

County recognizes ‘Elder Abuse Awareness Month’

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – During the regular meeting of the Tyler County Commissioners Court on Monday morning, the county recognized June as “Elder Abuse Awareness Month.”

Tracy Bellin with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, along with Tyler County Adult Protective Services (APS) advisory board members Rachel Hadnot and Elaine Jefferson were present on Monday.

Jefferson spoke of what the countywide board for APS does, and how it is seeking volunteers to help serve in raising funds, which go to help people in need, along with caseworkers with APS, who are looking after elderly residents who are victims of abuse and/or neglect.

Jefferson spoke also about what APS does. “They investigate reports of abuse or neglect and exploitation of adults who are elderly or have disabilities, and conduct investiga-

tions and provide services to those adults,” Jefferson said. The month of June is designated worldwide as Elder Abuse Awareness Month. The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization began this month of awareness on June 15, 2006, at the United Nations in an effort to raise awareness.

According to the most recent statistics, each year an estimated 5 million (or 1 in 10) older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect or exploitation, which takes form in various guises, from financial fraud at the hands of a caretaker to manipulation on the phone or online from scammers.

Judge Milton Powers read the proclamation to codify June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Tyler County and spoke about the seriousness of the problem.

Reimbursement approved

Mary Nell Rainey, representing the Tyler County Courthouse Restoration Preservation Project, Inc., spoke to the

officials on Monday, about the importance of historical preservation. “Once it’s gone, it’s gone,” she said.

The incorporation was formed in 2014, and raised funds through various efforts, including through the sale of various books and collectible Case knives, which are available at Heritage Village.

Rainey said she has also been actively involved in the county’s historical commission, which has the job of “looking around Tyler County and seeing what needs to be preserved.” Kay Timme, on behalf of the Tyler County Historical Commission, spoke about the replacement of front doors on the first and second levels of the courthouse, which the Restoration Preservation Project was offering funds to reimburse, up to \$65,000.

Sarah Clymer also spoke on behalf of the group, and said it is important that the group gives the gift back to the county for the finishing touches on the courthouse.

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Lawsuit filed against recovery center

Plaintiff seeking \$1.8 billion in damages

By Chris Edwards
news@tylercountybooster.com

WOODVILLE – A lawsuit has been filed against Cypress Lakes Lodge (d/b/a Cypress Lake Recovery) in Woodville in the 88th District Court. The suit was brought by Fidel Garza, an Austin resident, who sought treatment at the facility, and alleges multiple sexual assaults occurred on the premises.

The facility, which is located near Woodville, is a 30-bed, inpatient residential substance abuse treatment and recovery center. According to its website, it offers holistic treatment, including equine and music/art therapy.

Garza is seeking \$1.8 billion in damages, and allege gross negligence, failure to provide adequate security and institutional misconduct. He claims that the alleged actions led to “severe harm to the victims.”

The damages sought are for pain and suffering, medical costs, punitive damages

and systemic reform in order to prevent future incidents at the facility.

The Booster reached out to Cypress Lake Recovery for a statement, and did not receive any at press time. Garza said the suit is currently in the pre-trial discovery phase, with a hearing scheduled for July 29.

“They’re claiming things never happened,” Garza said. “This company needs to take accountability for their actions.”

Garza said he ended up at Cypress Lakes Lodge in July of 2024, when he realized he needed help battling a mental health crisis.

He said that in his time there, he grew concerned “about a number of facility issues that could be resolved with proper protocols, training and safety procedures,” and that he told facility personnel about sexual assault incidents.

Garza cited several concerns he observed within the facility, including inadequate staffing and improper monitoring of residents.

THE ALABAMA-COUSHATTA TRIBE’S
SUMMER POW WOW



The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe’s summer Pow Wow drew more than 300 tribal dancers, along with family members and friends, on Saturday.

The event, held on the tribal land veterans’ pavilion, was a well-attended cultural event that is now in its 55th year, full of dancing competitions and tribal drumming.

Rep. Brian Babin and wife Roxanne attended with family, and enjoyed the festivities (left). Above: A tribal dancer performs for the crowds.

DONNA HAMMER | TCB



Summer cattle management tips

Planning and necessary steps equal a great outcome

By Trinity S. Smith

As the summer months are now upon us, most people are preparing for their vacations to some far away paradise in the tropics or abroad to one of the wonders of the world. Meanwhile farmers back home are faced with some challenges to be dealt with to maintain healthy livestock to include things such as: pests and parasites, heat stress and shading, water access, minerals and salt, as well as winter forage preparations and we’ll discuss management strategies for each.

Pests and parasites are a major nuisance for livestock producers because they vector or spread diseases and pathogens which then will affect the overall per-

formance of the livestock. The common pests to cattle are flies, mosquitos, ticks, and worms, each a vector of a panel of diseases that could harm the cattle. The reproductive success can be jeopardized because of being too stressed out causing a cow to not be successfully bred or if she is presently pregnant these pests or parasites could cause her to abort the pregnancy and that is a huge loss to the producer. It has been determined by animal scientists that the meat quality of an animal can be determined by each of the aforementioned situations so minimizing the severity of each is crucial to produce a healthy quality animal.

See TIPS ➡ Page 3A

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LAKE LEVELS

B.A. Steinhagen Lake Level:
• As of 6-10: 82.91 feet
• 98.7 % full

Sam Rayburn Reservoir Level:
• As of 6-10: 163.45 feet
• 96.3 % full

INSIDE

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LIFE TRIBUTES

Ann Sturrock

Ann Brandon Sturrock, 88, passed away with family members at her bedside on June 2, 2025, in Sugar Land, Texas.

Born on September 21, 1936, Ann grew up in Palacios, Texas, and graduated from Palacios High School. She continued her education at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and the University of Houston.

She married John (G.W.) Sturrock of Colmesneil in 1963, and the couple had four children: Staci, Brandi, Brett, and Kyle, who died at childbirth.

She is survived by her husband, three children and brothers Thomas Brandon and Kenneth Brandon; sister-in-law Georgene Stubblefield Brandon; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Ann was predeceased by her parents Thomas and Trude Ann Brandon, who ran Brandon Dry Goods on Main Street in Palacios for decades, and sister Becky Brandon Bolling Osland.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 12, at First Presbyterian Church of Sugar Land, with a reception following.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to an animal rescue organization of your choice. 168



Rickie Davis

Rickie Ray Davis, 72, of Woodville, passed away peacefully on May 31, 2025.

Born in Manila, Arkansas, to Earl and Desi Pearson, she lived in Woodville for many years. She retired from United Airlines as a flight attendant. A country girl through and through, she was a true animal lover, having numerous dogs, cats, and horses. She enjoyed taking care of them and seeing that each was loved.

Rickie was a beautiful lady inside and out. She always had a smile on her face and a kind word to share. She and David were married for thirteen years and had blended their families, but the word “step” was never in her vocabulary. She loved all her children and grandchildren equally, and each one knew just how much they were loved.

Rickie was preceded in death by her father, Earl Pearson, and her mother, Desi Sipes Pearson.

She is survived by her loving husband of thirteen years, David C. Davis; Daughters, Sherrie Wright and husband, John, Celeste Evans and husband, Rodney, Krystal Tolar and husband, Billy and Kourtney Adams and husband, Chess; grandchildren, Lindsey Gray and husband, Josh, Rodney Alan Evans, Jr., Hunter Beltz, Sophia Evans, Billy “Trey” Tolar, III, Kaylee Tolar, Chesney Adams and Addison Adams; great grandchildren, Jayce and Ella Gray; sister, Carlene



Grady and husband, Harold; dear friend and sister-in-law, Paulene Greer and a host of other family members and friends.

A small memorial service will be held at a later date.

Services are held under the direction of Riley Funeral Home, Woodville. 255

Riley

FUNERAL HOME

Billy Tolar, Sr.

Billy Wayne “Bill” Tolar, Sr., 81, of Doucette, Texas, passed away Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at his residence.

Visitation began at 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. service time on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home Chapel with burial following in Magnolia Cemetery all in Woodville. Officiating was Brother Milton Powers. Serving as pallbearers were Billy W. Tolar III, Ryan Weaver, Travis Weaver, Ricky Kenner, Brad Tolar, and Chris LeBlanc. Honorary pallbearers are Casey Tolar, Marc Tolar, Lane Weaver, Clint Tolar, and Justin Tolar.

Bill was born May 19, 1944 to LeRoy and Dorothy Belle Grammer Tolar in Woodville, Texas. A longtime resident of Doucette, he was a 1962 graduate of the old Kirby High School in Woodville. He worked for many years in the family business, starting out with Magnolia Grocery, then North Magnolia Grocery and Tolar’s Feed, retiring in 2003. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, farming, and spending time with his grandbabies.

He was preceded in death by his parents, LeRoy and Dorothy Tolar; wife of 43 years, Diana Tolar; and brother, Jerry Tolar.

He is survived by his sons, Billy Wayne Tolar, Jr. and wife Krystal of Woodville, and Bobby Tolar and wife Jennifer of Woodville; daughter, Glenda Tolar Hicks and husband Leslie of Silsbee; brother, Jesse Tolar of Doucette; sisters, Sherry Kenner and husband John of Woodville, and Kathy Weaver of Doucette; grandchildren, Matthew Hicks, Kaitlyn Hicks, Billy Wayne Tolar III “Trey”, Kaylee Tolar, Madison Tolar, Jackson Tolar, Huxley Tolar, Cason Reid, and Hunt Reid;



and numerous other family and friends.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church Doucette, P.O. Box 835, Doucette, Texas 75942.

Services are under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville.285

Stringer & Griffin

Funeral Home

Thomas Jordan

Thomas “George” Thurman Jordan of Woodville, Texas, passed away in the early hours of Wednesday, June 4, 2025.

George was born in Camden, Texas, on January 29, 1942, and raised in Livingston. He served bravely for his country in the US Navy for 20 years and then retired. He loved spending time with his family and traveling with his wife, Sue, by his side.

Thomas was preceded in death by his father, Charlie Coker Jordan; mother, Luella English Jordan; stepmother, Pauline Jordan; and a sister, Gloria Jean Jordan.

He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Carolyn Sue Jordan; daughter, Karen Kay Piatek and husband, Stanley; son, Thomas Thurman Jordan, Jr.; grandchildren, Amanda N. Aswell and husband, Bradley, Eric D. White, Liberty K Goins and husband, Justin and Dallas C. Jordan; step granddaughter, Erica Smith; great grandchildren, Hailey R. White, Brandon D. White, Bryce E. Aswell, Elliott Goins and Levi Goins; step great grandchildren, Jayden Rojas and Savanna Rojas; sister, Almedia Ann Dawson and husband, Clarence and a host of other family members and friends.



A funeral service was held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at the Woodville Methodist Church, with burial following at the Center Grove Cemetery in Polk County. Visitation was held Saturday from 1 p.m. until the time of the service.

Serving as pallbearers will be Tommy Jordan, Jr., Brandon White, Stanley Piatek, Dallas Jordan, Brad Aswell, and Justin Goins.

In lieu of flowers, the family asked that donations be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International,

Riley

FUNERAL HOME

Scott School reunion approaching

From Staff Reports

WOODVILLE – All students and graduates of Scott School are welcome to attend an upcoming alumni picnic event, which will take place on Saturday, July 5 at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Hall, located at 1703 West Bluff in Woodville.

The picnic will take place from noon until 6 p.m., and admission is \$30 per person. Payment is due by June 21.

The organizers of the event are looking forward to seeing everyone, and in-

vite all graduates and students from the old Scott School to “come out and help us keep the ‘Panther Pride’ alive.”

Payment can be sent to either Beverly Hickman, at PO Box 653, Doucette, TX 75942. Hickman can also be reached at Beverlyhickman59@gmail.com or by phone at 409-659-8875. Payment can also be sent to Helen Malvo at 5715 Springdale Lane, Beaumont, TX 77708. She can also be reached by email at Helenmalvo@att.net or by phone at 409-201-2151.

BIG
WOODS
TRAIL
PHOTO
WINNER
ANNOUNCED



Amy Teague of Colmesneil submitted the winning Big Woods Nature Trail Photo-of-the-Month for May. She captured the Southern sugar maple’s leaves shortly after one of our many rains this year. Amy shared that “the green you see now will become beautiful fall foliage, with leaves turning vibrant shades of red, yellow and orange. This photo reminds me of the maple tree my dad had in the backyard that I used to climb when I was a kid.” The Big Woods Nature Trail is across the parking lot from the Pickett House at Heritage Village. Thirty native Texas trees have identification signs – including a maple tree. Take time to view the native trees as you walk the shaded trails, and submit your photo to next month’s contest.

TYLER COUNTY NUTRITION CENTER

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Tuesday 6/17: Meatballs with Egg Noodles, Carrots, Salad, Bread, Dessert

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Thursday 6/19: CLOSED

Friday 6/20: Fish, Sweet Potato Fries, Slaw, Hushpuppies, Dessert

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When is the last time you visited the library?

You don’t know what you’ve been missing.

Coming soon: Summer Reading Program - call for details.

