

Rains County Leader

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Vol. 136, Issue 23 – 1 Section, 10 pages

EMORY, TEXAS – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022

PRICE 75¢

RAINS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Court approves incentives for new manufacturer

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains County Commissioners Court held a regular meeting on Thursday, November 10, to approve an incentive package for Otis Instruments, a resolution supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans and final plats.

During the meeting, the commissioners considered the incentives proposal for Otis Instruments to build a new manufacturing facility in Emory. The company manufactures

gas detection pump systems at a facility in Bryant that are sold all over the world. The new facility in Emory would build the same systems as well as new safety light fixtures.

All tax revenue from the sale of the products manufactured at the facility would remain in Rains County. The proposal was unanimously approved by the court.

The commissioners court was presented with a proclamation for supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans. The initiative is designed to raise awareness about the unique challenges veterans face and the resources

available to assist them and their families at the county, state and federal levels.

Counties across the country demonstrated appreciation and support for America's veterans by illuminating county buildings in green. The resolution was unanimously approved by the court.

The commissioners approved the contribution to the Rains County Historical Society with the funds being used in the Heritage Park.

see **COURT** on page 2

Deadline for next week's paper changed

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the deadline for next week's edition, November 24, of the Rains County Leader will be Monday evening, November 21, at 5:00 p.m. We will return to our regular production schedule for the December 1 edition.

Honoring our veterans



Leader photo by **CHUCK FITTS**

Walter Mosley (top) and Robert Sisk (bottom) were presented with plaques during the Veterans Day Ceremony at Rains High School on Friday, November 11. Mosley was honored as the oldest veteran attending the ceremony at the age of 95. Sisk received an award of appreciation for his years of service and dedication to the Veterans Day program at Rains High School.

RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

School considers four-day instructional week

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The trustees of Rains ISD discussed a four-day school week, accepted funds from the education foundation for teacher grants and heard reports during the regular meeting on Monday, November 14.

Superintendent Jennifer Johnson discussed a meeting that she and several administrators had attended in Athens concerning school districts in Texas moving to a four-day school week. She informed the board that it would require a new school calendar with campuses starting classes about a week earlier and school days would be about 35 minutes longer.

Johnson stated that the hope was that the move would help improve teacher retention and noted that several districts in the area had already moved to the four-day week including Lone Oak and Quinlan.

The Athens district had noted improvement in academic scores after moving to the new schedule.

When asked about childcare for Fridays, Johnson said that the district would have to determine options but noted that other districts had allowed nonprofit organizations like the Boys & Girls Club to take care of it.

Board members asked that the item to consider a four-day school week be placed on the agenda for December and asked the administration to solicit teacher and public opinion on the proposition.

The board unanimously approved accepting the donation of funds from the Rains ISD Education Foundation to be used for teacher grants. The money would go to the teachers awarded grants to help with purchase of classroom items and projects.

Johnson informed the board that the district had passed a security audit with no issues.

Board members were updated on the English as a Second Language (ESL) program and were informed that the district had met the

see **RISD** on page 2

POINT

Council accepts resignation, considers changes

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The Point City Council held a called meeting on Thursday, November 10, to accept the resignation of Stephen Cross, consider hiring a firm to collect past due water bills and change the status of the old City Hall building.

After an open forum and consent agenda, the council officially accepted the resignation of Stephen Cross as the Mayor of Point. They approved the motion to remove him from all accounts and bank cards.

A representative from McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen (MVBA) spoke to the council concerning his firm's ability to help collect outstanding water bills. The City of Point currently has over \$100,000 in past due and the firm would attempt to collect for a percentage added to the owed amount.

Another firm already works for the city collecting past due court fines and questions were raised about whether they should be collecting the water bills as well. Council members wished to con-

duct further research before moving forward so the item was tabled until the next meeting.

The council considered a proposition to no longer list the old City Hall building for sale and lease the building to a local business instead. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council members considered moving the regular meeting date from the second Tuesday of every month to the second Thursday of every month. The move was unanimously approved.

The council unanimously approved the final plats on the Northcutt Estate at Smith and Locust Street.

Several items allowed the council members to discuss topics including a work program between Rains High School and the City of Point, the replacement of roofs on the new and old City Hall, upcoming events in the community and the city limits of Point. No action was taken on these items.

The next regular meeting of the Point City Council is scheduled for Thursday, December 8, at 6:45 p.m. in the council chambers of Point City Hall.



**City Girl:
Counting or
complaining**

page 3

**AgriLife:
Texas crop
and weather...**

page 6

**Wildcat
Sports**

page 10

Rain Report

Fri., Nov. 11 0.89 in
Mon., Nov. 14 1.04 in
Total for Nov. 2.63 in
Year to date 40.70 in

Community outreach & organizations

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Emory – Tues. & Thurs. 7:00-8:00 p.m., 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., 5:15 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., Arballa 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

LAKE FORK SPORTSMAN'S ASSOC. – 2nd Tues., 6:30 p.m. Lovell's Restaurant, Lake Fork Marina

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 Quitman 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 – 1st 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. Thrift sales will be all Saturdays in November, from 8:00 a.m.-noon. Funds go to buy food for the needy and to operate the center.

Thanksgiving Dinner on Thurs., Nov. 24

Handup Outreach Ministries is holding its 4th annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner on Thursday, November 24, from 12:00-4:30 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall of Point United Methodist Church on FM 475 off Hwy. 69. The meal is free. Volunteer servers are appreciated. First responders desiring a meal may call ahead for take-outs. Contact Marvin Henson at 903-348-4399.

Carter BloodCare Blood Drive At Hooten's Hardware

Carter BloodCare will hold a blood drive at Hooten's Hardware, LLC, located at 1139 E. Lennon Dr. in Emory, on Saturday, December 17, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. To sign up, go to https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/134526. For more information, call 903-473-8788. Give a lifesaving gift this holiday season for local patients who need our help.

Point Library Bag Of Books Sale and Coat Giveaway

The Point Community Library is selling \$2.00 bags of books to raise funds for new chairs and shelves for the library. The library also has a supply of donated coats and jackets to be given to families in need. The library, located at 273 N 1st St. in Point, is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

What to know about sustainable investing

You may have heard about "sustainable investing." But if you're not familiar with it, you might wonder if it's a good option for you.

You can follow a sustainable strategy in different ways. You could choose an approach

known as "ESG," which stands for environmental, social and governance. Examples of an ESG approach include investing in businesses that work to improve their waste management, stress gender equality, diversity within their own ranks and/or follow transparent financial and accounting procedures.

You could also consider a strategy known as values-based

investing. Examples of this approach include refraining from investing in segments of the market, such as tobacco or firearms. Or you could specify investments in certain industries, such as solar power.

If you consider sustainable investing, too many exclusions may lower your portfolio's diversification and potential returns. And, of course, choose investments that are suitable for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

If sustainable investing interests you give it some thought – you may find it rewarding to match your money with your beliefs.

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



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CALLING ALL MOTORCYCLISTS

Emory Christmas Parade

There will be an entry for motorcycles in the Christmas Parade on December 3

Gather at 6:30 PM at the Emory City Center Parade starts at 7 PM

Contact: Robert at 903-474-7112 if you want to be part of the motorcycle group in the Emory Christmas Parade

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!

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

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Point police officer Cole Hudson with Merica.

SPOTLIGHT

Newest Point police officer is a K-9 named Merica

By JUDY KRAMER
Rains County Leader contributor

Point Police Officer Cole Hudson became a canine handler on July 15, after attending the Houston Canine Academy in Houston, Texas. His canine is a male German and Belgium Shepherd mix from Hungary. His name is Merica, a change from the name of Mirko that he was given at birth. Before training in Houston, the canine lived with Officer Hudson for two weeks so the two could bond and build loyalty. They have worked together on several "denied consent" calls where a police officer can only search a vehicle for drugs if the behavior of the canine changes after sniffing it. The canine has also accompanied Officer Hudson when he helped Hunt County track an escaped felon. Merica is trained to smell methamphetamines, heroin, cocaine and MDMA (Ecstasy).

Officer Hudson has been a police officer for close to four years. He spent six months attending East Texas Police Academy at night while working in Hopkins County during the day. After he graduated from the academy he went to work as a sheriff's deputy in Wood County.

