictionary.

1. ZINC
  2. ZEPPELIN
  3. ZITHER
  4. ZURICH
  5. ZIMBABWE
  6. ZONE
  7. ZAP
  8. ZIGZAG
  9. ZEST
  10. ZANY
- a. A path with back-and-forth angles.
  - b. Silly or wildly funny.
  - c. The largest city in Switzerland.
  - d. A shiny, bluish-white metal.
  - e. A country in southern Africa.
  - f. A blimp-like airship.
  - g. Great energy or excitement.
  - h. A musical instrument.
  - i. An area with a special purpose.
  - j. To strike something quickly.

**Extra! Extra!**  
**Red All Over**

What's black and white and red all over? Not just a sunburned zebra! Choose one page of the newspaper. Circle in red all of the words that you know.

**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

**Standards Link:** Social Science: Students understand the contributions of individuals in shaping our economy.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### Mystery Z Poem

Our name starts with Z.  
 You eat us – now what can we be?  
 Our colors are dark green, pale green and yellow.  
 Our succulent flesh will taste quite mellow.  
 We grow on a bush with prickly stems.  
 We're shaped like a sausage with rounded ends.  
 We're an excellent source of Vitamin C,  
 Good to eat and also fat free.  
 In France we're *courgettes*, our name rhymes with linguine.  
 Eat us cooked or raw. Our name is ...

Z \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**Standards Link:** Language Arts: Word recognition.

### Double Double Word Search

- ZANY
- ZAP
- ZEBRA
- ZEPPELIN
- ZERO
- ZEST
- ZIGZAG
- ZINC
- ZING
- ZIPPER
- ZITHER
- ZONE
- ZOO
- ZOOM
- ZURICH

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

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

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

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[kidscoop.com/activity-pages/](http://kidscoop.com/activity-pages/)

### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:  
**ZONE**

The noun **zone** means an area with a special purpose.

My dad got a ticket for parking his car in the no parking **zone**.

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

### FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

#### Name Game

Look through the newspaper and circle the names of 10 places. List the names of these places in alphabetical order. Can you find each place on a map?

**Standards Link:** Social Science: Use map skills to determine the absolute location of places.

The alphabet goes from A to Z.  
 What goes from Z to A?

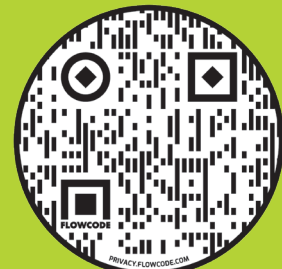
ANSWER: Zebra!

### Write On! Z Poems

Be inspired by the letter Z. Write a poem about whatever comes to mind about the letter Z.



easttexasnews.com



# The Seven Deadly Sins

This week, the Church begins the observance of Lent, a season of 40 days before Easter, plus Sundays. It is a time to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the Resurrection of Christ, and a time of self-examination and reflection on our human weaknesses and sins.

During Lent, we go to the cross and grieve that our corruption cost the Son of God His life. We seek to repent, asking Him to lead us into victory over the flesh and develop mature Christian virtues in us which empower us to do the work of God in the world.

Lent is a good time to contemplate the seven deadly sins. There is not such a list in the Bible, but they are all mentioned there. The list itself goes back to the early church, around the fourth century of the Christian era. The seven deadly sins are pride, lust, gluttony, sloth, greed, envy, and wrath. They are inclinations of our weak human nature, tempting us to engage in sinful behavior.

Pride is placing ourselves above



DAN DARBY

DAN'S DIVINITIES

others. Before God we are all equal, for He loves each of us the same no matter who we are nor what sins we have committed. Self-respect is healthy, but arrogant pride is deadly to our souls and separates us from both God and other people.

In one of Jesus' parables, when the prodigal son returned home, his elder brother refused to go into the house to celebrate. His father went out from the party and begged him to come in, but the elder brother answered, "Look, I've served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you've never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours returned, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him" (Luke 15:29-30).

The elder brother was guilty of

several deadly sins including wrath, greed, and envy, but his most prominent sin was pride. He rejected the offender as his brother, referring to him as "this son of yours." After the father reassured the elder son of his love for him, he said "this brother of yours" was lost and now is found.

Pride drives a wedge between us and others, but mercy, humility, and compassion bring us close and enable us to love and serve in Jesus' name.

Lust is the treating of others as objects of desire instead of people to be cared for. Lust causes us to look at others through the lens of desire alone, causing us to trample another person's rights and personhood for our own selfish fulfillment. Desire can be good and is a part of our human nature, but unbridled desire makes us slaves of the devil instead of servants of God.

Gluttony is the excess intake of more food than our bodies need in a vain attempt to satisfy the needs of our souls. We all have insecurities and feelings of emptiness and unful-

fillment, and gluttony attempts to fill that void with food. Overindulgence is an attempt to avoid dealing with our inner conflicts, hurts, and emptiness, while faith is a willingness to recognize and deal with our pain.

Sloth is not just laziness, it is indifference to what we need to do spiritually to care for our own souls and serve others as Christ's representatives. Sloth castrates our spiritual vibrancy. It discounts the need for spiritual discipline. The poor in spirit know how much they need God and are blessed, but the slothful die spiritually. Sloth is choosing to be served instead of expending the energy to serve out of our gratitude to Christ our Lord.

Greed leads us to try to satisfy the needs of our souls through the accumulation of things, money, and power. God wants to fulfill our deepest needs, but we are tempted to replace the living God in our lives with worldly, temporal goods and products. Greed leads us to trample on

others instead of serving them. Let us learn to seek God first and trust Him to supply all we need materially and spiritually.

Envy is jealousy of things that belong to others. It rolls in self-pity instead of being grateful for what the Lord has given us. Envy leads to dissatisfaction, depression, and sadness. Let us learn the discipline of contentment.

Wrath is unbridled anger that desires revenge against others for perceived hurts. It causes us to hate those we view as enemies and makes us slaves to our hurt rather than emissaries of the good news of the love of God. May we learn to practice the Christian virtues of long-suffering, forgiveness, and kindness.

During Lent, let us contemplate our own human weaknesses and sins, and pray that God will develop in us the nature of Christ, that we might fulfill our destiny to be the children of God.

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



## Visit the church of your choice



### SAN JACINTO COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**FIRST BAPTIST OF COLDSRING**  
 100 East Pine Ave. | 936-653-4197  
 Intentional Interim Pastor Rusty Walton  
 Sunday School ..... 9:00 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 10:30 AM  
 Kidz Worship (PreK - 6th Grade) ..... 10:30 AM  
 Tues. Ladies Bible Study ..... 9:30 - 11:30 AM  
 Wed. Teamkid (PreK - 6th Grade) ..... 5:30 PM  
 Wed. FUEI (7th - 12th Grade) ..... 5:30 PM  
 Wed. Men's Bible Study ..... 6:00 PM

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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SHEPHERD**  
 10850 Hwy 150 W. | P.O. BOX 187  
 Pastor Chester Holloway | 936-628-3130  
 Sunday Bible Study (all ages) ..... 9:45 AM  
 Worship Service ..... 11:00 AM  
 Wednesday Adult & Youth Bible Study ... 6 PM  
 Childcare Provided for all services

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**PAUL HORTON METHODIST CHURCH**  
 3721 Hwy 156, Stephen Creek, Tx  
 Rev. Mariann Rayne | 713-816-2795  
 Sunday Worship Service ..... 10:00 AM  
 Wednesday Bible Study ..... 4:00 PM  
 Wednesday Prayer ..... 5:00 PM  
 Come Into God's Home & Worship with us!!!