Upcoming Events

- Used Book Sale: Every Wed and Fri, 9am-1pm
- Museum Tours: Tu-Fri 10am-3pm; Sat 10am-2pm
- June 12 (Th): Workforce Solutions; 9am-4pm
- June 12 (Th): TDCJ Hiring; 10am-3pm
- June 12 (Th): Summer Reading Program; 10am
- June 13 (Fri): Creative Zone; 10am
- June 13 (Fri): Dungeons & Dragons 3.5; 10am-3pm
- June 13 (Fri): Summer Reading Program; 2pm
- June 13 (Fri): Teen Takeover; 5-7pm; call for details
- June 14 (Sat): Chess Tournament; 9:30am
- June 16 (Mon): Needles and Pins Quilting Bee; 9am-1pm
- June 17 (Tu): Summer Reading Program; 10am
- June 17 (Tu): Senior Reading Group; Noon; new members welcome
- June 18 (Wed): Summer Reading Program; 2pm
- June 18 (Wed): Education Explorers; ages 6-10; 10am

Allan Shivers

Library & Museum

302 N. Charlton St., Woodville, TX 75979

409-283-3709 • ashivers.library@gmail.com



Students from across Tyler County are participating in the county-sponsored Summer Work Program. Terry Allen, who leads the program, said there are 20 participants this summer. The program has been going on for 16 years, and on Monday morning, the participants visited a session of the Tyler County Commissioners Court to see county governmental business conducted. CHRIS EDWARDS | TCB



Everett Powell and Cliff Flowers are pictured with Chester Lions president Duane Jordan at the club's June 5 meeting. They are now new club members. PHOTO BY CHUCK DAVIDSON

JAIL BOOKINGS

Jail Booking Report for June 2-8

William Franklin White, III, 51, of Ivanhoe – Driving while intoxicated (third or more); Possession of controlled substance PG 1<1 gram
Kaden James Essary, 21, of Spurger – False drug test falsification device
Jordon Jamal Grant, 35, of Beaumont – Driving while license invalid /w/ previous conviction
Merv Donnell Hadnot, Jr., 29, of Beaumont – Possession of marijuana <2 oz.
Dylan Adam Hicks, 18, of Woodville – Criminal mischief >=\$750<\$2,500
Steven Cody Jordan, 35, of Village Mills – Aggravated assault with deadly weapon
Jden Mckael Broussard, 18, of Woodville – Minor in possession
Bernice Joyce Pittman, 19, of Colmesneil – Driving while intoxicated BAC >=0.15

Veterans’ birthday celebration planned

WOODVILLE – The Tyler County Veterans Service center is having their annual birthday party for any veteran who is 90 years of age or older and has not previously been honored, on Wednesday, June 25 at 1 p.m. at the Nutrition Center. Please contact their office at 409-283-3751, or 409-283-2493 by June 16 if you plan on attending.

Ready for what?

“Every child will come to school ready to learn ... “ sounds reasonable and causes many to wonder how else could kids come to school? Assumptions (not valid) are made that all children are reared in loving, structured homes that teach children the readiness skills they will need to be successful in school. Assumptions (not true) are made that readiness skills means knowing academic skills like counting and letters. Although some children may come to school knowing the alphabet, able to count, or even in a few cases to read, these are NOT readiness skills. Many parents willingly purchase books or videos to help their children learn academics without understanding that there are far more important skills children need to be successful in school. The result is frustration, misunderstanding, failure and lost opportunities for parent-supported, student-school achievement. If readiness isn't the old “three Rs,” reading, writing, and arithmetic, what exactly is it? How do children get it?

The Weekly Reader magazine for children published, in February 1982, a list of what they considered readiness. The list included: 1) being able to listen to directions, without interrupting, for five to ten minutes to a poem or story; 2) being able to hear similarities and differences in sounds and rhyming words; 3) being able to see likenesses and differ-



It Still Matters

By Darby Kethan
darbykethan@gmail.com

ences in pictures, designs, patterns, and shapes; 4) being able to understand direction words such as up/down, top/bottom, over/under, and quantity words such as little/big, empty/full; 5) being able to speak clearly, to contribute to discussion and to retell stories or poems; 6) being able to think, to give reasons for his/her opinions, to generate ideas, to solve problems; 7) being able to adjust, to accept new situations or changes without excessive worry or fear, to be able to ask for help appropriately, to be able to lose as well as to win; 8) being able to play cooperatively with other children, to share, take turns, take responsibility for group functions; 9) being able to work, to stay on task until completion, to follow directions and to take pride in his/her work.

Twelve years ago educators had concerns we all share about children learning skills that would help them succeed prior to coming to school. All of the skills listed are what

children should COME TO SCHOOL KNOWING ... very plainly that means children should be learning and should be able to learn these skills in their homes. That means parents should be able to teach these skills to their children. Not one of the skills mentioned above involves directly teaching to any child the alphabet, numbers, counting, colors, shapes or reading. Each readiness skill does, however, play a critically important part in how well children are able to learn when they do begin school. The responsibility for getting children ready to learn clearly lies with parents or other caring adults. The secret of teaching of readiness lies in having daily experiences throughout each child's early years which provide opportunities for learning.

Readiness doesn't mean teaching WHAT, it means teaching HOW to learn. Parents only have a few hours each day to spend learning with, listening to and teaching young children in their care. Use those hours to read stories, work puzzles, to talk to children about what they are seeing and hearing, to encourage children to try, to learn new skills, and to take children to interesting places such as zoos and museums. Doing so will place children at the top of the readiness list when time for school arrives and almost certainly assure success.

TIPS

continued from page 1A

Management strategies that can be taken to reduce pests and parasites in cattle include chemical methods such as spraying of insecticides to control flies and even mosquitos. If one is adverse to using chemical methods of fly control an alternative method of biopest control that is proving be very effective is employing the use of parasitic wasps that prey on the fly larvae. Many large-scale cattle operations and feedlots are moving towards the use of these wasps to help reduce the dependency of agrochemical use and the potential harmful side effects they could pose to both human and cattle health.

Heat stress and shading are both other considerations that are contributing factors to livestock productivity. Providing cattle with places to get out of the sun exposure boils down to good welfare and husbandry practices to reduce animal cruelty, while animals such as cattle are more adapted to heat than humans are, even cattle have a limit. Ways to improve cattle's resistance to heat can be accomplished first by building structures they can get under or perhaps grazing them in pastures that have natural sun blockage areas - trees. Another way to lessen the stress on the cattle from the heat is through genetics, research has shown

that cattle with red or white coats are more tolerant of extreme levels of heat as opposed to their black counterparts. It should go without say that water is a very important for cattle, like anything else they need water to stay alive and so providing them with either water troughs that can be filled up as needed or digging and filling a pond are the only two ways to provide water for livestock, so a short and to the point matter.

Providing salt and mineral blocks for cattle is an excellent way to make sure they are sound from the molecular level and up. Salt is extremely essential for life much like water and cattle crave it very powerfully. They also are known to go to great lengths to get it if it is absent in their diets, often resorting to eating materials cattle normally wouldn't eat and that can be very dangerous. Setting out salt blocks is a direct way to provide the cattle with a proper amount of salt that they can lick at their leisure. Minerals are essential for bodily functions and condition scores, functions such as reproduction and lactation in particular require a highly rich bounty of energy which is very taxing on the individual cow and these are acquire through minerals: calcium, potassium, etc. as mentioned body condition to include skeletal integrity, and muscle growth need minerals for growth, minerals are pretty important.

Last but certainly not least is winter

forage production which is a means that farmers can produce feedstuff for their cattle - hay. Common winter forages for the east texas area are crops such as legumes like red and white clovers which are highly nutritious, or grains such as oats, barley, rye and even grasses like ryegrass, or even root crops such as turnips and radishes are all great selections depending on your preference. It is worth noting these are just some of many choices. But wait, there is a bigger consideration than what crop species to use, and that is how great of quality soil do you have.

If you are unsure about the quality of your soil and you live in the east Texas area, consider sampling your soil and sending it to either your county extension agent or the soil analysis lab at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches. The soil lab has its rates listed online and has a selection of different levels of analysis with the prices listed, but get your samples in early. They are very busy and receive samples from nearly everywhere so it may take a while to get your analysis back but is most definitely a wise expense and rather affordable for the services provided.

Cattle summer management, just like any other time of the year, is a matter of careful planning and necessary step taking to ensure the best quality and healthcare of ones' cattle and these are just some suggestions to help boost productivity, hopefully it helps.



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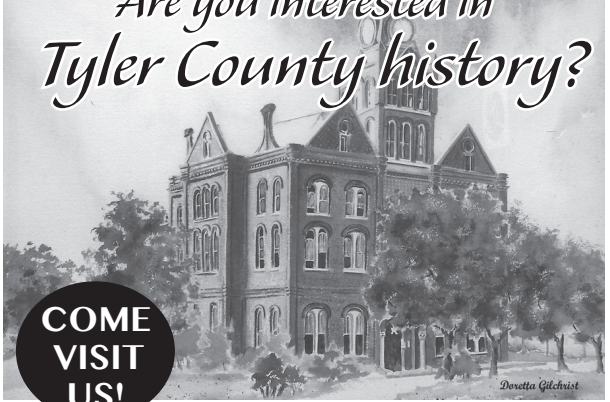
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Tyler County Historical Commission

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easttexasnews.com

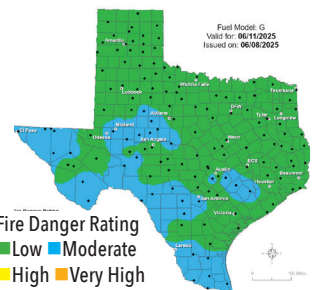
TYLER COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
 Scattered Thunderstorms 83°/72° Chance of Rain 48%	 Scattered Thunderstorms 85°/73° Chance of Rain 36%	 Scattered Thunderstorms 85°/73° Chance of Rain 42%	 Scattered Thunderstorms 87°/73° Chance of Rain 42%	 PM Thunderstorms 89°/74° Chance of Rain 43%	 Partly Cloudy 91°/75° Chance of Rain 24%	 Isolated Thunderstorms 91°/74° Chance of Rain 32%

Information sourced from weather.com

Forecast Fire Danger

twc.tamu.edu



Fire Danger Rating
Low Moderate High Very High Extreme

CMYK

OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GOD IS...

Wanda Copes

Dear editor,

I know these vaccinations (see sidebar) prevent disease. Adults and children think they will get the disease or may cause permanent brain damage.

Know the facts: "Vaccination is prevention". Adults: get vaccinated. Prevent your kids' illness and get them vaccinated. Don't expect the medical society to be with you 24 hours. You need to know what to do. You will avoid illness and so will your kids.

There are a list of vaccine-preventable infectious diseases, including anthrax; bacteria meningitis; chickenpox; influenza; measles and tetanus.

Frankie Rogers,
US Navy, USAF Physician Assist., CPR Instructor,
Former Woodville health inspector for 17 years

Recommended vaccinations for all ages:

Children – By the time all children reach age 2, they should have had the following: HepB; DTaP; Hib; Polio; PCV; MMR; Varicella; Influenza. Boosters should follow at intervals recommended by the child/teen's pediatrician.

Adults 19-49 – Tetanus, diphtheria every 10 years; flu and pneumonia for those with medical/exposure indications

Adults 50-49 – Tetanus, diphtheria every 10 years; flu annually

Adults 65+ – Tetanus, diphtheria every 10 years; flu annually; pneumonia



GOVERNMENT

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Bryan Weatherford:
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COUNTY JUDGE:
Milton Powers
Phone: 409-283-2141

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Woodville, TX 75979

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Pct. 2 Doug Hughes:
409-283-7013

Pct. 3 Mike Marshall:
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"Buck" Hudson:
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• City Hall: 936-969-2360

CITY OF COLMESNEIL

• Mayor Duane Crews
• City Hall: 409-837-5211

CITY OF IVANHOE

• Mayor Skip Blackstone
• City Hall: 409-283-3299

CITY OF WOODVILLE:

• Mayor Amy Bythewood
• City Hall: 409-283-2234

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Pct 1
Judge Tina Self
409-283-3631

Pct 2
Judge Ken Jobe
409-283-6320

Pct 3
Judge Mike Hughes
409-283-6320

Pct 4
Judge James "Jim" D. Moore
409-429-3488

CONSTABLES

Pct 1 Ronnie Ford
Pct 2 Casey Whitworth
Pct 3 Tony Reynolds
Pct 4 Anthony Ross

MEETINGS

County • City
School Board

COMMISSIONERS COURT

2nd Monday • 10am
CITY OF CHESTER

1st Monday • 6pm
CHESTER ISD

2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF COLMESNEIL

2nd Tuesday • 7pm
COLMESNEIL ISD

2nd Monday • 6pm
CITY OF IVANHOE

3rd Thursday • 6pm
SPURGER ISD

3rd Thursday • 7pm
WARREN ISD

4th Monday
CITY OF WOODVILLE

2nd Monday • 6pm
WOODVILLE ISD

3rd Monday • 7pm

The random cruelty of modern America

There is a point in the unraveling of a nation when the distance between law and lawlessness blurs until both are indistinguishable. That point has arrived in the United States. Its presence is visible not in the halls of Congress or the slogans of campaigns, but in the shattered lives of nearly a million people suddenly rendered stateless, many of them our neighbors, co-workers, and friends.

In the space of just a few weeks the U.S. government, with the Supreme Court's blessing, has revoked Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for close to a million Haitians, Nicaraguans, Venezuelans, and Cubans. People who, until days ago, lived and worked here legally, paying taxes, raising children, contributing to the economy, have been recast as "illegal" overnight, their futures erased by a pen stroke. At the same time, a sweeping new travel ban was imposed, barring them not only from re-entry but, in practical terms, from returning to their countries of origin. Their homelands which are racked by chaos, poverty, or political repression will not take them back. Nor will any third country. These are not simply deportees or immigrants. They are the new American stateless. Men, women, and children who now exist in a legal and moral vacuum of America's own making.

The consequences are immediate and harrowing. Thousands are being warehoused in private jails and ICE detention centers in Florida and across the country, sleeping in shifts on concrete floors, denied any clear legal process or hope of resolution. Some, according to reports in the Washington Post, are locked in shipping containers in foreign airports because neither the U.S. nor their home governments will accept them. When desperate detainees spell "SOS" with their bodies in the exercise yard, and ICE officers look on from helicopters, the old platitudes about American justice and compassion ring hollow.

All this is happening with the approval, or at least the indifference, of much of the political class. Florida's Cuban-American Republicans who have long been champions of immigration for their own communities have gone silent as their constituents



are swept up in mass detentions. Some politicians blame the crisis on their opponents. But these claims ring false in the faces of families split apart and communities thrown into chaos. Even formerly sympathetic voices have turned, as one Republican leader confessed: "You were at the party, a member of the club... and suddenly the U.S. government says no. These Cubans who have been very used to gold star treatment at immigration, not only did they get turned away, they got turned into jail."

None of this can be called governance. It is in every meaningful sense a collapse of law into spectacle. Rights and protections are now handed out or revoked with the changing winds of executive whim. A Haitian, Nicaraguan, or Venezuelan who arrived in the U.S. a decade ago as a legal resident can wake up one morning to find themselves illegal, unemployable, and subject to indefinite detention. There is no process, no appeal, no place to go. The law is no longer a shield, but a weapon, a tool for the punishment of the unlucky and the profit of the powerful.