"I ended up at the Point Police Department after Police Chief Jamison Beck reached out to me," said Officer Hudson. "I have a lot of street experience in narcotics, and he wanted to build a good team to work on that specialty in Point. Most of my calls are related to narcotics, and I am gathering intel in that area."

However, I am a full patrol officer who also works in traffic and other areas, and I train with Merica every week."

Merica lives with Officer Hudson who spent \$1,800 on a metal fabricated kennel with Astro turf inside that keeps the canine comfortable at night. Officer Hudson said that Merica knows that when he goes into the kennel it is bedtime. When he comes out it is time to work.

All commands that Officer Hudson uses on Merica are in Hungarian since that is the language the canine is used to from birth. Officer Hudson has been around other police canines in the past who are also given commands in Hungarian, so he is familiar with that part of the language. Most of the canines in police work are imported from Europe where they are often trained from birth. Merica was a "green" canine who didn't start his training until Officer Hudson became his handler.

Officer Hudson was raised in Lake Fork and graduated from Rains High School in 2010. Growing up he said that his dad, Big Murphy Hudson (of Emory), used to take him traveling to many South American countries. Officer Hudson's favorite was the Dominican Republic where "the beaches were beautiful." He said that his dad made him the man he is today.

Officer Hudson loves to spend as much free time as possible with his ten-year-old and eight-year-old daughters. He still tries to travel somewhere special every year.

COURT

Continued from page 1

The court approved the final plats for the V. Rios addition on Hwy. 19 North and the Double J Addition at Bright Star on FM 2795.

Commissioners approved the surety bond for Mickey Cooper, the continuing education units for Sheila Floyd and county road inventory report from the Texas Department of Transportation.

All commissioners were present for the meeting, but Rains County Judge Linda Wallace was not in attendance due to illness.

The next regular meeting of the Rains County Commissioners Court is scheduled for Wednesday, November 23, at 10:00 a.m. in the courtroom of the Rains County Courthouse.

RISD

Continued from page 1

target set by Texas Education Agency (TEA).

The consideration of bids for the repair of roofs in the district and board goals were tabled as information was not ready for either item.

In an open forum, a resident thanked the district for putting on the Veterans Day program and praised the event.

Another speaker stated that they had moved back to Texas from Virginia and encouraged the board to stay true to their values and not give in to outside pressure.

The last speaker encouraged the district to start a gardening program for students with the produce and products to be sold to supplement revenue for the district.

The Wildcat Roar for November featured the Rains Junior High.

All trustees were present for the regular meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Rains ISD Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the boardroom of the Rains ISD Administration building.

GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

EAST TAWAKONI CITY COUNCIL
3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m., East Tawakoni City Hall

EMORY CITY COUNCIL
2nd Tues., 7:00 p.m., Emory City Hall

POINT CITY COUNCIL
2nd Thur., 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

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FORMER EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS OF THE RAINS COUNTY LEADER:

H.W. Martin - 1887
Sam Fitzgerald - Before 1900
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

TALK / TEXT CRASH

TxDOT

CITY GIRL

Counting or complaining?

It's that time of year again. Yes, it's time to begin preparations for the holidays, but it's also time to complain – about everything! As I finally sat down to write my column after a busy week, I scanned through that valuable source of inspiration – Twitter. As sometimes happens, among the usual time-wasting nonsense, I found a gem – *Concentrate on counting your blessings and you'll have little time to count anything else.*

Apparently, there's not a lot of blessing counting going on these days, because a lot of people are finding a lot of time to complain. Since the mid-term elections were just held last week, politics seems to be the focus of many complaints: the process is not fair, the voting requirements are too strict or not strict enough, there's no one good to vote for, the counting process takes too long, the wrong candidate won, and too many other complaints to list.

But surely there are political blessings in there somewhere if we concentrate hard enough. We have the right to vote, and we have a variety of times and methods to accomplish that process. And even when all your favorites didn't win, some did. If you didn't like any of the choices, you have the opportunity to get involved at a grass roots level to get behind a candidate you can really support.

So, if you're not complaining about the government, what are you going to complain about? The weather, of course. The rain messed up our plans to go camping or to the football game, or it ruined our first annual fall festival. On the other hand, the garden or the hay field didn't do well because of lack of rain. Maybe you hate the colder temperatures because you can't seem to get warm, or you maybe you can't get into the holiday spirit because it's too hot.

Regardless of the weather, though, we can be grateful that most buildings are air conditioned now, and most of us have a warm, dry place to be during the winter. For those who are not as fortunate, there are opportunities for the rest of us to help provide for their needs.

At a certain age, we become our own source of complaints. We can't see, hear, taste or smell

as well as we used to, and when we get up in the morning, everything hurts until we get moving. The mirror isn't as kind as it used to be, and the clothing manufacturers aren't making jeans as big as they used to be. The kids and grandkids don't come to visit, and when they do, they're too noisy.

We often forget that reaching the age of complaints is a blessing in itself. The wisdom and experience we've gained over the years allows us to deal with the challenges, and modern medicine doesn't hurt either. And hopefully we've learned to count even the irritations of family as a small cost of the blessing of having them in our lives.

Finally, there's a constant stream of complaints between the holiday lovers and the Scrooges. One side complains because the pumpkin spice products are not in the stores early enough, and the other side abhors the tinsel and lights that appear before the Halloween costumes are put away. Then there's the debate over which kind of pie is better, whether it's dressing or stuffing, and whether presents should be opened on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning. In spite of all the complaints, the holidays are full of blessings if we only concentrate.

At one stage of my life I sold insurance for one of the major carriers. It was in the era before smart phones and memes and even before faxes, but my sales manager still found a way to encourage his employees. Several times a week we received mail from him that included regulation update, announcements of various kinds, and inspirational sayings and pictures. One of my favorites went something like this: *Happiness is a choice. Don't wait until you get the perfect mate, job, house, or car to be happy. Just be happy.*

If he was sending a similar message today, he might say *Don't wait until all your candidates win the election, the weather is perfect, you feel like a teenager again, or your holiday celebrations are like a Hallmark movie to count your blessings.* Thanksgiving is next week. Choose to concentrate, count and be blessed.

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.



LINDA BRENDEL
Leader Correspondent

Harvesting Nature's Candy



Leader photo by TREY HILL

Workers were seen harvesting sweet potatoes Thursday afternoon, November 10, in a field just north of Alba. These spuds – thought of by some as Nature's Candy – might be at nearby market in time for next week's Thanksgiving feasts.

Lake Fork Anglers tournament series draws to a close

A long year is coming to an end today. Yes, we did skip some tournaments in January and February when the weather was really bad. But we are mostly seniors and taking care of the health of our members is more important than catching bass. We still fished about 17 tournaments of the LFA side and an equal number on the Hard-Core side, which put us on the water well over 30 times on Thursdays.

All fish 10" and up count. Only their best five count. Today's tournament was No. 23 for the five-fish limit.

Boaters

First place went to Herb King of Lake Fork with five bass for 15.44 lbs. with the Boater Lunker of 4.87 lbs.

Second place went to Herb Powell of Lake Fork with five bass for 9.13 lbs. with a lunker of 4.38 lbs.

Third place went to Tim Gold of Mineola with five bass for 8.13 lbs. with a lunker of 2.95 lbs.

Fourth place went to Billy Davis of Yantis with three bass for 7.05 lbs. with a lunker of 3.16 lbs.

Fifth place went to Randy Bunch of Lake Fork with five bass for 5.86 lbs. with a lunker of 1.58 lbs.

Co Anglers

First place went to Ken Chapman of Yantis with one bass for 6.05 lbs., which was the Co-Angler Lunker.

Second place went to Scott Powell of Lake Fork with two bass for 3.61 lbs. with a 2.61-lb. lunker.

Third place went to Ken Kielbas of Arlington with three fish for 3.50 lbs. with a 1.37-lb. lunker.

Fourth place went to Rick Wright of Rowlett with two bass

for 2.21 lbs. with a 1.21-lb. lunker.

Fifth place went to Alf Tuggle of Scroggins with two bass for 2.15 lbs. with a 1.49-lb. lunker.

There were 40 bass caught, and eight anglers were skunked.

For information on joining the Lake Fork Anglers send an inquiry to lfa_2019@yahoo.com.

We only fish on Thursdays during the daytime at Lake Fork.

The new member fee is \$20. Dues are \$20 a year and tournaments are \$15. We are currently looking for new members, boaters and co-anglers.

Call 214-930-6197 for more information.

