

Rains County Leader

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EMORY, TEXAS – THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022

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Leader photo by TREY HILL

For many residents that live around Lake Fork, the water-front view of the lake has seemingly evaporated as the lake's shoreline has retreated.

Where has all the water gone?

By LAUREN WITHROW-EDGAR
Rains County Leader contributor

Driving by Lake Fork, passersby can easily tell that the water level appears much lower than it has in recent years. Lake Fork sits at 403 feet when it's at full pool. As of Wednesday, January 12, it measures at 396.88 feet, 6.12 feet below full pool.

According to a press release provided on December 10, 2021, by the Sabine River Authority (SRA) which oversees the lake and its dam, "Engineers recommend that the Sabine River Authority of Texas, Lake Fork Division, make minor repairs to the soil cement along the Lake Fork Dam, some of which are currently located underwater. Recent wave action dislodged numerous small sections of the soil cement along the upstream side of the embankment, which protects the earthen portion of the dam.

"To facilitate these superficial and routine repairs, a drawdown of the reservoir will begin Monday, December 13 to a target elevation of 397' msl. The current schedule is to have the work completed and the lake trending back up by the end of January 2022, but the rate of rise will depend on the progress of work, rainfall, and inflow from upstream tributaries."

Crews continue to be seen working to finish the cement work needed. SRA Upper Regional Manager Troy Henry told the Rains County Leader that the work has been going on for a few weeks and next week, underwater mapping by sonar will be done to help de-

termine how repairs are coming along and if there are any additional areas needing attention. He explained that the lake was at three feet below full pool when needed repairs were able to be seen SRA employees. He stated that those areas had developed over time, they were not necessarily caused by any singular weather or such event.

Henry said that what makes this year different, is that the lake's water level had to be lowered by three more feet to allow for repairs which included drilling into soil cement, hammering in rebar vertically, then tying rebar horizontally, as well as laying more soil cement. The first loads of soil cement began arriving on Monday, January 10, to the dam repair site.

The SRA, in its press release, suggests owners with property in and around the lake

"inspect and make necessary repairs to boathouses, piers, retaining walls, and related structures."

Property owners are required to fill out an application and received approval from SRA before such repairs and construction. Those seeking an application can contact the SRA Lake Fork Division Office at 903-878-2262.

The projected end-of-January completion date will be just in time for the Major League Fishing (MLF) Bass Pro Tour 2022 to make its second stop of the season at Lake Fork from February 19-24.

Henry, who oversees Lake Tawakoni operations as well as Lake Fork for the SRA, describes the repairs on Lake Fork as "important work that we want to ensure is done properly and completely."



Leader photo by TREY HILL

Construction crews and equipment could be seen working atop the the earthen dam at Lake Fork on Tuesday afternoon.

SPOTLIGHT

Denice West and Carla Weddle thrive as new owners of Y'all Come Back Café

By LAUREN WITHROW-EDGAR
Rains County Leader contributor

Hometown ladies, Denice West and Carla Weddle, partnered up and bought the Y'all Come Back Café, in August 2021, a few months after the previous owner died from a car accident. Weddle had talked to her husband about buying the café located at 569 W. Lennon, but was a little hesitant because she had no experience running a restaurant. Then, West, a family friend who already owns Wild West BBQ, offered to be her partner and help her learn how to manage the business. Although they are still pretty new at it, they are busy and have many loyal customers who come in as often as twice a day to get "down-home

food."

"Getting started was not very hard," said West. "It was already a functioning restaurant and we just had to transfer everything over to us. The café is at least 50 years old and used to be called Buck's Burger Barn."

According to an ad in the March 3, 1978 edition of the Rains County Leader, the cafe was moved to its new location and was called Bell's Cafe.

"We have a lot of working guys dropping in for breakfast and lunch, so we offer a blue-collar menu with all-day breakfast and things like hamburgers, meatloaf, chicken fried steak and pie, plus lunch and breakfast specials," said Weddle. "We will proba-

see SPOTLIGHT on page 2



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Carla Weddle (left) and Denice West, the new proprietors of Y'all Come Back Café

RAINS ISD

Increase in illnesses forces closures

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

Rains ISD announced in a press release on Wednesday, January 12, that the district will be closed through Tuesday, January 18.

"At this time, we are not able to safely staff campuses, including transportation and other district programs," Superintendent Jennifer Johnson stated in the release. "The combination of a review of attendance, the rising number of illnesses, and the consultation with medical professionals helped make the decision."

A later post on social media stated that all sub-varsity and junior high athletic events are canceled, but varsity games scheduled for Friday, January 14, will begin at 6:00 p.m. with varsity girls followed by varsity boys.

The release stated that rapid testing at the school will be suspended while the district is closed.

If a child needs to be tested, parents should consult a physician. Positive results should be reported to Trinity Edwards at edwards-tr@rainsisd.org or by calling 903-473-2222 ext. 2154.

"It is our hope that this time away will also allow those that are sick time to heal and minimize the spread," Johnson stated. "We are truly sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. We are doing our best to keep everyone safe and healthy."

If parents have any questions, please contact the school at 903-473-2222.

RAINS ISD

Trustees recognized by district, hear school progress

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The members of the Rains ISD Board of Directors were recognized for School Board Recognition Month in Texas and heard updates during the regular meeting on Monday, January 10.

The meeting began with a public hearing on the Texas Academic Performance Report for Rains ISD. Director of Federal Programs Holly Wasson stated that the report was being considered incomplete due to difficulty experienced by school districts throughout the state, but the data obtained pointed to continued improvement at Rains.

The Wildcat Roar featured a video of activities at Rains High School as well as a "Thank You" to the school board. Rains ISD Athletic Director Charlie Coker updated the board on the completion of fall sports and updates on winter sports.

The RISD's Return to School Guidance was presented for its annual review to the trustees. They were informed that an update was pending from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) concerning a reduction in the amount of time staff are required to stay off campus due to illness, but was not available in time for the review. No action was needed by the board on the item.

Superintendent Jennifer Johnson updated the board on district activities including the completion of the installation of the fuel tanks and pumps in the transportation area, resurfacing of the track at Wildcat Stadium

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City Girl:
Kindness, pt. 2
page 3