What purpose does this serve? Not public safety. Immigrants, as even the Cato Institute affirms, are less likely to commit crimes than native-born Americans. Not economic prosperity. South Florida's low unemployment and surging growth are fueled in large part by the very immigrants now being rounded up. Nor is there any feasible plan for removal. The forced statelessness of so many people, in defiance of international norms and common sense, leaves them nowhere to go, while private prison operators rake in hundreds of millions in federal contracts. As one Miami Herald editorial observed: "It's not just law enforcement. It's a kind of lawless enforcement, with profit the only consistent thread."

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Punishment as a blanket proposal

The one thing governments do excessively well is legislate, and most of that is directed at solving a particular problem in a dramatic and supposedly final way.

It's kind of like your dad losing his mind in the front seat of the car when the kids are acting up. He'll finally snap and threaten everyone with a whupping unless the bickering stops.

Dads eventually grow past that phase and mellow a bit. Not so much with the government.

Take flying, for instance. After 9-11, and the advent of the execrable Patriot Act, anyone wanting to board a flight, regardless of whether it's in a puddle jumper within a state or international, passengers must arrive at the airport roughly two hours early to navigate the relentless rigamarole that the TSA says is required.

Because of school shootings, which are heinous indeed, all school campuses look like prisons, with gates and fences and warning signs. I recently took a trip to the town where I went to high school, only to find I couldn't even see the school because of the cinder-block fence. It wasn't the only school like that.

I attended a rock concert on Friday (Styx, Kevin Cronin, Don Felder) at the Cynthia Woods Pavilion in The Woodlands, but you would have thought I was boarding a plane at GWB in Houston; there is a clear bag policy in place, and hosts of rules to follow, and all this after you pay to get into the area. You also have to go through metal detectors and have the contents of your pockets examined.

With the exception of the smaller counties, most courthouses require the same type of security, what with detectors and scanners (Heaven forbid you forget your nail clippers attached to your keyring).

Even on an individual level, there are more and more gated communities, Ring cameras, dashboard cameras (both front- and rear-facing), and even more technological doodads "designed for your protection. Your safety is our concern."

The world is not a safe place, I think we all can agree; however, while the bad guys are still being bad guys, and bad things keep happening, why haven't the safety measures put in place shown any effectiveness?



Or, more importantly, why haven't our fearless leaders realized that punishing the entirety of the country only deters good people from taking advantage of opportunities for travel and entertainment? It's almost like that's the point — keeping the population in check, since everyone is staying locked up at home. But even that wasn't effective, as the idiocy surround mask mandates showed.

In all of the measures taken for safety and security purposes, the one thing that remains missing is dealing with the root causes of the problem at hand. Therein lies the largest problem of all; the muddled groupthink of liberalism and its need to coddle.

For instance, in Trump's first term when COVID broke out, he proposed pausing travel and immigration from certain countries, such as China, where the virus actually came from. He also put a hold on immigration from certain countries in the Middle East to combat terrorism. In each case, and many more like it, he was labeled a racist.

There are many more examples to illustrate that particular point, but the bottom line is that stopping the bad guys is a problem. Because of that, the liberal "dads" in the front seat of the U.S. station wagon are punishing everyone, and us "kids" are getting more and more frustrated because the bad apples don't care.

The only solution to these and many more problems lies in the root causes, and that will require a government willing to represent its people correctly.

Or, in the words of the great Ronald Reagan, "We must reject the idea that every time a law's broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions."

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

Same as it ever was

A warning to all three of you who read this stuff I write (probably two now, because the one guy who thinks I use Google to reference basic historical facts

likely has tired of my scrawlings): what follows might come as a direct contradiction to a piece I wrote last year in this same space.

I wrote about how the coming reunions of bands like Acid Bath and Cross Canadian Ragweed signaled something good on the horizon, and yes, even though they're not my cup of ale, Oasis and Creed also got mentioned in that column.

One band that will likely never return to the stage (at least to play music) is the Talking Heads, and I'm not really that mad about it.

Following the quartet's acrimonious 1991 breakup, it took until 2023 for them



to come back together to work as an entity to re-release albums, do the talk show circuit and to tour for screenings of their classic 1984 concert film Stop Making Sense. However, what fans really wanted was a tour, or at least an appearance at Coachella, or just some sort of shindig where the four of them were on a stage with their respective instruments, playing music, you know, "burning down the house."

Again, the idea coming from my soapbox that a band should not reunite to play live seems to spit in the face of things I've written about the aforementioned greats, as well as the mighty Jawbreaker, another favorite band that seemed terribly unlikely to reunite, but did several years ago. Talking Heads are an exception to this.

Last week, online media sources were abuzz with the idea that the New York City-

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MUSINGS

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City-spawned quartet would be performing live at some point. A cryptic post on the band's Instagram with the date "June 5, 2025" set to the famously ominous bassline of "Psycho Killer" set imaginations ablaze, but the big reveal was that the band released a proper music video for the song, starring Saoirse Ronan.

The video reveals a manic existence for Ronan's character, who is seemingly going about a normal day, but at an exceedingly manic pace.

"Psycho Killer"'s cinematic debut came in time to celebrate the Talking Heads' 50th anniversary, and will be accompanied by a proper re-release of the band's first couple of albums, and I'm sure at some point in the near future, the four of them will again make the rounds of late-night talk shows and whatnot.

Here's the deal with the Talking Heads: David Byrne, the famously eccentric frontman and wearer of that really, really big suit in the Stop Making Sense movie, has long poo-pooed any talk of a reunion. Who knows what all went down between Byrne and his bandmates? All we the public have are the records full of those great songs, and some of us who are old enough to remember and lucky enough to see them live, have those memories.

When musicians bury hatchets and get along well enough to go through the grueling paces of putting on performances, that's one thing. As a sidenote: bookmakers are taking bets on whether or not that Oasis trainwreck will last even three shows into that band's re-

union tour, but I digress.

If the four members of the Talking Heads are getting along well enough to collaborate on marketing, music videos, album reissues and film screenings, why should we, the public, expect a further compounding and complication of that relationship with the rigors of touring, or even one-off performances?

Reportedly, the band turned down around \$80 million last year to do Coachella and a string of six or seven shows as a headliner. If a band leaves that kind of money on the table, then the members know their limitations.

Then again, it could also be that the members feel they're too out-of-practice to play those songs live again. Aside from a three-song set at the 2002 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony, the Heads have not performed live since 1985.

Who are we to impose our desires on people who are unwilling to do that thing we desire? Put yourself in their shoes: would you want to be stuck on a tour bus or onstage with someone whom you did not want to be around?

Then again, there's also the aspect of how a Talking Heads show would be received in this day and age. Fans, like myself, who love the band for the songs and the blending of different musical idioms, would enjoy the performance and treasure it, but a whole new generation that wears the T-shirts, but doesn't know the music, would spend the whole show on their phones taking selfies, which flies in the face of what the Heads' concert experiences were said to bring to audiences.

Absent the live, extremely immersive experience of a Talking Heads show, I'll stick to spinning my copy of Remain in Light. Same as it ever was....same as it ever was.

humanitarian disgrace but a structural failure. It is the sign of a government that can neither enforce the law justly nor explain the purpose of its actions.

When law is no longer a guide to justice but a mask for arbitrary power, a nation has lost more than its way. It has lost its claim to legitimacy. This is not an abstract argument about borders but an indictment of a system that has become, in practice, indistinguishable from the failed states we once pitied or condemned. When those with the most to lose are made scapegoats for political gain, and the machinery of law grinds on for profit alone, we are staring into the abyss.

The new stateless in America are only the latest casualties of our descent. What happens to them will decide if the United States can recover its purpose, or if this era of random lawlessness is the beginning of something darker still.

Disclaimer: Jim Powers writes opinion columns. The views expressed in this editorial are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of Polk County Publishing Company or its affiliates. In the interest of transparency, I am politically Left Libertarian.



Elaine Jefferson and Rachel Hadnot with the Tyler County Adult Protective Services advisory board spoke about the problem of elder abuse during Monday's meeting of the Tyler County Commissioners Court. The county recognized June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month. CHRIS EDWARDS | TCB



Commissioners Joe Blacksher, Doug Hughes, Judge Milton Powers and Commissioner Mike Marshall accepted a gift from the Tyler County Courthouse Restoration Preservation Project, Inc. Kay Timme, Mary Nell Rainey and Sarah Clymer were on hand to present to the court. CHRIS EDWARDS | TCB

JIM

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This is not unique in history. Think of Hannah Arendt's chilling account of statelessness in twentieth-century Europe, when the collapse of law turned refugees into human flotsam, shuttled from border to border by bureaucracies that denied their very existence. "A system in which the law is no longer the law is not just tyrannical, it is chaotic and ultimately suicidal," Arendt wrote. America is now living this truth. It is not the severity of the law, but its utter unpredictability, its willingness to make or unmake lives by executive caprice, that marks a nation in decline.

Those who wield this chaos as a show of "strength" misunderstand the nature of real power. What we are witnessing is not strength, but panic, spectacle, and a clumsy theater of cruelty. There is no endgame, no plan to absorb, deport, or regularize the status of these men, women, and children. The forced limbo of a million people is not just a

COUNTY

continued from page 1A

Other Business

During Monday's meeting, the Tyler County Commissioners Court also approved the following items on its agenda:

- The approval of a truck driving academy reimbursement agreement was made for county workers. Tyler County will pay for training for employees, provided they agree to stay working for the county for four years.
- The county voted to approve an information technology (IT) and cyber security board. Donald Calhoun IV spoke about this item, and said that although no names were vetted yet, it should have three or four people who have IT knowledge and financial knowledge. Pct. 1 Commissioner Joe Blacksher said the board would be necessary for the county, going forward, due to compliance with cyber security laws now in effect.
- The county approved the rental of an

aviation gas (AVGAS) truck for the Oct. 25 Fall Fly-in and Food Truck Festival event at the Tyler County Airport, which is being hosted by the Tyler County Chamber of Commerce. Blacksher said the \$1,200 rental fee will be paid out of an economic development fund, and the county will contract with Jimmy Andrews Trucking for the transport.

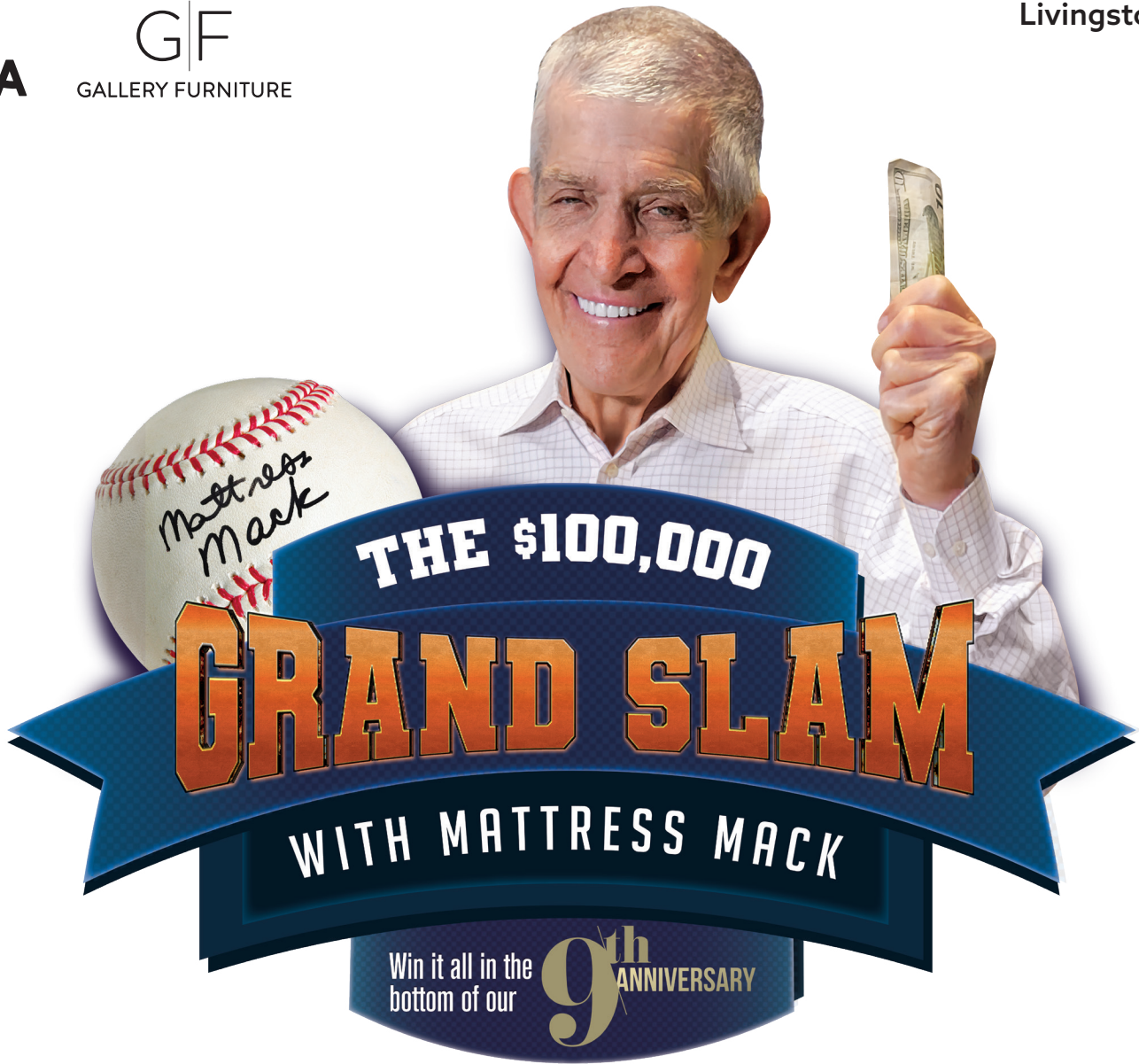
• A monthly donation from Riley Funeral Home for the senior activities at the Tyler County Nutrition Center was approved. Blacksher said the donation was greatly appreciated, and added that in spite of looming federal cuts to programs such as Meals on Wheels, the county will continue to take care of its senior citizens through the nutrition center program.