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 in Hays County on I-35
- 6 Christmas carol
- 7 most Astro innings have 6 of these
- 7 Decatur is the seat of this county
- 8 TXism: "bright eyed bushy tailed"
- 9 TX-bom Smith who won pole vault gold in 1948 (init.)
- 12 TX Willie's "On the Road"
- 17 TXism: "put ___ back burner"
- 19 high dollar areas at Cowboy games in AT&T Stadium
- 21 a direct flight, e.g. TX-based "Chili's Grill"
- 23 when nearby Frost got the railroad, this Navarro County town faded away
- 28 where some Texans ski in New Mexico
- 29 a soothsayer
- 30 part of a barn where hay is stored
- 31 he was "Texas John Slaughter" on television (2 wds.)
- 35 Al del ___ was an Oiler/Titan kicker
- 36 TX Barry Cobin was this deputy in "Lonesome Dove" (2 wds.)
- 42 TXism: "fast ___ rafter"
- 44 TXism: "boaf ___" (chil)
- 46 TXism: "she has to stand ___ price twice to cast a shadow" (thin)

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "what she don't ___ learning" (knowledgeable)
- 2 TXism: "he'll kick ___ a funeral home" (mean horse)
- 3 proper response to question, "Should we move from Texas?" (2 wds.)
- 4 "anything ___ you need?"
- 9 this Präminger directed TX Paula Prentiss in film "In Harm's Way"
- 10 some believe the Mar's lights are these (2 wds.)
- 11 State Fair of Texas begins in this mo.
- 12 TXism: "lit ___ fiddle" (healthy)
- 13 Axl Rosso group that played at old Texas Stadium (3 wds.)
- 14 senator's assistant
- 15 TXism: "let ___" (leave it alone)
- 16 TXism: "within ear shot"
- 18 nat'l eavesdropper
- 20 last yr. in h.s.
- 23 Houston Rocket star, Elvin (init.)
- 24 "Texas Monthly," e.g. (abbr.)
- 37 expel
- 38 first flag over Texas
- 39 decisive in the Texas Revolution: "Battle ___ Jacinto"
- 40 forcibly pull from a person's grasp
- 41 "surf the ___"
- 43 TX Bob Wills: "___ ha, take it away Leon"
- 45 this LB Darrin helped Cowboys win two Super Bowls (int.)
- 47 abstains from
- 48 TXism: "happy as ___ on Santa's lap"
- 55 ___ gallon hat

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Happy Thanksgiving 10th Annual **FREE to the public**

Hand-up Outreach Ministries Thanksgiving Day Dinner

Serving Meals 12 noon - 4:30 p.m. or until everyone needing a meal has been served.

*** First Baptist Church in Point ***

(Hwy. 69 N, Corner of Industrial and Meadowview Ln.)

To-go orders for Police, Fire and Ambulance personnel, call ahead and we'll have the order ready to pick up. 903-348-4399

Homebound orders available, call 2-3 days in advance.

Volunteer servers are appreciated. Contact Marvin Henson at 903-348-4399.

ALL donations will be remitted to First Baptist Church in Point, to benefit the Rains Co. Good Samaritans Food Bank.

CDC guidelines will be followed. Please wear a mask.

Look what **America** NOTICED!

- School district budgets
- Property auctions
- Public hearings
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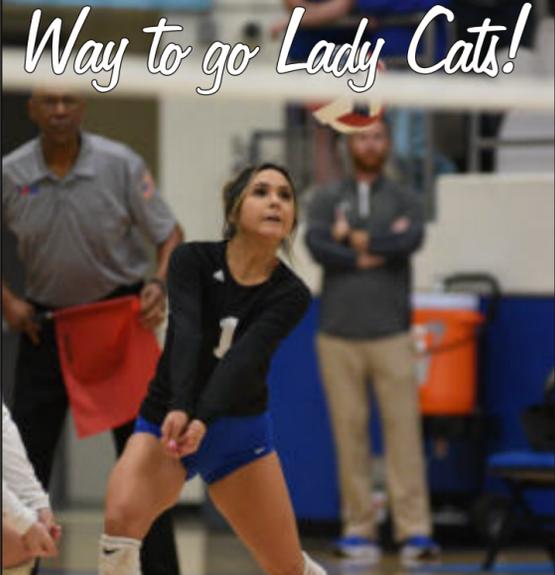
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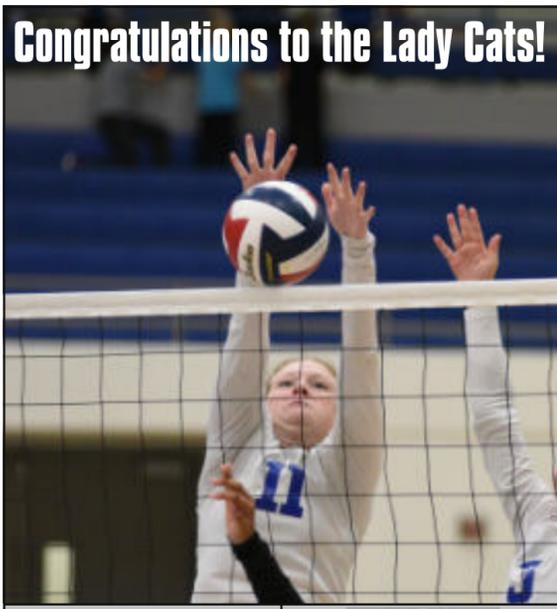
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Sheriff's Report

The Rains County Sheriff's Office took the following reports of activity during the week of November 5-11:



MICHAEL HOPKINS
Rains County Sheriff

Arrests

11-5: William Robert Barnes. Bond forfeiture/possession of controlled substance PGI greater than or equal to 1 gr. less than 4 gr.
11-5: Morris Lee Moreno. Probation violation; unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.
11-6: Roy Dean McLain. Bond forfeiture; theft of property greater than \$2,500 less than

\$30,000.
11-8: Kimberly Ann Whiteley. Driving while license invalid with previous conviction/suspension without financial responsibility.
11-9: Brandon Bowels. Bail jumping; failure to appear; sexual assault of a child.
11-9: Amanda Rachele Jones. Possession of drug paraphernalia; failure to appear.
11-9: Kara Lisette Mathews. Probation violation; possession of a controlled substance PGI less than 1 gr.
11-9: Jason Alan Mauldin. Probation violation, possession of a controlled substance PGI less than 1 gr.
11-9: Roderick Alan Rowlett. Assault causing bodily injury.

11-10: Corey Lee Silvis. Terroristic threat causing fear of imminent severe bodily injury. There were 10 arrests for the week.

Calls

11-5: Old Mill Ln. Burglar alarm, Hwy. 19N. Cows out, Subway parking lot Traffic stop, Hwy 69 near Alba Vehicle hit deer, FM 47 Criminal Trespass, N. 1st St. Dog call, Golden Chick Grease fire, Emory Hwy. 69 in front of donut shop Two-vehicle accident, Hwy. 69 between Point and Emory Reckless driver, Austin Bank Suspicious person, Emory Hwy. 19S Reckless driver, FM 2081 at county line Cows out, Rains County Jail Disturbance between inmates,

CR 1150 911 Hang up possible disturbance, Hwy. 19 at FM 514 Cows out, CR 7709 Information report, Hwy. 19S at FM 2324 Male walking in road, CR 1525 Cow out, CR 3319 Warrant service, FM 3274 Suspicious vehicle, Point First Baptist Suspicious vehicle, Hwy. 19 at FM 514 Cow out.
11-6: Point Hwy. 69 Reckless driver call, PR 7925 Welfare check, FM 2795 at FM 2946 Cow out, FM 779 Wood Co. Sheriff's Office Vehicle pursuit, CR 1402 Noise disturbance, FM 2324 east of FM 47 Car struck a deer, McMillan St. Disturbance, PR 7709 Reckless driver, FM 2324 Dog call, CR 1308 Dog call, Brookshire's Dog call, Hwy. 69 towards Point Reckless driver

call, Hwy. 19 near county line Deer struck, FM 513 at CR 4455 Cow out.
11-7: FM 275 Burglary in progress, S. FM 779 Civil matter, FM 514 Burglary of vehicle, Hwy. 276 at CR 1410 Vehicle accident, Hwy. 276 Medical assist, CR 4514 Medical assist, Hwy. 276 Medical assist.
11-8: Hwy. 69 at Wood Co. Line Reckless driver, CR 1322 Medical assist, Hwy. 19S at CR 2240 Cow out, CR 1540 Missing person, Barge Point Theft, FM 779 Civil matter, Hwy. 19 at Quitman St. 18 wheeler hit power pole, Laundromat on Hwy. 69 Theft, CR 1150 Cows out, CR 2120 Domestic disturbance, CR 1534 Suspicious vehicle.
11-9: McMillan St. Medical

assist, CR 4310 Medical assist, Hwy. 19S at county line 18 wheeler accident, FM 514 Alarm, Lone Oak Officer Request assistance.
11-10: FM 515 Suspicious circumstance, CR 3150 at CR 3040 18 wheeler blocking the road, PR 7714 Domestic disturbance, McMillan St. Medical assist, FM 275 Medical assist.
11-11: CR 3400 Suspicious circumstance, E. Lennon Dr. Alarm, W. Quitman St. Suspicious person, Fletcher St. Medical assist, FM 779 at CR 2610 Cows out, Smith Cir. Medical assist, Hwy. 19N at county line Reckless driver, Hwy. 69 Vehicle accident, CR 4235 Theft, CR 1156 Suspicious vehicle, PR 7715 Domestic disturbance.

