

RAINS ISD

Rains ISD campuses closed for gas leak

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains High School campus was closed on Thursday, December 1, and all Rains ISD campuses closed on Friday, December 2, due to concerns of a gas smell at the high school building.

A statement from Rains ISD Superintendent Jennifer Johnson stated that on Wednesday, November 30, the high school building

was evaluated by professionals due to the smell of gas in the building. “Out of an abundance of caution Atmos was also brought in to thoroughly examine the pressure in all lines in the building,” Johnson said. The smell was determined to come from a bad regulator in the ceiling of the high school. During the investigation, minor leaks were found outside the building. Classes on the high school campus were canceled on December 1

as repairs to the regulator and the lines required access to the high school building classrooms. Rains ISD closed all campuses on December 2 as the repairs were finished and pressure test of the entire system was required. All campuses were reopened on Monday, December 5. During the investigation and repair, Johnson stated that “the safety and security of our students and staff is always a top priority.”



Leader photo by TREY HILL

A large congregation of law enforcement agents gathered on the roadside of FM 276 near Cedar Creek to search for additional evidence near the skeletal remains.

RAINS COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

Human skeletal remains found near Lake Tawakoni

By TREY HILL
Rains County Leader staff

On Wednesday, November 30, the Rains County Sheriff’s Office [RCSO], along with the Hunt County Sheriff’s Office [HCSO] and the Texas Rangers, responded to a report of skeletal remains found near FM 276 and the bridge over Cedar Creek, located between East Tawakoni and FM 47 in Rains County.

Rains County Justice of the Peace Jenkins Franklin said he was summoned to the site of the finding. He said he had the remains sent to the University of North Texas for a Forensic Anthropological Analysis to determine proper identification.

As news about the finding spread throughout the internet, the Rains County Sheriff’s Department responded with a statement that read:

“Our agencies [RCSO and

HCSO] are aware there have been postings on social media regarding evidence and assumptions that the remains are of a missing Quinlan man, however proper identification has not been made and can only be made by dental records or DNA.”

The *Greenville Harold-Banner* reported that authorities in Rains and Hunt counties agree that much of the speculation centered around Michael Chambers, a retired Dallas firefighter who disappeared in March 2017. Chambers was last seen on surveillance cameras at the Walmart on Highway 34 in Quinlan. Since then, his disappearance has led to searches by law enforcement agencies and private companies in several locations of interest. Chambers’ disappearance remains an open investigation.

On Friday, December 2, a large number of HCSO investigators were back at the site to gather additional evidence for the investigation.

Season’s Greetings



Leader photo by TREY HILL

Rains County greeted the Christmas season with its annual lighting of the county Christmas tree. Charged with the honor of this year’s lighting were (left to right) Sheriff Michael Hopkins, Miss Rains County Storey Smith, and Rains County Justice of the Peace Jenkins Franklin.

SPOTLIGHT

Angel Trees have provided many years of Christmas joy

By JUDY KRAMER
Rains County Leader contributor

Volunteers who help provide clothing and toys to needy children in the county through Angel Tree love what they do. The happy looks on the faces of parents and kids when they pick up their gifts make all the planning and leg work worthwhile.

The 501(c) nonprofit organization has been managed by Linda Rawle with help from her husband, Wesley, since 2014. Courtney and Chris Garner, from the Rawle’s church are their right-hand assistants, and other trusted volunteers help with distribution of the gifts.

“We really have the program down to a science,” said Linda Rawle. “Wesley handles the computer work where we keep records of applicants and receivers of gifts each year. We are also very aware of recipients’ privacy rights and take care to keep names and interactions with applicants confidential.”

Rawle said that she and her team begin in September or October of each year acquiring applications from those who need help with Christmas. Certain staff at the schools, who have knowledge of families in need, often help

direct parents to Angel Tree volunteers. The applicants have until the first part of November to get their paperwork in. Rawle said that this year there are 178 kids being helped by Angel Tree, less than previous years. She said that some of those who needed help with gifts didn’t get their applications in before the deadline. Rawle said that the only way she knows to advertise is through the newspaper, and many needy families don’t get a paper. Some kids who received gifts in the past also aged out of the program.

“We ask the schools to make announcements about the program, and we get some information from people in the county about those in need. However, not all who could benefit from Angel Tree know about our program,” said Rawle. “When someone’s tag on an Angel Tree is not chosen from someone who wants to provide gifts to that family, or if only one item is donated to a kid, then we use money provided to the organization by some of our regular donors to buy what is requested. Our donors give enough money so every child can get a bike one time.”

see **SPOTLIGHT** on page 2



Angel Tree volunteers pictured are: (left to right) Raylee Garner, Linda Rawle, Chris and Courtney Garner and Collin Garner (kneeling).



City Girl:
Levels of appreciation
page 3

Savvy Senior:
Little known property tax...
page 5

Wildcat Sports
page 10

Rain Report

Fri., Dec. 2	0.08 in
Sun., Dec. 4	0.01 in
Mon., Dec. 5	0.01 in
Total for Dec.	0.10 in
Year to date	44.97 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., 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

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., 903-473-3913

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

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 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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FORMER EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS OF THE RAINS COUNTY LEADER:
H.W. Martin - 1887
Sam Fitzgerald - Before 1900
W.O. Hebisen - 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

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 the Saturdays of December 10, and 17, from 8:00 a.m.-noon. Funds go to buy food for the needy and to operate the center.

WSC Christmas Celebration
The Women's Service Club will have their Christmas celebration on December 12, at 6:00 p.m., at the Rose Community Center. All existing and future members are invited to attend the celebration. Bring a friend, a snack item, \$10 gift for exchange, a pair of Christmas socks, and three one-dollar bills for LRC game. Come join the Reindeer Games!

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.

Am. Legion Breakfast Sat., Dec. 10
Rabb Brothers Memorial American Legion Post #156 will hold a breakfast buffet on Saturday, December 10, from 7:00-10:00 a.m. at the Post home at 215 N. Duffy St. in Emory. Takeouts are offered. Payment is by donation, which goes towards the upkeep of the home and for veterans' projects.

Hopkins-Rains Retired School Personnel Meeting
The Hopkins-Rains Retired School Personnel will meet on December 13, at 10:00 a.m., at The ROC, located at 115 Putnam St. in Sulphur Springs. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent Johanna Hicks will give a heartwarming presentation "A Cup of Christmas Tea." Retired school personnel from Hopkins and Rains county are invited to attend.

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. For more information, call 903-473-8788. Give a lifesaving gift this holiday season for local patients who need our help.

Here's your recession survival checklist

It's unfortunate, but recessions are part of the economic landscape. So, it's handy to have a recession survival checklist:

First, assess your income stability. If you think your income could be threatened or disrupted, you might want to consider adding some freelance or part-time work.

Next, review your spending. Look for ways to trim your spending, such as canceling subscription services you don't use, eating out less often, and so on.

Also, reduce your debts as much as possible. And try to build an emergency fund con-



BRANDON ROBERTS
Edward Jones
Financial Advisor

taining three to six months' worth of living expenses.

Another step: Make sure your health and life insurance plans are intact. If you lose coverage due to a job loss, you'll need to find alternatives.

And if you can afford it, try to continue investing. Coming out of a recession, stock prices tend to bottom out and then rebound, so if you had headed to the investment "sidelines," you would have missed the opportunity to benefit from a market rally.

A recession isn't pleasant. But by taking the right steps, you can get through it and still keep moving toward your financial goals.