• A compensation for the county's summer youth work program for \$45,000 was approved, and transferred to the county's Child Safety Fund. Terry Allen, who has led the program for 16 years, said there are 20 participants this year, and those students in the program attended Commissioners' Court on Monday to see how county government functions.


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MY LITTLE PLACE



This past week was a good one for your old outdoor scribe. I’ve enjoyed some red hot catfish catching, spent time setting up a corn feeder on my little place in hopes of keeping a sounder of hog from ripping my heavily laden pear tree apart and wrapped things up with a trip to Nacogdoches for a deer hunting show presented by the East Texas Chapter of the Dallas Safari Club. So come along, let me recap the week, I think you might enjoy backtracking my trail with me.

FIRST THE HOGS Let’s begin with the hogs. I live about a quarter mile from some remote bottomland that connects to a 15,000 ranch on one side and a 2,000 acre wetland on the other. It seems most of my good friends own tracts of land they often refer to as ‘My little place’, most of which I have the pleasure of spending time on hunting and fishing on. These ‘little places’ are tracts of land ranging from 45 acres up to over a thousand. Not exactly little in my estimation. Now I live on a bit less than 4 acres and thanks to a thick strip of woods along the property line and the ability of wild hogs to smell pears from a great distance, I too now have “My little place” on which to hunt, well sort of! Let me explain.

Early last week, I noticed a couple of patches of wild onions in my lawn freshly rooted by wild hogs. I’m a hog hunter from way back and can spot hog sign as quickly as a Dallas commuter hits the gas when the light turns green. The scored ground was made by none other than Mr. Porky and friends. I called this area of my property ‘lawn’ but that isn’t exactly the best word to describe the 3 acres that is comprised of every species of grass and weed known to north Texas. I intentionally leave a 40 yard strip of trees and brush along the fence line that connects to another strip of cover that eventually leads to the big ranch and the wetland. Some of my friends ask why I don’t clear the brush and leave the trees and I explain I leave this for wildlife. Raccoons, possums, skunks, squirrels, an occasional deer and wild hogs from time to time take advantage of my little wildlife refuge.

We have a big pear tree near the wild onions on the edge of the wooded strip and it’s loaded this year. Squirrels knock a lot of the immature pears down during the day and the wild porkers were quick to smell them and begin a nightly visit to feed on the fruit. This tree is about 70 yards from our house. The temptation was way too much for me. I have a corn feeder that I pulled off a ranch I hunt in the shed and decided to hang it from a low hanging limb from a big oak, just a few feet from the pear tree. I put a trail camera on it and noted about 20 hogs eating first the pears and then the corn. Bottom line is I now have two big sows and 18 pigs coming to the spot on a nightly basis. My story is that I placed the feeder there not to attract hogs to my yard but to keep them from breaking down the low hanging limbs of my pear tree. I have a very accurate Seneca 50 caliber Dragon Claw air rifle topped with and AGM Rattler thermal scope that I’ve used to harvest many hogs. I’ve been losing a bit of sleep each night because of the porkers. I turn in



Luke placed a corn feeder adjacent his heavily loaded pear tree in hopes of giving the wild hogs invading his place something other than his delicious pears to eat. PHOTO BY LUKE CLAYTON

pretty early but wake up about ten thirty, grab my thermal monocular, and quietly ease out the front door and video the pear eating pigs. We will see what develops the next few days. There might just be a big Fourth of July pig roast in the near future thanks to a porker taken on my ‘little place’!

CATTIN’ WITH A FRIEND We outdoor folks make friends and bond quickly, especially after spending time together hunting and fishing. Glenn Miller from Millers Grove has been reading my column for the four decades I’ve been writing about the outdoors. Glenn invited me to fish with him a couple months ago and we became friends instantly. You’ve met folks like that I’m sure; people you felt you knew all your life. Well, the channel catfish bite over holes baited with soured grain (or not) is red hot at many lakes now and Lake Fork is no exception. Glen invited me to join him for a few early morning hours of fillet procurement. I was there at the dock bright and early. We fished his lethal homemade punch bait on #6 treble hooks in water about 15 feet deep and boated a couple limits of some of the best eating in fresh water. With plenty of fresh fillets in the freezer, that Fourth of July pig roast might just have to be complemented with some freshly caught crispy fried catfish!

ON TO THE DEER SHOW To wrap my week up, I traveled to the deer show in Nacogdoches this past weekend hosted by the East Texas Chapter of the Dallas Safari Club. I travel alone quite a bit but absolutely love making trips with good

friends. When David Cotton and his Dad Edgar invited me to ride along with them, I was all in. We cruised through the beautiful green east Texas country side with never a break in the conversation. Edgar owns some prime bottomland in Kaufman County that is on a whitetail management plan under the expert supervision of our mutual friend Larry Weishuhn, aka. “Mr. Whitetail”. Through the past few years, Larry, our friend Jeff Rice and I have become great friends with the Cottons and enjoyed many hunts and evenings around the campfire on their ranch. The event included a set down dinner in the evening, silent and live auctions and a couple of seminars by Weishuhn and Dr. James Kroll was a bit success.

Matt Hughes, an official Boone and Crockett scorer, also gave a seminar on how to score whitetail deer using the Boone and Crockett system. Our friend Jeff Rice had the video camera rolling to cover the event which will be seen on our weekly TV show “A Sportsmans Life” on both YouTube and Carbon TV. My part was minimal during the event but I was able to supply a bit of levity when asked about my interest in turnips as a food plot staple. The Cottons always plant a large quantity of turnips in their food plots for deer and David recalled the time he drove to pick me up from an afternoon hunt and I had my pack loaded with fresh turnips!

Email outdoors writer Luke Clayton through his website www.catfishradio.org



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One of my favorite things each spring is to head out to Hensley Produce and load up on fresh, homegrown produce.

Located at 369 Larry Hensley Rd. out Hwy. 190 West off of Sandydale Road, the fresh vegetable farm and market is owned and operated by Larry and Shirley Hensley, who sell from their home market most days, depending on what vegetables have been harvested. They ask that you call ahead, however, before coming out to make sure someone is available. The number is 936-329-5665.

I'd heard they were opening mid to late May, but when I recently saw a Facebook post that said they were opening May 3, I immediately put it on my calendar as a top priority and we headed there first, before subsequent trips to Lowe's, CVS and HEB.

I selected new potatoes, onions, cucumbers and zucchini. By the time we got there, they had already run out of yellow squash, but we still came away with two sacks full of fresh veggies.

There was one patty pan squash left, but I didn't get it because I've never eaten a patty pan squash before and wasn't sure how to cook it. I regretted that decision later, however, and will get some next time. I've yet to meet a type of squash I don't like and it's always a good



time to learn new things.

Hensley Produce is an impressive operation – especially the four-generation family's work ethic that has been instilled in each of those generations. Mr. Larry and Mrs. Shirley have been blessed with a passel of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and they all pitch in and help. On the day we were there, a daughter and son-in-law, granddaughter and grandson-in-law and a great-granddaughter were working.

The great-granddaughter was looking for snakes, while also looking for little watermelons.

If you follow them on Facebook, you can even watch videos of their potato digger that was built in 1928. The classic piece of machinery – along with all the kids and grandkids – made short order of digging 65 bushels of potatoes just a few days ago.

The Hensleys reported that the cooler temps have the produce developing a little slower than usual. However, the recent rain helped, and now they say the squash and cucumbers are going crazy. They are watching the corn grow and hope to have red tomatoes in three to four weeks. They also reported that the purple hull pea plants are looking great and that they're finding lots of little watermelons in the field.

I'm looking forward to going back when the tomatoes are ready. And I'm sure we'll get a watermelon or two for Hubby and Daughter. That's their favorite snack this time of year.

I couldn't wait to do something with the fresh new potatoes and onions and I had a head of cabbage in the crisper waiting for inspiration, so I made "Crispy Roasted Potatoes and Onions" and "Charred Salt and Vinegar Cabbage" that I served alongside some chili-rubbed pork chops. Every bite was delicious. ■

"You don't have to cook fancy or complicated masterpieces - just good food from fresh ingredients."
– Julia Child



Crispy Roasted Potatoes and Onions
From [coleycooks.com](#)

1 ½-2 lbs. red skin or other waxy potatoes unpeeled, sliced about ¼-inch thick
1 medium yellow onion sliced about ½-inch thick, thicker than the potatoes
3 tablespoons olive oil
2 teaspoons kosher salt
Freshly cracked black pepper to taste
1 tablespoon fresh rosemary needles or about 1 teaspoon dried

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees and line a sheet pan with parchment paper.

Add the sliced potatoes and onions to a large bowl. Drizzle with olive oil, then sprinkle with salt, pepper and rosemary. Toss until the potatoes and onions are all evenly coated.

Spread the potatoes and onions out on the sheet pan in a single layer. Bake for 20 minutes, then use a spatula to toss the potatoes and onions around and flip some of them over. This doesn't have to be perfect, just make sure you move them around a bit.

Bake for another 15-20 minutes or until the potatoes are golden brown and crisp in spots. Serve immediately.



Charred Salt and Vinegar Cabbage
From [smittenkitchen.com](#)

2 lbs. green cabbage, halved, cored, then cut into 1-to-2-inch chunks
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon kosher salt
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
4 garlic cloves, lightly smashed
1/3 cup vegetable broth
1/3 cup white vinegar
Sea salt, to finish

Preheat oven to 475 degrees.

On a rimmed 9-by-13-inch baking sheet, toss the cabbage with the olive oil, salt, and pepper to coat evenly, but leaving any chunks intact-that is, there's no need to separate the leafy layers. Dot the butter over the top - it will melt in the oven. Roast for 15 minutes, until the cabbage is black in spots.

Use a spatula to turn the cabbage over and scatter the garlic cloves in the pan.

Return to the oven and roast for another 15 minutes, until the cabbage looks worrisomely charred (but it will be perfect, I promise). Pour the broth and vinegar carefully into the pan, and return it to the oven a final time, to roast for yet another 15 minutes, or until the garlic cloves are tender and the liquids have been reduced to a thin (or nonexistent) puddle. Finish with a sprinkling of sea salt, and good luck not eating the crunchy bits right from the pan.



Lady Jacket Lily Read was awarded the MVP award for the West team in the Southeast Texas Coaches Association Volleyball All-Star game. BECKI BYRD | TCB



B.A. Steinhagen

FAIR. Water stain; 75 degrees; 0.27 feet below pool. Very few anglers on the water. Expect fish to start pushing shallow as the water warms.

Livingston

GOOD. normal stain; 76 degrees; 0.39 feet above pool. White bass are great in 6-15 feet of water on wind blown points and ledges with white and chartreuse slabs. Catfish are in 1-4 feet of water on bulkheads with best action at daylight. Report by Michael Richardson, Lake Livingston Adventures.

Nacogdoches

GOOD. Water stained; 83 degrees; 0.14 feet below pool. Water clarity is heavily stained to muddy. Largemouth bass are fair on bladed jigs and swim jigs around shallow grass points. Crappie are good on main lake timber and brush piles in the creeks. Catfish are slow on cut bait or live minnows. Report by Cal Cameron, Cal's ETX Guide Service.

Sam Rayburn

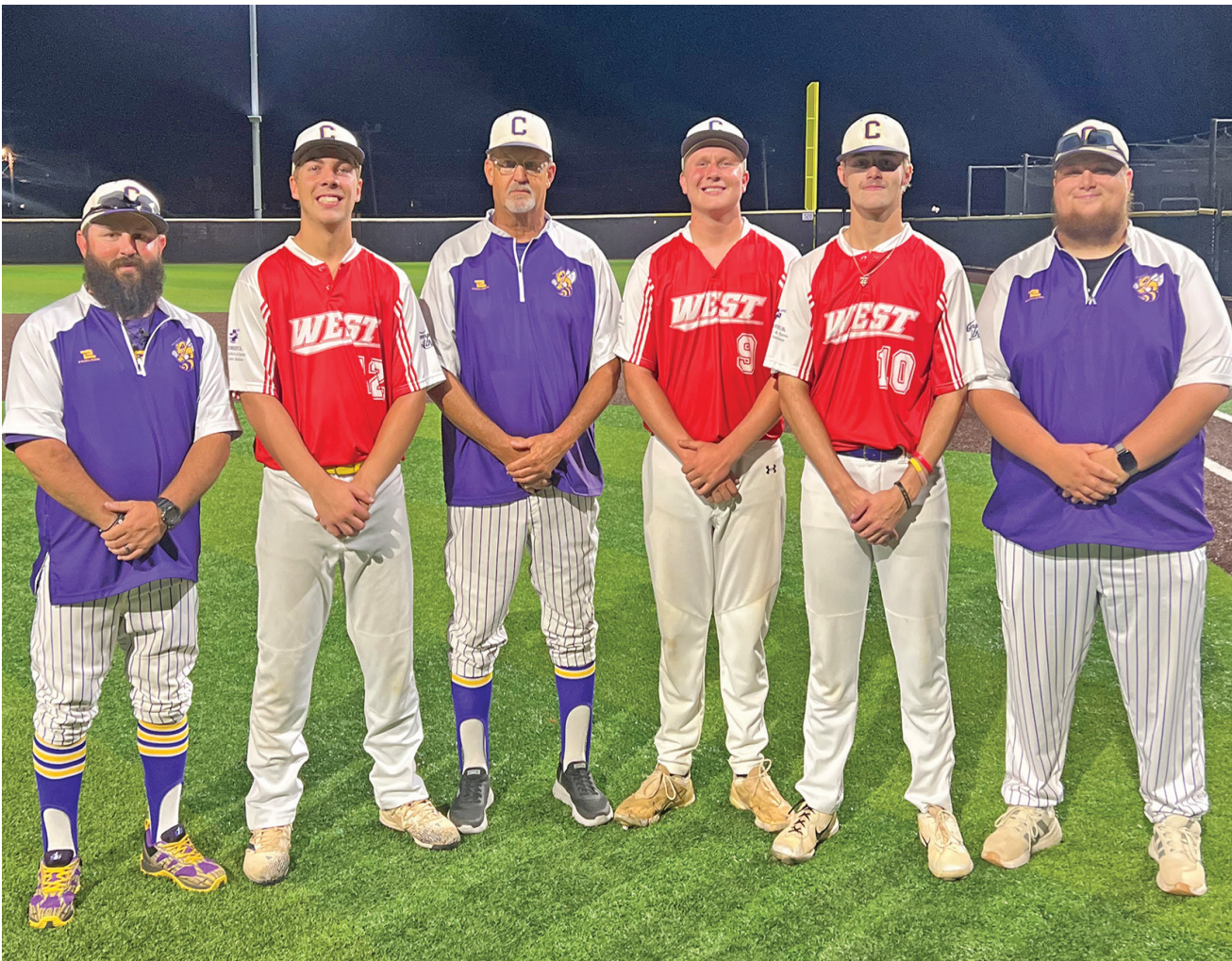
GOOD. Water stained; 80 degrees; 0.45 feet above pool. Water is being released and the level is slowly dropping. Numbers of bass are shallow in the buckbrush, so flip plastics and jigs. Topwater bite around pencil grass and reeds. Grass and pads are coming back slowly. Target bass on points and drains with crankbaits, or with jigs and Carolina rigs off ledges and structure. Crappie are slowly move out to brush and timber. White bass are schooling off points. Catfish move out to deeper water and creek channels cut bait doing good. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