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

Little escape from higher prices for meats

Texas Crop and Weather Report – Nov. 15

While prices have risen for turkey – the No. 1 consumer choice for a holiday meal entrée – they have also increased for other potential holiday meat entrees many consumers may choose in lieu of a gobbler for the holidays, according to Texas A&M AgriLife experts.

David Anderson, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service economist in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Bryan-College Station, said market forces and avian influenza have disrupted the turkey supply chain and driven prices upward.

While the number of fresh turkeys may not be as plentiful this year, there do appear to be a larger number of frozen ones available, he said. However, a frozen turkey typically requires several days to properly thaw, so consumers need to accommodate the extra time when planning their holiday meal.

Frozen hen and tom prices were \$0.97 and \$0.95 per pound respectively last week compared to \$0.88 and \$0.89 per pound at this time last year.

"However, some perspective is useful," Anderson said. "At a 20-cent-per-pound increase over last year, a 16-pound turkey would be \$3.20 higher than last

year," he said. "In that case, a turkey may not be a bad deal for the family celebration."

Some holiday meat alternatives

Some consumers may be looking at alternative meat entrees for their holiday celebration, Anderson said.

As far as alternatives go, beef and pork supplies are actually in much better shape than they were a year ago, said Davey Griffin, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension meat specialist in the Department of Animal Science, Bryan-College Station.

"There should be plenty of hams, prime ribs and steaks for consumers to purchase," Griffin said. "However, all of these have gone through substantial price increases."

According to the National Pork Board, 24 percent of individuals consume ham as an entrée at least one time during an average two-week period. It is estimated that approximately 318 million pounds of ham are consumed on Christmas, which puts it squarely into second place as the nation's most popular holiday meats.

U.S. Department of Agriculture data shows ham, pork loin and other pork products should

be generally available for the holidays, but these, too, have undergone price increases and consumers should be prepared to pay more than last year.

Anderson noted wholesale ham prices already indicate there may be some substitution planning going on.

"Spot market wholesale hams were \$1.01 per pound last week compared to \$0.53 per pound last year at the same week," he said. "This indicates the expectation of a higher-than-normal demand for ham."

Anderson also said the recent USDA weekly retail report from grocery stores for a host of items showed rib-eye roasts were \$9.79 per pound compared to \$10.73 per pound last year. Rack of lamb was reported at \$16.99 per pound compared to \$17.20 per pound last year. And wholesale rib-eye steaks averaged \$10.48 per pound last week compared to \$11.49 per pound the same time last year.

"Wholesale rib-eyes have begun their seasonal price increase that builds to Christmas before falling off," he said.

Both Griffin and Anderson noted there have been some specials on steaks and roasts now that the weather has turned cooler, which may help con-

sumers to expand their menus if they prefer to serve something besides the traditional turkey.

Pickin' chicken might be another option

Roast chicken may also be an attractive choice for as a holiday entrée, especially if there are fewer guests or if supplemented by an additional meat item.

The Nov. 4 Broiler Market News Report from the USDA noted whole broiler/fryer prices are trending steady and supplies are moderate for current needs. It also noted retail and food-service demand was moderate, processing schedules were normal and floor stocks were sufficient to meet consumer demand.

"The turkey industry and egg industry have been hit harder by avian influenza than the broiler industry," said Audrey McElroy, Ph.D., professor and head of the Department of Poultry Science Bryan-College Station.

McElroy noted the chicken industry typically benefits during more austere or financially uncertain times because chicken is consistently lower in price than other popular meat proteins.

After a decade of rapid expansion to meet high demand, the industry ramp-up has been so successful that prices have been

dropping. For example, spot wholesale prices for boneless, skinless breast meat reached a record high of about \$3.50 in May, then dropped precipitously to under \$1 per pound this October.

McElroy said this drop in price is likely the result of a combination of lower consumer demand combined with greater overall availability of chicken.

Additionally, according to the USDA, the price of Cornish game hens has also gone down – from \$2.87 per pound last year to \$2.80 this year.

"With a strong supply and continued global growth in emerging markets, chicken continues to stand out as a less expensive option for an appealing source of protein for your holiday meal," McElroy said.

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

EAST

Some rain was received but many ponds and creeks remained low. Some counties had their first hard freeze. Pasture and rangeland conditions varied from very poor to good. Subsoil and topsoil conditions were adequate

to short. Winter forages and vegetables were struggling due to lack of rain. Many producers were relying on already short hay supplies for supplemental feeding. Livestock were in fair to good condition with supplementation taking place.

NORTH

Soil moisture was adequate for most of the counties due to end-of-week rains. Nighttime temperatures dropped into the low 30s. A freeze affected some counties and had a major impact on warm-season plants. Warmer days early in the week helped the wheat crop. Winter crops were looking good in some counties. Rain brought a halt to some fieldwork and warm weather is needed to complete planting. Almost all cotton acres were plowed up. Livestock conditions were good. Some stock tanks began to refill, and streams and creeks were running well again. Producers were on the alert for Hessian flies.

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BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

How to shop Black Friday sales

Black Friday, traditionally the single busiest shopping day of the year, is set to begin on Friday, November 25, of this year. As consumers prepare to take advantage of the deals and discounts offered, increased costs of many products driven by inflation and supply chain shortages may make an effect on shopping behavior. Instead of setting the alarm to brave crowds for deeply discounted items, dedicated shoppers may look for deals online which often allows greater flexibility to comparatively shop for the best price. With an increase in consumer spending on online purchases, Better Business Bureau reminds shoppers to remain aware of scammers who tend to capitalize on marketplace trends.

Every year, BBB Scam Tracker receives an influx of reports during the holiday shopping season of consumers falling victim to fraudulent sellers, counterfeit items or false advertising in regard to the quality of the product. Scammers often appeal to shoppers by offering massive discounts on name-brand products under the pretense of a Black Friday deal, often including photos of the product that do not reflect what the customer receives.

Last year, BBB issued a warning about a Fort Worth-based business that sold products that appeared to be Beats by Dre headphones, but numerous customer complaints described the poor quality of the product. The business itself leveraged the credibility attached to the name-brand by calling itself Beats by Dr. Dre, confusing consumers who thought they were getting a good deal on a product known for its quality. While the website operated by this company has since been shut down, scammers often use this tactic for a variety of other products. BBB's 2021 *Online Purchase Scams Report* found that footwear and apparel are the most common counterfeit items, with Nike as the most frequently used brand. Other top

brands include NFL clothing, Apple gadgets, Louis Vuitton handbags, Tiffany jewelry and LEGO toys.

If you decide to shop on Black Friday, Better Business Bureau offers these tips to make your shopping experience productive, scam-free and successful.

Make the most of Black Friday deals. Start with a list of items and use sale flyers and promotions to determine which store has the best price. Set a budget and stick with it before heading out.

Read the fine print. Some retailers may offer an additional percentage off the purchase but exclude specific deals or items such as "doorbusters." Watch for companies boasting a high percentage off; the item may be "75-percent off," but the retailer could inflate the original price. Carefully check the price tags, terms and conditions. Research online using a secure Wi-Fi connection to see if competitors have the item at a better price.