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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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!

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

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MY TAKE ON TECH
Sleeping warm
For the last several months, we have all been warned that the cost of energy to heat our homes this winter will be increasing. Fortunately homes where energy is sourced on-site (solar, wind, geothermal) might be an exception. Even though Texas has milder winters compared to northern states, there are still days where heat may be needed to keep your home, business, or school warm and comfortable.



JOHN KELLY
Certified Information
Systems Security
Professional

In the winter, I like to sleep in a warm bed in a cool room. Winter outdoor temperatures can plummet sharply at night, so running a central heater less during the night can save money. That is where several blankets and bed coverings can be your friend!

Many years ago, I found that electric blankets are a fairly good way of warming up the bed before going to sleep. An electric blanket can be operated for about 30 minutes before sleeping, and then shut off as soon as you get into the warm bed with regular blankets and other furnishings to keep the heat contained. Your body heat combined with blankets can help keep you warm through the rest of the night after the electric blanket has initially warmed things up. I do not sleep with the electric blanket operating during the night mainly out of concern for fire if the blanket or controller malfunctions while I am asleep. Plus, all-night use would use more energy that may not be needed.

I have seen by monitoring energy usage that getting the

bed warm using an electric blanket before sleep is more efficient than raising the indoor temperature before bed using the central heating system. This works best when there are no other family members under the same roof who may prefer a warmer nighttime environment.

What I don't like about electric blankets is that they tend to work less well after a year or two of use. My experience is not unique. Comments and feedback on sites that sell electric blankets online seem to agree. One should never tamper with an electric blanket to try and fix it in any case. Electro-cution or fire could be the deadly result.

All brands seem to have their own issues, so it's not just one specific brand that has difficulty achieving a long lifetime of service. My own experience with different brands verifies that.

Because my electric blankets seem to heat less well and less evenly after a while, about every couple of years I buy a new electric blanket. With the cost of energy soaring, that investment may still be worthwhile and paid back soon in cost savings during the winter. Getting a good night's sleep is important and being cozy while asleep is key to that. As a bonus, even a broken electric blanket can still be used as a standard blanket, so not all is lost. My "electric blanket graveyard" verifies that.

I suspect that if energy bills do skyrocket this winter with a deep freeze through much of the country, we may see a shortage of electric blankets as people try to keep warm at night but not break their budget on central heating throughout the frigid wintery nights.

John can be reached at john2645@mytakeontech.net.

SPOTLIGHT
Continued from page 1
Rawle said that the Angel Tree team tries to get at least three things on an applicant's list plus a new outfit of clothing. All purchases bought by the organization are tax-free. Distribution of the gifts take place early in December at the Rains County Fairground. A grid is set up on the floor of the building being used and Angel Tree tag numbers are written in each square. Recipients line up in their vehicles at the front door of the building and when they identify themselves, a volunteer gets their items.

Other energetic and caring volunteers have held the reins of the Angel Tree program in the past, including Kimberly (Watkins) Powell who managed it from 1999 to 2011 with right hand volunteer Pam Hall and a lot of help from Cheryl Hooten and Tommie Anderson.

"I had started Helping Hands Ministry in Rains County before taking over Angel Tree," said Powell. "Helping Hands Ministry would use donated funds and supplies to do free work on homes for the elderly. That ministry also helped needy kids who were referred to me by schools and the sheriff. So, I had confidential lists of those who needed gifts at Christmas. I put out about seven or eight Angel Trees in the community every year and we made sure that tags for applicants were only on one of those trees. We kept big binders of everyone whose names were on the trees back to 1999. Only about two or three people knew the names. The financial books were handled by someone else and were open to those who had a need to know."

Powell said that every kid got socks, underwear, two or three shirts and pants and new shoes. They were given to the kids so they would fit in with other kids

at school who wore clothes that were clean and in good shape. She said that L3 donated hundreds of toys and bikes to the program. At the time people could only be on the Angel Tree three years in a row, then they had to take a break from it for two years before applying again. Powell said that those parents who had to take a break from Angel Tree were able to open a free Christmas account at First National Bank where they could put whatever they could afford once a week or month so they would have some money to spend at Christmas.

"I had committees to help with distribution," said Powell. "People I knew and trusted from Helping Hands were involved. Pam Hall, Cheryl Hooten and Tommie Anderson were right there when gifts were given out helping to make sure the kids got what they had asked for and guarding the names from the general public."

Powell said that a week before distribution she sent letters to every parent giving them their Angel Tree numbers and telling them to show up at the fairgrounds on a certain date to pick up their kid's gifts.

"There were many businesses and people who donated money to Angel Tree," said Powell. "Don's Restaurant helped us a lot, and Walmart let our volunteers have their own lane when we lined up to pay for items for the kids. If I ever needed money, businesses would donate. I even got checks from people who had moved from the area. I had to give up the program to the capable Pam Hall when I got a divorce and moved to Austin. I miss it!"

Pam Hall served as manager during the period after Powell left town and Linda Rawle took over.

LOST DOG



Male Rottweiler mix. Black with brown markings wearing red collar.
Last seen on Tuesday evening, November 29th, at Hopkins County Rd 1162 and Hwy 19
Call 903-474-3940

CITY GIRL

Levels of appreciation

Early last week I saw the following Facebook post from a young friend:

These uncaffeinated women at Starbucks in the morning have me laughing ... they really think beating me to the front door is going to make a difference. Lol. Joke's really on them because I've already ordered my drink on my phone.

I don't usually get involved in any kind of social media exchange that could lead to an argument, but I couldn't resist this one.

I have my coffee at home - less than 30 cents a cup including Italian Sweet Cream, I can drink it in my PJs, and I don't have to fight anyone for it!

My young friend replied: House coffee is great but having my coffee crafted by a barista is a whole other level of appreciation.

I didn't think either of us would change our minds through further discussion, so I didn't follow up, but I continued to think about the exchange for a while. The first thing I did was the math. I know the smaller, less fancy coffee drinks can cost as little as \$3, but most people I know seem to order the larger sizes and go for the froth and flavors. And since round numbers are easier to work with, let's say the average patron spends \$5 a day on their coffee drink. Again, using round numbers, we'll assume five days a week and fifty weeks a year. That adds up to a whopping \$1,250 a year - for coffee! On the other hand, at 30 cents a cup at home, the annual cost is \$75 - a difference of \$1,175 a year. As David likes to say, it's amazing what some people would rather have than money.

Of course, my young friend says that coffee crafted by a barista brings her a great deal more

appreciation and satisfaction than home coffee. I agree that it's fun to have someone wait on you, and having all the fancy equipment and ingredients on hand is a definite advantage. However, my tastes are very simple - literally. On the rare occasions I visit Reka's, our local coffee shop, my regular order is a Simple Pleasures (caramel flavored) decaf with Sweet Cream. Interestingly, the creamer they use is the same brand I use at home. In addition, I prefer a ceramic cup to a paper one, and I prefer to enjoy it sitting on my favorite love seat instead of in my car.

After I compared the cost and the experience of commercial versus home coffee, I began thinking of things that give me a "whole other level of appreciation." As often happens when people reach my age, the first thing that came to mind was my grandchildren. Mattias, our oldest grandchild, turned nineteen last month. Within the first year or two after he was born, his parents opened a special education fund for him and any future siblings. David and I, along with others who love him, committed to contribute a small amount monthly, and we continue to do so to this day. This year Mattias entered college, and because of this fund and a little extra kicked in by his parents and others who are more able, it looks like he will be able to complete his undergraduate degree with no debt. And there should be some left over for his younger sister who is in eighth grade this year. That fact brings me a greater level of appreciation than any cup of coffee can bring, and at about half the annual cost.