**ONALASKA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Hwy 356 South (1.5 Miles south of the  
 Onalaska 4 corner traffic light)  
 Pastor Jimmy Calvert | 936-646-5859  
 Sunday School ..... 9 AM  
 Sunday Worship ..... 10 AM

**SHEPHERD METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Hwy 150 @ FM 222 | 936-628-3861  
 Steven Lightfoot, Pastor  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 AM  
 Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
 Tuesday Bible Study ..... 5:45 PM

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

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

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

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

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 Rev. Everett Muirhead | 936-767-4526  
 Sunday School ..... 9:45 AM  
 Sunday Morning Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
 Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
 Tuesday Men's Missions ..... 6:00 PM  
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 Thursday Women's Missions ..... 6:00 PM  
 Friday Youth For Christ ..... 6:00 PM  
 Saturday Gospel Singing ..... 6:00 PM

**COWBOY CHURCH OF SAN JACINTO COUNTY**  
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 Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 AM  
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 Hwy. 150, Maynard, Tx.  
 Sunday Morning Service ..... 11:00 AM  
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 Wednesday Evening ..... 7:30 PM

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

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

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

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# Paxton, Crockett leading in primary polls

Republican Attorney General Ken Paxton and Democratic U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett are leading their respective primary campaigns for U.S. Senate, according to a poll released last week by the University of Houston's Hobby School of Public Affairs, the Austin American-Statesman reported. Early voting began Feb. 17 and runs through Feb. 27.

Among Republicans, Paxton led incumbent U.S. Sen. John Cornyn 38 percent to 31 percent. U.S. Rep. Wesley Hunt polled at 17 percent, making it likely that race will go to a runoff in May if these margins hold. Among Democrats, Crockett led with 47 percent while state Rep. James Talarico was favored by 39 percent of respondents.

The margin of error for both parties was plus or minus 4 percentage points. The election is on March 3.

## Roy leading in polls in attorney general's race

In the race to succeed Paxton as attorney general, U.S. Rep. Chip Roy, with 33 percent in the latest poll leads a crowded GOP field by 10 percentage points, with state Sen. Mayes Middleton in second at 23 percent. The Texas Tribune reported state Sen. Joan Huffman polled at 13 percent, and Aaron Reitz, a former federal assistant attorney general, trailed at 6 percent.

However, 25 percent of those polled remain undecided in that race.

On the Democratic side, state Sen. Nathan Johnson led with 25 percent of the 550 people polled, followed by former Galveston mayor Joe Jaworski at 22 percent. Attorney and former FBI agent Tony Box held 13 percent. A majority of those polled said they didn't know enough about any of the candidates to express a preference.

That poll was also conducted by the



**GARY BORDERS**

CAPITOL HIGHLIGHTS

**Fed predicts job growth in Texas in 2026**  
A new employment forecast by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas predicts the state will add jobs in 2026, after a flat 2025, The Dallas Morning News reported. The bank's forecast predicts Texas employment will grow by 1.1 percent, or about 155,000 jobs. That is about half of job growth the state has experienced in recent years.

"We've run our models. We're going with the 1.1 percent growth, so that is a significant increase from zero, certainly," said Pia Orrenius, a senior economist at the Dallas Fed.

The slower-than-normal employment growth is partly attributable to the Trump administration's restrictive immigration policies and enforcement operations, according to some economists. In a report published by the Fed in October, the authors said the immigration policies were negatively affecting one in five Texas businesses.

"The stepped-up visibility and intensity of enforcement have produced a chilling effect," the authors wrote. "As fear spreads in immigrant communities, foreign-born individuals are more likely to miss work or school and less likely to venture out to shops and restaurants."

## State, feds prepare to fight screwworm invasion

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins and Gov. Greg Abbott presided last week over the opening of new facility in Edinburg to produce sterile flies in order to combat a potential invasion of New World screwworms from Mexico that

could threaten the nation's leader in cattle production, The Tribune reported.

Cases of the screwworm, which lays eggs in open wounds on cattle, have been detected in Mexico as close as 70 miles from the border.

"I don't want to underplay it because it is a big threat to our country, but I believe we're as prepared as we could possibly be, if that happens, to deal with it, to move toward eradication,

Rollins said. Sterile flies were released last week in Northern Mexico and in Texas within 50 miles of the border as a precautionary measure.

Abbott has issued a disaster declaration to enable a newly formed response team to have adequate resources. The USDA plans to open its own production facility in Edinburg by the end of 2027. For now, the facility is using larvae produced in Panama and flown to Texas.

## Abbott breaks with Trump over nationalizing elections

The governor has broken with Trump over the president's call to nationalize elections in some parts of the country, kut.org reported. He was asked about Trump's suggestion at a recent campaign event.

"Listen, my understanding of the United States Constitution, and that is elections for state positions are to be conducted by states, and I don't think we should deviate from that," Abbott said.

Legal experts and some Trump allies highlight that the Constitution grants states the primary authority over elections, making any effort to nationalize the process both legally complicated and logistically challenging.

## High stakes for Abbott in comptroller's race

As the Houston Chronicle reported, while Abbott is widely expected to win his

primary reelection bid, the governor has a lot on the line in the Texas comptroller's race. Acting comptroller Kelly Hancock, appointed when Glenn Hegar left to become chancellor of the Texas A&M University System, faces a serious challenge from one of the governor's biggest political foes, former state Sen. Don Huffines — who ran and lost to Abbott in 2022. Also on the GOP primary ballot is Railroad Commissioner Christi Craddick.

The winner of that race will oversee the state's new voucher program.

"Succession in Texas politics is on the ballot," said Brandon Rottinghaus, a political scientist at the University of Houston. "There's a lot of jockeying for position for the future of the Republican Party in Texas."

Huffines spent heavily in 2022 in his unsuccessful bid to oust Abbott, calling him a "weak leader" and a "coward." Hancock has vowed to work closely with Abbott.

## Galveston's Elissa sailing to New York for 250th celebration

The 1877 "tall ship" Elissa, docked in Galveston Bay, will sail to New York City for the Fourth of July, the Texas Standard reported. The Galveston Historical Foundation purchased the ship in 1979, and it normally serves as a museum. Will Wright, creative director of the foundation, said the ship is one of only two of its kind in the world that can still actively sail.

"Elissa is still traditionally sailed," Wright said. "We benefit from a lot of the technological advances, but at the end of the day, the ship is a sailing ship."

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

# Fort Griffin: 'The Toughest town in Texas'

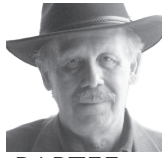
Convinced he had been cheated out of a pot on Feb. 18, 1872, an angry poker player started shooting at the owner of Fort Griffin's first saloon.

The military outpost was established five years earlier on a bluff high above the Clear Fork of the Brazos River northeast of present-day Abilene. To discourage raids by the tribes in the Indian Territory, an all-too-common occurrence during the Civil War, the fort was well-stocked with cavalry ready to ride at a moment's notice.

The tumble-down village that gradually came to life on the plain down below borrowed the name of the frontier guardian, but most people called it "The Flat." For the next seven years, the small community was surprisingly free of the vice and violence that one day would earn it the reputation as "the toughest town in Texas."

Their February 1872 run-in was the second act of a feud involving saloonkeeper Joe Bowers and a perpetually unhappy customer named J.B. Cockrell. In the relatively minor opening act, Bowers shot Cockrell's horse while he was still in the saddle. The next episode escalated into a full-scale battle as the badly wounded Cockrell and his friends filled the saloon full of holes without hitting their target.