Sheriff
Report
page 4

Wildcat
Sports
page 8

Rain Report

Sat., Jan. 8	0.06 in
Total for Jan.	0.07 in
Year to date	0.07 in

Community outreach & organizations

- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**
Emory - Tues. & Thurs. 7:00-8:00 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 12:00-1:00 p.m., open meetings. Emory United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. For info call 903-243-6766 or 903-439-7573
- AL-ANON** - Thurs., 7:00 p.m., Crossroads Al-anon Group, 103 N. Houston St., Edgewood, 903-896-7270
- AMERICAN LEGION POST 156, Rabb Bro. Mem. Rains Co.** - 4th Mon., 7:00 p.m., 215 N. Duffy St., Emory, 903-438-6045. Buffet breakfast - 2nd Saturday 7:00-10:00 a.m.
- ARBALA DANCE** - Tues., 7:00 - 9:30 p.m., Arbala Community Center
- CUB SCOUTS** - 1st, 2nd, 4th Sunday, Masonic lodge 4:30 p.m. Email haywirewoman@gmail.com.
- CELEBRATE RECOVERY** - every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Emory Baptist Church
- EAST TAWAKONI SENIOR CITIZEN GAME DAY** - every Wednesday, 9:00 a.m., 255 Oakleaf Trail.
- EMORY LIONS CLUB** - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 12:00 p.m. Sidekicks in Emory. Call for information 903-473-2311
- FOOD BANK AT FREEDOM CHURCH OF GOD** - 3rd Fri., 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., 10830 FM 514, Emory. 903-473-2457
- FRIENDS OF RAINS CO. PUBLIC LIBRARY** - 3rd Thurs., 1:00 p.m., Meadows Cultural Center, Rains County Public Library
- LAKE COUNTRY NEIGHBORS** - 1st Thurs., 11:30 a.m., www.lakecountryneighbors.com
- LAKE FORK BAPTIST CHURCH FOOD PANTRY** - 2nd Tues., 1-4 p.m. 9483 W. FM 515, Alba
- LAKE FORK CHAPTER OF THE WELL ARMED WOMAN** - first Thursday, 4-7 p.m. at Winnsboro Gun Club, Winnsboro TX. Sue Parrish 903-473-9819
- LIBRARIES** - Point -call 903-474-0471 for information. **East Tawakoni** - Wednesdays, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- MARS HILL MASONIC LODGE**
#1440 - 4th Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Lodge on Hwy. 69
- NORTHEAST TEXAS DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE** - 4th Thurs., 6:00-7:30 p.m., Rose Community Center
- PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD OF RAINS COUNTY** - 3rd Mon., 7:00 p.m., AgriLife Extension and Conference Center
- POINT LADIES CIVIC CLUB** - 1st Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Point Community Center, 903-269-8446
- RAINS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**
2nd Sat. of each month 9:00 a.m. Emory Volunteer Fire Dept.,
- RAINS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** - 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m. Visitor's Center, 903-473-3913
- RAINS GARDEN CLUB** - 2nd Mon., 11:00 a.m., Sept.-May Scarbrough Haven, Email TheRainsGardenClub@gmail.com
- RAINS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY** - 3rd Mon., 6:00 p.m., Emory Development Corp.
- RAINS COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD** - 4th Mon., 5:30 p.m., Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Meadows Cultural Center, Rains County Public Library
- RAINS COUNTY GOOD SAMARITANS** - Board meeting canceled, Food Pantry open 1:00-4:00 p.m. Mon. & Thurs., 2nd Sat. 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- RAINS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY** - Mon., Wed., Fri., 9:00 a.m.-noon. 140 W. Quilman St. 903-473-6277
- STITCH AND LEARN QUILTING CLUB** - Thurs., 9:00 a.m.-noon, 903-598-3021 Emory Methodist Church
- WOMEN'S SERVICE CLUB** - 2nd Mon., 6:00 p.m., Rose Community Center
- WOMEN IN NEED, INC.** - A Battered Women's Shelter. Call 903-455-4612 or 903-454-HELP

NEWS BRIEFS

Good Sam Clothes/ Thrift Shop Sales

The Rains County Good Samaritan Clothes Shop will be open Monday-Thursday in the building behind the public library on Hwy. 69 in Emory. Hours are 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., closed noon-1:00 for lunch. Thrift sales will be Saturdays in December, except December 25 it will be closed. Funds go to buy food for the needy and to operate the center. The sale includes clothes for all ages and

sizes. There is new stock every week.

Am. Legion Dinner Sat., Jan. 22

Rabb Brothers Memorial American Legion Post #156 will offer a Soup Dinner with several soups, salads and breads on Saturday, January 22, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Post home at 215 N. Duffy St. in Emory. Payment is by donation, which goes towards the upkeep of the home and for veterans' projects.

TRUSTEES

Continued from page 1

and the expectation of looking for bids on the replacement of the air conditioning system at the Rains Junior High buildings. The board of trustees entered into closed session for the purpose of discussing the evaluation of the Rains ISD Superintendent. After about an hour of deliberation, they returned to open session to accept the evaluation as presented and

place an item on the agenda in February to consider renewing the superintendent's contract.

All trustees were present for the regular meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Rains ISD Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, February 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the boardroom for the Rains ISD Administration Building.

SPOTLIGHT

Continued from page 1

bly make some cosmetic changes in the future, but most things are the same as they have been such as the Table of Knowledge where men sit and talk about any and everything while they drink coffee and sometimes eat."

West grew up in Princeton, and lived there after getting married and while working at a warehouse in Plano. Then, in 2002, she and her husband decided to move to Emory, away from city life, to raise their first daughter. West now has two daughters, and has accrued 18 years in the restaurant business. In addition to her management of Y'all Come Back Café, she also works four nights at Wild West BBQ.

West likes to travel in the U.S. and has fun riding ATVs with her husband in the mountainous areas of Colorado and Arkansas. They visit friends' cabins there about two times a year.

Weddle lived in Emory from the time she was four years old, but when she graduated from high school she left and thought she was never coming back. However, she returned in 1988 because she "wanted to come

home." She taught third, fourth and fifth grade math for 30 years, and is now becoming proficient in the food business. She has five children and 14 grandchildren who often come into the café to visit and eat.

Weddle is active in her Believers Church and enjoys hobbies of Geocache (treasure hunting using GPS) and traveling, many times out of the country.

The two café owners have been friends for many years, mostly through their husbands who work together. West also lives on the same street as Weddle's mother.

When asked if they saw their café ownership as a long-term goal, they said that they would run it until they had to stop. They referred back to the time when COVID caused the café to shut down, but the previous owner put picnic tables outside so the regulars could still have a place to sit and talk.

West said that both of her restaurants are new and there is a period of adjustment. She said that they may not become millionaires, but were holding their own.

Chamber welcomes ...



Contributed photo
Sister Tribe celebrates with a ribbon cutting. Celebrating the occasion was Vincent Collins, Charline Bucher, Mona Collins, Terry Vicker, Lottie Boll and Mason Boll.

Watch Out for Tax Scammers

Sadly, identity theft happens throughout the year - but some identity thieves are particularly active during tax-filing season. How can you protect yourself?



BRANDON ROBERTS
Edward Jones
Financial Advisor

For starters, be suspicious of any phone calls, texts or emails claiming to be from the Internal Revenue Service. Scammers send these messages out looking for your personal information. If the IRS wants to contact you, it will typically send a letter.

You'll also need to watch out for fraudulent tax preparers. They might reveal themselves by asking you to sign a blank

return or promising you a big refund without even seeing your information. If you don't already have a preparer, ask friends or relatives for recommendations.

Finally, be alert for scammers filing tax returns in your name. To do so, they need your name, birth date and Social Security number, so keep this information as private as you can, especially on social media.

It's unfortunate that identity theft exists, but by taking the proper precautions, you can help insulate yourself from this threat - even when tax season is over.

This content was provided by Edward Jones for use by Brandon Roberts, your Edward Jones financial advisor in Emory at 903-473-1592.

Bridge dedication ceremony set for Saturday

On Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 12:00 p.m., the landmark two-mile bridge will be officially dedicated to Staff Sgt. Shawn Henry McNabb in honor of the United States soldier whose life was lost in Afghanistan.

The four lane Bridge runs on Highway 276, east of West Tawakoni. The dedication will take place in a park at the east end of the bridge in East Tawakoni (weather permitting). There will be dignitaries and speakers honoring the young man and his accomplishments. In case of rain, the dedication will be moved to Greater Vision Church located nearby. (1952 east Highway 276, West Tawakoni) Watch for the flags that will designate the location.

Shawn McNabb, 24, was killed on October 26, 2009, when the helicopter in which he was aboard went down in Afghanistan while on a mission as a 160th Special Operations Air Regiment (SOAR) "Night Stalker" Medic. Shawn attended school in Terrell and joined the Army after graduating.

Shawn was the son of David McNabb, a retired Greenville Firefighter/Paramedic and retired lieutenant for the Fire

Dept. Currently, he is a Hunt County Justice of Peace. Shawn's mother, Ann McNabb, is a Staff BSN at Texas Health in Rockwall and sister, Heather McNabb, is a BSN surgical nurse at Methodist Hospital in Dallas. The entire McNabb family chose to go into the medical field as a service to us all. The Gold Star Family resides in Poetry in south Hunt County.