Toledo Bend

GOOD. Water stained; 81 degrees; 0.61 feet below pool. It is finally summer time, everything around Toledo is getting right, most storms are gone and the sun is cooking. Bass are good. Shallow fish are still strong on frogs, topwaters, swim jigs and wacky-worms from 2-7 feet of water. The deeper bite is coming on strong in 14-18 feet of water with big crankbaits and Carolina rigs. A few great reports of 7 pound bass being caught at night with spinnerbaits, and buzzbaits along the edge of the flooded grass. Crappie are good on brush piles, standing timber, and main lake docks with jigs or live bait. The water temperature is starting to reach the mid to low 80s, pushing crappie out of the creeks. Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

Tyler

GOOD. Water normal stain; 75 degrees; 0.30 feet above pool. Crappie are good on brush piles with minnows and jigs in 10-16 feet of water. Catfish are good in 5-6 feet of water with liver and nightcrawlers. Bass are scattered with a fair topwater bite or feeler with trick worms, spinnerbaits and topwaters. Bream are good on red worms throughout the lake.



East vs West Southeast Texas Coaches Association Baseball Classic. L-R: Coach Butter, Waylon Sturrock, Coach Marty Thompson, Cutter Lowe, Will Thomason, Coach Evan Stewart. BECKI BYRD | TCB

Baseball District awards named for ‘Jackets

By Becki Byrd

District awards for the Yellowjacket baseball team were announced this week. Several Yellowjackets earned accolades. Waylon Sturrock was named Utility Player of the Year, Jesse Bittick Defensive Player of the Year, first Team Infield went to Jaxon Gay and Cutter Lowe, Will Thomason earned First Team Pitcher, First Team Outfield went to Rex Gilzow and Turner Johnson, Jayse Gay second team infield and Honorable Mentions were Kasen Citrano and Bryson Swanson. Waylon Sturrock, Will Thomason and Cutter Lowe were

selected to play in the Southeast Texas Coaches Association All-Star Classic on June 4, in Anahuac. Coaches Coleman Butter, Marty Thompson and Evan Stewart were also selected to help coach the East versus West teams. Thomason had one hit, Lowe had one walk, and Sturrock made a play in the field.

Read selected for MVP award

The Southeast Texas Coaches Association Volleyball All-Star game was also on June 4, in East Chambers. Lady Jacket Lily Read was selected to play for the West team. Read played extremely well and earned the MVP award.



Last week, the Warren Warrior basketball coaches worked with a group of future Warriors and Lady Warriors, as they hosted the annual summer basketball camp. The turnout and effort were awesome, as these young hoopers put in the work to get better. This week, volleyball camp began. In addition, summer workouts continue for the middle and high school athletes.

COURTESY PHOTOS



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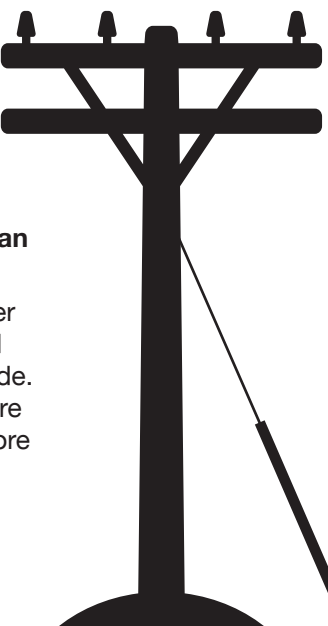
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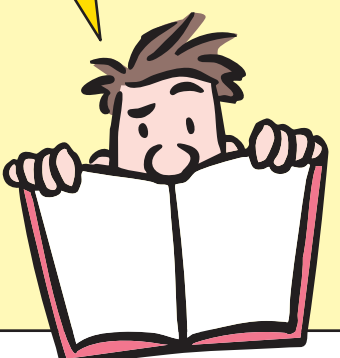
**Kid Scoop Together**
Funny Fill-In

Ask a family member to give you some nouns, plural nouns, verbs, and adjectives. Write these words to fill in the blanks of this silly story. Then, read it aloud to your family!

Journaling

Journaling is like talking to a friend—but on paper!

My grandmother gave me a **journal**. It's a book full of blank pages! What do I do with it?



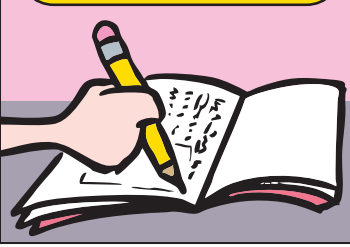
She said I can write about my day, my thoughts, my feelings, my dreams, or I can even draw pictures!



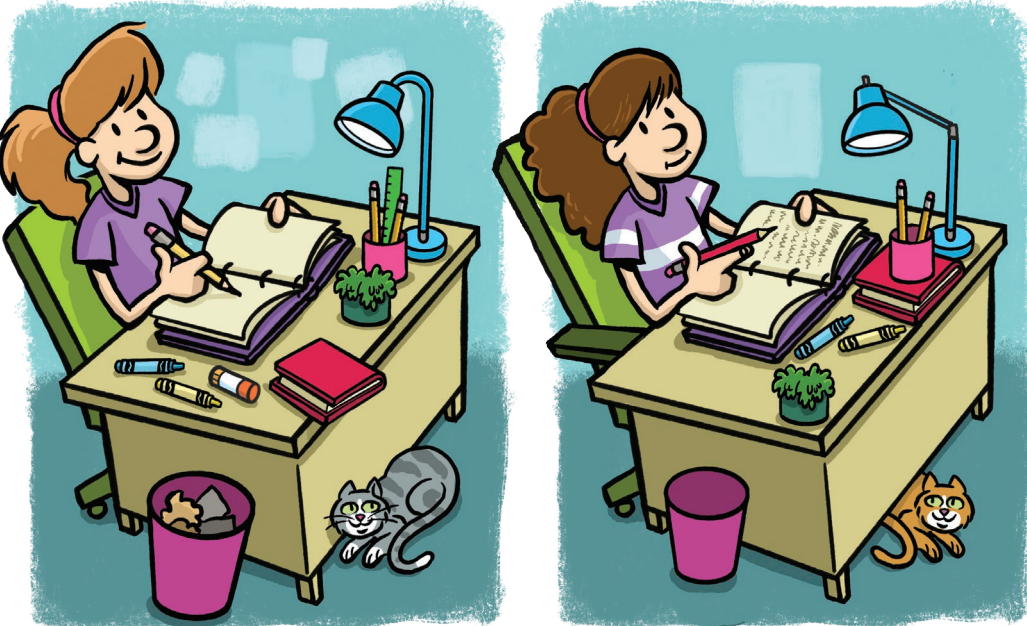
My journal helps me remember fun moments. It helps me understand my feelings. And it's a place to come up with cool ideas, too!



Sometimes when your brain feels full, writing things down can help you feel calm and clear again. Plus, when you get older, you can look back and see how much you've grown!



Find the differences.



Journal topic ideas

Three things I am grateful for:

Write about a time you were really surprised.

Replace the missing vowels in Kevin's journal.

I got a B on my m_th +_st +_day. Th_t is a b_g impr_vement aft_r I got a C- last W__k!

My aunt h_lped m_ last Sund_y with my mult_plicati_n tables. I think I'll g_+ an A n_xt week! :☺:

Each day, pick a topic to write about. Here are a few examples...

Something fun I want to remember.

Right now I am feeling... I think I'm feeling this way because...

Here's a great idea that I thought of today!



Extra! Extra!

That's Me!

Look through the newspaper for five words that describe you. Write a journal page using each of these words in a sentence about YOU.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify adjectives.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Silly Journal Entry

We came home with many _____ memories from _____ ADJECTIVE our visit to the theme park.

We started by riding the _____ NOUN boats. We took lots of photos as we floated down the _____ ADJECTIVE canal and through a _____ ADJECTIVE tunnel filled with singing _____ NOUN animatronics.

Then came the haunted house.

My dad began to _____ VERB as we entered the dark hallway.

Bats and _____ PLURAL NOUN fluttered around us, and a _____ ADJECTIVE ghost popped out of a dusty _____ NOUN, making my mom and me _____ VERB.

We decided to ride the huge _____ NOUN coaster together.

As our train began to _____ VERB up the lift hill, we had a great view of the park's colorful _____ PLURAL NOUN and hedges shaped like _____ PLURAL NOUN.

We flew down the first big drop faster than a _____ ADJECTIVE _____ NOUN! I laughed and screamed at the same time as we swooped around curving _____ PLURAL NOUN and back into the _____ ADJECTIVE station.

**Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS**

This week's word: **JOURNAL**

The noun **journal** means a written record of a person's experiences or memories.

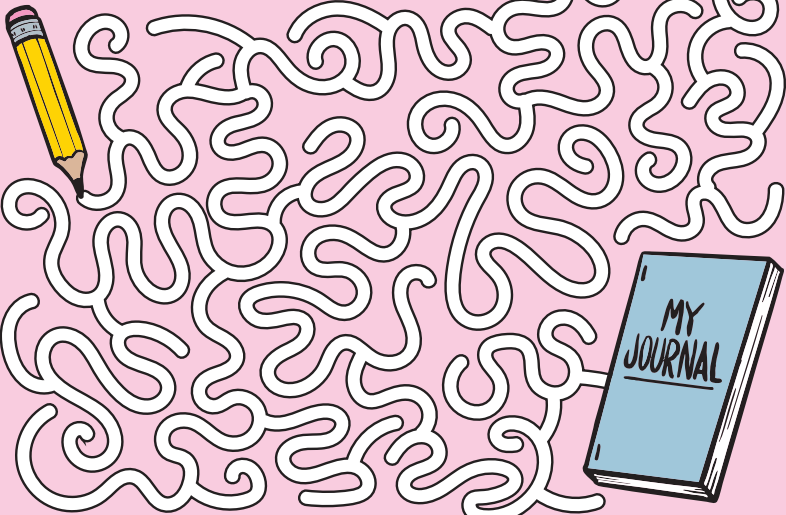
I wrote a poem in my **journal** about my new kitten.

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

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Put Pencil to Paper

Connect the paper to the journal.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Students follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

BRAIN
CALM
COOL
DRAW
FEELING
FRIEND
FUN
GRATEFUL
IDEAS
JOURNAL
PAD
PAGE
PAPER
TOPIC
WRITE

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

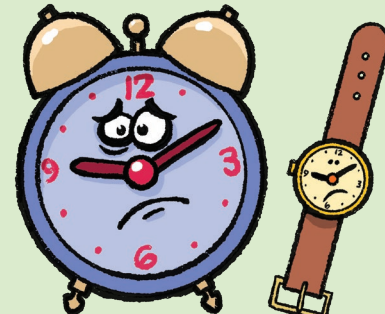
A	C	J	O	U	R	N	A	L	N
N	U	F	W	S	T	S	V	U	F
X	B	E	E	Q	L	A	B	F	R
T	A	G	T	E	G	E	R	E	I
V	O	A	J	I	L	D	A	T	E
M	C	P	W	G	R	I	I	A	N
N	J	A	I	K	L	W	N	R	D
K	R	D	L	C	O	O	L	G	K
D	P	H	Z	M	P	A	P	E	R

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Letter to the Editor

Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper and explain what you think or feel about something happening in your community. Read some published letters to the editor for ideas.



Why were the alarm clock and the wristwatch told to leave the library?

ANSWER: Because they would not stop ticking.

Write On!

Best Book of the Summer

Write a book review recommending a book for kids to read this summer.



Brad Elrod

Attorney At Law

130 S. Charlton St., Woodville, TX 75979
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Please send us your upcoming church events. Church news is published on a space-available basis free of charge. Send us an email at news@tylercountybooster.com or bring your event information to our office located at 205 W Bluff in Woodville. You can also call us at 409-283-2516.