By the time Cockrell recovered, "The Flat" had two new watering holes. Since he no longer had to set foot on his nemesis' prem-



**BARTEE HAILE**

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

ises, that should have kept Cockrell out of trouble. But a few drinks too many on a May afternoon resulted in a third confrontation, and Bowers ended the unpleasantness with a shotgun.

Before the murder victim's body was cold, the commanding officer at Fort Griffin took severe measures to restore the peace. He put "The Flat" under military law and ordered all the booze peddlers, gamblers and prostitutes to clear out, which they did in record time.

"The Flat" was a model, if somewhat dull, town for two years. Then in 1874 a couple of things happened to set the stage for its overnight transformation: first, the buffalo hunters moved their base of operations from Kansas to Fort Griffin and, second, the army relinquished control to newly organized Shackelford County.

"It looked to me like all the bad characters from everywhere were swarming around there," a pioneer settler recalled many years later. "It got so tough I was afraid to ride down the street."

In the twinkling of an eye, "The Flat" became a magnet for the worst of the Old West along with those colorful individuals busy making household names for themselves.

"The Flats" was, of course, where Wy-

att Earp met Doc Holliday and "Big Nose" Kate, if Earp's less than reliable memory is to be believed. It also was where a lady gambler from the Deep South cemented her claim to the title "best card player in Texas."

Born into a wealthy Kentucky family in 1844, Carlotta J. Thompkins spent much of her youth traveling with her father, a racehorse breeder and inveterate gambler who taught his oldest daughter how to win at cards. After dad died early in the war with the North, her widowed mother sent the attractive teenager and chaperone Mary Poindexter, her seven-foot slave nanny, to Detroit to find a proper husband.

Instead of shopping for a rich mate, Carlotta hooked up with a no-account jockey who had once ridden for her dead father. Infuriated by her bad taste in men, her mother cut the purse strings and legally disowned her.

Carlotta managed just fine on her own. She supported not only herself and Mary but the leech Golden as well with her steamboat winnings on the Ohio and Mississippi.

The couple parted in 1863 with plans for a San Antonio reunion. Carlotta arrived in the Alamo City sometime in 1865 and took a job as a "house gambler" at the University Club. When her boyfriend failed to show, she felt free to follow her heart and did so right into the arms of Frank Thurmond, son of her employers.

Golden finally appeared insisting the "Angel of San Antonio," as Carlotta was known, was his lawfully wedded wife. His unwanted intrusion coincided with Thurmond's hasty departure after a fatal shooting. Warning Golden not to follow, Carlotta skipped town too on the trail of her true love.

With Thurmond living in the shadows under an alias, Carlotta worked her way across West Texas adding to her legend at each stop. When she reached Fort Griffin, everyone knew her as the unbeatable "Lottie Deno," and she soon proved it by cleaning out Doc Holliday in a head-to-head game.

In May 1877, jilted Johnny Golden tracked her down. The same day he stepped off the stage, he was arrested by the sheriff and shot to death on the way to jail for allegedly trying to escape.

Lottie Deno paid for the coffin and the suit of clothes Golden was buried in but did not hang around for the funeral. She left Texas for good, married Frank Thurmond, gave up gambling and lived her last 52 years in Deming, N.M., as a respected though mysterious pillar of the community.

Read all about Bonnie and Clyde and other outlaws of the 1930's in "Texas Depression Era Desperadoes." Order your autographed copy today by mailing a check for \$24 to Barte Haile, P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.

# Making time work

"Nothing says loving like something from the oven" is more than a catchy slogan, it has sold millions of products for Pillsbury because it is true. We equate cooking with love, conditioned, I expect, from pleasant memories that connect food and family. Coming home to good smells of food cooking makes all of us happier and increases our sense of well-being. An entire industry understands this as potpourri sales of "fake food" smells indicate.

Those good cooking smells as we come home are gone for many families, a casualty of moms who spend most of their day away from home. There is a way to get these smells back into the home, as well as to save preparation, cooking and cleanup time, to make the time away from home work for you, and to serve great tasting meals everyone will enjoy.



**DARBY KETHAN**

IT STILL MATTERS

The Crockpot is the best appliance at making that time work: without any supervision or concerns about burning, food is ready to eat. With a few hints, the next home-cooked meal you have could virtually cook itself while you are away from home. Roasts, pork chops, chicken, meatloaf, venison, soups, stews, beans, etc., are a few of the meals possible. Layer chunks of roast for chops, or chicken pieces with sliced onions and spices, and pour over all a sauce like cream of mushroom soup mixed with dried onion soup mix and thinned with water. Layering meat with onions and covering with barbecue sauce tastes home-made


good. Spaghetti sauce or chili can simmer all day. Quick and good homemade vegetable soup can be made from mixed frozen vegetables simmered all day in tomato juice (or spaghetti sauce and water) with meat or chicken chunks and chopped onions. Beans of any variety cook all day and never stick or burn. Creole dishes like a thick stew of chicken, sausage, shrimp, onions, bell peppers and tomatoes (again, use spaghetti sauce and Creole seasonings) are hearty and healthy. Add rice, salad and hot bread and dinner is served.

Cleaning the kitchen is a snap in most cases as the crock pot cooks a truly "one-dish" meal. Preparation time is also quick. Most of it can be done other than during busy morning or evening times. Veggies and meat can be stored in bags and added to the crock pot when ready. Preheat-

ing the food in the microwave (while in the crock pot container, if you can) gets it all off to a fast start.

Saving time on doing routine errands and chores gives working families more time to spend together which means less stress and pressure caused from trying to fit it all in. Kids aren't the only winners, though. As parents find it possible to do less work and achieve more, everyone becomes a winner at "beat the clock" by making time work for them.

Darby Kethan has a master's degree in child development, and has experience as a social worker, educator of young children, educational consultant, and as a professional trainer for a national educational foundation providing professional development to teachers. Visit her website at [darbykethan.com](http://darbykethan.com).



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# Samuel Morse and Texas

By Janice R. Edwards  
Contributing Writer

Texas history fascinates me. Most people interested in its past, key in on events like the battle for the Alamo, and the one for San Jacinto. But its history entails so much more than those two events. I am starting to get into the powerful history of East Texas myself. For instance, entrance into Texas overland usually came through Nacogdoches – and Spain/Mexico was first challenged for land rights there – the Fredonian Revolution. East Texas played a major role in the filibustering years (including the Burr Conspiracy) to split this fertile region from the United States. The Trinity River became a highway into the interior of the state. Did you know that Stephen F. Austin's original colony was supposed to be off the Trinity River – not the Brazos – but the ship carrying colonists missed the Trinity and landed at the Brazos staking their claims to land before Austin arrived to correct the situation. Texas is the only state in the U.S. that was once a nation.

Recently, I've been reading Emma R. Haynes' "The History of Polk County, Texas." She wrote this book using many resources – including oral histories. I have to read it slowly, because she skips around events and every now and then, drops in a little gem of information that seems incredulous. Like on page 43 in her chapter on Drew's Landing, she wrote (referring to Charles Gusta Fitze):

"Some time after the Civil War he moved to Drew's Landing. He became acquainted with William Goodrich, an Episcopal Minister of New York, and his family who visited in Polk County. He was later Goodrich's agent in looking after his eleven leagues of land. Samuel Morse, the inventor of the telegraph, was a nephew of Goodrich and also visited here.