The McNabb family has credited State Senator Bob Hall, State Representative Bryan Slaton, and Representative Cole Hefner for their hard work getting this passed in Legislature. As well as Retired Greenville Firefighter Fred Worley who presented this request to Senator Hall, Representative Slaton and Representative Hefner.

Bring your lawn chairs and please come help us honor this hero who made the ultimate sacrifice for you, me and our families. As you are crossing the bridge once the sign is uncovered think of this young man who had so much of his life ahead of him and the Gold Star Family and the sacrifices they have made for us.

GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

- EAST TAWAKONI CITY COUNCIL**
3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m., East Tawakoni City Hall
- EMORY CITY COUNCIL**
3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m., Emory City Hall
- POINT CITY COUNCIL**
1st and 3rd Tues., 6:45 p.m., Point City Hall
- RAINS COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**
3rd Thurs. of every month, Rains Tax Office at 12:00 p.m.
- RAINS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT**
2nd & 4th Thurs., 10:00 a.m., Rains County Courthouse
- RAINS ISD SCHOOL BOARD**
2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Rains ISD Board Room
- RAINS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1**
3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Emory Fire Station
- RAINS COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE:**
Mon., Tues. and Thurs., 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., 110 E. North St.
- TRANSPORTATION:**
To schedule a ride Call 903-474-7231
- RAINS COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE**
Open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-4 p.m. 903-473-5099 or 5098

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SUDOKU

The aim of Sudoku is to complete the entire grid using the numbers 1-9. Each number can only be used once in each row, once in each column, and once in each of the 3x3 boxes. Visit www.sudokuoftheday.com for further tips and help about how to play - and good luck!

		3						1
1		7						5 4
	2			9			3	
					4			
		2 5 6						
	3							8
	7	1			6			
2 6				7				9
9				8				

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Drive Thru: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. • Sat. 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

ARE YOU READY?

Presentation on Awareness & Preparedness

Saturday, January 22 @ 2:00 p.m.

We discovered last winter that something as simple as a snow storm can cause electrical grid problems. This can drastically impact our daily lives and safety.

We invite the public to join us as we explore the possible problems and solutions to issues such as electrical grid down, social unrest, economic collapse, etc.

RSVP appreciated, but not required:
tcplus@mail.com

Hosted by:
Free Bridge Baptist Church
8794 State Hwy 276, Point, TX

MEMBER 2022

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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H.W. Martin - 1887
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W.O. Heblsen - Before 1900
A.S. Hornbeck - Before 1900
J.H. Bradford - 1901-1904

Tom W. Hill - 1904-1937
Earl Hill, Sr. - 1937-1960
Kathleen Hill Becknell - 1962-1995
Earl Hill, Jr. - 1995-2019

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

Emergency SNAP benefits again extended

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is again extending emergency food benefits this month, with more than \$307 million in emergency allocations expected to help more than 1.5 million Texas households.

"As Texans ring in the new year, this additional support will help families start 2022 with food on the table for themselves and their children," said Wayne Salter, HHSC deputy executive commissioner.

The agency received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to extend the maximum allowable amount of benefits provided through the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. That means recipients will receive at least \$95 in emergency SNAP allotments by Jan. 31, in addition to their regular allotment.

Texans in need can apply for benefits at YourTexasBenefits.com.

Former Houston NFL player pleads guilty to fraud

A former linebacker for the Houston Texans has pleaded guilty to taking part in a scheme to defraud a player health care reimbursement fund by submitting false claims totaling more than \$129,000.

Shantee Orr is one of eight former NFL players accused in a case led by Texas Department of Insurance investigators working with prosecutors from the Harris County District Attorney's office.

"Those claims were for rehab therapies and medical treatments that were never actually provided," TDI prosecutor Rick Watson said. "The players and the trainer would each get a cut of the money that was reimbursed by the fund."

Orr pleaded guilty to a third-degree felony, paid restitution and will serve five years' probation.

Insurance companies line up to sue ERCOT

As the one-year anniversary of the winter storm that left millions without power approaches, more than 100 insurance companies are suing the state's main power grid operator and a number of electricity providers, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Defendants are the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, as well as companies that supply power through ERCOT. The power failure caused more than \$10 billion in property damage, primarily to residences.

The suit claims ERCOT "failed to adequately prepare for the 2020-2021 winter season, and in fact, planned to fail," noting that the agency had projected the state would end up in the highest state of emergency in the event of an extreme weather event, the Statesman reported.

ERCOT controls nearly all the state's power grid.

Abbott sues feds over vaccine mandate for Guard

Gov. Greg Abbott last week announced he will sue the federal government to fight a COVID-19

vaccine requirement for members of the Texas National Guard.

In a letter released last week, Abbott prohibited the Texas National Guard from punishing any service member who does not receive the vaccine.

"Unless President Biden federalizes the Texas National Guard in accordance with Title 10 of the U.S. Code, he is not your commander-in-chief under our federal or state Constitutions," Abbott wrote. "And as long as I am your commander-in-chief, I will not tolerate efforts to compel receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine."

The Biden administration maintains the secretary of defense has the legal power to require vaccines. In a mid-November press conference, Pentagon press secretary John F. Kirby said, in part, "When (guardsmen are) called up for their monthly training, they're still federally funded. So (the secretary) has those authorities. And he believes, and this is a larger point, that vaccinated forces are a more ready force."

COVID-19 cases more than triple in past week

The omicron variant of COVID-19 has sent cases skyrocketing throughout the state, with a record-high 413,994 new cases reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week - nearly four times the number reported the previous week.

A total of 717 new deaths were reported, up 70 percent from the previous week.

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 9,803 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations as of Sunday, an increase of 77 percent from the previous week. Just a month ago, hospitalizations had dropped below 3,000, according to DSHS. The number of new cases this past week is more than ten times the total reported a month ago.

Second round of vaccine funding begins

A second round of funding for the state's COVID-19 vaccine outreach program has begun. Organizations can apply for grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$1 million "to engage in vaccine education and outreach with the goal of increasing the number of fully vaccinated Texans against COVID-19."

Money will be awarded for projects that increase access to COVID-19 vaccines or provide outreach to populations disproportionately affected by the virus.

"As with the first round of funding, DSHS is confident that community-based organizations are perfectly positioned to offer local support for those who seek access for and information about COVID-19 vaccine services," said Imelda Garcia, DSHS associate commissioner for laboratory and infectious disease services.

To learn more about the program, go to: https://health.tamu.edu/vaccinegrant/round-2.html

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 and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

CITY GIRL

Kindness, Part 2

Several weeks ago I wrote a column about a friend who had been on the receiving end of a very unkind attitude and some very unkind words. These words came from an erroneous assumption based on her appearance after surgery and extensive chemo and radiation treatments. I ended that column with a quote from the friend's Facebook post:

"I say all this to say, be kind. You have no right judge someone based on appearance alone. We are ALL fighting battles you may never know about. Because trust me, a smile hides a lot."

Judging seems to have become a national pastime in our culture. People are quick to quote the Scripture that says "Do not judge..." when questioned about a personal decision, but they are just as quick to point fingers or level angry accusations because of a hat, a bumper sticker, a political sign, or an opinion. I was raised in a time when we were taught to be discerning but not to render a verdict until we had walked a mile in the shoes of another or at least until we had all the facts. I saw something Sunday that gave me a lot to think about in this regard.

We've had a lot of new people visiting our church recently, and as we took our seats and prepared for Morning Worship, I turned to David and said, "I don't recognize a lot of these people." One new couple came in just as the service began and sat down directly in front of us.

At this point, I must confess that one of my distractions in church is the hairstyles of those in front of me. My hair has not aged well and has become thinner, curlier, and generally unruly. It doesn't help that, with the COVID shutdown and the fact that my stylist moved out of state, I have cut my own hair for the last two years. I'm planning to try a new stylist soon, so I'm always checking out styles in hopes of finding one that will work for me. The lady in front of me had one of those cuts that is very short on the sides and the back and longer on top. During the offering, I admired how perfectly smooth her hair was with

no random cowlicks to interrupt the line, but I knew it would never work for me.