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S., Fred 429-5318 SHADY GROVE COMMUNITY CHURCH Hwy 190 W. & CR 2175 936-208-0453 TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD 120 CR 1095, Woodville 283-2447 ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP 12065 Hwy 190 E., Woodville 283-3324	CAMPGROUND BAPTIST 295 CR 2075, Woodville 409-385-7350 CAMP ZION BAPTIST 268 CR 3100, Doucette 283-5497 CANEY CREEK BAPTIST FM 1745, Chester 969-2220 CHESTER BAPTIST Chester 969-2311 CHURCH NEW LIFE BAPTIST 105 Avalon Ct., Woodville 283-2333 CHURCH NEW LIFE BAPTIST 213 CR 1075, Woodville 283-7002 DOGWOOD HILLS BAPTIST 823 US Hwy 190 W., Woodville 283-3202 EMMANUEL BAPTIST Hwy 69, Colmesneil 837-5260 ENON BAPTIST FM 1745, Chester 969-2394 FAIRVIEW BAPTIST 3025 FM 92 S., Woodville 489-3083 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WARREN 11645 US Hwy 69 S., Warren 547-2215 FIRST BAPTIST DOUCETTE 2245 Hwy 69 N., Woodville FIRST BAPTIST COLMESNEIL 208 W. Elder St., Colmesneil 837-5439 FIRST BAPTIST SPURGER 12676 FM 92 S., Spurger 429-3116 FIRST BAPTIST WOODVILLE 202 S. Charlton St., Woodville 283-2588 FIRST SHILOH BAPTIST 114 CR 2310, Woodville 283-8700 GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 148 CR 3260, Colmesneil HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH 3020 FM 2565, Woodville HEBRON CHURCH 504 CR 1875, Village Mills 409-834-6240 HILLISTER BAPTIST 258 FM 1013 Rd., Hillister 283-3350 HILLTOP BAPTIST 11472 US Hwy 190 E., Dam B 409-550-6371 KATY BAPTIST N. Pitzer St., Colmesneil 837-2022 LITTLE BAPTIST 351 CR 4494, Hillister LITTLE FLOCK BAPTIST 1284 CR 4490, Hillister 547-3336 MT. HOPE BAPTIST 400 N. Rail Road Ave., Colmesneil MOSS MILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST Hwy 190 E., Woodville 283-3166 MT CARMEL BAPTIST Hwy 255, Colmesneil 283-7513 MT NEBO BAPTIST 13259 FM 1943 Rd E., Fred 429-5579 MT OLIVET BAPTIST FM 92, Fred 429-3234	MT SINAI BAPTIST 972 CR 3750, Colmesneil 283-8566 NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH 714 CR 4525, Warren NEW PILGRIM BAPTIST 385 CR 4252, Woodville 283-7227 NEW SHADY GROVE BAPTIST 5514 US Hwy 190 E., Woodville 283-2218 NEW ZION BAPTIST CR 4415 off Hwy 92, Spurger 429-5089 PALESTINE BAPTIST 1346 E. Caney Loop, Chester 969-2524 PILGRIM REST BAPTIST 80 Cobb Mill Rd., Woodville 283-3904 PINEYWOODS BAPTIST 4945 FM 256 E., Colmesneil 837-9669 PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST 4274 FM 2992, Spurger 268-1129 PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST 401 Elm, Woodville 283-3008 ROCKLAND BAPTIST Rockland 409-504-6124 SPRINGHILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST Springhill Rd., Woodville 283-5792 TEJAS ROAD BAPTIST Hwy 69 N., Colmesneil 837-9717 TRUE VINE BAPTIST 2626 US Hwy 69 N., Doucette 283-6863 VICTORY IN JESUS BAPTIST 13626 FM 1746, Woodville 409-429-3460 WARREN CHAPEL BAPTIST 1482 CR 4470, Warren 547-0165 WOODVILLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST 1446 FM 1746, Woodville ZION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST Hwy 69, Colmesneil 837-2064 BIBLE GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP 23276 FM 92 S., Fred 429-5115 CATHOLIC OUR LADY OF PINES 1601 N. Pine St., Woodville 283-5367 CHURCH OF CHRIST HILLISTER CHURCH OF CHRIST CR 4455 #1262, Hillister WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 357 CR 4475, Warren 547-0064 WOODVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST Hwy 190 W., Woodville 283-5977 COGIC WHITE'S CHAPEL 302 Blackgum St., Woodville 200-4676 HOUSE OF PRAYER CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 1098 CR 4470, Warren COWBOY CHURCH TYLER COUNTY COWBOY CHURCH 685 FM 256 N., Woodville 409-200-2014 EPISCOPAL ST PAUL'S EPISCOPAL 1703 W. Bluff St., Woodville 283-3710	GOSPEL WOODVILLE GOSPEL TABERNACLE 1561 US Hwy 69 N., Woodville 283-2156 JEHOVAHS WITNESS KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH'S Highway 190 W., Woodville 283-7579 LUTHERAN FAITH LUTHERAN 704 W. Holly St., Woodville 238-7171 METHODIST HOPEWELL FIRST CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST 190 E., Woodville 283-2874 SPURGER METHODIST 13237 FM 1013 Rd., Spurger 429-3401 WARREN METHODIST 11774 US Hwy 69 S., Warren WOODVILLE METHODIST 508 W. Bluff St. 283-2471 HOPE UNITED METHODIST 103 North Pecan, Woodville, TX 75979 409-200-2083 CHURCH OF CHRST LDS CHURCH OF JESUS CHRST OF LATTER- DAY SAINTS 1000 N. Pine St., Woodville 283-2236 NON - DENOMINATIONAL AGAPE CHURCH 1102 FM 1745 N., Colmesneil 426-2017 BELIEVERS TEMPLE FAMILY 203 W. Bluff, Woodville BIBLE BELIEVERS TABERNACLE 12978 US 69 S., Warren 936-969-2220 FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER 145 CR 1270, Warren 547-0255 FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 123 CR 4260, Woodville 283-2161 NEW BEGINNINGS PRAISE & WORSHIP 501 CR 3330, Colmesneil 837-2210 SEED OF FAITH WORSHIP CENTER 501 S. Beaver St., Woodville VICTORY TEMPLE TRUE LIGHT HOLINESS CHURCH 1204 Cardinal Drive Woodville 832-434-9728 WOODVILLE GOSPEL TABERNACLE 1561 US Hwy 69 N., 409-283-0090 PENTECOSTAL FAITH TABERNACLE PENTECOSTAL Hwy 1013, Hillister 720-9864 THE PENTECOSTALS OF WOODVILLE 1613 W. Bluff St., Woodville 283-2049 PROTESTANT SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 16140 CR 4755, Warren 409-547-3733 INTERDENOMINATIONAL GOOD SAMARITAN FELLOWSHIP 21544 FM 92 S., Fred 429-3777
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CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS



Fairview Baptist planning Winter Bible School

DAM B – Fairview Baptist Church will host Winter Bible School Monday-Thursdays, February 17-20, 2026 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Fairview is located at 3025 FM 92 South across from the Dam B Fire Dept.
This year's Winter VBS is titled "Heroes". The focus will be on Moses, Noah, Joseph and David. A meal will be served each night at 5:30 pm. After the meal the children will begin at different sessions...Bible Stories, Mission Stories and Crafts.
Our church is eagerly waiting to welcome your children to this free event. Please call 409-384-0492 for more details.

Spurger Methodist offering quail class

SPURGER – Spurger Methodist Church is pleased to offer a free class to the community on "Raising Quail". This event will be held on Saturday, June 21, at the Spurger Methodist Church at 10 a.m. in Spurger, Texas. Please call 713-398-1540 for any questions and to pre-register. It is important to pre-register.

Father's Day

Father's Day is a great day to honor all fathers, and it is especially a great day to honor godly fathers. And yet not all fathers are godly, are they? Some fathers have misplaced priorities. They are busy working (and sometimes playing) and everything is left up to the wife to be the spiritual leader of the family. However, when I read Old Testament accounts of fathers, and later the New Testament scriptures pertaining to fathers, I learn that God has placed a very important responsibility upon all fathers to be leaders.

I remember promising God that our daughters would have a spiritual leader in their dad, and I wish I could say that I always made the right decisions, but God knows I didn't. However, I was always willing to repent. I still repent, because it is a part of my life to try to be like God's Son. And even with all of the effort I put forth,



The Preacher Says
By Keith Bellamy

I still fall short.
Thankfully, because of God's love for me and for all of the fathers out there, we still have time to keep trying to do better.
Fathers: What are your top priorities? Who, or what, comes first in your life?
My dad changed as he got older, because he had forgotten to put Christ first in his life. Thankfully he did this while he still had time. How much time do you have?
Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4;NLT)

A fool rejects his father's discipline, But he who regards reproof is sensible. Proverbs 15:5

Abbott has until June 22 to sign or veto bills

Texas legislators wrapped up the 89th session last week, passing more than 1,200 bills — 800 of which were sent to Gov. Greg Abbott in the last 10 days of the session, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Abbott has until June 22 to approve those that have not been signed, including the next two-year state budget. While the governor does not have the power to veto the entire \$338-billion budget, he does have line-item veto power over individual portions of it.

The Texas Constitution allows the governor to veto legislation, sign it, or allow it to go into law without his signature. All bills that passed with at least two-thirds of both chambers' approval cannot be vetoed. That means that all proposed constitutional amendments, which lawmakers passed by at least that margin, will go before voters in November. That includes proposed property tax relief for homeowners by raising the homestead exemption.

Abbott has not indicated which, if any, bills he will veto. He is facing considerable pressure from several groups, including veterans' organizations, to veto Senate Bill 3, which would ban all consumable hemp products containing tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. Abbott also faces pressure from Republican state leaders, especially Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who led the charge to ban THC products, and law enforcement to sign it.

Rural Texans scored big wins in session

More than 3 million Texans live in rural areas across the state, The Texas Tribune reported, and the last session increased funding for them in several areas, including health care, agriculture, education, and emergency management.

Texas schools will receive \$8.5 billion in additional public education funding, with teachers in smaller districts receiving an \$8,000 raise if they have five or more years of teaching experience. Those with less than five years in the profession will get a \$4,000 raise.

A sweeping water bill will provide more money for rural Texas to address water and wastewater projects. In addition, several bills address health care issues, including more money for rural hospitals. One measure creates a way to evaluate the financial health of rural hospitals and allows for updating reimbursement rates every two years.

"Because these things are now in statute, rural hospitals can count on it," John Henderson, CEO of the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals, said, "rather than worry about uncertainty related to renewals or budget



Capitol Highlights

By Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

expands a grant program that previously was limited to young farmers. The age restrictions have been lifted, and the amount available has increased from \$20,000 to \$500,000 with farmers paying a 10% match.

Finally, lawmakers passed a bill to establish a disaster recovery program for counties with fewer than 100,000 residents who have not received reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

In-state tuition for students without legal status ends

Texas has ended its policy of giving in-state tuition to college students who do not have legal status, the Texas Standard reported. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced last week that the state had filed a joint motion with the federal Department of Justice to end the practice. The judge granted the motion.

"Ending this discriminatory and un-American provision is a major victory for Texas," Paxton said in a statement.

The Justice Department had filed a complaint to stop the practice, which began in 2001 with the support of then-Gov. Rick Perry, claiming it discriminated against U.S. citizens not afforded the same privileges. At the time it began, Texas was the first state to do so, with 24 states now having similar policies.

A report from the President's Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration concluded there were about 57,000 students without legal status enrolled in Texas colleges and universities in 2022. The Austin American-Statesman reported that tuition costs would quadruple for students having to pay international student prices, citing tuition costs at the University of Texas and Austin Community College as examples.

Judges' pay, lawmaker pensions get boost

One of the final bills passed in the recently concluded session would give a 25% raise to Texas judges, with base pay

cycles."

A grant program for rural counties to purchase ambulances was also passed.

Another measure expands

rising to \$175,000, The Tribune reported. If signed by Abbott, that also means legislative pensions, which are tied to judges' pay, would also rise.

A last-minute disagreement resulted in this being the final time the pensions are coupled with judicial pay. After that, the Texas Ethics Commission would take over assessing lawmaker pensions, as it does for per diem pay and other lawmaker benefits.

Texas judges' pay has been among the lowest in the nation. In the past, lawmakers have been reluctant to give a raise to judges since it was tied to their own pension, fearing voter blowback.

"Let's break this stalemate, support our judiciary and face the consequences together," state Rep. Brent Money, R-Greenville, said.

Saharan dust returns to Texas

Saharan dust made its way into Texas late last week, bringing hazy skies to the eastern half of the state, the Statesman reported. The annual event likely won't be as intense as previous summers, but it can still affect people who have respiratory issues.

The dust is carried by winds across the Atlantic from the Saharan Desert. Besides sparking allergy symptoms, it provides colorful sunrises and sunsets, and poor air quality. It can also keep temperatures higher and the skies drier by trapping heat closer to the ground.

Texans urged to prepare for 2025 hurricane season

Texans are being urged to be prepared and stay informed during the current hurricane season by the Public Utility Commission.

"Every Texan should take time to create or review their severe weather plans and prepare their families and property for a potential storm," PUC Chairman Thomas Gleeson said.

Potential power outages and restoration times can be tracked through the PUC's storm resources webpage: puc.texas.gov/storm.

Hurricane season began June 1 and ends on Nov. 30.

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.

Ashby scores legislative achievements

The 89th Legislative Session has come and gone, and I could not be happier to return home to see my family, friends, and constituents across House District 9.

This legislative session was a grueling one, with hundreds of hours spent on the House floor, nearly 100 hours of total testimony in the Public Education Committee, and countless hours spent in meetings with constituents and stakeholders.

That said, I am proud of the achievements that were accomplished during this most recent session. This week, I will highlight some of my bills that passed through the Legislature, as well as some update you on some vital pieces of funding headed to Deep East Texas.

With that, here's an update from your State Capitol.

The bills I had passed include:

- House Bill 2000, or "Audrii's Law," requires felons convicted of Child Grooming to register as Sex Offenders. I was proud to author this piece of legislation in memory of Audrii Cunningham to ensure that predators, like the monster who took Audrii's life, cannot access legal loopholes to hide in the shadows and harm our children.

- House Bill 3010 creates the Rural County Infrastructure Disaster Recovery program to help our rural communities under 100,000 in population access state assistance following a natural disaster to repair or replace critical infrastructure such as roads, water systems, hospitals and schools.

- House Bill 4479/Senate Bill 2448 establishes the Rural Workforce Development Grant program to encourage non-profits in rural communities to improve workforce training and address skills gaps to help meet the rural workforce shortage.

- House Bill 3370 extends the deadline for the inheritor, or their agent, of timberland to file a late application for timber-



Capitol Update

By Trent Ashby
State Representative, District 9

at the Texas A&M Forest Service to provide coverage to certified and insured prescribed burn managers while conducting prescribed burns.

- House Bill 4945 requires the Teacher Retirement Service to study how wildland firefighters employed by the Texas A&M Forest Service can retire before the age of 65.

- House Bill 3630/Senate Bill 1948 prohibits any governmental entity in Texas from requiring sprinklers in livestock or poultry barns, grain facilities, or farm buildings.