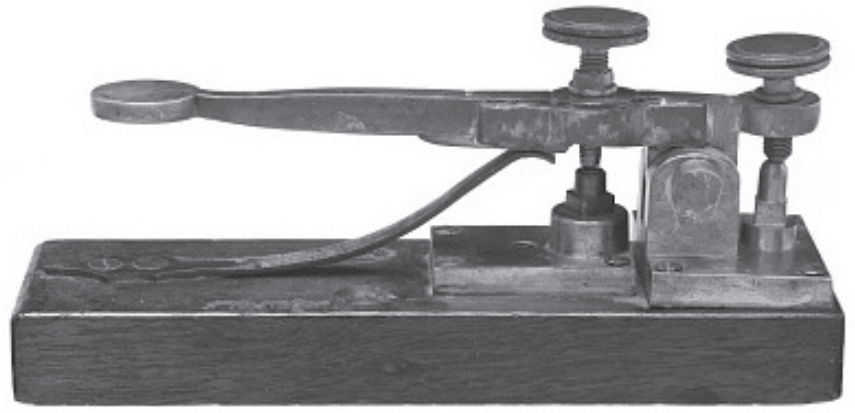
Will Fitze now living in Houston remembers these people. Morse was much of a dude, dressed in knee breeches and very much in style."

So did Samuel Finley Breese Morse, the inventor of the telegraph, really visit Polk County, Texas? That part of the historical gem is probably true – his description in the history is appropriate and he did offer his invention to Sam Houston – but the only William Goodrich who appears in Samuel Morse's family tree is his son, William Goodrich Morse. There's nothing to say Morse did not know the William Goodrich of Polk County – but he wasn't related.

That being said, Samuel Morse and his invention, the telegraph, do have strong ties to Texas. In fact, Morse offered his invention to the Republic of Texas in 1838. (He applied for a patent for the invention in 1837.) Somehow, Morse's letter forwarded to the officials of the Republic ended up filed away unnoticed. Texas did not take him up on his offer and Morse withdrew it 20 years later giving the title of his invention to the United States.

Texas (as a state) finally adopted the telegraph. And if you go to the 100 block of North Washington Street in Marshall, Texas today, you can find a life size bronze statue reminding onlookers of the historical significance of this East Texas town. The statue stands on the exact spot where the first telegraph office in the state opened February 14, 1854. The Texas and Red River Company opened the Marshall office and strung wires all the way to Shreveport. In that same year, another line connected Marshall to Houston. By 1870, there were about 1,500 miles of telegraph across the Lone Star State.

A model of Samuel Morse's telegraph – referred to as a prototype instrument – is kept in the Texas State Archives in Austin.



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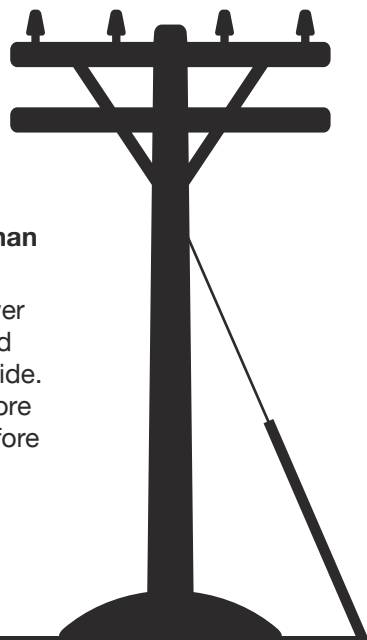
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**Joan Huffman**  
Republican for Attorney General

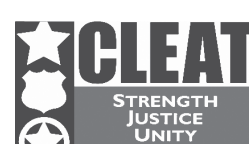


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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF DISTRICT PETITION  
TCEQ INTERNAL CONTROL NO. D-12232025-033

**PETITION.** Pine Creek Lakes LLC, (Petitioner) filed a petition for creation of Montgomery-San Jacinto Counties Municipal Utility District No. 2 (District) with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The petition was filed pursuant to Article XVI, §59 of the Constitution of the State of Texas; Chapters 49 and 54 of the Texas Water Code; 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 293; and the procedural rules of the TCEQ.

The petition states that: (1) the Petitioner holds title to a majority in value of the land to be included in the proposed District; (2) there are no lienholders on the property to be included in the proposed District; (3) the proposed District will contain approximately 300.0 acres located within Montgomery County, Texas and San Jacinto County, Texas; and (4) none of the land within the proposed District is within the corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction of any city.

The territory to be included in the proposed District is depicted in the vicinity map designated as Exhibit "A", which is attached to this document.

The petition further states that the proposed District will: (1) purchase, construct, acquire, maintain, own, operate, repair, improve and extend a waterworks and sanitary sewer system for residential and commercial purposes; (2) construct, acquire, improve, extend, maintain and operate works, improvements, facilities, plants, equipment and appliances helpful or necessary to provide more adequate drainage for the proposed District; (3) control, abate and amend local storm waters or other harmful excesses of waters; and (4) such other purchase, construction, acquisition, improvement, maintenance and operation of such additional facilities, systems, plants and enterprises, road facilities, and park and recreational facilities, as shall be consistent with all of the purposes for which the proposed District is created.

According to the petition, a preliminary investigation has been made to determine the cost of the project, and it is estimated by the Petitioners that the cost of said project will be approximately \$33,700,000 (\$30,300,000 for water, wastewater, and drainage plus \$1,200,000 for recreation plus \$2,200,000 for roads).

**CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** The TCEQ may grant a contested case hearing on this petition if a written hearing request is filed within 30 days after the newspaper publication of this notice.

To request a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) the name of the Petitioners and the TCEQ Internal Control Number; (3) the statement "I/we request a contested case hearing"; (4) a brief description of how you would be affected by the petition in a way not common to the general public; and (5) the location of your property relative to the proposed District's boundaries. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the petition which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address provided in the information section below.