Mattias has ambitions to continue into a master's program and maybe beyond. All of those who have contributed to his education thus far agree that the expense of any advanced degrees will be up to him. There is, after all, only so much satisfaction we can afford!

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.LifeAfterCare-giving.WordPress.com>. You can e-mail her at LindaBrendle@yahoo.com.

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICES

How to care for your poinsettias after the Christmas Holiday

As many of you know, Rains County 4-H members have been selling poinsettias around the community for the past few years. These beautiful Christmas plants adorn many households, churches and business during the holiday season.

I often get the question, "How do I take care of them?" So, after the Christmas holidays, what do we do with them? Here are some tips that might help you continue to keep your plants alive even until the following season.

Location and Temperature - The poinsettia thrives on indirect, natural daylight. Exposure to at least six hours daily is recommended. If direct sun cannot be avoided, diffuse with a light shade or sheer curtain. To prolong the bright color of the poinsettia bracts, daytime temperatures should not exceed 70F. Avoid placing the plants near drafts, excess heat or the dry air from appliances, fireplaces or ventilating ducts.

Water and Fertilizer - Poinsettias require moderately moist soil. Water the plants thoroughly when the soil surface feels dry to the touch. Remove the plant from decorative pots or covers, and water enough to completely saturate the soil. Do not allow the poinsettia to sit in any standing water; root rot could result which could kill the plant. It is not necessary to fertilize the poinsettia when it is in bloom.

Outside Placement - Since poinsettias are sensitive to cold weather, frost and rain, outside placement during the winter months should be avoided. However, in mild climates, an enclosed patio or entryway may be suitable provided the night temperatures do not drop below 55° F. Make certain the delicate bracts are well-protected from wind and cold rain.

After the Holidays - When the bracts age and lose their aesthetic appeal, usually by late March or early April, cut the poinsettia back to about 8 inches in height. By the end of May, you should see vigorous new growth. Pruning may be required during the summer towards

keep plants bushy and compact, but do not prune after September 1. Keep the plants in indirect sun and water regularly.

Place your plants outdoors - where they can bask in the warmth of spring and summer - after outside night temperatures average 55F or above. Continue regular watering during the growth period. Fertilize every 2 to 3 weeks throughout the spring, summer and fall months with a well-balanced, complete fertilizer. Around June 1, you may transplant your poinsettias into larger pots. Select pots no more than 4 inches larger than the original inner pot. A soil mix with a considerable amount of organic matter, such as peat moss or leaf mold, is highly recommended. If you wish, you may transplant the poinsettias into a well-prepared garden bed. Be sure the planting bed is rich in organic matter and has good drainage.

Re-flowering - The poinsettia is a photoperiodic plant, meaning that it sets bud and produces flowers as the autumn nights lengthen. The plants will naturally come into full bloom during November or December, depending upon the flowering response time of the individual cultivar. Timing the bloom to coincide closely with the Christmas holiday can be difficult without the controlled environment of a greenhouse. Stray light of any kind, such as from outside streetlights or household lamps, could delay or entirely halt the re-flowering process. Starting October 1, the plants must be kept in complete darkness for 14 continuous hours each night.

Accomplish this by moving the plants to a totally dark room, or by covering them with a large box overnight. During October, November and early December, the plants require 6 - 8 hours of bright sunlight daily, with nighttime temperatures between 60 - 70F.

Temperatures outside this range may delay flowering. Continue the normal watering and fertilizer program. Following this regime for 8 to 10 weeks should result in a colorful display of blooms for the holiday season.

Good luck and Merry Christmas!

Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) law enforcement reports.

Sting Operation

In August, a concerned citizen contacted Montgomery County game wardens regarding a

neighbor keeping an alligator in his back yard. The wardens responded to the home where the alligator was reportedly kept. The homeowner admitted to capturing an alligator 4 or 5 feet in length from Lake Conroe, transporting it home to show his kids and then releasing it the next day. The wardens inspected

the property and noticed a room full of aquariums. Knowledgeable in aquatic species, one of the wardens identified the animals as freshwater stingrays, which are an invasive species and illegal to possess. Through further conversation, the homeowner also admitted to removing a small alligator snapping turtle from Lake Livingston and keeping it in a tank. As the largest freshwater turtle in North America and a threatened species, it is illegal to capture or possess one without a permit. After discussing the matter with the homeowner, he agreed to assist game wardens in relocating the animals to better suited facilities. The turtle was donated to the Spring Creek Nature Center, which is permitted to possess native species and display them for educational purposes. The stingrays were transported to Moody Gardens to educate the public about different ecosystems and the harm that invasive species can cause to local wildlife.

MANDRELL BENEFIT

December 11 at 1:00 p.m.

Sidekicks Bar & Grill

Raffle & Auction at 4:30pm

Cornhole Tournament

Registration for the double elimination tournament is \$20 a player with 6 guaranteed games.

Signup on the Scoreholio app or day of event.

All proceeds will help Mandrell family with purchase of headstone & other financial burdens.



One of the most unthinkable tragedies in life is losing a child. The Mandrell and Myers families have recently lived this horrific burden.

Benefit account open at CNB of Emory

Advertising Works 903-473-2653

Locally owned pharmacy officially open

Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Rains Pharmacy held a ribbon cutting and grand opening celebration on December 3 at 392 E Lennon Drive. On hand to celebrate the event were Jean Moize, Santa Clause, Megan Wright, Cay House, McKenna Chavez, Jakob Davenport, Frank Watson, Teresa Runion, Arianna Runion, Merideth Chavez, Matthew Runion, RC Chavez, Brianna Chavez, Kevin Jones and John Runion.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

Patrick lays out legislative priorities

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick outlined his goals for the upcoming legislative session, calling them "general concepts," according to the Austin American-Statesman.

With an estimated \$27 billion surplus, the Legislative Budget Board voted last week to boost the Legislature's spending capacity by 12.3 percent - the largest increase allowed under the state constitution. But that still leaves the Legislature having about \$14.5 billion in the piggy bank above its spending limit.

Consequently, property tax reduction is one of Patrick's priorities. He is calling for a hike in the homestead property tax exemption from \$40,000 to \$60,000, as well as an expansion of personal property exemptions for businesses, the Statesman reported.

Other priorities include strengthening the state's power grid, boosting border security and law enforcement measures, such as increasing pay for sheriffs and a 10-year mandatory minimum sentence for anyone who uses a gun while committing a crime.

Patrick stressed that the Legislature has the ultimate say.

"So much of what I'm laying out today is not specific, because it's really up to the members to write the bills in the Senate and the House," Patrick said. "It's good that the Legislature is back. We have an extraordinary opportunity, like we have never had before, to chart the future of the state of Texas."

Rainy Day Fund, highways get boost from oil, gas revenues

A significant amount of the state's current surplus is coming from oil and gas industry tax revenues, with the latest contribution being \$7.3 billion split equally between the Rainy Day Fund and the State Highway Fund. A 2014 constitutional amendment mandates that 75 percent of oil and gas tax revenue that exceeds the amount collected in 1987 be split evenly between the two funds.

"Revenue from the oil and gas industry is what's in the Rainy Day Fund, accounts for billions to the State Highway Fund, and contributes to state funds that pay for schools, universities and first responders," Texas Railroad Commission

Chairman Wayne Christian said.