Plan out the excursion. Sometimes it's unnecessary to wait to see what retailers will offer deals on Black Friday; often, they will release Black Friday flyers weeks ahead of time so that consumers can plan out their shopping spree. Make a map of the stores to visit and what items are at which store. Some retailers only honor sale ads during a specific time frame or on certain days, and may limit the amount of deeply discounted items available for purchase.

Sign-up for email alerts. Many stores release their best Black Friday deals and exclusive coupons to people who have subscribed to their emails. Sign up ahead of the holiday season, and then unsubscribe afterward, if needed.

Do your research. Read product reviews on highly discounted items. It could be a cheaper model or brand advertised and not what the buyer expects. Check BBB.org for Business Profiles of the stores and read what other customers

have experienced.

Consumers expect quality from things like shoes, clothing and jewelry. When searching for a name-brand or popular luxury item, pay close attention to its price and check with official retailers to determine the likelihood of it being offered at the advertised price. If a product is listed at significantly higher prices at authorized retailers or its website than is shown, it is more than likely not authentic.

Read the website and look for grammatical errors. Typographical errors indicate the site was put together quickly and may not reflect the typical brand messaging you would expect. Grammatical mistakes in public-facing communications are rare for brand-name items that typically have the resources to employ extensive marketing departments.

Know the return policy and warranty information. Pass along any information about returns, exchanges, repairs, and warranties to the person who will use the item. Gift receipts are an easy way for recipients to return or exchange a gift if it's not just right, but make sure the gift recipient can return the item before purchasing.

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Obituaries

Frank Allen Sheldon
1951 - 2022



A memorial service for Frank Allen Sheldon, 70, will be held on Saturday, November 19, at 11:00 a.m., at Wilson Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Sheldon died on November 11, 2022, in Greenville. He was born on December 13, 1951, to Leon Allen Shelton and Jannie Pearl Fenter Shelton in Greenville.

Mr. Sheldon was a member of the "Musical Messengers" and for several years toured East Texas and sang at churches. He worked for Texas Book Company for over 25 years. He loved mowing and working on his yard. Later in life, he fought a long hard battle with Parkinson's Disease.

Mr. Sheldon is survived by his sisters, Brenda Hooten and husband Larry, and Linda Sikes; niece, Kristi Sikes; nephews, Greg Sikes and wife Jenny, Lance Sikes and wife Judy, Jay Sikes and

wife Susan, Scott Hooten and wife Rachelle, Lance Hooten and wife Shelly, Joey Chastain and wife Wendy, and Brad Chastain and wife Randa; great nieces and nephews, Lindsay Sikes, Grant Sikes, Shea Ivy, Kara McCasland, Emily Heinrichs, Luke Hooten, Jake Hooten, Anna Hooten, Zack Hooten, Colton Chastain, Alli Chastain, Rebecca Crawford, Chris Sikes, Meaghan Sikes and Madison Harris; and many more family and friends that loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Kay Chastain; nephew, Jacob Sikes; and brothers-in-law, Bill Sikes and Robert Chastain.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Woolsley Cemetery Association. Arrangements are under the direction of Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Westyn Brian Mandrell
1921 - 2022



A funeral service for Westyn Brian Mandrell, 1, was held on November 15, at Wilson Orwosky Funeral Home. He died on November 8, 2022, in Sulphur Springs. He was born on May 22, 2021, to Bryan and Mercedes Mandrell of Emory.

Westyn made an impact on everyone he met with his infectious smile or mesmerizing blue eyes. His constant energy kept him on the go. There was a bond between Westyn and his brother, Axton. He was a daddy's boy, and his paw-paw's best friend, but in the quiet moments nothing soothed him more than the cuddles he got from his mom and

grammie. Westyn is survived by his parents; brother, Axton Earl Sasser; maternal grandparents, Edwin and Debbie Myers; paternal granny, Jeri White; aunt, Mariah Edwards and husband Aaron; cousin, Skylar Edwards; and numerous uncles, aunts, cousins and friends that will allow his memory to live on through them.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Parker Ray Sasser; grandfather, Stephen Mandrell; great-uncles, Rick Hill and Scott Blinn; and his great-grandparents.

Michael A. Kennedy
1941 - 2022

A funeral service for Michael A. Kennedy, 81, of Emory, will be held on Saturday, November 19, at 12:00 p.m. at Emory Baptist Church. Danny Meek of Lake Fork Baptist Church will officiate.

Mr. Kennedy died on November 5, 2022, at his home in Emory. He was born on October 20, 1941, to Charles A. and Lois T. Kennedy, in Houston. He was a quiet man who loved his family. He worked hard his entire life to provide for every one of them. He attended Lake Fork Baptist Church.

Mr. Kennedy is survived by his wife, Mary G.

Kennedy; son, Joshua S. Kennedy; daughter, Amy M. Aumada; step-daughter, Kelly C. Osborne; and step-son, Charles M. Kennedy; grandchildren, Charles Ryan, Gabrielle and Logan Kennedy, Maxamud and Asher Aumada, Garrett Cummings, Kameryn, Presley and Carter Kennedy, and Jeffrey and Dylan Osborne; great-grandchildren, Conner and Hazel Kennedy; and brother, Charles R. Kennedy.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Patrick F. Kennedy; and sisters, Katherine Bishop and Marilyn Smith.

FISHING REPORT

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department released the following information for Lake Fork and Lake Tawakoni taken on November 9:

Lake Fork: Good. Water Stained; 65 degrees; 6.84 feet low. Bass fishing is slow. The best bite is in 2-6 feet of water on

wood or laydowns near ditches and creeks using green pumpkin or gold flake Texas rigs, and Viper XP jigs in Raptor Craw and Sourgrape, and PB&J. Some fish are in the very back of the pockets. Few fish are being caught on main lake points and secondary points in eight feet of

water using shad patterned XD 5 crankbaits. Warm days and consistent weather bring some action during the day, sub-surface patterns in fish patterns and jig patterns will be a good choice. Fish for bream beaded flies around boathouses and brush piles. Lake Fork crappie fishing has been really heating up as the water temperatures cools down to the 60s. Limits of quality fish on trees in 18-28 feet of water. Some fish are suspended in the mid section of the trees and some are on the bottom. The winds have been blowing strong some days and that may be pushing those fish down. Also, seeing fish on brush piles and laydowns as well in 13-23 feet. Big fish over two pounds are starting to show up as they are feeding hard on shad right now. Best bait has been minnows, but seeing some very aggressive fish so jigs should produce as well.

Lake Tawakoni: Good. Water lightly stained; 70 degrees; 3.62 feet low. Lake Tawakoni water temps have dropped to that

magical 70 degree mark. When this happens a lot changes on our lake. Eggs start developing in our white bass and striper, and they begin feeding more often and more aggressively. These fish have been good under seagulls using swimbaits on cloudy windy days. On clear calm days fishing is tougher and requires fishing with slabs off the bottom in 15-20 feet of water. The trophy blue catfish are starting to turn on. We are seeing big blues starting to be caught in that 15-30 feet range on big open flats drifting cut shad. The eater blue and channel catfish bite is still about as good as it gets. Prepared punch and dip baits are out producing shrimp and shad. Timber or structure in 20-35 feet of water is best. Crappie have been good suspended on deeper main lake timber with jigs out fishing minnows. Largemouth bass have been good shallow on topwaters at daylight and quickly transitioning to a shallow rattle trap and weightless fluke bite near docks and retaining walls.

Thank You

The McKinney family would like to thank all of you who have sent food, cards, plants, and donations in Chuck's honor.

Would also like thank all of you who came and celebrated Chuck's life with us.

A special thank you to the staff at Senior Suites and Heart to Heart Hospice for your loving care of Chuck and our family.

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By Linda Brendle

"I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another."

Romans 15:14

We appreciate all the men who came Saturday morning to help accomplish the chores that needed to be done in preparation for the building of a new store room.

Pastor Jason Rolen's sermon was titled "Why Biblical Counseling?" He said that every believer is to be filled with the love of God and the knowledge of scripture to counsel others.

The next Student Ministry Fellowship will be

held on Saturday, November 19. Contact Pastor Jerod Haygood for information.

Next Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. we will celebrate the ordinations of one new elder and two new deacons.

Plan to join us on December 11, at 10:30 a.m. for morning worship when a special BBC Worship Choir will help lead worship and the children will share the catechisms they have been learning and a special song.