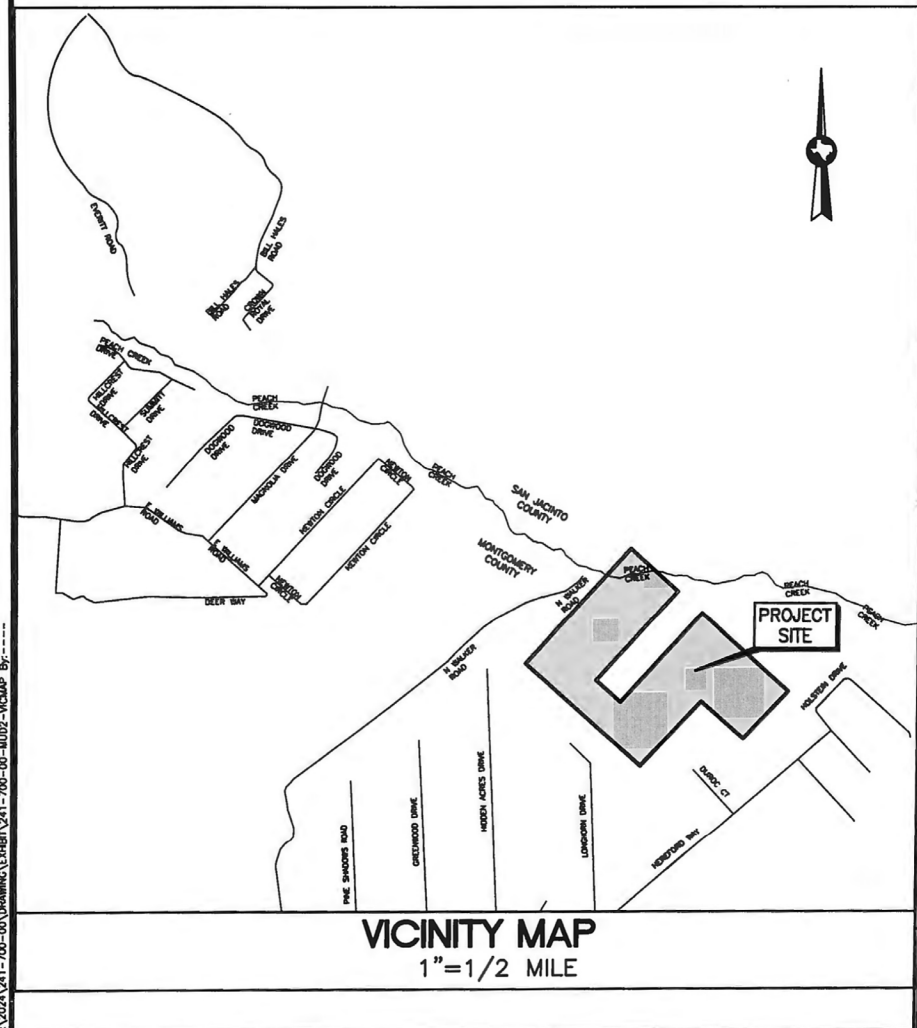
The Executive Director may approve the petition unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days after the newspaper publication of this notice. If a hearing request is filed, the Executive Director will not approve the petition and will forward the petition and hearing request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a contested case hearing is held, it will be a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

**INFORMATION.** Written hearing requests should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087. For information concerning the hearing process, please contact the Public Interest Counsel, MC-103, at the same address. General information regarding TCEQ can be found at our web site <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/>.

Issued: January 15, 2026

Exhibit "A"

MONTGOMERY - SAN JACINTO COUNTIES  
MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 2  
(Key Map Page No. 131)



Notice to revise subdivision plat

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO REVISE SUBDIVISION PLAT The Commissioners Court of San Jacinto County, Texas, has received an application to consider a plat revision to Lot 100 of Mill Creek Addition, a subdivision in San Jacinto County, Texas, by subdividing it into two separate

lots, Lot 100-A and Lot 100-B. A public hearing to consider the application and to hear protests to the revision will be held in the Commissioners Court, San Jacinto County Shelter, Coldspring, Texas, on the 4th day of March, 2026, at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Estate of Stacy Adam Reinhart

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CAUSE NO. P2025-126 THE ESTATE OF STACY ADAM REINHART TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF STACY ADAM REINHART, DECEASED KRISTI REINHART, filed in the San Jacinto County Court of San Jacinto County, Texas, DECEMBER 5 TH, 2025 an, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate. The Court may act on said Application and any opposition at any call of the docket on or after 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the San Jacinto County Courthouse located at 1 State Highway 150, Coldspring, Texas 77331 in San Jacinto County, Texas.

All UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS of this estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to said Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any contest, objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of San Jacinto County, Texas, on or before the above noted date and time. Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Coldspring, Texas, on FEBRUARY 5TH, 2026. Dawn Wright, County Clerk San Jacinto County 1 State Highway 150 Room 2 Coldspring, Texas 77331 By: /s/ Kyla Willner Kyla Willner, Deputy /S/ Applicant's Attorney Devan D. Dawson 1300 11th Street, Suite 405 Huntsville, Texas 77340 (P) (936)295-3712 Email: ddawson@hmp-attorneys.com

Public online auction on March 4

Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice Dry Safe Storage of Lake Livingston located at 9531 US Hwy 190E Point Blank TX 77364 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via [www.lockerfox.com](http://www.lockerfox.com) on 3/4/2026 at 9:15 AM. Unless stated

otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Nicole Vork; Andrew Rosenlieb; Chris Wyatt; Nicole Vork. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

Estate of Roy Dean Goad

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CAUSE NO. P2026-19 THE ESTATE OF ROY DEAN GOAD TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF ROY DEAN GOAD, DECEASED KRISTINE GOAD, filed in the San Jacinto County Court of San Jacinto County, Texas, FEBRUARY 10 TH, 2026 an, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION - INTESATE requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate and that the court appoint KRISTINE GOAD as Dependent Administrator of the estate of ROY DEAN GOAD. The Court may act on said Application and any opposition at any call of the docket on or after 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the San Jacinto County Courthouse

located at 1 State Highway 150, Coldspring, Texas 77331 in San Jacinto County, Texas. All UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS of this estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to said Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any contest, objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of San Jacinto County, Texas, on or before the above noted date and time. Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Coldspring, Texas, on FEBRUARY 11 TH, 2026. Dawn Wright, County Clerk San Jacinto County 1 State Highway 150 Room 2 Coldspring, Texas 77331 By:/s/ Kyla Willner Kyla Willner, Deputy /S/ Applicant's Attorney Laura Prigmore 50 Slade Street Coldspring, Texas 77331 (P) (936)653-4016 Email: lpattroney-atl@hotmial.com

Estate of Matthew William Erwin

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CAUSE NO. P2025-106 THE ESTATE OF MATTHEW WILLIAM ERWIN TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MATTHEW WILLIAM ERWIN, DECEASED MELISSA P. GOINS, filed in the San Jacinto County Court of San Jacinto County, Texas, OCTOBER 16 TH, 2025 an APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP and an APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of MATTHEW WILLIAM ERWIN, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate. The Court may act on said Application and any opposition at any call of the docket on or after 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the San Jacinto County Courthouse

located at 1 State Highway 150, Coldspring, Texas 77331 in San Jacinto County, Texas. All UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS of this estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to said Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any contest, objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of San Jacinto County, Texas, on or before the above noted date and time. Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Coldspring, Texas, on OCTOBER 21 ST, 2025. Dawn Wright, County Clerk San Jacinto County 1 State Highway 150 Room 2 Coldspring, Texas 77331 By:/s/ Kyla Willner Kyla Willner, Deputy /S/ Applicant's Attorney Jack Duffley 2401 Fountain View Dr. STE 464 Houston, Texas 77057 (P) (832)360-1254 Email: jduffley@duffleylaw.com

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**Caddo**  
SLOW. Water stained; 55 degrees; water level at 169.04 feet. The water temperature has risen to the mid 50s. The new moon paired with warmer weather seems to have fish pulled up around the trees already, and we have seen wasps and even a snake. Bass can be caught on senkos, flukes, chatterbaits, swim jigs and swimbaits. Hoping we have more rain and cold weather before it starts really turning spring time on us but we have no control over that so fish on! Crappie will be moving up around the trees in 3 feet of water on the main lake soon. Fun times ahead for us on this majestic and divine lake we call Caddo. Report by Vince Richards, Caddo Lake Fishing & Fellowship.

**Conroe**  
GREAT. Water stained; 54.4 degrees; 1.19 feet under pool. Lake Conroe water temperatures briefly dipped into the low 50s before climbing back into the upper 50s, and fishing has been good overall as baitfish shift and predators follow. Catfish are active from shallow water out to 50 feet, with baited holes along creek channel ledges producing well; drifting natural baits, targeting soft bottom flats, and fishing wind-blown coves have all been effective. Bass fishing shows a split pattern, with some fish holding deep and feeding on shad—responding to deep-diving crankbaits and jerkbaits—while others are moving shallow with early bedding activity beginning. Crappie fishing has been good when schools can be located, though weather swings have them moving; the north end is producing limits in 3-8 feet on jigs and minnows, while the south end bite is more inconsistent in 12-34 feet. Report by Brad Doyle with Bradley's Guide Service. Hybrid stripers are still being caught dead-sticking in 22-44 feet, though that pattern may fade as temperatures rise; slabs, spoons, and large minnows or shad are also working, with many juvenile hybrids mixed in with white bass, so check identification features if needed. As conditions stabilize, the multi-species bite should continue improving. Always wear your life jacket. Report by Mike Cason, Fishical Therapy.