Texas traffic congestion increased in 2021

Delays on the state's most crowded roadways grew last year, though they are still below pre-pandemic gridlock levels, according to the latest study by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute. The institute has conducted the study annually since 2009.

This year's "winner" for most gridlocked stretch is Houston's West Loop, which held onto the title it garnered the previous year. Rounding out the top five of roadways one might consider avoiding if possible are the Woodall Rogers Freeway in Dallas; Interstate 35 in Austin; and Houston's Eastex and Southwest Freeways.

Researchers say traffic delays cost a ton of money in lost time and wasted fuel - more than \$3.8 billion on the state's busiest road sections last year, though that is about 10 percent lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Delays are not confined to the state's largest cities. Gridlock affects areas of all sizes, according to the institute, which has compiled a complete list of 1,860 road segments in 23 urban regions across Texas. The list can be found at mobility.tamu.edu.

Lawmakers sign NDAs to get Uvalde info

A half-dozen Texas lawmakers signed nondisclosure agreements to obtain investigative records from the Texas Department of Public Safety concerning the May shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde that have thus far been kept secret from the public.

The Austin American-Statesman reported that state Sen. Roland Gutierrez, D-San Antonio, whose district includes Uvalde, was one of the six. Others include Sens. Royce West, Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa and Paul Bettencourt, and Reps. Dustin Burrows and Tracy King, according to the DPS. Most of the agreements were signed in June or July.

Since the shooting, which killed 19 students and two teachers, parents and others have fought for investigative records that might explain the failed law enforcement response at the school. A coalition of media outlets, including the Statesman, have sued seeking the public release of information from DPS.

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ACROSS

1 Astros, Cowboys, or Spurs

5 TX B.J. Thomas sang "____ Lone-some I Could Cry"

6 TXism: "____ mama" (waitress)

7 TXism: "costs ____ arm and a leg"

8 horse mouthpiece

9 TXism: "it ____ big loop to rope him" (obese)

15 TX Overa Hobby was the first United States secretary of HEW

16 item to fasten a horse to a plow, e.g. (2 wds.)

18 subjugate

20 backs of necks

22 defensive wall

27 a few female sheep

28 Jacqueline of film "The Deep" with UT grad Wallach

29 actress Trevor of 1941 film "Texas"

30 flight photos

32 "Alamo City" abbr.

33 with "Mae," "Cow-Cow Boogie" singer from Texas (2 wds.)

36 TX Freddy Fender's "Before the Next Tear ____ Falls" (1975)

37 once, International Telephone & Telegraph: "____, Inc."

38 in Fannin County, on highway 34

39 "____ run" (fast food)

41 fish appendage

42 TXism: panting like a lizard ____ rock"

45 TX Freddy Fender sang "You'll ____ a Good Thing" (1975)

46 Chinese sauce

47 thankfully, it's almost the weekend (abbr.)

48 Kampground found in Texas

49 "Gem State" resident

52 rich person

53 corporate community in Irving, TX: "____ Collins"

54 graduate school entrance test (abbr.)

55 TXism: "Tins like scales ____ fish"

DOWN

1 TX Brown who won Heisman at Notre Dame in 1987

2 "La ____" (Mexican prison mafia)

3 TXism: "hard ____" (tough)

4 east of Tulsa County (2 wds.)

6 gently tap a pitch, by an Astro batter

9 TXism: "couldn't hit ____" (bad shot)

10 Coleman high school class

11 TX Role, star RB at SMU (1947-50) and a New York Giants star (1951-61) (init.)

12 on Memorial Day weekend in north-east Texas: "____ Festival"

13 oceans

14 Egyptian vipers

15 most Texas colleges have a graduation ____ in May

16 assert something

17 the ____ writing on the wall

19 young Scot: "just ____ lad"

21 "Lone Star ____"

22 ____ Cols

23 former chain founded in Dallas: "Steak and ____"

24 shopping center

25 rice dishes

26 receiver of WBAP-AM signal (2 wds.)

28 "ink ____" test

31 TXism: "fast as ____ up a rafter"

34 TX Buddy Holly hit: "Rave ____" (1958)

35 border river: "____ Grande"

37 new parent exclamation: "____ girl!"

40 classic 1952 western starring Gary Cooper: "High ____"

43 TXism for "against"

44 Edinburg is the seat of this county

50 this TX Taylor was a UH All-American defensive end and an end for the Baltimore Colts

51 25th governor of Texas, Colquitt (first two initials)

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Westside Storage 1239 W Lennon Dr.	J&R Auto 595 W Lennon Dr.	EMLE 149 Tawakoni Dr., #B	Rains County Annex 220 W Quitman St.	Curtis & Alexander, P.C. 1 N Planters St.	Emory Jewelry 886 E. Lennon Dr., Ste 101 B
David's Tire Shop 1218 W Lennon Dr.	Puppy Love 120 Tawakoni Dr.	First National Bank of East Texas 105 Tawakoni Dr.	Ivan Furniture 512 Quitman St.	The Nest Boutique 239 E Quitman St.	Wildcat Nutrition 886 E. Lennon Dr., Ste 109
Y'all Come Back 659 W Lennon Dr.	Southern Back Porch Boutique 150 Tawakoni Dr.	Dairy Queen 365 W Lennon Dr.	Rains County Leader 239 N Texas St.	Kolor Me Crazy 239 E Quitman St.	Air Control 800 E Lennon Dr.
	Prestige Health & Aesthetics 309 N Texas St.	Barry N. Finkelstein 304 Quitman St.	Leo's Chicken 407 E Lennon Dr.		
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	Emory City Hall 399 N Texas St.	Don's Restaurant 899 E Lennon Dr.	Funny Frogs 390 E Lennon Dr.		
	Rains County Sheriff's Office 313 North St.	Tri-Point Surveying 903 E Lennon Dr., Ste 103	Rains Pharmacy 392 E Lennon Dr.		
	Max A Mart #6 894 N Texas St.	Emory Dental 903 E Lennon Dr., Ste 108	Sonic Drive In 250 E Lennon Dr.		
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			Lake Fork Trophy Lures 1000 US Hwy. 69	South Rains SUD 121 N Dunbar Ln.	

Elves not on a shelf, up to no good?



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS
These elves not on a shelf could be up to no good as they haul off a snowman and presents during the East Tawakoni Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3.

SAVVY SENIOR

Little known property-tax relief programs help seniors save

*Dear Savvy Senior,
I recently learned about a property-tax relief program for seniors in the county where I live. Apparently, there are hundreds of these programs across the country that many retirees, like me, are eligible for but don't know about. What can you tell me about this?*



JIM MILLER
Savvy Senior

Overtaxed Eddie
Dear Eddie,
Great question! Residential property-tax refund and credit programs exist in nearly every state, but unfortunately few people know about them. These programs can help retirees and many other Americans by reducing their property taxes. Here's what you should know.

Rising Property Taxes

Property taxes are a major source of income for local governments, but while they help fund key public services, they can be a financial drain for many homeowners, especially retirees, many of whom live on fixed incomes.
According to Attom Data Solutions, a property-data provider, the average American household paid \$3,785 in property taxes in 2021, but this amount varies widely depending on your state's tax rate and your home's estimated value. For example, New Jersey residents paid \$9,476 per year on average in 2021, while West Virginia residents paid \$901.
To help ease this tax burden, most states offer a number of property-tax relief programs. But states aren't always proactive in letting people know. It's up to you, the homeowner, to find out what's available in your county or city that you may be eligible for, and to apply.