Episode 130 of the *Asking for a Friend Podcast* is "Law/Gospel, Sanctification and Assurance -Guest interview with Mike Abendroth." A link can be found under the Media tab at www.bbcemory.org.

Bright Star Baptist Church

By Glenda Galyean

"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

II Timothy 2:3

Last Wednesday evening we had tacos with all the fixings and donuts for dessert for our family meal. Youth pastor Andrew Grills had another great lesson for the youth. Pastor Jerry Jackson brought a wonderful message from Colossians titled "Rooted and Built Up."

Our Sunday morning service was very good! We are always excited to have new and returning visitors. Following our fellowship time, we recognized our veterans, saluted the flag, and sang our national anthem a cappella led by Ashlen

Day. Ashlen blessed our hearts with a touching special before Bro. Jerry's message from II Timothy titled "Being A Strong, Faithful, Committed and Enduring Soldier." Bro. Jerry's experience in the military really enables him to express life as a soldier.

Birthday wishes go to Tommy Shedd and Mary Meister.

Next Sunday, Ian Ofrecio will be back to share more about his call to be a missionary to the people of Baguio City in the Philippines and to plant churches there. He and his wife will be singing as well.

Jesus is coming back soon. Are you ready? Have a blessed and safe week.

Country Baptist Church

By Donna Jones

Joel Frazier and Donna Boughton led services with a song and prayer of dismissal to our classes.

The kids' class studied how Jesus is all powerful. The focus was on Lazarus and how Jesus brought him back to life.

Donna Boughton led the adult class. The study was titled "We are Chips Off The Rock."

Worship began with Joel Frazier and Donna Boughton leading a song and then prayers and praises were lifted up. Benny Thompson took our needs to the Lord. Remember to pray for the sick, the ones mourning the loss of a loved one, the lost, this country, all travelers and other issues.

We have so much to be thankful for and how

the Lord has blessed us in life.

Bro. Mike Frazier welcomed each one and brought the announcements.

After several songs about how awesome God is, Benny Thompson brought the special music.

Bro. Mike Frazier brought the message. Everyone is welcome to come and hear what the Lord's word is saying to us.

We missed everyone who could not be in our services.

We pray you have a great week and may God richly bless you.

Take your family to church somewhere and feel God's love.

Emory Baptist Church

By Ronnie Witt

The fellowship hall was busy with activity on Saturday morning. The women's ministry met for the annual Operation Christmas Child shoebox Packing and Christmas Craft. Shoeboxes are packed and headed to the area distribution centers this week. We appreciate all those who participated in this special ministry.

Sunday morning was "Friend Day" at Emory Baptist Church. Bro. Richard Piles shared a message from John titled "Will You Walk Through the Gate?" It concerned Jesus' illustration about the shepherd who guards the gate of the sheep pen. Jesus used the illustration to describe Himself as the gate and the only way to come to God. In the evening, Bro. Richard shared a

message from Deuteronomy titled "The Second Commandment."

Women on Mission met in the Bride's Room on Monday and T.E.L. held a Thanksgiving Potluck lunch in the fellowship hall on Tuesday. There was entertainment and fellowship as the word of the month was "laughter." Backpack Buddies met Wednesday to pack bags for Rains ISD students.

Looking ahead to next week, Emory Baptist will hold its November Members' Meeting on Sunday night, November 20. There will be no evening ministries on Wednesday, November 23. The church office will be closed on November 24 in celebration of Thanksgiving.

Emory United Methodist Church

By Mary White

"And it shall come to pass, if you shall obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."

Deuteronomy 11:13

Rev. David Banks' message titled "The Promised Land" with scripture text taken from Deuteronomy, describes the essence of the Law. David gifted each of the congregation with a pomegranate and even showed us how to get to the wonderful berries.

The Lord promised the Israelites a land flowing with milk and honey and pomegranates. It was a great day of worship!

Looking ahead, the church will have a potluck Thanksgiving Meal on November 20, after worship.

Birthday wishes go to Lonnah Basham. Pray for Lewis Hathcoat, Henry Weldon Walker, Heather Powell, Kay Leavell, Alan Spears and the Joe Applewhite family.

Kind words are more precious than gold. Have a wonderful week.

SAVVY SENIOR

Top financial scams targeting seniors today

Dear Savvy Senior,
What are the most common scams today that target elderly seniors? My 75-year-old mother has been swindled several times over the past year, so I'm being extra cautious.

Paranoid Patty



JIM MILLER Savvy Senior

Dear Patty,
Great question! While many scams today are universal, there are certain types of fraud that specifically target older adults or affects them disproportionately. And unfortunately, these senior targeted scams are on the rise. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), in 2021 there were 92,371 older victims of fraud resulting in \$1.7 billion in losses. This was a 74-percent increase in losses compared to 2020.

Here are five of the most common senior scams that were reported last year, that both you and your mom should be aware of.

Government imposter scams: These are fraudulent telephone calls from people claiming to be from the Internal Revenue Service, Social Security Administration or Medicare. These scammers may falsely tell you that you have unpaid taxes and threaten arrest or deportation if you don't pay up immediately. Or they may say your Social Security or Medicare benefits are in danger of being cut off if you don't provide personal identifying information. They may even "spoof" your caller ID to make it look like the government is actually calling.

Sweepstakes and lottery scams: These scams may contact you by phone, mail or email. They tell you that you've won or have the potential to win a jackpot. But you need to pay a fee, or cover taxes and processing fees to receive your prize, perhaps by prepaid debit card, wire transfer, money order or cash. Scammers may even impersonate well-known sweepstakes organizations, like Publishers Clearing House, to fool you.

Robocalls and phone scam: Robocalls take advantage of sophisticated, automated phone technology to carry out a variety of scams on trusting older adults who answer the phone. Some robocalls may claim that a warranty is

expiring on their car or electronic device, and payment is needed to renew it. These scammers may also "spoof" the number to make the call look authentic.

One common robocall is the "Can you hear me?" call. When the older person says "yes," the scammer records their voice and hangs up. The criminal then has a voice signature to authorize unwanted charges on items like stolen credit cards.

Computer tech support scams: These scams prey on senior's lack of knowledge about computers and cybersecurity. A pop-up message or blank screen usually appears on a computer or phone, telling you that your device is compromised and needs fixing. When you call the support number for help, the scammer may either request remote access to your computer and/or that you pay a fee to have it repaired.

Grandparent scam: The grandparent scam has been around for several years now. A scammer will call and say something along the lines of: "Hi Grandma, do you know who this is?" When the unsuspecting grandparent guesses the name of the grandchild the scammer most sounds like, the scammer has established a fake identity.

The fake grandchild will then ask for money to solve some unexpected financial problem (legal trouble, overdue rent, car repairs, etc.), to be paid via gift cards or money transfers, which don't always require identification to collect.

Other Scams

Some other popular scams targeting older adults right now are romance scams through social media and online dating sites, COVID-19 scams, investment scams, Medicare and health insurance scams, and Internet and email fraud.

For more information on the different types senior scams to watch out for, along with tips to help your mom protect herself, visit the National Council on Aging website at NCOA.org, and type in "the top 5 financial scams targeting older adults" in the search bar.

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.

Visit us online at:
rainscountyleader.com

Church Directory

Everyone is welcome at
Bright Star Baptist Church
P.O. Box 680, Alba, TX 75410
Two miles west of Alba on FM 2795, 1-1/2 miles N. of US 69
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Jerry Jackson, Jr.
903-513-3120 • 903-569-7100

Freedom Church of God
10830 FM 514
6 mi. N on Hwy. 19, east on 514
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Nursery ~ Children's Church
Come Worship With Us
Pastor David Hamm
Church 903-473-2457

MIRACLE FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH (Independent)
820 SH 276 • Emory
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night Youth 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 6:30 p.m.
Pastor: Robert Burns II
Church: 903-473-3238

Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church
1140 FM 2964, Emory
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

County Line Baptist Church
Bro. Wayne Darty
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7:00 p.m.
nursery available
HWY. 275, 3 miles south of Miller Grove
903-994-2125 • 903-459-3219

We invite you to study God's word with us soon.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Hwy. 69 N. • P.O. Box 68
Emory, TX 75440
903-473-2658
Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Chapel Hill Baptist Church
Bonanza Community
"The church with an open door and an open heart"
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Pastor Billy Walker
EVERYONE WELCOME!