**Fork**  
SLOW. normal stain; 54 degrees; 3.07 feet below pool. Water temperatures have risen to 51-56 degrees. The morning bite is slow, but picks up by mid morning. Square-bill crankbaits and chatterbaits are good in 4-6 feet around flats. Lipless



crankbaits and suspending jerkbaits are good around ditches or drains in 5-7 feet. Some deeper fish showing up suspended over road beds and humps in 16-23 feet of water with deep diving crankbaits or flutter spoons. Report by Marc Mitchell, Mitchell's Guide Service. Crappie are stacked up on deep timber along the main lake creek channels like they have been all winter. Look for fish in the 35-60 feet depth range with fish around 15-30 feet down. We still have some fish on other patterns like bridges, brush piles, tire reefs, points and ledges. These are more hit or miss and may be smaller fish. Small hand tied jigs and minnows are working well and I'm sure soft plastics will produce fish also. The most important thing I've seen after the last huge cold front is to fish slowly. Try to keep your baits in the strike zone just above fish as long as possible and as still as possible. Low wind days may be the best days for catching fish until the water temperature begins rising up and the bite changes. Not all fish will bite and you may see fifty percent of the fish bite well and the other half just do not respond to baits. Do not spend tons of time on non responsive fish. Move on to fish that want to bite and you'll end up filling the cooler up. Report by Jacky Wiggins, Jacky Wiggins Guide Service.

**Houston County**  
FAIR. Water stained; 49 degrees; 0.15 feet above pool. As the weather cools, bass should transition to shallow water to feed on bait fish. Cast reaction baits to land a catch.

**Lake O' the Pines**  
GOOD. Water normal stain; 50 degrees; 0.37 feet above pool. Crappie are good at the mouth of coves on timber. Some numbers of fish are stacked on timber in deeper water, but the bigger fish are shallower in 10-20 feet of water. The best bite is with 1/16 ounce hand ties. Report by River Bottom Boys Guide Service.

**Livingston**  
GOOD. Light stain; 55 degrees; 0.18 feet above pool. Water conditions at Lake Livingston are typical

for this time of year, with the lake near conservation pool and water clarity moderately to highly turbid, providing plenty of cover for fish to hold. Recent water temperatures are in the low-60s, though cooler air and an approaching arctic blast may push some fish deeper and slow the bite at times. Weather has been cool but stable, with early mornings and late afternoons often producing the best action as fish become more active around structure. White bass remain one of the more reliable targets and can still be found reacting to fast lures when schools are located, while largemouth bass and striped bass will relate to deeper cover and creek channels as they adjust to changing conditions. Catfish are active along main lake channels and creek edges on cut bait or shad, and crappie are fair on minnows and jigs, especially around woody structure and tributary mouths. Adjust depths and presentations with the changing weather, focusing on deeper water during cooler periods and structure edges as fish move with warming trends.

**Martin Creek**  
FAIR. Water slightly stained; 58 degrees; 1.95 feet below pool. Bass are good with fish in a pre-spawn and spawning in different areas of the lake. Red lipless crankbaits and Texas rigged worms are working well over the hydrilla. Scoppers do well in the current in 25 feet on the cold side of the lake. Crappie remain good fishing brush piles in 20-25 feet with jigs and minnows. The lake is very crowded this time of year so plan your trip earlier for better parking. Use extreme caution while running due to stumps just below the surface. Reported by Hambone fishing.

**Murvaul**  
GOOD. Stained; 50 degrees; 0.19 below pool. Largemouth bass are slow with medi-

um diving crankbaits and half ounce bladed jigs around main lake points. Crappie are good on chartreuse jigs. Catfish are excellent on live minnows or cut bait. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service.

**Sam Rayburn**  
SLOW. Water muddy; 46 degrees; 9.34 feet below pool. Water temperatures at the lake are warming, currently ranging from 53-59 degrees, and fish are starting to move toward stumps, edges, and back into pockets. Warmer weather should continue to get them more active. Spinnerbaits and rattle traps are effective for covering water and locating active fish. Crappie and white bass are still holding up the river, with minnows and Road Runners producing the best results. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

**Toledo Bend**  
FAIR. 53 degrees; 4.33 feet below pool. Toledo Bend is fishing well, with water temperatures in the mid to upper 50s and bass being caught in a wide range of depths from 2 to 25 feet, giving anglers success with a variety of techniques across the lake. Crappie are beginning to bite well in the backs of creeks, showing up in 2-8 feet of water on live bait and jigs. However, heavy rain is forecast this weekend, which could

muddy up the creeks and slow the bite; it may take several days to a week for conditions to stabilize afterward. Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

**Tyler**  
GOOD. Water normal stain; 50 degrees; 0.93 feet below pool. Crappie are good in 8-12 feet of water on the main lake or in 1-3 feet of water in the creeks with jigs or minnows. Bream are slow on red worms in 8-10 feet or in deeper water. Catfish are slow with few reported catches. Bass are slow in 6-8 feet of water and in deep water with crankbaits, or finesse worms. Report by The Boulders at Lake Tyler.

**Welsh**  
GOOD. Water stained. 50 degrees. Crappie are schooled up on structure and scattered. The best way to find them is to utilize electronics to locate these schools. The best bite is on plastic jigs. Report by River Bottom Boys Guide Service.

**Wright Patman**  
FAIR. Water normal stain; 50 degrees; 3.16 feet above pool. Crappie are good on timber along the main channel, and up the river on structure or roaming. The best bite is plastic jigs over minnows. Report by River Bottom Boys Guide Service.

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- Facilitated TDA and CDBG/GLO grants for disaster recovery and emergency repairs from Harvey and Imelda for Lee Turner Rd, Butch Arthur Rd, Dabney Bottom and numerous Emergency Repairs
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# A fishing trip to remember

What constitutes a banner fishing trip?

Catching fish must rank as one of the primary ingredients but also camaraderie with family and friends, possible the weather could play a part. Catching the biggest or most fish of one's life could be a factor.

Many things could contribute to creating one of those fishing trips that remain etched in our memory banks forever. Such a trip occurred last week that I'm about to tell you about, a few hours out on the water with some fine friends catching blue catfish in a very exciting and action-packed manner.

I don't wish to mislead you, I absolutely love the tug of a big catfish while fishing with rod and reel, it's the stuff great fishing memories are made but there's another style of catching catfish that is action packed and a great way to catch the making of many fish fries.

The term "jug line fishing" is an old one and goes back to the days when a section of line is tied to a milk jug, hooks attached and usually baited with cut bait. The jugs are tossed into the water, and the angler keeps close watch from his boat. When one of the jugs begins bouncing or move across the surface of the water, the angler motors or paddles to catch up with the jug, uses a gaff to hook the line and then either hoists a small catfish into the boat or nets a big one.