Relief Programs

Property tax relief programs, sometimes called exemptions, release eligible homeowners from paying some or all of their property tax obligation. How long the exemption lasts can

vary depending on where you live, and the reason you're applying for the exemption.
The tax-relief process varies by county, city or state. In general, you'll have to meet certain eligibility requirements, submit an application and provide documents that support your request. Most programs will either reduce, waive or freeze property taxes for seniors, veterans, surviving spouses, disabled and low-income residents.
But there are some counties that also offer basic homestead exemptions to homeowners regardless of age or income, and others that may provide exemptions to homeowners that have recently made energy-efficient improvements to their home.

Where to Look

The best way to learn about local property-tax relief programs and their eligibility requirements is to visit your county, city or state website that collects your property tax. Most of these sites also provide applications and instructions, and will allow you to apply either online, by mail or at your local tax office.
Another good resource for locating programs in your area is the Lincoln Institute, which has a property-tax database that lets you browse programs across the country. To access it go to ResidentialPropertyTaxReliefPrograms.org.
AARP may also be able to help through their Property Tax-Aide service – see PTAconsumers.aarpfoundation.org. This free program, which is available in 13 states (Arizona, Colorado, Florida–Miami Dade County, Illinois–Cook County, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York and North Carolina) and the District of Columbia helps eligible homeowners and renters apply for relief.

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.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

A troublemaking Dad

William F. Buckley's dad, a sharp-tongued Texan who always spoke his mind, reviled Mexican revolutionaries as south-of-the-border Bolsheviks in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Dec. 13, 1919.
The millionaire oilman and father of the conservative intellectual with the same name was born in 1881 at Washington-on-the-Brazos to Irish immigrants, who came to Texas by way of Canada. He grew up in San Diego, where his father combined sheep raising with a career in law enforcement that included several terms as Duval County sheriff.

Will Buckley graduated from the University of Texas in 1904, the year his father died, and went on to law school. Figuring his fluency in Spanish would give him a lucrative advantage, the ambitious attorney opened an office in Mexico City.
Buckley was not unduly alarmed in 1911 by the abrupt end of the four-decade dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz. He presumed Francisco Madero, the tyrant's reform-minded successor, was strictly a transitional figure whose days were numbered.

The swift overthrow of Madero by Diaz henchman Victoriano Huerta confirmed Buckley's cynical assessment. For American and British investors, who controlled 98 percent of Mexican petroleum production, the military coup meant a return to business as usual.
But Huerta could not put the revolutionary genie back in the bottle. By 1914 he was fending off challenges from fellow generals Venustiano Carranza and Alvaro Obregon as well as peasant insurgents Pancho Villa and Emiliano Zapata.
Convinced the beleaguered strongman was the last hope for free enterprise and the Catholic Church, Buckley jumped into the middle of the life-and-death struggle. His partisan participation put him on a collision course with the Wilson administration, which sent the navy to Veracruz to enforce an arms embargo against the embattled government. Buckley not only refused an urgent request to assist the intervention but attended U.S.-sponsored talks as Huerta's personal advisor.
After Carranza and Obregon came to power, the hard-headed Texan joined the counterrevolutionary underground. While the new rulers were nothing more than lukewarm nationalists paying lip service to democratic ideals, Buckley believed they were the New World agents of the Bolsheviks, who had just toppled the Russian czar.
That was the gist of his diatribe at a senate

hearing in December 1919. But his indictment of the Mexican Revolution as part and parcel of the international Communist conspiracy reeked of paranoia.
Buckley's melodramatic meddling in Mexican affairs was tolerated until November 1921. After his involvement in a second anti-government plot in as many years, he was kicked out of the country and his property confiscated.
While Buckley bitterly protested the punishment, he got off easy by Mexican standards. Had he not been a wealthy and influential American, he would have faced a firing squad.
The banished businessman went straight home, packed up his family and moved to New England. Though a frequent visitor, he never again lived in Texas, which explains why his famous namesake was born a Connecticut Yankee.
Buckley's Mexican experience forever shaped his view of the world. Behind every popular uprising he saw the sinister hand of Communism secretly pulling the strings. He argued for a hands-off policy toward Nazi Germany during the Second World War in the misguided hope that Hitler would crush the Soviet Union.
Despite soaring unemployment and widespread suffering caused by the Depression, Buckley maintained his fervent faith in free-market capitalism. While most conservative critics eventually credited Franklin Roosevelt with saving the country, the true believer never wavered in his condemnation of the New Deal.
Haunted by the memory of an older brother, a junior who had died in a barroom brawl, Buckley resisted his wife's efforts to name a boy after him. But he finally relented in 1925 and allowed her to christen their sixth child and third son William F. Buckley, Jr.
Billy was a precocious chip off the old block, who absorbed his father's politics like a dry sponge. At the tender age of seven, he wrote a letter to the King of England insisting upon payment in full of the British war debt. Several years later during the debate over the European war, he dubbed his first sailboat "Sweet Isolation."
At times, however, Junior was too extreme even for zealous Senior. In a note to his 15-year-old clone, Will Buckley encouraged him "to be more moderate in the expression of your views and try to express them in a way that would give as little offense as possible to your friends."
Whether the godfather of the modern conservative movement has heeded dear old dad's advice is, of course, a matter of opinion.
Contact Bartee Haile at barteehaile@gmail.com or by mail at P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.

Making his case to Santa



Leader photo by TREY HILL
A boy tells Santa what he would like for Christmas and that he's been a good boy during the Christmas 'Round the Square in Emory on Saturday night, December 3.,

RAINS ELEMENTARY

Elementary UIL golden at District



Contributed photo
The Rains Elementary UIL Team brought home gold medals from the District competition in Paris on Friday, December 2. In the picture are the first place Chess Puzzle team of F. Tenberge, C. Tapp, and J. Tenberge. The first place Music Memory team of L. Hernandez, E. Moczygemba, N. Gudger, V. Cordon and S. Lowe (2nd). C. Portwood placed in the Storytelling event. Teachers pictured are, from the left, Teresa Burns, Pam Cole and Sarah Jones.

HEY KIDS!

IT'S TIME TO SEND IN YOUR LETTERS TO SANTA!

The *Rains County Leader* is ready to send Santa a pack full of letters with your Christmas wish lists.

Hurry and get yours to the *Leader* office by 5:00 p.m. Monday, December 12. All letters received on time will be printed in the special Christmas supplement before they are forwarded to Santa at the North Pole.
Drop your letters by the office or send them to:

**SANTA CLAUS
c/o *Rains County Leader*
P.O. Box 127
Emory, TX 75440**

Please sign your letters with your full name, age, and city. No photocopies or form letters, please.



Sheriff's Report

The Rains County Sheriff's Office took the following reports of activity during the week of November 25-December 5:



MICHAEL HOPKINS
Rains County Sheriff

Arrests

11-28: Rodney Brown. Driving while intoxicated third or more, \$15,000 bond.
11-29: Frances Turner. Driving while intoxicated, \$1,000 bond.
11-29: Melissa Rusheon. Possession of a controlled substance PG 1 less than 1 gr. \$25,000 bond.
12-1: Gregory Holter. Possession of a controlled substance PG 1 less than 1 gr.
12-1: Samuel Socia. Evading arrest; possession of a controlled substance PG 1 less than 1 gr.
12-1: Jaxx Lemons. Cruelty to non-livestock animal.
12-3: Kenneth Raleigh. Driving while intoxicated.
12-5: Chasta McDaniel. Prohibited substance in a correctional facility, \$1,000,000 bond; possession of a controlled substance PG 1 less than 1 gr. \$15,000 bond; failure to identify, \$5,000 bond; tamper/fabricate physical evidence, \$10,000 bond.
There were 9 arrests for the week.