- House Bill 1672 eliminates a redundancy of due process between the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Motor Vehicles to remove unsafe commercial vehicles from the road quickly and safely.

- House Bill 1663/Senate Bill 771 reinstates a tax rebate on diesel used to fuel auxiliary power units and power take-off equipment.

- House Bill 4646/Senate Bill 2476 gives control of the Woodlawn Water Supply Corporation to the Angelina Neches River Authority to improve water utility service to folks in Angelina County.

- House Bill 3751 transfers the former Texas Department of Transportation office in Woodville to the Department of Public Safety for a regional commercial vehicle enforcement

land appraisal without being subject to the penalty for a late application.

- House Bill 2563 establishes an insurance pool

location.

- House Concurrent Resolution 126 designates the City of Corrigan as the official Timber Products Capital of Texas.

New funding measures for House District 9 include:

- \$20 billion to the Texas Water Fund for a generational investment in water supply and infrastructure, 50 percent of which will go to repair damaged and dilapidated water systems.

- \$4 million to fund security and capacity upgrades at the Burke Mental Health Emergency Center in Lufkin.

- \$60 million to fund repairs at Lake Livingston Dam that came about as a result of the torrential rains we experienced in 2024.

As a final note, my column will return to its biweekly schedule during the interim. I look forward to sharing updates with you about the 1,200-plus bills passed this session.

The mobile office is still on the road this month, and our District Director looks forward to seeing you on the following dates, in the following locations: June 11 at the Polk County Commissioner's Court Room in Livingston from 9:30-11:30 a.m., or at the Tyler County Courthouse in Woodville from 1:30-3:30 p.m.; June 18 at the Houston County Courthouse Annex in Crockett from 9:30-11:30 a.m., or at the Trinity County Courthouse in Groveton from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

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

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

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ACROSS

1 home of Texas Sports Hall of Fame

5 former Ranger catcher Rodriguez

6 TXism: "slim and ____" (unlikely)

7 Corpus Christi AM

8 "Gone to Texas" meant "on the ____"

9 TXism: "missed it ____ country mile"

12 TXism: "____ graze" (eat)

17 TX Kenny Rogers group: "The First ____" (1967-76)

19 TXism: "honest as the day ____"

21 in Falls County on U.S. 77

22 actress Piper of "Carrie," starring TX Sissy Spacek

23 medical facility

28 San ____, TX

29 TXism: "I ____ that like a duck needs an umbrella"

30 Panola County was named for this Indian word for "cotton"

31 Texas Tech's "Dr. ____ Liu Lab"

35 self-proclaimed "guardian of liberty" org. (abbr.)

36 San Antonio community school: "Palo ____"

42 TXism: "twisters"

44 "hippo" or "aero" ending

46 pecan vendor? (2 wds.)

48 tavern disturbance (2 wds.)

49 TXism: "if I was ____ better I couldn't stand it"

50 TX H. L. Hunt produced ____ vera cosmetics

51 TXism: "rules the ____"

52 toward the rear of a boat

53 apple center

54 Gulf pleasure cruiser

56 "bear" south of the border

57 Comanche is from the ____ word for "enemy"

58 TXism: "caught ____ handed"

DOWN

1 Kermit is its seat (2 wds.)

2 guacamole fruit

3 perfect shootist? (2 wds.)

4 Fort Davis High class (2 wds.)

9 this Falk was a noted UT baseball coach (1946-67)

10 TXism: "gave ____ own medicine" (retaliated)

11 TXism: "a day late ____ a dollar short"

12 TX Kenny Rogers "____ I Can Make it on My Own"

13 TXism: "comfortable ____"

14 TXism: "she talked a ____ streak"

15 James F. Dobie was an expert on Texas folk ____

16 Oklahoma town

18 Texans like it iced

20 appliance maker

23 Texas country singer Charley (init.)

24 Yo ____ Digo Creek

25 always check ____ the Texas state park office

26 in Montague County on U.S. 82

27 TX feuds book: "I'll Die Before ____" (1962)

32 this Earl was UT Heisman winner & Oiler great RB (init.)

33 TXism: "don't ____ off half cocked"

34 Astro leg.

36 citrus drink ending

37 song: "Whatever ____ wants . . ."

38 George Washington wasn't a Texan cause he couldn't ____ lie

39 Astro goof

40 TXism: "loose as a ____"

41 send forth

43 TXism: "old ____ dirt"

45 ____ Paso, TX

47 sample again

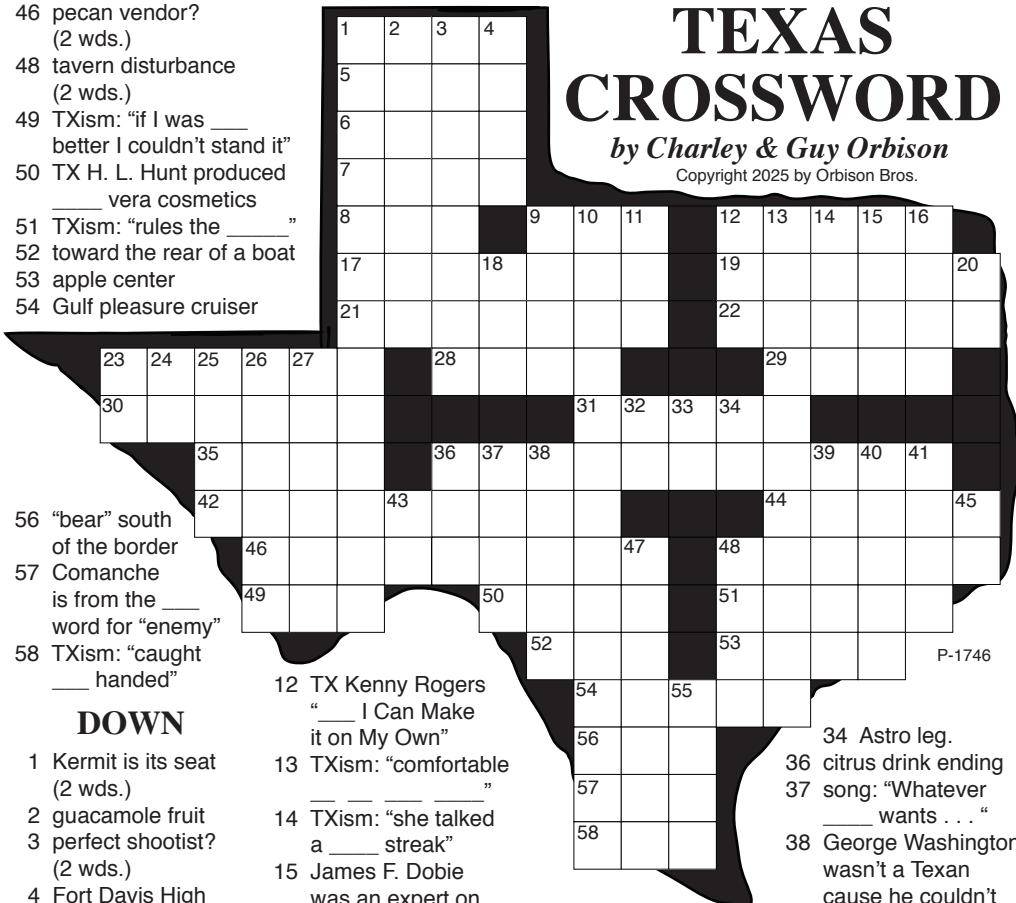
48 foot part

55 Tech or UT female

TEXAS CROSSWORD

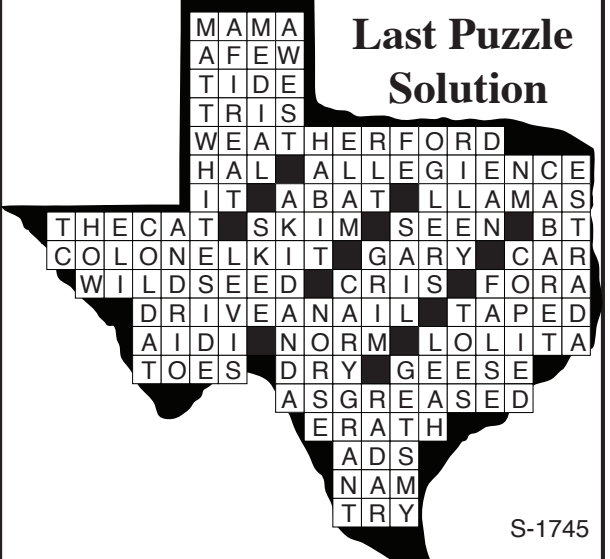
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‘Know Nothings’ challenge Democrat dominance

With Election Day just seven weeks away, the Texas branch of the American Party, better known as the “Know Nothings,” met on Jun. 11, 1855 to select a slate of candidates for statewide office.

In only three years, the grass-roots movement had evolved from a fraternal group in the Northeast called the Order of United Americans into a major political force. Combining secret passwords, handshakes and other mumbo jumbo with xenophobic politics, the new third party spread like wildfire across the Midwest and into the South.

Recruits were carefully screened and acquainted with the inner workings of the organization on a strict need-to-know basis. The Know Nothing nickname came from the refusal of members to discuss the party in public or even to acknowledge its existence.

The Know Nothings sought to shift the great debate of those tumultuous times from the polarizing issue of slavery to simplistic scapegoats – foreign immigrants and the Catholic Church. They demonstrated the power of their gut appeal in 1854 by electing nine governors and capturing 104 of the 234 seats in the United States House of Representatives.

Days after the Know Nothings revealed their Texas ticket in June 1855, Democrats responded with the “bombshell convention.” Support was reaffirmed for the second-term bid of Gov. Elisha Pease and a new running mate chosen to replace Lt. Gov. David Dickson, who had defected to the Know Nothings in order to run for governor.

Although the Democratic denunciation scared off a number of fair-weather converts, the Know Nothings pushed ahead with their zealous crusade. Far from demoralized, they counted on a famous ace in the hole to lead them to victory.

As a lame-duck U.S. Senator scorned by the Democratic



Know Nothings, I know nothing,” Houston added in a serious vein that he shared many of their views.

Though still politically immature, the Know Nothings offered The General not only a personal platform but also the possibility of a pro-Union party. If Houston played his cards right, he could crush his Democratic enemies at home while riding a wave of nationwide unrest into the White House.

Nine days before Texans went to the polls on Aug. 5, 1855, Senator Houston endorsed the Know Nothing challenge in an open letter to the voters. “I believe the salvation of the country is only to be secured by adherence to the principles of the American Order.”

This stunning statement from “The Hero of San Jacinto” made the difference in several close contests. Besides a congressional race, Know Nothings beat favored Democrats in 25 state legislative districts and took over city hall in Galveston and San Antonio.

In addition to Houston, an impressive array of Lone Star notables lent respect to the Know Nothing cause. Judge George W. Baylor, the legendary Indian fighter, served as the party’s “Grand President.” Thomas Jefferson Chambers, Rip Ford, Sterling Robertson and Hugh McLeod also played important parts in the maverick movement.

However, no sooner did the American Party yell in Texas

establishment, Sam Houston confirmed in January 1855 his much-rumored flirtation with the American Party. After joking, “Of the

than it started to come apart at the seams. Every malcontent with an ax to grind jumped on the Know Nothing bandwagon but inevitably jumped off, when his own personal agenda failed to be adopted as the official program.

Houston clearly was alarmed by the rampant religious prejudice in the party but weakly protested that the purpose of the Know Nothings was “not to put down the Catholics but to prevent Catholics from putting down Protestants.” His uncharacteristically clumsy attempt to minimize the bigotry only made the problem worse.

Other Know Nothings sang a more intolerant tune. A San Antonio newspaper editor asked rhetorically, “Hate popery? Who can help hating it? Religion hates it. Heaven hates it. It is a moral stench in the nostrils of every being who is good and pure.”

By 1856 internal bickering had paralyzed the party and started the Know Nothings’ slide into political oblivion. To Houston’s bitter disappointment, the presidential nomination went to Millard Fillmore, the last Whig to occupy the White House.

Lagging far behind Democrat James Buchanan and Republican John C. Fremont in the balloting that fall, the has-been Fillmore won only the state of Maryland. In the congressional elections, the Know Nothings lost over half their seats and relinquished the rest before the Civil War.

In the final analysis, the short life of the American Party proved that political parlor tricks could not long divert the attention of the nation from the inseparable issues of slavery and secession.

“Unforgettable Texans” brings to life the once famous people no one remembers today. Order your copy for \$24.00 by mailing a check to Bartee Haile, P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.

Patrick’s push to ban THC in Texas draws rare backlash from the right

It’s an unusual situation for the lieutenant governor, long viewed by GOP activists as a stalwart conservative responsible for driving the Legislature rightward.

By Alejandro Serrano
The Texas Tribune

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick was clear from the start. Weeks before this year’s legislative session began, and before he announced any other priorities, the Republican Senate leader said he wanted lawmakers to ban, at any cost, products that contain the psychoactive compound in weed. His target was the multibillion-dollar hemp industry that had sprouted up thanks to a loophole in a 2019 state law that legalized products providing a similar high to marijuana.

Patrick justified his conviction by contending that retailers had abused that loophole to sell products with dangerous amounts of tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC. He accused the retailers of preying on the state’s young people with shops posted near schools and marketing aimed at children.

“I couldn’t, in good conscience, leave here knowing if we don’t do something about it in the next two years — how many kids get sick?” Patrick said in March, talking about his willingness to force a special legislative session by blocking must-pass legislation from making it through the Texas Senate.

And ultimately, Patrick got his way — and an explosion of backlash.

As pressure mounts on the governor to veto a THC ban sent to his desk, Patrick finds himself in the unfamiliar position of taking flak from conservative activists and media personalities outside the Capitol, many of whom typically march in political lockstep with a man who has long been a darling of the right and done more than perhaps any other elected official to drive Texas rightward.

After spearheading the THC ban, Patrick has been accused by some on the right of creating a nanny state and giving Mexican drug cartels a business opportunity to fill demand in the black market. He has been labeled a booze lobby shill for beer distributors who stand to benefit. A hardline conservative state lawmaker who voted against the ban said it contradicted “the Texas mantra of being pro-business, pro-farmer and pro-veteran.”