A few fishermen still use the old-style milk jugs but most now use "noodles" which are actually sections of swimming pool noodles, usually about 14 inches long with a piece of PVC pipe running through the center and extending out a few inches so that the fishing line can be attached. Each end of the pipe is capped, and some noodles have round pieces of lead installed.

The noodles lay flat in the water and when a catfish pulls the bait down, the ball rolls down and causes the noodle to stand up, making it more visible from a distance. There are



many variations to noodles, and many fishermen add their alterations to suit their style of fishing.

Usually, two very sharp circle hooks are attached. Circle hooks are preferred over "J" style hooks because when a fish takes the bait and begins to swim away, the hook threads into the corner of the fish's mouth, much like a corkscrew.

### Now to the fishing

My friend's lake is comprised of over a couple hundred acres, actually a giant gravel pit that was created back in the fifties. As is common with most gravel pits, the excavation process left a very irregular bottom.

There are areas in the lake that are very shallow and spots with deep water, ideal habitat for all sorts of fish but especially blue and channel catfish. The river is not far away and during periods of floods and high water, the lake has been stocked with blue catfish through the years. Blue catfish in such a larger watershed will also spawn which ensures a good supply of these good eating catfish.

As one would expect, there is very healthy population of gar in the lake and Donny has a big boat designed for bowfishing. With an elevated platform to shoot from, this boat is ideal for jug line fishing.

We launched on the south end of the lake and motored north, the idea was to place the noodles on the north side of the lake and allow a gentle northerly breeze to drift the noodles across the lake. The plan was to place a total of 22 noodles across the lake all baited with cut bait, roughly 30 yards apart, and then position the boat upwind and with Jeff Rice up in



Outline for attached photo Jeff Rice (left) and Donny Rice show off one of many blue catfish caught last week on noodles (jug lines) while fishing in Donny's lake. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

the elevated shooting deck, to watch for one of the noodles to begin bobbing or scooting across the surface.

After tossing out four or five noodles, the first one began skiing across the lake's surface. Immediately we stopped baiting and tossing out noodles and raced to catch up with that first jug. A chunky blue catfish was in the boat before we got half the noodles out, so the morning went. It took us a good fifteen minutes to get all the noodles baited and in the water.

Every time we resumed tossing out noodles, a catfish would grab one we had just set. Very early on this trip, it was very obvious we were in for some exciting catching. In a couple hours we had a big 54-quart cooler chock full of catfish, most weighing between 4 and 8 pounds but a couple that would tip the scales in the mid-teens.

In the planning stage of our trip, we discussed bringing

rods and reels and drift fish for the blues while watching the noodles, but we decided against it. That was a good call, we were kept busy for a solid couple of hours pulling in fish, rebaiting and positioning the noodles. The rods would have only gotten in the way.

A highlight of the trip occurred when one of the noodles we were near simply disappeared below the water's surface, much like a floater when a crappie grabs the bait. A couple of us observed the entire noodle go under and every eye was watching for it up bob back to the surface.

A good 25 yards away, the noodle surfaced and then began skiing across the lake's surface. We first thought a 40- or 50-pound blue catfish had grabbed the bait. It took some boat maneuvering on Donny's part, but we finally caught up with the noodle, pulled it to the boat with the gaff, and grabbed it. On closer inspection, it was

obvious this was no catfish, not even a giant one but rather a powerful alligator gar.

We managed to get the hook out of the corner of the big fish's mouth after several action-packed minutes. We were all hoping the big fish would simply pull loose but with the help of needle nose pliers were about to dislodge the hook and release the monster back to the murky depths.

Back at the launch we divided the catfish. It took a solid hour for me to transform my share into snow white blue catfish nuggets, ready for a huge fish fry at the Seventh Annual Outdoor Rendezvous at the Top Rail Cowboy Church in Greenville on March 28. You're invited to come and sample of this very fresh catfish, landed with great friends on a mid-winter fishing trip that none of us will soon forget.

Listen to Luke's weekly podcast, "Catfish Radio with Luke Clayton and Friends," just about everywhere podcasts are found.

## Results – Not Excuses



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Deeply rooted in East Texas, Rob lives in the district with his wife Nicoleta and their 7-year-old daughter, blending rural Texas values with rigorous prosecutorial experience.

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~ Chandra C.

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### Announcements

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

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

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

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

**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)

### Appliances/Furniture

**FOR SALE:** Split King Serta Comfort Hybrid Mattress, like new. Fits adjustable or regular bed (Two twins or King) Woodville area. Call 409-429-8684 for appt. to view. (7-2t-cc-TCB)

### Auctions & Sales

262 Garrett Road Livingston, TX 77351 Auction Starts Mar 23 Bid online at auctionnetwork.com Opening Bid \$25,000 2BR 1 BA 1,040+/-sf home on 3.64+/-ac. Preauction offers welcome and encouraged. (7-4t-cc-PCE)

**CALL OR Come by Today,** Livingston Senior Citizens Country Store located at 1310 North Houston Open 8:00 am - 1:00 pm Weekdays. Come by for bargains anytime. (1-tfn-nc-PCE)

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(32-tfn-b-PCE)

### Employment

**Pedigo Furniture is accepting applications** for a Full Time Sales and Design Consultant Position for an enthusiastic and goal-oriented individual. Previous experience in retail or sales is required. Must be able to work Saturday and holidays. Excellent opportunity to join a dynamic company. Apply in person at 3785 U.S. Highway 190 West in Livingston. (25-tfn-b-PCE)

### NOW HIRING: Pianist or Organist

Small church • Small choir • Big Heart  
**What we are looking for:** Someone who loves the Lord and loves music. Able to play traditional and newer hymns, and contemporary songs. Faithful, reliable, and joyful to work with. Open to a small, family-style church setting.  
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### Employment

**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)

### Items for Sale

Nice motorized treadmill. New in box. Never used. Original cost: \$450. Asking \$250. Phone 409-679-5124. (8-1t-cc-TCB)

**FOR SALE** Roadmaster tow bar, car guard, and hitch. Negotiable prices. Call Bob Boyett at 936-675-2046. (8-2t-c-PCE)

Investment opportunity. Start your own business or add to your existing business. All items are new and ready to display. Also some shelving and display units to be purchased separately if needed. **SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY. OVER \$160,000 OF RETAIL.** TEXT 409-429-0085 for more information. (7-12t-nc-TCB)

### VINTAGE CLOSET CLEAN-OUT! I'LL BUY YOUR OLD CLOTHES (2000s OR OLDER. THE OLDER THE BETTER!)

Have old clothes taking up space? I'm looking for women's clothing from the early 2000s or earlier 90s, 80s, 70s, 60s, 50s and beyond! Let me make it easy for you: I'll come to you Clean out your closet Pay you on the spot Whether it's a few pieces or a whole wardrobe. I'm interested in vintage, trendy, funky, or forgotten fashion. Text or call Madison at (832)540-2275 to set up a time! Let's give your clothes a second life!  
(33-tfn-nc-PCE)

### Pets & Supplies

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### Rentals Mobile Homes

**MOBILE HOME** for rent. New covered porch, Plus storage building. On four acres. Private. In Soda. 1000 per month. 936-714-4839. (6-40-c-PCE)

### Rentals-Houses

#### For Rent

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(7-2t-cc-PCE)

**RENTAL** Two tiny houses for rent in Colmesneil. Country settings both adorable on same property. \$750/monthly, \$650/monthly. All utilities paid. Call (409) 200-9516 for pictures. (7-1t-cc-TCB)