I was also admiring her earrings, which were very visible, when I noticed that she had something behind her ear - a small tattoo of a semicolon. I made a mental note to introduce myself before we left and to ask about it if it seemed appropriate, and then I turned my attention back to the reason I was there. When the last song is sung, there's always a rush to retrieve coats, Bibles, and other belongings, and in the chaos, I lost track of her.

I hope she will come again so I can get to know her, but in the meantime, I resorted to Google. I found a lot of information including a website called Project Semicolon. One of the quotes says "A semicolon is used when an author could've chosen to end their sentence, but chose not to..." A semicolon on a wrist, finger, or behind the ear signifies that the person or someone they love is dealing with or has dealt with emotional or mental illness of some kind. Specifically, it means they could have chosen to end their life but chose not to.

Most of us can't imagine the kind of hurt and anguish that makes death preferable to dealing with life even one more day. But it seems to be more prevalent in a world where anger and criticism are more common than kindness, where making someone look ridiculous on social media is considered funny, where tormenting a classmate to the point of despair is widespread, and where road rage has become normal.

It's none of my business to know why the woman who visited our church is part of the Semicolon Project. But as a Christian, it is my business to become her friend if the opportunity presents itself and to offer kindness if and when she needs it.

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

Linda Brendle writes a weekly column for Believers' Baptist Church. She is a published author and also writes about caregiving, faith, and family on her blog at http://www.LifeAfterCaregiving.WordPress.com. You can e-mail her at LindaBrendle@yahoo.com.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

Marlows Never Knew When to Quit

Four brothers busted out of the Graham jail on Jan. 14, 1889 and foolishly high-tailed it for home. Recaptured the next morning over breakfast, they were back behind bars by noon.

The Marlows were a tight-knit clan of footloose frontiersmen. Boone, Epp, Alf, Charley and George took after their father, a Tennessee nomad who refused to settle down. After his death, the brothers carried on the family tradition.

Except for minor scrapes that were part of the struggle to survive in the 1880's, the Marlows managed to stay out of serious trouble. That's not to say they were choir boys nor that the hungry brood did not help themselves on occasion to a stray calf. But a healthy appetite hardly made them outlaws, at least not by the standards of those tough times.

While the family resided in the Red River county of Wilbarger, Boone paid a visit to a married sister living closeby. Confronted by a wild-eyed stranger who greeted him with gunfire, Boone reached for his Winchester. The man was either drunk or deranged, a fine distinction that mattered little under the circumstances, so he took aim, squeezed the trigger and dropped the maniac in his tracks.

Since the victim could have been a pillar of the community just as easily as a saddle tramp, the Marlows thought twice about reporting the incident to the local law. It was safer to leave, and the family spent the next six years in Colorado.

Ed Johnson, Deputy U.S. Marshal at Graham, received a telegram in the fall of 1888 from the sheriff of Trinidad, Colorado telling him to be on the lookout for five horse-stealing brothers named Marlow. A few days later, a second wire apologized for the false alarm and blamed the foul-up on a case of mistaken identity. But Johnson, whose chief concern was making a name for himself, arrested the suspects anyway.

The Marlows spent three miserable months in the Young County jail at Graham harassed and mistreated by Deputy Sheriff Tom Collier. The boys' wives finally raised the money for their bail, and on Dec. 15, 1888 the clan gathered for a tearful reunion.

The Marlows were at the dinner table, when Sheriff M.D. Wallace and the hated Collier showed up with a warrant for Boone's arrest. The half-forgotten murder had come back to haunt him.

But Boone was not about to fall again into the clutches of the sadistic deputy. Guns were drawn

and bullets filled the air. Sheriff Wallace collapsed mortally wounded, and Collier threw up his hands. Charley stopped Boone from finishing off the deputy and ordered another brother to fetch the doctor.

Finding not a trace of Boone Marlow, an angry posse rounded up his innocent siblings. After the sheriff died on Christmas Eve, the four were charged as accessories to murder and bound over for trial.

The Jan. 14 jailbreak gave a group of 40 concerned citizens the perfect pretext for a mass lynching, but the Marlows refused to go meekly to their doom. Though shackled in pairs and completely unarmed, they put up such a fight that the frightened mob withdrew empty-handed.

Deputy Marshal Johnson, whose blind ambition triggered the tragedy, received instructions the following day to remove the Marlows from Young County. Accompanied by several guards, Johnson put the brothers and two other prisoners in an open wagon and started the 60-mile trek to Weatherford.

The trip was cut short on the outskirts of Graham. Snipers concealed in thick underbrush alongside the road opened up on prisoners and lawmen alike. When Johnson and a guard were the first to fall, the Marlows jumped from the wagon and grabbed their weapons.

Expecting a turkey shoot, the bushwhackers were surprised by the deadly return fire and quickly scattered. The victors' cries of "Cowards!" goaded one vigilante into single combat. He traded pot shots with George Marlow until a slug struck him squarely in the forehead.

Epp and Alf perished in the battle, and George and Charley were temporarily detained in Dallas after surrendering to an impartial posse. Before their release, however, three bounty hunters rode into Graham with the body of brother Boone.

Human nature dictated the ultimate outcome in court. Since ordinary folks normally lack the stomach to send neighbors up the river, the few vigilantes brought to trial got off with fines and light sentences. On the other side of the ledger, lack of evidence and a degree of grudging respect prevented the prosecution of the surviving Marlows.

George Marlow lived to a ripe old age and witnessed the many wonders of the 20th Century before his death in 1945. His brothers also would have marveled at electric lights, horseless carriages and airplanes, but more than a century ago being in the wrong place at the wrong time was often a capital crime.

Contact Bartee Haile at barteehaile@gmail.com or by mail at P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.



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LINDA BRENDLE Leader Correspondent



BARTEE HAILE Historical Columnist

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Sheriff's Report

The Rains Co. Sheriff's Office took the following reports of activity during the week of January 1-6:



DAVID TRAYLOR
Rains County Sheriff

Arrests

1-1: Tonya Elaine Payne, Point. Possession of a controlled substance PG 1 less than 1 gr., \$5,000 bond; possession of a controlled substance PG3 less than 28 gr. in a drug free zone, \$3,000 bond; possession of a controlled substance PG 1 greater than or equal to 1 gr. less than 4 gr., \$20,000 bond.

1-2: Otravious Jaquid Tolbert, Terrell. Possession of a controlled substance PG 1 less than 1 gr., \$5,000 bond; possession of marijuana less than 2 oz., \$1,000 bond.

1-4: Kenneth Eugene Warren

Jr., Eustace. Driving while intoxicated, \$1,000 bond.

1-5: David Neal Murff, Point. Criminal trespass, \$2,000 bond.

1-6: Anthony Sullivan, Dallas. Theft of property greater than or equal to \$2,500 less than \$30,000, \$10,000 bond.

There were 5 arrests for the week; 2 posted bonds and were released. As of Friday, January 7, there were 26 males and 2 females in custody.

Calls

1-1: CR 2110 Medical assist 79-year-old female with breathing issues, CR 2120 Gun shots heard, CR 4430 Medical assist 71-year-old female with breathing issues, Van Zandt Reported they keep getting 911 calls from a location on CR 1490 but can't hear or understand what is being said and request a welfare check, Point West Side Dr. Medical assist male with breathing issues East Tawakoni

(ET) Pucket Pass Medical assist male with heart and breathing issues, Sheriff's Office (SO) Medical assist female in parking lot with breathing issues, Hwy. 19N at Lake Fork Cow out, Emory Clark St. and Alexander St. Reckless driver, CR 3317 Domestic disturbance, FM 275 Medical assist 79-year-old female with possible stroke, Emory Kansas St. Welfare check requested on some children, Hwy. 276 and FM 47 Cow out, Public service Reference ex-husband harassing by phone, CR 1410 Medical assist 57-year-old male with breathing issues, CR 3030 Male harassing a female, FM 2324 Medical assist female fell out of the bed, Public service Reference getting a rifle back, Emory Dunbar Ln. Medical assist female with possible diabetic issues, ET Little Field Dr. Medical assist male fell and hurt his hip, CR 1395 New Years party getting

out of hand.