Calls

11-25: CR 3419 Caller advised that her neighbor is being held hostage; Sheriff's Office (SO) lobby Stolen trailer reported; Hwy. 515 Catalytic converter stolen; CR 3025 Nephew getting angry and deputy requested; CR 2570 Vacant home back door open; S. 1st St. Alarm going off and smell of burning wood detected; CR 2324 Reckless driver; Hwy. 19S at CR 2324 Car struck a deer.
11-26: W. Lennon Stolen vehicle, Ravine St. Accident; Hwy. 69 from Alba Reckless driver; Katy Addition Keys locked in a car; Hwy. 276 and Hwy. 69 Male walking in the middle of the road wearing dark clothing; SO Citizen complaining that lights on patrol cars are too bright; Hwy. 69 Male riding a bike and doing circles on Hwy. 69;
11-27 CR 2245 Vehicle accident; Hwy. 69 towards Point Reckless driver; CR 3345 Caller reported that someone hit his mailbox and took out some plants; FM 47 Caller reported that someone is stuck in his yard and he wants the vehicle removed; CR 3425 Pregnant daughter wants drugs and having a meltdown and causing problems with neighbor; Sidekick's Bar and Grill Homeless man outside in smoking area making people feel weird; CR 3425 Verbal argument between mother and daughter; CR 2420 Phone harassment; Sky Point RV

Park Stolen trailer; East Tawakoni (ET) Welfare check; Point Dollar General Female stealing; North St. Possible gas leak; Emory Max-A-Mart Caller has gotten two harassing calls and threats were made; Hwy. 19N Cows out.
11-28: Hwy. 69N Cows out; CR 1307 Cows out; CR 3200 Cows out; SO Lobby Complainant wants to speak with deputy because he's being accused of shooting at someone; SkyPoint RV Park Welfare check on possible mental subject; Hwy. 19S Caller received texts from person and is concerned because the person is a heavy drinker and unstable; Hwy. 69 Report of a scammer; Point Dollar General Person digging through the trash; FM 515 and CR 2946 Vehicle accident; FM 514 and CR 4452 Intoxicated female got her vehicle stuck in the ditch; Emory Brookshire's Alarm going off.
11-29: Emory Don's Restaurant Someone on property making noises; FM 47 Caller reported that someone stole her info and opened several accounts; FM 515 Welfare check on person stuck in field in vehicle; 19S Reckless Driver; CR 1402 Tree fell on a truck.
11-30: Garrett Ave. Suspicious person; Hwy. 276 near Cedar Creek Human remains found; Hwy. 276 at CR 3299 Horse laying down in the pasture; CR 3200 Truck with male inside in the wrong lane and possible medical emergency;



RCSO Facebook page photo

Rains County Sheriff's deputies along with other law enforcement agencies investigate the scene of an accidental shooting that sent two people to the hospital Sunday afternoon, December 4.

Santa Fe St. Disturbance; CR 3190 Suspicious vehicle;
12-1: FM 513 Alarm call; CR 1532 Dispute between woman and ex husband; CR 4250 Subject attacked a cat and had verbal altercation with a female; Hwy. 69 just outside Point Vehicle accident.
12-2: Tawakoni Dr. Homeless person staying in house; Public service Caller wants to speak with the deputy who pulled his mother over; Sachse Rd. Caller wants her belongings back; E. Lennon Alarm call; Public service Caller wants to speak with deputy regarding tickets; CR 2300 Vehicle accident; SO Lobby Noise complaint; Max-A-Mart Vehicle accident; Skyline Dr. Someone threw bricks

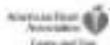
through a car window.
12-3: Hwy. 19S Welfare check for son-in-law who took off walking; CR 1150 Person on the side of the road; Oak Leaf Tr. Man flagged down by female saying someone is hurt; FM 47 Caller advised that someone put a woman in a car; FM 514 Someone crashed through a fence; CR 3707 Reckless driver; CR 2132 People riding up and down the road on a 4 wheeler; Hwy. 69 at Hwy. 19 Reckless driver; W. Lennon Father threw a picture frame at a child; Santa Fe St. Caller is trying to get their belongings; Starmart Someone threw something in the trash; Hwy. 69 in front of Best Western Trash thrown out of window of one care hit the windshield of

another car;
12-4: Hwy. 69 near CR 3299 Reckless driver; FM 515 Caller advised the diesel trucks are too loud and getting louder in front of his house; Santa Fe St. Someone is driving around caller's house; Rains County Jail Subject ran towards dispatcher and tried to get the sally port doors open; Tawakoni Dr. Subject is sleeping in abandoned house; PR Stepfather is beating on mother; CR. 3363 Caller advised that her husband slapped her; White Rock Rd. Caller advised that a male is threatening and making suicidal comments; CR 2160 Horse on the road; Traffic stop for stolen vehicle; Hwy. 19S Alarm call.

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Believer’s Baptist Church

By Linda Brendle
“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he [Jesus] interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”
Luke 24:27
Pastor Jason Rolan began a new series for December called “Christmas Pictures.” The first sermon was titled “Jesus Christ - The Seed of the Woman” from select scriptures. Beginning with Genesis, the entire Bible shows how the seed of the serpent tried to kill the seed of the woman and failed.

The Student Ministry Progressive Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 10, from 3:00-9:00 p.m. Contact Pastor Jerod Haygood for more information.

Country Baptist Church

By Donna Jones
“And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.”
1 Cor. 13:13
The Lord blessed us with another good day to come together and worship with our church family.

Services began with Jake Frazier and Donna Boughton leading a song and prayer of dismissal to our classes.
The young people studied “Welcome Jesus,” with a focus on when Mary gave birth to baby Jesus in Bethlehem.”

The adult class led by Donna Boughton studied “The Ghost of Christmas Past. Redemption Brings the Gift of Hope”
Jake Frazier and Donna Boughton led worship and praises and prayers were lifted up. Jake

During morning worship next Sunday, the BBC Worship Choir will assist in leading in worship. The children will also share the catechisms they have learned as well as a special song.
There will be a members’ meeting next Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
Family Fun Night: Gingerbread house decorating is Wednesday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. The Christmas Eve Service will begin at 5:00 p.m.
Asking for a Friend Podcast Episode 132 is “Patrick Covington Interview (Biblical Counseling)” and Episode 133 is “Rest in Christ and the Book of I John: A Guest Interview with Jon Moffitt.” Links can be found under the Media tab at www.bbcmemory.org.

Frazier took our needs to the Lord.
Bro. Mike Frazier announced our next All Singing Service will be December 18. This is our Christmas singing service and lunch will follow in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to come and worship with us and enjoy fellowship, singing and great food.
Several more songs were sung followed by Courtney Frazier and Kelsey Frazier bringing the special music.
The message by Bro. Frazier focused on “The Gifts of God. Love Never Fails.”
Everyone is invited to come and worship with us at The Country Church.
Continue the prayers for all and may God continue to bless each one.
Have a blessed week and take your family to church.