Calvary Baptist Church
INDEPENDENT FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Worship
Pastor: Jimmy Jarrett
Hwys 515 & 779, 2-1/2 Miles East of Emory • 903-474-9463

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

Daugherty Baptist Church
2 miles west of Hwy 19N on FM 514
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. night 7:00 p.m.
Pastor Joe Pierce
903-886-6522

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
Rev. Michael Ledesma
551 East FM 2795
903-473-5116
Visit stjohnemory.org for Mass times.
From Brookshires, go east 1.2 miles. Turn right onto FM 2795

On The Square
Corner Of North & Planters
Downtown Emory
903-473-3357
emorybaptist.org
Dr. Richard D. Piles—Pastor
Chris Henderson—Minister of Music & Sr. Adults
Ronnie Witt—Minister of Youth & Education
Sunday
Sunday Morning
Small Groups 9:15am
Morning Worship 10:30am
Evening Worship 6:30 pm
Wednesday
Wed. Worship 6:30pm
(Adults, Youth, Children)
Choir Practice 6:30pm

Believers' Baptist Church
Sunday
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
MorningWorship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday
Adult Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Student Ministry 6:00 p.m.
Dr. Jason Rolen — Pastor
Jerod Haygood — Student & Family Pastor
Duffey Henderson — Music & Media Minister
www.bbcemory.org 903-474-0027

Connect with God
Connect with God's Word
Connect with God's People
Connect with God's Plan
take fork Baptist Church
Dr. Zachary Tunnell, Pastor
Sundays
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. AM Worship for all ages
Wednesdays
5:45 p.m. Meal
6:15 p.m. Prayers Service
9483 West FM 515 • Alba, TX 75410
903-473-9523 • www.lakeforkbaptist.org

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

Classified Ads

We Accept (903) **473-2653**
CLASSIFIED DEADLINE 5:00 P.M. TUESDAY

FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE
 30 ACRES FOR SALE.
 469-552-1737.

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

Firewood for sale, delivery available. 903-473-2901

Seasoned oak firewood. Delivery available. Wyndell Luckett. 903-268-8465.

PECANS PECANS FOR SALE!! There will be a shortage this year. Get your pecans early. 903-348-6011, 903-439-3197, or 817-692-6758.

Multi-Family Garage Sale - clothes, tools, home goods. Black Friday & Saturday (Nov 25 & 26) 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., 12163 FM 514.

RENT/LEASE

3/2 manufactured home, 208 Duffy St. \$1000 rent/\$1000 deposit. Apply online eagleinnapartments.com.

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

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 Don R. Spencer Owner/Broker
903-473-2225
 Brooks Harman 903-502-4675 Judy Moody 214-536-3214 Kelly Lyn Roberts 903-473-6876
 LLSpencerRealEstate.com

J&R PARTS PLUS
 DISCOUNT AUTO SUPPLY
 595 W. Lennon Dr. Emory, Texas 75440
 903-473-2950
 903-473-3657

21 CENTURY 21
 Lake Country

 886 E. Lennon STE 111 Emory, TX 75440
CELL: 903-474-0447
 Office: 903-473-1222 Fax: 903-473-1229 kathywayne21@yahoo.com

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RENT/LEASE

Emory 3BR/2BA, Fenced yard, \$1,600/mth. 903-474-4007.

Emory 4BR/3BA, 2000 sq. ft., fenced yard. \$1200/mth. 903-474-4007.

Alba, 3BR/2BA, on one acre in the country. \$1300/month. 903-474-4007.

ALL BILLS PAID
EAGLE INN APARTMENTS
 2-BR \$826/mth. \$600 deposit. Apply at eagleinnapartments.com.

Point, newly remodeled 3BR/2BA house, 1400 sq.ft. on 1 acre, fenced back yard, \$1800/mth. View property and apply online at zillow.com. 713-858-7982.

STORAGE UNITS
 EMORY SELF STORAGE, Hwy. 69S, 410 E. Lennon. Now offering climate-controlled units. 903-474-9150, 903-348-5459.

HELP WANTED

Immediate opening for childcare workers Sunday and Wednesday nights. \$20/hr. Criminal background check required. Contact Emory Baptist Church at 903-473-3357.

HELP WANTED

Emory Development Corporation is now accepting applications for an administrative assistant. Hours of operation are 8-4:30 pm, full benefits including TMRS. Salary based on experience. Please email questions or resumes to leah@emorytx.com.

SENIOR SUITE CARE & REHAB is now accepting applications for cooks/cooks' helpers, and dishwashers. Morning shifts and evening shifts available. Competitive pay. 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.

SERVICES

CONSTRUCTION

LANE'S CONCRETE WORK Houses, driveways, patios, sidewalks, GRAVE CURBING. 903-268-1400. Now Hiring.

DODSON AND SONS Painting, drywall, carpentry and more. 903-259-8541.

MCKENZIE LAKE WORKS. Superior quality waterfront solutions. Boat docks, steel/metal bldgs. & more. www.mckenzielake.com. 903-356-2300, 903-269-6173.

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 903-473-3640
 We Make House Calls
 computermanplus.com

BY LINE SURVEYING
 OFFICE : 903-473-5150
 FIRM NO: 10194233

Toby Boatman GARAGE DOORS
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 Sales • Service • Installation
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903-438-1970

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 Dependable weekly service
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 PROUDLY SERVING HUNT COUNTY SINCE 1998
 9011 Hwy. 334S, Suite A Quinlan, TX 75474
 *Prices may vary with additional or different techniques used or individual needs of patients

DIRT & TRACTOR WORK

G&G GRAVEL - All types of gravel, chipped asphalt, available for spreading, free estimates. Miller Grove. Bret Garrett 903-268-6910, Mark Garrett 903-348-3872.

TONY JENNINGS DIRT WORK - Will pump out and clean out pools, fence rows, etc., with excavator/trackhoe. Free estimates. Home 903-473-2508. Cell 903-530-7014.

LAND CLEARING, concrete removal and haul-off, driveways, dirtwork, clean-up. **JERRY'S LAWN CARE & TRACTOR WORK.** 903-335-3741.

LAWN/LANDSCAPE/MOWING

HOOTEN'S LAWN & TREE SERVICE, LLC
 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 TRIMMING, 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.

CLEANING

Do you need your home cleaned for the holidays? Need your AirBnB freshened up for the next fisherman? Local woman with references. Reasonable rates. Call Jacqueline 903-474-7627.

APPLIANCE REPAIR

AVS APPLIANCE SERVICE - Servicing most household appliances. All work guaranteed. 903-473-3664, 903-473-8862.

Visit our website
 www.rainscountyleader.com

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

 Visit www.cbt.com for this week's solution

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

PEST CONTROL

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

TREE SERVICES

HOOTEN'S LAWN & TREE SERVICE, LLC. Tree trimming/removal. Credit cards, insured. LI0019094. 903-473-8706, 903-474-4402.

TREE SERVICES

LEGACY TREE SERVICE. www.TheWilsonLegacy.com 903-455-1587. Insured, credit cards, appointments. We specialize in high risk removals. Trimming, Removals, Stumps.

PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
CITY OF EAST TAWAKONI
ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

The City of East Tawakoni is accepting sealed bids for the sale of surplus vehicles beginning Thursday November 10th 2022. The auction will remain open for bids till Thursday November 24th 2022 until 4 P.M. All bid will be open on November 29th 2022 at the East Tawakoni Police Department at 10:00 AM winners will be contacted on November 30th 2022 to pick up vehicles.

2005 Chrysler PT Cruiser.
 Ran when impounded.
 Vin# 3C4FY58BX5T584729
 Blue. Starting bid \$400.00

1993 Ford F-150
 Ran when impounded.
 Vin # 1FTEX15N7PKB62489
 Green. Starting bid \$400.00

2007 Mitsubishi Galant
 Ran when impounded.
 Vin# 4A3AB76T97E067358
 Black/Red. Starting Bid \$400.00

2004 KIA Sorento
 Ran when impounded.
 Vin # KNDJC733945258262
 Gold. Starting Bid \$400.00

2007 Hyundai Tiburon
 Ran when impounded.
 Vin # KMHHM66DX7U246024
 Blue. Starting Bid \$400.00

1989 Dodge Ram Charger
 Ran when impounded.
 Vin # 3B4GE17Y1KM941987
 White /Burgundy. Starting Bid \$400.00

1980 Chevrolet Pick Up
 Ran when impounded.
 VIN #CCG14AS166360
 Red. Starting Bid \$400.00

Bids may be hand delivered or mailed to 288 Briggs Blvd. East Tawakoni, TX 75472 or email to policechief@easttawakonitx.com.