1-2: CR 2420 Abandoned vehicle in middle of the road, Sky Point RV Park Stolen handgun, Emory Lee Ivy Ln. Suspicious burning smell, Point Smith Cir. Medical assist for 2-year-old male, ET Briggs Blvd. Medical assist 44-year-old female with several issues, CR 1150 Issues with a plumber, FM 47 Near Sabine River Authority office Medical assist man has fallen, Emory Missouri St. Fire in a kitchen, FM 779 Horses out, Emory Airport Rd. Suspicious male, Emory Brookshire's Burglar alarm, Point Ave. D Medical assist male with breathing issues.

1-3: Hwy. 19N at CR 3200 Motorist assist, FM 515 near the Dollar General Male laying in the ditch, CR 1402 Medical assist female overdose, CR 1525 Medical assist 28-year-old male passed out and hit his head, SO lobby Reference things found on a cell phone, Emory Hwy. 69 and Hwy. 19 Reckless driver north bound on Hwy. 19, SO lobby Reference money stolen referred to Hunt Co. where incident occurred, FM 2795 Adult protective service worker reported elderly couple sent money to someone who stated they needed help, Hwy. 19N Medical assist 82-year-old male fell and hit his head on the concrete floor, Lake Fork Ranch RV Park Medical assist elderly male fell.

1-4: Emory N. Texas St. Max-A-Mart Burglar alarm, SO lobby Reference new dog logs, Emory S. Dunbar Medical assist 60-year-old male with possible stroke, CR 4481 Medical assist

male overdose, Hwy. 276 Male committed suicide, Holiday Hills Smoke seen, FM 2946 Reference money taken from an account, CR 3425 Breaker box smoking and wires burning, FM 514 Location of possible stolen vehicle, CR 1151 Medical assist 71-year-old male with kidney infection, CR 4430 Medical assist 71-year-old female down on the floor, CR 1402 Extra patrol requested, ET Wright Way Domestic disturbance, Public service Reference issues that occurred on CR 1150 with a plumber and a customer, Emory Honeysuckle Ln. Burglar alarm,

1-5: Emory Welfare check on a female that might be abused by a brother, FM 515 Dollar General Welfare check on an elderly male in front of the store, ET Briggs Blvd. and Clower Ct. Gunshot heard, Emory S. Texas St. Male trespassing, PR 7332 Welfare check on elderly male, Emory Lennon Dr. and E. Quitman Major two-vehicle accident, CR 3330 Neighbors livestock keeps getting on complainants property, CR 3425 Dogs possibly neglected since December 27, Emory Christus Clinic Burglar alarm, Hwy. 69 passing the school Reckless 18-wheeler, Point N. 1st St. Dog killed a cat, CR 3330 Cow missing and found on neighbor's property who the owner does not get along with, CR 1330 Medical assist for 76-year-old male with several issues, PR 7709 Domestic disturbance and wife assaulted, PR 5505 Father trying to fight complainants boyfriend, CR 1402 Welfare check re-

quested on a female, Emory S. Dunbar Atmos Gas requested fire assist on a gas leak, CR 3325 North Shore RV Park Lady not been seen for two days and now found in the floor of her trailer possible stroke.

1-6: Hwy. 276 and CR 1502 Stolen vehicle located, Emory Brookshire's Burglar alarm, SO lobby Reference theft of company information and someone attempted to open a bank account with the information, Sandy Creek Park Medical assist for a 48-year-old male, Emory Brookshire's Burglar alarm, Emory Hwy. 69 at J&R Auto Parts Two-vehicle accident, ET Grocery Store Medical assist, Hwy. 276 and FM 47 Suspicious vehicle torn up and flashers on, Rains Jr. High Medical assist teacher pushed down, CR 142 Burglar alarm.

For the month of December 2021, the SO reported 45 offense/incident reports taken; 422 calls for service; 307 total calls for deputies; 31 arrests; 22 average daily jail population; 5 transports for 270 miles; 16 animal control calls; and 34 cases filed. The patrol-vehicle mileage total was 24,329 miles with 2,271 gallons of fuel used.

Year-end totals for 2021, the SO reported 496 offense/incident reports taken; 5,234 calls for service; 3,742 total calls for deputies; 396 arrests; 26 average daily jail population; 33 transports for 4,271 miles; 269 animal control calls; 171 cases filed. The patrol-vehicle mileage total was 252,653 miles with 23,325 gallons of fuel used.

AGRILIFE

Northeast Texas Cattleman's Conference

The Northeast Texas Cattleman's Conference will be held on Wednesday, January 26, at the Carol Green Civic Center located at 602 S. McAllister St. in Quitman. Registration will begin at 8:45 a.m. with the educational program starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 3:00 p.m. There is a \$25.00 cost for the conference with a catered lunch provided. Topics on the program are listed below:

- Herd Health
- Utilizing EPD's for Bull Selection

- Predator Control
- Pasture Herbicide Updates and New Products
- Industry and Producer Panel

One (1) Continuing educational unit (CEU) will be given for the program. Please RSVP to the Rains County Extension Office Located at 410 Tawakoni Drive, Emory, or call 903-473-4580 to provide an accurate participant count for food to order for lunch. Booth exhibits from various agricultural related industries will also be on hand.

The program is sponsored by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Counties of Wood, Rains, Camp, Upshur, Franklin and Van Zandt.

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Black Belted Martial Artists



Contributed photo

On Saturday, January 8, Lily Price, George Wallace, and Rowdy Mikulak completed every requirement needed to earn junior black belt status. They have been studying at Rains Karate Academy in Emory under the direction of Jayme Sheffield.

SAVVY SENIOR

How to Get Your Affairs in Order

Dear Savvy Senior,
I would like to get my personal, legal and financial information organized so my kids will know what's going on when I'm no longer around. Can you offer any tips on the best way to do this?



JIM MILLER
Savvy Senior

Unorganized Emma

Dear Emma,

Organizing your important papers and getting your personal and financial affairs in order is a smart idea and wonderful gift to your loved ones. Here are some tips to get you started.

Get Organized

The first step in getting your affairs in order is to gather up all your important personal, financial and legal information so you can arrange it in a format that will benefit you now, and your loved ones later.

Then you'll need to sit down and create various lists of important information and instructions of how you want certain things handled when you die or if you become incapacitated. Here's a checklist of areas you need to focus on.

Personal Information

- **Contacts:** Make a master list of names and phone numbers of close friends, doctors, and professional advisers such as your lawyer, accountant, broker and insurance agent.
- **Medical information:** Include a list of medications you take, along with any allergies and illnesses.
- **Personal documents:** Include such items as your birth certificate, Social Security card, marriage license, military discharge papers, etc.
- **Secured places:** List all the places you keep under lock and key such as safe deposit boxes, safe combination, security alarms, etc.
- **Digital assets:** Make a list of all your digital assets, including everything from social media accounts to online banking accounts to home utilities that you manage online. It should include usernames and passwords. Use Rutgers Digital Assets Inventory Worksheet (njaes.rutgers.edu/money/pdfs/digital-assets-worksheet.pdf) as a guide.
- **Pets:** If you have a pet, give instructions for the care of the animal.
- **End of life:** Indicate your wishes for organ and tissue donation and write out your funeral instructions. If you've made pre-arrangements

with a funeral home include a copy of agreement, their contact information and whether you've prepaid or not.