A Patrick spokesperson did not respond to requests for comment.

“This is stupid,” Dana Loesch, the former National Rifle Association spokesperson who is now the host of a nationally syndicated conservative talk radio show, wrote on social media in response to Patrick’s argument that the ban would keep THC away from children. “It’s like the gun ban argument with a different variable. Kids aren’t buying it any more than any other controlled product (alcohol, cigarettes, et al) and if they are, do your job as a parent and parent instead of idiotically expanding government.”

Before the blowback erupted from inside his house, Patrick courted Republicans in both chambers of the Legislature to pass Senate Bill 3. The law bans products containing THC — and would eradicate the state’s \$8 billion hemp industry and its estimated 50,000 jobs if it survives Gov. Greg Abbott’s veto pen and expected legal challenges.

Abbott, whose office has been inundated with calls to veto SB 3, has not revealed his intentions for the proposed law. The governor could sign SB 3 into law, veto it or do nothing and let it become law without his signature.

Proponents of the ban have argued it is needed to rein in a wild west industry that’s selling products with dangerously high levels of THC and without proper oversight. Patrick has argued it would be unrealistic to regulate the industry under tighter guardrails — as hemp business leaders and others proposed



Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick speaks about Senate Bill 3 during a press conference in the Texas Capitol on May 28, 2025. Patrick, flanked by state lawmakers, argued the bill’s ban on THC products would be a service to Texans, saving their lives. Lorianne Willett | The Texas Tribune

— because doing so would require an impossible amount of manpower.

Lawmakers also passed a bill to expand the state’s medical marijuana program by offering more products and adding more qualifying conditions, an olive branch extension to vets and THC users with chronic conditions who opposed the retail ban.

Patrick said the medical expansion “will help those in true need of relief.” But he and his allies have remained steadfast behind the THC ban, even amid pushback from the right.

“Retailers across Texas have exploited a state agriculture law to sell life-threatening, unregulated forms of tetrahydrocannabinol to Texans,” said Sen. Charles Perry, the Lubbock Republican who carried SB 3, when the upper chamber approved the bill. “These rogue retailers are selling THC products containing several times more THC content than marijuana purchased from a drug dealer off the street. These dangerous products must not be allowed to permeate our communities and endanger Texas children.”

Criticism on the right has come from veterans who say they use the products as alternatives to opioid painkillers to help with a variety of ails, industry leaders who say the Republican-controlled state is turning its back on small businesses, and conservative politicians who have no shortage of arrows they have been aiming at Patrick.

“What lives were destroyed by low grade THC shops, Dan? Can you name one?” Kenny Webster, a Houston conservative talk radio host, posted on social media. “Just one. Go ahead.”

Some recent scrutiny was driven by a news conference Patrick called to push back on criticism of the ban, even after it had already cleared both chambers and was on its way to Abbott’s desk. Flanked by senators and law enforcement officials, Patrick stood in front of a variety of THC products laid out on a table and made his case.

The lieutenant governor said he wanted to encourage the news media to write about the dangers of THC. He also said he had “total confidence in the governor. ... I’m not worried about the governor understanding it. I’m worried about you all understanding it.”

At one point Patrick lobbed a bag of edibles at a reporter. He later asked another reporter if he was “crazy” for inquiring about the move to limit adults’ access to the products. “If he was trying to make a case for a THC

ban, I can’t think of a more bizarre and counterproductive spectacle than yesterday’s press conference,” said Rolando Garcia, a member of the State Republican Executive Committee who routinely criticizes GOP lawmakers for perceived breaches of conservative orthodoxy. “We have a mad king surrounded by courtiers and yes men afraid to tell him he’s making a fool of himself.”

Some opponents of the total ban have vowed retribution against Patrick, who is running for reelection in 2026 armed with an endorsement from President Donald Trump and more than \$33 million in his campaign coffers. Those factors — and Patrick’s long history of promoting policies that most primary voters see as higher priorities than preserving THC access — mean it is unlikely the blowback will cost Patrick much, according to political observers.

“It’s hard to imagine given Patrick’s position and where he is now that somehow this is going to be in and of itself the source of some fundamental political threat,” said Jim Henson, director of the Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas at Austin. “Honestly I think we’re not used to seeing Dan Patrick criticized very much from within his own party and so it’s really sticking out, and that’s fair.”

Meanwhile, another member of the SREC, Morgan Eakin, on social media questioned Patrick’s conservative bona fides by pointing to when Patrick came under fire from his own party over gun rights.

As the Legislature in 2021 contemplated letting most Texans carry a handgun without a license or training, Patrick at first said the Senate did not have the votes to pass the measure.

Lawmakers ultimately passed the bill, often referred to by Republicans as constitutional carry because of their belief that it is an American’s constitutional right to pack heat without involving the government.

“We have to ask ourselves how so many were gaslit into believing the Senate and Dan Patrick were consistently more in line with basic constitutional principles and that [former House Speaker Dade Phelan] and the House were unequivocally liberal,” Eakin wrote.

Phelan, a Beaumont Republican who clashed with Patrick during his time as speaker, weighed in on SB 3 Monday, writing on social media that “Texans do not want a total ban.”

“They do want a reasonable, regulated hemp market free of dangerous products — especially those advertised and sold to minors,” wrote Phelan, who ultimately voted for SB 3 but earlier opposed an amendment that changed it from a regulatory bill to a full-on ban. “The gas station garbage must go while Texans enjoy the freedom they expect from conservative governance.”

Despite the blowback, Patrick remains a champion of conservative policies and key player in GOP victories. This session alone, state lawmakers passed stiffer bail laws, required that most sheriffs work with federal immigration authorities and approved measures allowing time for prayer in public schools and requiring classrooms to display the Ten Commandments.

Patrick has rarely taken much heat from his own party. One notable instance was also related to guns after a pair of mass shootings. In 2019, a gunman wanting to quell an “invasion” of Hispanic immigrants went to a Walmart in El Paso, where he opened fire and murdered 23 people and wounded 22 others. Shortly after that attack, a gunman terrorized Midland and Odessa with a shooting spree that resulted in the deaths of eight people.

Patrick said it was high time the state required background checks on gun sales between strangers.

“Someone in the Republican Party has to take the lead on this,” he said at the time, adding that he was “willing to take an arrow” for the stance.

The backlash, once again, was swift. His conservatism was called into question and some on the right even painted him as a bigger threat to guns than Democrat Beto O’Rourke, who had infamously said during a presidential debate the same year, “Hell yes, we are going to take your AR-15.”

Patrick withstood the pushback. And lawmakers never approved legislation he called for regulating private stranger-to-stranger gun sales. Since allowing permitless carry in 2021, lawmakers have expanded access to firearms, including with a bill this year to legalize sawed-off shotguns, among other victories for gun rights advocates.

The lack of fallout from Patrick’s push to regulate private gun sales may offer a clue about how the SB 3 situation will shake out. Patrick received 77% of the 2022 GOP primary vote against only token opposition, and he was easily reelected in November.

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Announcements

THE PROMISED Land Thrifty Resale, located at 12379 Hwy 190 E, Woodville, Dam B. Antiques and just about everything else. Proceeds benefit the Restorative Justice Ministry Family Service Center and its components.
(7-tfn-nc-TCB)

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(35-tfn-nc-PCE)

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Public Notices

Estate of Richard Marion Coker

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RICHARD MARION COKER, Deceased, were issued on June 4, 2025, in Cause No. PR-10174, pending in the County Court of TYLER County, Texas, to: RICHARD A. COKER. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney at Law, 130 South Charlton Street, WOODVILLE, TX 77664, DATED the 4 day of June. 2025. B BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney for RICHARD A. COKER State Bar No.: 24087471. 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664 Telephone: (409) 283-8288 Facsimile: (409) 283-8078 Email: brad@elrodlawtx.com.

Estate of Bobbie Jean Gregory

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BOBBIE JEAN GREGORY, Deceased, were issued on June 4, 2025, in Cause No.PR-10172, pending in the County Court of TYLER County, Texas, to: RHONDA DONECE GREGORY. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney at Law, 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664, DATED the 4 day of June. 2025. Be Eal BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney for RHONDA DONECE GREGORY State Bar No.: 24087471, 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664 Telephone: (409) 283-8288 Facsimile.

Hatch's Towing: Homemade boat trailer

Hatch's Towing, L.L.C (VSF# 006601409C) has the following HOMEMADE BOAT TRAILER. LOCATED AT 1426 EAST GIBSON ST JASPER TEXAS 75951. NO VIN OR LICENSE PLATE AVAILABLE. The Charges per day in storage are \$22.76 per day plus the original Tow bill. Please contact us at 409-622-9100 for more info.

Estate of Bobby Wayne Fussell

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BOBBY WAYNE FUSSELL, Deceased, were issued on June 4, 2025 in Cause No. PR-10173, pending in the County Court of Tyler County, Texas, to: CAROL JEANINE FUSSELL. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned with- in the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: J. MICHAEL RISINGER 314 S. Magnolia, Woodville, Texas 75979. DATED the 4th day of June, 2025. J. MICHAEL RISINGER Attorney for CAROL JEANINE FUSSELL State Bar No.: 24000483, 314 S. Magnolia, Woodville, Texas 75979, Telephone: (409) 283-2324, Facsimile: (409) 283-8244.

Hatch's Towing: Electric scooter

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Estate of Steven Glen Taylor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of STEVEN GLEN TAYLOR, Deceased, were issued on June 4, 2025, in Cause No. PR-10177, pending in the County Court of TYLER County, Texas, to: SARA BEHRENS JONES. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney at Law, 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664. DATED the 4 day of June, 2025. Bell BRAD ELROD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC Attorney for SARA BEHRENS JONES State Bar No.: 24087471. 130 South Charlton Street WOODVILLE, TX 77664 Telephone: (409) 283-8288 Facsimile.

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331 County Road 3240 Serene 6.8-acre wooded paradise nestled in the heart of Colmesneil. Surrounded by mature pine, hardwood, and magnolia trees, this property offers the perfect blend of privacy and natural beauty. The charming 1-bedroom, 2-bath home features an open-concept family room and kitchen w/vaulted ceiling, picturesque windows, and stunning views of the rolling terrain. Enjoy peaceful mornings and vibrant sunsets from the large front or back porch while watching abundant wildlife roam freely. Additional features include a 20x30 garage w/electricity, a 20x20 shop w/electric and water, a 20x25 carport, a Private water well, County road frontage for easy access, A scenic branch running along the back of the property and Beautiful trails perfect for hiking, birdwatching, or simply enjoying nature. This unrestricted land offers endless possibilities—whether you're looking for a peaceful homestead, a weekend getaway, or a recreational haven. A rare opportunity to own a piece of East Texas beauty! **\$329,000**

WOODVILLE



2163 County Road 3550 Welcome to your private retreat in the countryside! This beautifully maintained 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home sits on 6.9 unrestricted acres with county road frontage. Built in 2009 and thoughtfully designed, the home features 1,908 SF of living space with w/charming Chicago brick accents on the front and a cozy wood-burning fireplace in the living room. Enjoy peaceful mornings on the expansive 64x16 covered back porch — ideal for entertaining or relaxing while watching the wildlife. The open-concept kitchen flows into the dining area and boasts a pantry for ample storage. The primary suite is a true retreat, offering double walk-in closets, a soaking tub, and a separate shower. Guests will enjoy a comfortable split floor plan, with the secondary bedrooms sharing a full bath with a double vanity. This property is as functional as it is beautiful, featuring a Generac generator, aerobic septic system, water well, detached 3-car garage, and a separate storage building. Measurements approx. **\$425,000**

WOODVILLE



345 County Road 2565 Discover peace and privacy on this stunning 62.48-acre property featuring a beautifully designed 3BD, 2.1BA brick home. With 1,664 SF of thoughtfully planned living space, this home blends comfort, style, and functionality. Step inside to an open-concept layout w/wood and ceramic tile flooring, vaulted ceiling, and picturesque windows. The spacious living area boasts a WBFP, while the gourmet kitchen features granite countertops, a breakfast bar w/island and ample storage. The split floor plan includes a luxurious primary suite complete with a huge walk-in shower, oversized closet, and double vanity. Enjoy morning coffee in the bay-windowed dining room or relax on the large back porch overlooking your private paradise. Outdoors, you'll find a mix of pasture, timber and a spring-fed creek. The land is ideal for livestock, recreation, or simply enjoying the beauty of East Texas nature. The property also includes a 2,400 SF 2-bay workshop and a separate storage building w/electricity. **\$780,000**

COLMESNEIL



4647 Recreational Road 255 Dreaming of wide open spaces, rolling terrain and stunning hilltop views? This 10-Acre gem has it all! A beautifully improved property featuring a charming 2 bed, 2 bath barndominium home with a split floor plan. Spacious open-concept living/dining area, and a gourmet galley kitchen boasting a 6-burner gas cooktop, double ovens, and breakfast bar—perfect for entertaining. Step outside onto the large covered porches and soak in the scenery. Enjoy the convenience of a 3-car attached carport, a large barn/workshop, along with multiple outbuildings and livestock/equipment canopies. Just 17 miles from Lake Sam Rayburn Dam with endless nearby recreational opportunities. A lovely blend of comfort, functionality, and natural beauty—don't miss this one! **\$399,000**

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232 County Road 3255 Nestled on 5 tranquil acres, this inviting 2-bedroom, 1-bath log cabin offers the perfect mix of rustic charm and everyday comfort. A versatile loft space provides endless possibilities—ideal for the second bedroom, guests, a home office or a creative studio. Step outside and discover a property built for both relaxation and productivity. A standout feature is the 3,500 SF workshop, set on a solid concrete slab and equipped with four roll-up doors, electricity, and even a half bath—perfect for hobbies, storage, or a home-based business. You'll also appreciate the 2-car detached carport on slab and a fully-equipped RV hookup with sewer and water, ready for travel enthusiasts. Enjoy excellent accessibility with road frontage access, all while maintaining the peace and quiet of country life. Located near Lake Tejas for summer fun and within a short drive to Sam Rayburn and Steinhagen Lakes, weekend adventures and world-class fishing are always close by. Measurements approximate. **\$349,000**

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