The city reserves the rights to reject any or all bids.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY FOR AUTHORITY TO RECONCILE FUEL COSTS

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) applied to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) on August 31, 2022, for authority to reconcile its eligible fuel expenses and revenues for the period of January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2021 (Reconciliation Period). SWEPCO's request, if granted, will affect all of SWEPCO's Texas retail customers who pay fixed fuel factors. The request has no effect on SWEPCO's non-fuel base rates.

During the Reconciliation Period, SWEPCO incurred a total of \$673,456,496 in eligible fuel, fuel-related expenses, and purchased-power costs to generate and purchase electric energy for its Texas retail customers, as well as expenses associated with environmental consumables and emission allowance costs incurred by SWEPCO and allocated to its Texas retail customers. As of the end of the Reconciliation Period, SWEPCO calculates that it has under-recovered its Texas retail fuel, fuel-related, and purchased-power costs by \$226,582,663, excluding interest. Including interest, SWEPCO's cumulative under-recovery balance is \$227,527,608 as of December 31, 2021. SWEPCO seeks have the fuel over- / under-recovery balances, including interest, established by customer class as of the end of the Reconciliation Period. SWEPCO also requests a prudence finding for certain fuel-related contracts and arrangements entered into or modified during the Reconciliation Period. Finally, SWEPCO requests recovery of its reasonable rate-case expenses associated with this fuel reconciliation proceeding and certain prior fuel-related proceedings, including those expenses paid to reimburse municipalities for their participation.

Persons with questions or who want more information on this petition may contact SWEPCO at 428 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101, or call toll-free at (888) 216-3523 during normal business hours. A complete copy of this application is available for inspection at the address listed above.

Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this petition should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Customer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call (512) 936-7120, or toll free at 1-888-782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may call (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll free) at 1-800-735-2989. A request for intervention or for further information should refer to Docket No. 53931.

Sports

RAINS LADY CAT VOLLEYBALL

Historic playoff run ends for Lady Cats in regional finals

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains Lady Cat's historic run ended in the Region 2-3A finals with a loss to #1 Gunter on Saturday, November 12, in Midlothian.

For the first time since 1984, the Lady Cats qualified for the 2-day regional tournament at Midlothian High School.

They began the tournament with a straight-set victory over the Atlanta Lady Rabbits on Friday, November 11. The set scores for the match were 25-21, 25-17 and 25-21.

Rains, ranked #14 by Maxprep, faced #1 Gunter Lady Tigers in the finals on Saturday, November 12 and lost, 3-0 (25-11, 25-10, 25-20).

The Rains Lady Cats finish the season with a record of 27-4. They were the runner-up in District 12-3A with a 9-3 record.

Senior Harley Kreck was selected as the District 12-3A MVP in honors announced on Monday.

First Team All-District selections from Rains included junior Jasey Campbell and senior Storey Smith. Selected as Second Team All District was senior Krislynn Bangs.

All District Honorable Mentions were junior Cambree Oakes, senior Brianna Durica and sophomore Emma Patterson.

Lady Cats selected to the Academic All District team were Kreck, Smith, Bangs, Durica, Oakes, Campbell, Patterson, sophomore Kennedy Potts, sophomore Adison Fuller and sophomore Courtney Ferrell.



Senior Storey Smith (3) with a spike into an open court during the 3-0 playoff win over Atlanta Lady Rabbits on Friday, November 11.

Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS



Senior Brianna Durica (2) blocks the attempted kill of the Lady Rabbit during the 3-0 regional semifinal playoff win over Atlanta on Friday, November 11, in Midlothian.

Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

Roy Bean not always legendary judge

Roy Bean inherited a California saloon on or about Nov. 22, 1852 after the murder of his oldest brother Joshua.

The legendary "Law West of the Pecos" did not just drop out of the sky into Lone Star folklore. For the better part of 40 years, he knocked around the West sponging off his brothers and blowing every chance at success.

The youngest of the three Bean boys, Roy was born in Kentucky in 1825. Following the lead of brother Sam, a Mexican War veteran, he left home at age 23 to sample the good life south of the border. For a time, Mexico lived up to his standards, satisfying the lazy youth's basic needs without him breaking a sweat.

But when Sam tied the knot with a local senorita and showed signs of becoming respectable, Roy joined the Forty-Niner rush for the California gold fields. At San Diego he discovered something even better, namely that none other than his brother Joshua was the top dog in town.

The eldest Bean was generous to a fault and provided his shiftless sibling with room, board and fine clothes, the pockets of which he kept full of spending money. Fortunately, he expected nothing in return because that was exactly what he got.

Josh moved up the California coast to Los Angeles, but Roy was having too much fun in San Diego to tag along. Like most baby brothers, he thought he was finally big enough to take care of himself, a rash assumption he soon proved wrong.

Roy's troubles started innocently enough. A barroom acquaintance suggested a manly test of shooting skill, and Roy came up with the idea of a duel on horseback in the center of town. Only after he wounded his playmate and shot his mount out from under him did the sheriff intervene and haul both of them off to jail.

Roy anticipated a token night or two behind bars, but a month went by and he was still confined to a cell. Although he insisted decades later that he tunneled his way to freedom with tools secretly supplied by a female fan club, the facts indicate Roy merely took advantage of a mass escape staged by other prisoners and walked away in the confusion.

The fugitive headed straight for Los Angeles and a reunion with his closest kin. While Josh was again willing to take Roy under his wing, this time he insisted that he earn his keep. So Roy agreed to tend bar in his brother's saloon, the wildest watering hole for miles around.

In a matter of months, he inherited the profitable enterprise under very tragic circumstances. Odd man out in a love triangle, Josh was killed in a midnight ambush. Though seemingly set for life, the new owner managed to run the business into the ground by being his own best customer.

Deep in debt and on the verge of losing the saloon,

Roy succeeded in making a bad situation worse. Stumbling into a romantic entanglement over a Mexican maiden, he fought and won a duel for her affection. But the friends of the dead suitor took his death so hard that they strung up Roy and left him dangling from a tree limb.

Either the branch was too low or the rope stretched allowing the victim to stand on his tiptoes until a passerby took pity on Roy and cut him down. The close call left Roy with a permanent crick in his neck that forced him to rotate his shoulders in order to look from side to side.

Deciding a change of climate would be good for his health, Roy wandered back east in search of his surviving brother. Sam, like deceased Josh, had done right well for himself, becoming the wealthiest member of a frontier community in New Mexico and the county sheriff to boot. Never one to wait for an invitation, Roy moved right in.

The Civil War spoiled this cozy arrangement. According to one of his many yarns spun for the entertainment of Vinegaroon visitors, Roy committed himself body and soul to the Confederate cause. In this thrilling fantasy, he cast himself as spy and scout for the ill-fated invasion of New Mexico by Rebel Texans and accompanied them back to the former Lone Star State after the bold gamble went bust.

While Roy's war record is open to question, his arrival in San Antonio at the height of the conflict is a documented fact. Also, the subsequent story of smuggling cotton and other contraband back and forth across the Rio Grande is certainly more consistent with his character than selfless sacrifice for the Confederacy.

In middle age Roy at last put down roots. He married a San Antonio woman and, after a fashion, raised and supported a family for nearly 20 years. But there is no known cure for wanderlust, and at 56 he came down with a bad case of the itch.

The rest is history or, to be more precise, legend. No figure in Texas history ever tried harder to carve a memorable place for himself than Judge Roy Bean, the crusty clown prince of the Pecos. That he pulled it off was his only real achievement in life.

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Historical Columnist

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SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

If you are facing extreme grief this holiday season, you know there is no easy or quick fix! But we can help you uncover practical holiday survival tips for dealing with a season of despair.

Join us for Surviving the Holidays, a two-hour event featuring real-life stories and a community of caring people.

This event will be held on Wednesday, December 7 at the Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home, 803 N. Texas St., Emory, from 2-4 p.m.

To register or find out more about GriefShare Surviving the Holidays, call Ashley or Renee at 903-473-3545 or wilsonorwosky@familyfh.com

Source: GriefShare/Lone Oak Assembly of God Church • Program Director: Dr. Mary Siankster