Legal Documents

- **Will, trust and estate plan:** Include the original copy of your will and other estate planning documents you've made.
- **Financial power of attorney:** This document names someone you trust to handle money matters if you're incapacitated.
- **Advance health care directives:** This includes a living will and medical power of attorney, which spell out your wishes regarding your end-of-life medical treatment when you can no longer make decisions for yourself.

Financial Records

- **Financial accounts:** Make a list of all your bank accounts, brokerage and mutual fund accounts, and any other financial assets you have.
- **Debts and liabilities:** Make a list of any loans, leases or debts you have – mortgages owed, car loans, student loans, medical bills, credit card debts. Also, make a list of all credit and charge cards, including the card numbers and contact information.
- **Company benefits:** List any retirement plans, pensions or health benefits from your current or former employer including the contact information of the benefits administrator.
- **Insurance:** List the insurance policies you have (life, long-term care, home, auto, Medicare, Medigap, prescription drug, etc.) including the policy numbers, agents and phone numbers.
- **Property:** List real estate, vehicles and other properties you own, rent or lease and include documents such as deeds, titles, and loan or lease agreements.
- **Taxes:** Include the location of your tax records and your tax preparer's contact information.

Keep all your organized information and files together in one convenient location, ideally in a fireproof filing cabinet or safe in your home. Also be sure to review and update it every year, and don't forget to tell your kids where they can find it.

If you need help, get a copy of "Get It Together: Organize Your Records So Your Family Won't Have To" at Nolo.com for \$17.50 for the downloadable versions, or \$20 for a printed copy.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

Obituaries

Ava "Maxine" Cannon

1937 - 2022

Ava Maxine Cannon, 84, died on January 5, 2022, in Emory. She was born on February 23, 1937, in Almeria, Nebraska to Ralph Clements and Corinne Dunbar.

She married Paul Cannon in July of 1979 in Loveland, Colorado. She saw the positive in everyone and would love you like she was your own mother. She was a member of the House of Prayer as well as Campers for Christ.

Mrs. Cannon is survived by her sons, Leslie McAlevy, David Cannon and wife Tanya, William Cannon and wife Robin; daughter, Hazel Boso and husband Alan; step-daughter, Gloria Parker and husband Pete; brother, Darrell



Clements; sisters, Nelva Howard, Janice Bilstein and husband Dale; sister-in-law Ann Cannon; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; children, Irene McAlevy, Cynthia Rogers, David McAlevy, Sylvia Cannon and Stephen Cannon; sister, Alice; sons-in-law, Fred Jensen and Jim Rogers; daughter-in-law, Anita McAlevy.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to House of Prayer in Emory at 1382 FM 515, Emory, TX 75440

Arrangement were under the direction of Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Deborah Ann Ray Daugherty

1960 - 2022

Deborah Ann Ray Daugherty, 61, died on January 8, 2022, at her residence in Alba. She was born on May 13, 1960, in Kilgore, to Arvil Turner Ray and Patsy Ann Dobbins Ray. She moved from Kilgore to the Lake Fork area five years ago. She worked as an occupational medical technician and went above and beyond helping her patients. She brought a light and joy to people when they were down and out with their own suffering and illnesses.

Ms. Daugherty is survived by her father of



Mississippi; daughter, Kippie Moore; brothers, Rickey Ray, Sr., and Rickey Ray Jr.; sister, Mary Minor; and five grandchildren, Zachary Daugherty, Jody Lee Daugherty, Jr., Makenna Daugherty, Ryleigh Daugherty and Nikke Moore.

She was preceded in death by her mother; and son, Jody Daugherty, Sr., who passed away in April 2021.

The family will be planning a joint memorial service for Deborah and Jody Daugherty, Sr. at a later date.



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Bright Star Baptist Church

By Glenda Galyean

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." *Ephesians 4:1*
 Last Wednesday evening following the family supper meal, the youth met with the adults. Bro. Jerry Jackson brought an interesting message from Ephesians titled "Put On The Whole Armor of God."

We had a wonderful service on Sunday morning, even though our attendance was down because of sickness.

The congregational singing was very uplifting. Bro. Joey Day blessed our hearts with

a touching special. Bro. Jerry's message from Ephesians, titled "Our Walk, Our Work, and Our Witness," was right on target. It touched many hearts.

Our evening service was dedicated to prayer. We will have a wedding shower for Bro. Andrew Grills and Sharon Draper on Sunday, January 23, at 2:00 p.m..

January has five Sundays so that means we have a Fifth Sunday Singing. We are looking forward to a great night of praising the Lord.

Jesus is coming back soon. Are you ready to meet your maker?

Have a super blessed and safe week.

Country Baptist Church

By Donna Jones

A new year, a new beginning and the best way to make sure it is a new beginning is to be in God's house and be about God's business.

Joel Frazier began the Sunday school hour leading a hymn that assured us of God's faithfulness. He then dismissed us to our class.

This week's lesson title was, "Our Need for Steadfast Love, Unending Mercy, and Great Faithfulness."

Our worship services began with Joel leading in worship and praise. Prayer petitions were offered and praises were shared. After more singing, special music was provided by Pastor

Mike Frazier, Kelsey Frazier and Benny Thompson. In each case, their specials emphasized Pastor Mike's message as we continued to look at the workings of the Holy Spirit in our lives. This week's message focused on the emblem of the earnest promise of God.

Please join us this week as we pray for all medical workers and staff who continue to be on the front lines of the pandemic, the flu and all other viruses and illness that are rampant. The workers are tired and overworked. They need each of us to encourage them and pray for them and the many who are sick.

Emory Baptist Church

By Ronnie Witt

Bro. Richard Piles returned to the pulpit on Sunday morning after a few weeks of altered schedules and guest preachers. His message from John was titled "Operation Andrew." It concerned Jesus' calling Andrew as a disciple and Andrew's response in reaching out to his brother, Peter.

In the evening, Bro. Richard shared a message from Job titled, "Our Only Hope as Sinful Man."

The focus for Emory Baptist Church in 2022 is prayer. As Jesus said in the first part of Matthew 21:13, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer.'" To that end, there are still 10 one-hour time slots available in the

Prayer Room Ministry. EBC folks can sign up with Bro. Richard.

Emory Baptist is back to a full schedule with lots of events this week. Women on Mission met on Monday; Threads of Service met on Tuesday to work on various sewing projects; the first Senior Adult Ministry Lunch and Game Day of the year is Thursday, January 13, at noon, in the fellowship hall; and Family Fun Night is Saturday night, January 15, at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The event begins with a potluck meal and devotional.

The January members' meeting will be Sunday night, January 16, at 6:30 p.m. The TEL will meet on Tuesday, January 18, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Believers' Baptist Church

By Linda Brendle

"Through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations:" *Romans 1:5*

Pastor Jason continued preaching from Romans with a sermon titled "By His Grace and for His Name."

The full Sunday evening schedule resumed with the Theological Reading Group and Adventure Club meeting, the Sunday evening meal, and the Sunday night Bible study.

The Women's Foundations Class, *Everyone's a Theologian* (Chapter 9, "Knowledge of God") met on January 12. The men will meet on

January 19 to study Chapter 10, "One in Essence Three in Person."

A members' meeting is scheduled Sunday, January 23, at 6:30 p.m.

The Youth Winter Retreat 2022 will be Friday, January 28, through Saturday, January 29, at Camp Akiva. Emory Baptist will join BBC at the retreat. The cost is \$30 per student. More details will be announced.

The BBC International Missions emphasis will end on Sunday, February 6, with a one-time mission offering. James Tucker, the Asia Coordinator for HeartCry Missionary Society, will speak at a special meeting at 6:30 pm.