**ONE, TWO and three bedroom,** very nice, in Ivanhoe, located in Tyler County. Call 409-429-4752. (24-tfn-b-TCB)

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

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

### Storage

**ENCLOSED BOAT STORAGE** - Also climate & self storage. White Rock Storage. 6216 FM 356 Trinity (936)594-9283 or (713)249-1033. (45-tfn-b-TCNS)

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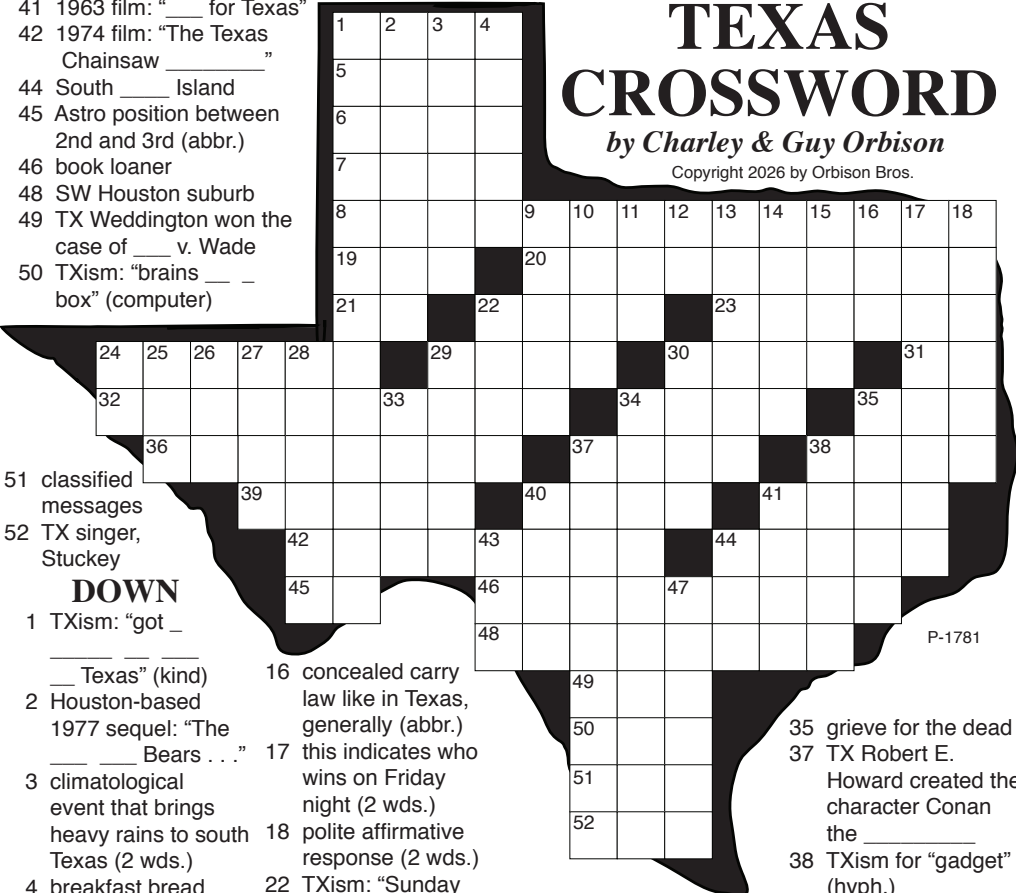
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## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

- 1 Lone Star Park wager (2 wds.)
- 5 TXism: "keeps his \_\_\_ polished" (good)
- 6 Jackson County seat
- 7 Bentsen State Park groove-billed birds
- 8 real estate investment (2 wds.)
- 19 TXism: "got \_\_\_ left feet" (bad dancer)
- 20 Sam Houston's baptismal statement: "Lord have \_\_\_ fish"
- 21 TXism: "guilty \_\_\_ sin"
- 22 ex-Ranger Petralli
- 23 good Texas chili requires a proper blend of \_\_\_
- 24 TXism for "fellows"
- 29 Garza County seat
- 30 breeding horse
- 31 this Dallasite Stills sang with Crosby, Nash & Young (init.)
- 32 TXism: "short as \_\_\_ memory"
- 34 TXism: "I don't want to hear a \_\_\_ out of you"
- 35 some Texans used it for long distance
- 36 Duval County seat (2 wds.)
- 37 TXism: "\_\_\_ shed" (bar)
- 38 TXism: "your barn \_\_\_ is open" (unzipped fly)
- 39 UNT mascot
- 40 Sam Houston State mascots: Bear \_\_\_
- 41 1963 film: "\_\_\_ for Texas"
- 42 1974 film: "The Texas Chainsaw \_\_\_"
- 44 South \_\_\_ Island
- 45 Astro position between 2nd and 3rd (abbr.)
- 46 book loaner
- 48 SW Houston suburb
- 49 TX Weddington won the case of \_\_\_ v. Wade
- 50 TXism: "brains \_\_\_ box" (computer)
- 51 classified messages
- 52 TX singer, Stuckey
- 16 concealed carry law like in Texas, generally (abbr.)
- 17 this indicates who wins on Friday night (2 wds.)
- 18 polite affirmative response (2 wds.)
- 22 TXism: "Sunday \_\_\_ meetin' clothes"
- 24 \_\_\_ la . . .
- 25 TX Perot's old co.
- 26 Houston's last wife, Margaret
- 27 Dallas has a HOV \_\_\_ for some cars
- 28 TX Carolyn Jones was Morticia on "The \_\_\_ Family"
- 35 grieve for the dead
- 37 TX Robert E. Howard created the character Conan the \_\_\_
- 38 TXism for "gadget" (hyph.)
- 40 Fox TV station in Amarillo
- 41 TXism: "turn about is \_\_\_ play"
- 43 Texans Dexter, Freeman Jr., and Neiman
- 44 \_\_\_ and con
- 47 "it's either \_\_\_ or a famine"

**DOWN**

- 1 TXism: "got \_\_\_ Texas" (kind)
- 2 Houston-based 1977 sequel: "The \_\_\_ Bears . . ."
- 3 climatological event that brings heavy rains to south Texas (2 wds.)
- 4 breakfast bread
- 9 TXism: "\_\_\_ of" (great quantity)
- 10 how Texans say "loaned"
- 11 Oiler or Cowboy
- 12 \_\_\_ Cola
- 13 \_\_\_ Creek, TX
- 14 infield fly hit by an Astro (hyph.)
- 15 Oklahoma town

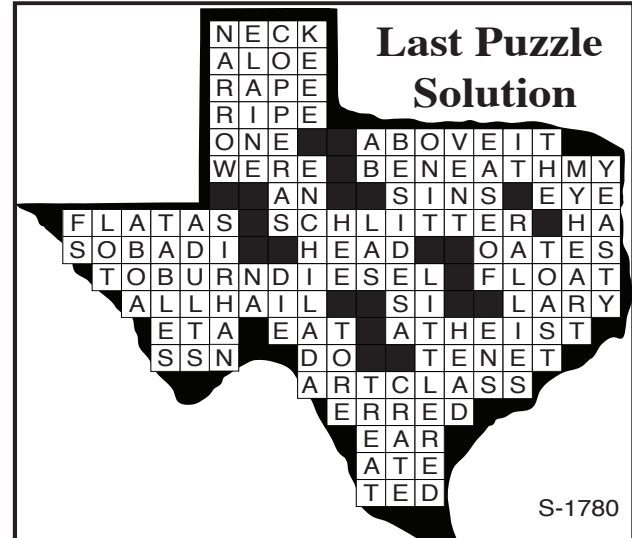
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