Emory United Methodist Church

By Mary White

"And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, 'You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.'" *Luke 3:22*

We had another wonderful day of worship with Rev. David Banks continuing his series "A Different Kind of Journey," titled "The Unexpected," with scripture taken from Luke. It was a delightful sermon story about God's action in our lives. His memories of a baby's baptism in a hospital chapel was definitely a God moment.

Next Friday, January 14, at 6:00 p.m., we will have game night. We play dominos, bingo

and whatever you would like. Everyone is welcome.

Next Sunday after worship the Methodist Women will have their meeting with lunch of soup and salad. We are planning our Valentine Dinner and entertainment fundraiser for February 14. More information will be available later.

Birthday wishes go to Cay House, Jeri Humphrey and Opal Franklin.

Prayers for Carol Spence, John Westphalen, Richard Kraft, Jodie Weddle, Nancy Steed and Jimmie Willis.

Have a great new year and be kind.

**Interesting Rains County tales?
 Happenings at your church?
 Interesting people or events in Rains County?
 Know someone nearing the century mark?
 Have a marriage announcement?
 Wish to announce a new arrival?**

**Get in touch with the Rains County Leader
 903-473-4653 or news@rainscountyleader.com**



EMORY
 CHURCH
 UNITED METHODIST
We All Matter To God

Dr. David Banks
 456 Texas St.
 One Block from The Square
 Worship Times 9:00 & 11:00
 903-473-2411 • EmoryUMC.org

**Pilgrims Rest
 Baptist Church**
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Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
"Reaching Out Because We Care"

Pastor Keith Prather
www.pilgrimsrestbaptistchurch.org

**Point
 church of
 Christ**

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Eve. Service 7:00 p.m.
Everyone welcome!
Richard Kellam
www.pointchurchofchrist.org

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Rev. Victor Hernandez
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 903-473-5116

**Sunday 11:00 AM English
 12:30 PM Spanish
 Tuesday 6:30 PM Bilingual**

From Brookshires go East 1.2 miles.
 Turn right onto FM 2795

On The Square
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EMORY
 BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Richard D. Piles—Pastor
Chris Henderson—Minister of Music & Sr. Adults
Ronnie Witt—Minister of Youth & Education

<p>Sunday Sunday Morning Small Groups 9:15am Morning Worship 10:30am Evening Worship 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Wednesday Wed. Worship 6:30pm (Adults, Youth, Children) Choir Practice 6:30pm</p>
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903-473-4590

903-473-2653 to have your church ad placed in this directory

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We Accept (903) **473-2653**
CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
11:00 A.M. MONDAYS

FOR SALE

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 Very Good SHELLED PECANS available. Scott's Orchard. 903-243-2130.

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SALES
 Good Samaritan's Thrift/Clothes store will be open Saturdays in Jan. from 8 a.m.-noon. Clothes sale is open Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m.-12 p.m., and 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

FREE ENCYCLOPEDIA SET. Must pick up in Point off RS CR 1525. 903-268-6136.

HELP WANTED

SENIOR SUITE CARE & REHAB is now accepting applications for CNAs all shifts, PRN LVNs, dietary cooks and dishwashers, house-keeping. Full/part time. Apply in person at 983 N. Texas St., Emory, TX.

RAINS ISD NEEDS: Custodian/Custodian Substitutes, Bus Drivers/Substitutes, Food Service Employee/Substitutes, Child Development Center Employee/Substitutes. Salary based on experience. \$300/month of full-time employee health coverage paid. Apply on-line at <https://www.rainsisd.org> Equal Employment Opportunity.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for production positions. No experience required. Employment requires passing physical and drug testing. Please apply in person. Dal-Air Castings, 591 Industrial Blvd., Point, TX, 75472.

RAINS ISD is currently accepting applications for a Technology Admin. Assistant. Salary based on experience. \$300/month of full-time employee health coverage paid. Send resumes to ljclark@rainsisd.org. Apply online at <https://www.rainsisd.org>. Equal Employment Opportunity.

CONSTRUCTION GENERAL LABOR, some construction knowledge helpful, starting pay \$12/hour with potential for growth. Mon-Fri 7a.m.-5 p.m., overtime pay available, weekly pay. No drugs. Lunch provided. Send resume to ronhanks67@yahoo.com or call 903-268-7089. Must have transportation to business/shop.

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 Tim Hooten
 Lawn maintenance, sodding, landscaping, tree trimming & removal, retaining walls, irrigation systems. LI 0019094. 903-473-8706, 903-474-4402.

SMITH'S LAWN CARE landscaping, fencing, hedge trimming, weekly/biweekly rates. 903-521-8506, free estimates.

MARVIN'S LANDSCAPE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICE - fence row cleaning, affordable pricing. Text or call 903-348-4399.

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ALL PRO PEST CONTROL. Termites, roaches, spiders, ants, scorpions. Call Robert 903-268-7263.

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8	4	7	2	5	6	9	1	3
6	9	3	4	7	1	5	8	2
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PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS BUYING PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY OF THE SHIRLEY WATER SUPPLY CORP.

Shirley Water Supply Corp. urges any prospective buyer to verify with the manager at the office, located on FM 1567, east of Hwy. 19, north of Emory, Tex., or south of Sulphur Springs, Tex., whether or not water is available at the tract of land in question.

Shirley Water Supply Corp.
 6684 FM 1567W
 Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION SERVICE EXTENSION POLICY OF Shirley Water Supply Corporation

Pursuant to Texas Water Code, §13.2502, Shirley Water Supply Corporation hereby gives notice that any person who subdivides land by dividing any lot, tract, or parcel of land, within the service area of Shirley Water Supply Corporation, Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 11229, in Rains County, into two or more lots or sites for the purpose of sale or development, whether immediate or future, including re-subdivision of land for which a plat has been filed and recorded or requests more than two water service connections on a single contiguous tract of land must comply with the "Subdivision Policy" contained in Shirley Water Supply Corporation's tariff. Shirley Water Supply Corporation is not required to extend retail water utility service to a service applicant in a subdivision where the developer of the subdivision has failed to comply with the Subdivision Policy. Applicable elements of the Subdivision Policy include: Evaluation by Shirley Water Supply Corporation of the impact a proposed subdivision service extension will make on Shirley Water Supply Corporation's water supply and payment of the costs for this evaluation; Payment of reasonable costs or fees by the developer for providing water supply; Payment of fees for reserving water supply; Forfeiture of reserved water supply for failure to pay applicable fees; Payment of costs of any improvements to Shirley Water Supply Corporation's system that are necessary to provide the water service; Construction according to design approved by Shirley Water Supply Corporation and dedication by the developer of water facilities within the subdivision following inspection. Shirley Water Supply Corporation's tariff and a map showing Shirley Water Supply Corporation's service area may be reviewed at Shirley Water Supply Corporation's office, at 6684 FM 1567 W, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482; the tariff/policy and service area map also are filed of record at the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

Shirley Water Supply Corp.
 6684 FM 1567W
 Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF EMORY

The City of Emory announces the recruitment for Director of Finance. The position requires the candidate to perform a variety of complex professional administrative and technical accounting and finance functions in maintaining the fiscal records and systems for the city and the personnel systems including classification, compensation and selection. Works under the general direction of the City Administrator. Applicants must possess a High School Diploma or GED and graduated from an accredited four-year college or university (preferred) with a degree in accounting, finance, business or public administration, or a closely related field, and five (5) years of progressively responsible municipal finance work. The position will remain open until filled. Candidates can submit resumes and obtain an application from Emory City Hall, 399 North Texas St., Emory TX, 75440. For more information contact Angie Allen (903) 473-2465 ext. 108. The City of Emory is an equal opportunity employer.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

TO: ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;
 RESPONDENT, GREETINGS:

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO (DOES) NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 AM ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF TWENTY (20) DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGEMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU. THE PETITION OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES, PETITIONER, WAS FILED IN THE COURT OF RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THE 16TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020, WHICH WAS THEN AMENDED ON OCTOBER 30, 2020, AND THEN SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED ON JUNE 21, 2021, AGAINST RY AN BRUCE, RESPONDENT, NUMBERED 10948, AND ENTITLED 'IN THE INTEREST OF TRINITY LOPEZ AND NEVAEH LOPEZ, MINOR CHILDREN.'

The PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION filed by **THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES**, was filed in the 354TH DISTRICT COURT of Rains County, Texas on the 15th day of September, 2020, styled,

CAUSE NO. 10948
 IN THE INTEREST OF
 TRINITY LOPEZ AND NEVAEH LOPEZ,
 CHILDREN

The suit requests "TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP. THE DATE OF BIRTH OF THE CHILDREN WHO ARE THE SUBJECT OF THE SUIT: TRINITY LOPEZ, (BORN AUGUST 28, 2017 IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS) AND NEVAEH LOPEZ (BORN JUNE 17, 2019, IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS). "THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS SUIT TO RENDER AN ORDER IN THE CHILD'S INTEREST THAT WILL BE BINDING ON YOU, INCLUDING THE TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, THE DETERMINATION OF PATERNITY, AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A CONSERVATOR WITH AUTHORITY TO CONSENT TO THE CHILD'S ADOPTION" as in more fully shown by Plaintiffs Petition on file in this suit.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree which will be binding on you.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT, at office, this 11th day of January, 2022.

LAURA PATE, DISTRICT CLERK
 RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS
 By: MELISSA BUTLER, DEPUTY CLERK

Impound Lot Auction

20-30 cars to be auctioned off
 Cash Only
 Join us January 15, 2022 @ 10 am

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Conducted by 3C Auction Company
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Display Ad
 Deadline is 5:00 p.m. Tuesday

Sports

RAINS WILDCAT AND LADY CAT BASKETBALL

Wildcats remain winless in district, Lady Cats split weekly games



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Getting an arm-bar for her troubles, sophomore Jasey Campbell (13) attempts to steal the ball from the Lady Bulldog during the 45-16 district loss to Edgewood on Friday, January 7, at Rains High School gym. Campbell finished with seven points on the night.



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Sophomore Manuel Mares denies the Bulldog's shot during the 55-39 district loss Edgewood on Friday, January 7.

CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader Staff

The Rains Wildcats still looking for first district win, while the Rains Lady Cats suffer first district loss but bounce back with win.

At home on Friday, January 7, the Rains Lady Cats fell to the Edgewood Lady Bulldogs, 45-16. Sophomore Jasey Campbell led with seven points

and junior Mia Caison had five points in the loss.

In the second game of the night, the Wildcats battled the Edgewood Bulldogs, but lost by 16, 55-39. Senior Kori Foster scored 11 points, while junior KJ Burns and sophomore Prabhdeep Singh had seven each.

In Pattonville on Tuesday, January 11, the Lady Cats bounced back with a 29-19

victory over the Prairiland Lady Patriots. Junior Madi Skaggs had 12 points, with senior Jaycee Nugent scoring six.

The Wildcats rallied late but suffered a 47-40 loss to the Prairiland Patriots. Sophomore Manuel Mares led the team with ten points, while Burns scored nine points.

The Rains Lady Cats are 14-13 for the season and 4-1 in district. The Rains Wildcats

improve to 7-14 and 0-3 in district.

The high school teams will host the Grand Saline Indians and Lady Indians on Friday, January 14, with the girls game tipping off at 6:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, January 18, the teams travel to Paris to face the Chisum Mustangs and Lady Mustangs. The games are scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m.

LUKE CLAYTON

No Cabin Fever This Week

Like many outdoor types, I used to consider the dead of winter as off time, a time to clean rifles and shotguns and put them away and devote time to readying fishing tackle for spring fishing. But winter has become one of my favorite seasons for enjoying the outdoors.

Granted, deer season is coming to a close for most of us (hunting is still available on some ranches under a TPWD management plan) but there is still plenty to do other than clean weapons and dream about spring fishing! My past week is a good case in point.

A neighbor recently granted me fishing rights on a sand/gravel pit on his property that was excavated back in the sixties. Back when it was dug, the lower end was sixty feet deep which is very deep for any stock pond. I'm sure the pit has silted in a bit through the decades but I'm betting it's still fifty feet deep. My neighbor tells me the pond is well stocked with bass, catfish, crappie and big bream. With shoreline vegetation along most of the bank, it was easy to see that I needed a boat of some sort to effectively fish the pond. I have

a big kayak for this type fishing but I much prefer a stable Jon boat. I placed a note in our local online shopper and was contacted by a lady who had a 12 foot aluminum boat that was several years old but had been used very little. I have the boat stashed on the banks of my new fishing hole and am waiting for a few stable days of warmer weather to do a bit of winter bass fishing. I'm thinking a pork rind on a light jig tossed up into those shoreline reeds should produce some action. I've got a portable graph ordered which should be very helpful in locating schools of crappie holding on deep structure this winter.

I also found time for a late season doe or spike buck hunt over in Palo Pinto County. I have hunted along the Brazos River with my longtime friend Randy Douglas for many years. This is the same country where the cattle were rounded up for the Goodnight-Loving cattle drives. The rugged ranch land along the river has changed very little through the years. We were hunting some property owned by Randy Nix from Mineral Wells. I had the pleasure of meeting Randy during the hunt

and learned a great deal about what's going on in that area. Randy and his wife Misty are deeply involved in the renovation of the historic Baker Hotel in downtown Mineral Wells as well as the Crazy Water Hotel which is currently open for business. The same mineral water that brought visitors to Mineral Wells from far and wide back in the past century is once again attracting crowds to the historic town. I can't wait to stay in the old Baker Hotel when it reopens.

The Dallas Safari Club convention was held in Dallas last week and I spent a day visiting with old friends and making a few new ones. My friend Jeff Rice and I joined Larry Weishuhn to film a segment of our outdoor show "A Sportsman's Life" from the floor of the show. As the old adage goes, "A great time was had by one and all!"

Weishuhn came by my house after the show and we spent some time cooking outdoors over a wood fire at the little cabin I have behind my house. Grilled venison, camp beans, baked sweet potatoes and cowboy coffee never taste better than when cooked over a hardwood fire on a winter day with a bit of chill in the air.



With muzzleloader deer season open until January 16 in 90 counties, I thought it a good idea to break out my old 'smoke pole' and enjoy one last deer hunt this coming weekend. I'll be hunting with my friend Jeff Rice on his place in Wood

County in hopes of taking a very late season deer. Jeff has never hunted with a muzzleloader and we are both anxious for him to take his first deer. Our plan is to butcher the venison if we are successful and enjoy the steaks, deer burger and sausage there at the ranch on upcoming fishing and hunting trips.

EASY AND TASTY CAMP RECIPE I learned a new recipe for Randy Douglas this week that is actually an appetizer but I suggest making plenty, this can easily become the 'main course' of a camp meal.

Begin by quartering a big white onion. From each quarter, remove the sections which are called scales. Each will be shaped like a large spoon or ladle. Spread cream cheese into the hollow of each piece of

onion and place meat (venison, pork, chicken or beef). It's easier if you cook the pieces of meat first. On top of the meat, place some candied jalapeno, wrap with bacon and grill until the bacon is crispy. This is a quick and easy recipe that is likely to become a staple for your outdoor cooking events! Chances are good we have all enjoyed the basic jalapeno poppers made from venison or wild pork but the addition of candied jalapeno and using the onion as the outer covering adds a bit of spice to the original camp staple.

Tune in to "A Sportsman's Life" on Carbon TV www.carbontv.com Contact Outdoors writer Luke Clayton via email at his website www.catfishradio.org.

Two Dozen Roses Church on Cumberland Road

13 #1 HITS 15 Top 10 Singles

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