Emory Baptist Church

By Ronnie Witt
On Sunday morning, the Harris family lit the second candle of Advent and shared some verses about God’s peace. Bro. Richard Piles shared another message from John titled “Jesus Called Lazarus; Is He Calling You Too?” In the evening service, Bro. Richard’s message from the book of Deuteronomy was titled, “What Was Good for Them is Good for You.”
The Lottie Moon Post Office is up and running at EBC. Emory Baptist members are invited to send Christmas cards to each other and to make a donation to the Lottie Moon World Missions offering. The Lottie Moon Christmas offering helps fund Southern Baptist missionaries and new churches around the world. Make sure you check your mailbox for Christmas cards when you’re at EBC throughout the week.

The ladies in TEL went caroling on Tuesday and Thursday to homebound members of EBC. The Senior Adult Game day is Thursday, December 8, in the fellowship hall. Christmas poinsettia orders are due Thursday, December 8. A portion of each poinsettia order goes to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Poinsettias can be picked up December 18 after the morning service.
Looking ahead to next week, Emory Baptist’s Celebration Choir will sing the Christmas program on Sunday morning. On Sunday night, EBC youth will have a Christmas party at Ronnie’s house from 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. WOM meets on Monday at 11:00 a.m.
EBC is still looking for paid childcare workers for Sunday and Wednesday nights. Contact the church office for more information.

Emory United Methodist Church

By Mary White
“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”
Romans 15:13
It was the second Sunday of advent and the second candle we light is Peace. Rev. David Banks’ message was titled “Tinker Toys and Lincoln Logs” with scripture text taken from Romans. David talked about when he was a kid and how very special his Lincoln Logs were to him. A trip to grandma’s or wherever he went, he took his Logs and was content. What is God doing in our life? He gives us peace and we are able to survive in this troubled world.

The Winds of the Spirit Prayer Team met on Wednesday morning, and Kid’s Club met in the afternoon. Looking ahead, we will have a birthday meal for Barbara Clifton on Sunday, December 18. On December 24 at 6:00 p.m., we will have the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Our Communion offering this month is for Golden Cross which provides financial assistance for health care to North Texans who cannot afford it.
Pray for Bryan Ely and Ava Ray.
Birthday wishes go to Nolan House and Mary White.
Be kind to one another and have a wonderful peaceful week.

Bright Star Baptist Church

By Glenda Galyean
“So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.”
Exodus 15:22
Last Wednesday evening we didn’t have a meal. The youth met with the adults. Pastor Jerry Jackson brought an encouraging message from Romans, Philippians, and other scripture about “Being Ye Transformed.”
Our Sunday morning service was very good. We had great congregational singing led by Joey Day. Bro. Andrew Grills blessed our hearts with the special music. Bro. Jerry brought an excellent message from Exodus titled “Bitter Waters.” We encounter many obstacles along our life’s journey, but we need to just hold on. The “sweet

water” of the Holy Spirit will help us through the hard times.
In the evening service we were so excited that Mrs. Melba Wright was able to be back in our service. She has had a long time of recovery and rehab. Her daughter Linda brought her. Bro. Andrew blessed our hearts again with another beautiful special. Bro. Jerry’s message was from I Corinthians titled “Examination Before Participation.” We observed The Lord’s Supper after the message.
Birthday wishes go to Jake Batts and Mandy Biggs.
We will be having our Christmas lunch on December 11.
Jesus is coming back soon. Are you ready?
Have a blessed and safe week.

Obituaries

Micah Swanson
1995 – 2022



Funeral services for Micah Swanson, 27, of Sulphur Springs, were held on December 8, 2022, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Ronnie Miller and Robert Burns officiated. Interment followed at Rockdale Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers were Dakota Gilliard, Joe Weddle, Carlton Goldsmith, Chris Johnson, Jake Fraizer and Jordan West. The Gun Barrel City Fire Department, Hopkins County EMS, Ellis Co. ESD-6, Medical Jets, Daniel Brandenburg, Joel Fraizer, Colton Burns, Collin Burns and Josh Miller served as honorary pallbearers.
Mr. Swanson died on December 3, 2022. He was born on March 25, 1995, in Sulphur Springs, to Mark LaDane and Kathy Marie (Goldsmith) Swanson. He married Sabrina Ann Pickard on December 30, 2021, in Sulphur Springs. He was a loving father, husband and son.
Mr. Swanson worked as a fire fighter and for EMS in Gun Barrel City, Ellis County ESD-6, and part time for Hopkins County EMS. He had a passion for being a firefighter and helping others and became a volunteer at the Emory and Point Fire Departments at the age of 15. He assisted other departments through deployments with Medical Jets.

He made sure his children knew how much he loved them and looked forward to teaching his sons how to hunt and camp. He also taught his children about God. He was saved in early 2008 and baptized the following Easter Sunday.
Mr. Swanson is survived by his wife; children, Zander Preas, Wrenleigh Preas and Montgomery Swanson; father, Mark Swanson; mother, Kathy Brandenburg and husband Daniel; sisters, Madison Carroll and Mckenzie Fyke; brothers, Dakota Gilliard, Joe Weddle and Laredo Bradenburgh; grandparents, Kathy and Lanoy Swanson; grandmother, LaDonna Bradenburgh (Nana); aunts and uncles, Mark Goldsmith and wife Melissa, Billy Lynn Goldsmith, David Swanson and wife Susan, and Ronnie Miller and wife Debbie; and numerous other family and friends.
He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Eloise and Billy Joe Goldsmith; aunts, Kim George and Barbara Gail Goldsmith.
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a first responders organization or PTSD associations.
Arrangements were under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

News?

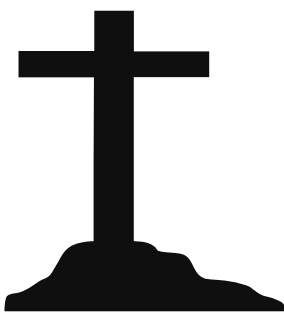
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Contact the Rains County Leader at:
(903) 473-2653

news@rainscountyleader.com
ads@rainscountyleader.com
sports@rainscountyleader.com
subscription@rainscountyleader.com
chuck.fitts@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 stjohnmemory.org for Mass times.
From Brookshires, go east 1.2 miles. Turn right onto FM 2795

EMORY BAPTIST CHURCH
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 Rolan — Pastor
Jerod Haygood — Student & Family Pastor
Duffey Henderson — Music & Media Minister
www.bbcmemory.org 903-474-0027
903-473-2653 to have your church placed in this directory

lake fork Baptist Church
Connect with God
Connect with God's Word
Connect with God's People
Connect with God's Plan
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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing to Discuss the State
Financial Integrity Rating of the Rains
Independent School District

Financial Integrity Rating
System of Texas
Report

WILL BE HELD
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022,
AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE
RAINS SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED
BOARD MEETING

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND

PUBLIC NOTICE OF BID

Region 7 ESC is soliciting bids on behalf of 155 education entities & three education service centers in the Region 7 Purchasing Cooperative. Bids are solicited for the following:

- Bid Category - Bid Submission, Time Central
- Commodity Processing, Closes – Jan 9, 2023, 10:00 AM
- Commodity Processing, Opens – Jan 11, 2023, 2:00 PM
- Catering - Jan 17, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Health Supplies - Jan 19, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Athletic Trainer/Fieldhouse Equip. & Supplies - Jan 19, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Audio Visual Equipment & Supplies - Jan 24, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Building Maintenance & Safety Supplies - Feb 7, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Cafeteria Equipment & Supplies - Mar 21, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Snacks, Beverages, Ala' Carte, & Produce - Mar 23, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Athletic Equipment & Supplies - Mar 28, 2023, 1:30 PM
- General Office Supplies & Furniture - Apr 11, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Custodial Supplies - May 23, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Classroom Furniture & Supplies - May 25, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Musical Instruments/Service, Equip/Supplies - May 30, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Electrical Supplies - Jun 1, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Plumbing Supplies - Jun 1, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Construction, Building & Supplies - Jun 6, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Library Books & Supplies - Jun 6, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Bread/Milk/Ice Cream/Juice, Closes – May 16, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Bread/Milk/Ice Cream/Juice, Opens – May 18, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Food Service, Closes – May 16, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Food Service, Opens – May 18, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Copy Paper, Closes – May 16, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Copy Paper, Opens – May 18, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Mobile Communication Equip/Supplies - Jul 18, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Computer Hardware & Supplies - Jul 18, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Network Systems & Supplies - Jul 20, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Uniforms: Athletic, Band, Performance, Institutional & Supplies - Jul 20, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Printing & Printing Supplies - Jul 25, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Vocational Equipment & Supplies - Jul 25, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Contracted Services - Aug 1, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Educational Activities & Supplies - Aug 8, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Paint & Painting Supplies - Sep 19, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Copy Machines - Sep 21, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Vehicles: All Types; New/Pre-owned; Buy/Lease - Sep 26, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Special Education & Supplies - Sep 28, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Grounds/Athletic Fields Maintenance, Equipment & Supplies - Oct 10, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Computer Software & Supplies - Nov 28, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Science Supplies - Nov 28, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Physical Education/Recreational Sports, Equipment & Supplies - Nov 30, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Transportation Maintenance & Supplies - Dec 5, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Instructional Catalog - Dec 7, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Substance & Alcohol Abuse Testing, Closes – Nov 28, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Substance & Alcohol Abuse Testing, Opens– Nov 30, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Food Service, Closes - Nov 28, 2023, 1:30 PM
- Food Service, Opens - Nov 30, 2023, 1:30 PM

Bid specifications may be accessed at: <https://purchasing.esc7.net>, phone (903) 988-6859 or e-mail purchasing@esc7.net. Hardcopy bids will be opened at the ESC on each opening date and time. Cooperative bids may be awarded to multiple respondents. Factors which must be considered by the Cooperative in making the award of bids include discounts/pricing offered, compliance with terms, net terms provided, free shipping, exclusions of bid, and purchase orders accepted. Electronic bids will be opened online at the ESC on each bid submission date and time. Region 7 reserves the right to make final decisions as to the best interest of the Cooperative and its members.

PUBLIC NOTICE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT

The City of Emory invites all citizens to call in for a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on December 13, 2022, to review performance and obtain comments regarding its 2020 Texas CDBG Program Community Development Contract 7220130.

Disabled persons or those who require auxiliary aids or services who wish to participate in this meeting should contact the City Administrator at (903) 473-2465 at least two days before the meeting to make arrangements. Written comments may be submitted or mailed to City Hall, 399 North Texas St., Emory, TX 75440-0100 and will be accepted by the City of Emory until this public hearing is concluded.

For more information concerning the City of Emory's TxCDBG project and/or this Final Public Hearing, please contact Erica Castro, GrantWorks Inc., at (512) 301-2171.

AVISO PÚBLICO
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT

La Ciudad de Emory invita a todos sus ciudadanos a llamar a una audiencia pública a las 7:00 pm el Diciembre 22, 2022 para evaluar y obtener comentarios sobre el contrato CDBG del 2020, numero 7220130.

Las personas discapacitadas o aquellas que requieran ayudas o servicios auxiliares que deseen participar en esta reunión deben comunicarse con el Administrador de la Ciudad al (903) 473-2465 al menos dos días antes de la reunión para hacer los arreglos Si no puede atender, puede presentar comenatrios escritos al la ciudad hasta el fin de la audencia pública.

Para obtener más información sobre el proyecto TxCDBG de la ciudad y/o esta audiencia pública, comuníquese con Erica Castro, GrantWorks Inc., at (512) 301-2171.

NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO or the Company) publishes this notice that on September 30, 2022, it filed its Statement of Intent and Application for Authority to Amend Transmission Cost Recovery Factor (TCRF) with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) in Docket No. 54040. The filing was made in accordance with the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) § 36.209 and 16 Tex. Admin. Code (TAC) § 25.239. The TCRF will recover SWEPCO's reasonable and necessary costs for transmission infrastructure improvements as well as changes in wholesale transmission charges under a tariff approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to the extent that the costs or charges have not otherwise been recovered. In this application, SWEPCO seeks to recover its transmission capital investments from April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022. SWEPCO also seeks to recover through the TCRF approved transmission charges that are not otherwise being recovered through current rates. This notice is being published in accordance with PURA § 36.103 and 16 TAC § 22.51(a)(l).

STATEMENT OF INTENT TO CHANGE RATES

SWEPCO requests that the Commission approve an increase of \$8,441,187 above the revenue requirement approved by the Commission in SWEPCO's last base rate case, Docket No. 51415 for its Texas retail customers. This amounts to a 2.1% percent increase in SWEPCO's overall annualized Texas retail revenue requirement. SWEPCO proposes that its requested rate change become effective 35 days after the filing of the Statement of Intent and Application. The proposed effective date is subject to suspension and extension by actions that may be taken by the Commission.

All customers in SWEPCO's Texas retail rate classes will be affected by this change. The impact of the rate change on various customer classes will vary from the overall impact described in this notice.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Persons with questions or who want more information on SWEPCO's Statement of Intent and Application 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 the Statement of Intent and Application and related filings is available for inspection at the address listed in the previous sentence.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. A request for intervention or for further information should refer to Docket No. 54040. Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, motions to intervene will be due 45 days from the date SWEPCO filed its Statement of Intent and Application with the Commission.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

HELP WANTED

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.

RENT/LEASE

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

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

For Rent, 2BR, 2BA Mobile home in Point. 903-447-3129.

For Rent, 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Trailer located at 1133 CR 3232, Emory. NO PETS ALLOWED (INSIDE OR OUTSIDE) \$950 per month, \$500 deposit. 903-473-1404.

STORAGE UNITS

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

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.

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

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

• • • •

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.

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.

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.

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

LOST & FOUND

CAN'T FIND WHAT YOU NEED? CALL 903-473-2653 AND LET LEA HELP BY PLACING YOUR CLASSIFIED AD HERE.

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

Visit our website

www.rainscountyleader.com

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

BY LINE SURVEYING

OFFICE : 903-473-5150
 FIRM NO: 10194233

Display Ad
 Deadline is 5:00 p.m. Tuesday

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903-473-2225

Brooks Harman 903-502-4675 Judy Moody 214-536-3214 Kelly Lyn Roberts 903-473-6876

LLSpencerRealEstate.com

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

Toby Boatman GARAGE DOORS

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 Sales • Service • Installation

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903-438-1970

Serenity Emporium
 CBD • Jewelry Kratom So Much More

New Massage Room Open!

Focused treatments starting at \$20

GET A FREE GIFT WITH A \$75+ MASSAGE IF BOOKED BY 12/10

Call Mary at 469-503-6555 (TX Lic. MT028246)

545 E. Lennon Dr. #2 • Emory, TX • 903-279-9696

The Barn OF EMORY
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 Parties

550 RSCR 3425 • Emory, TX • 903-422-2888 • 903-485-8222

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



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

Gaston Sanitation Service LLC
 214 S. FM 779, P.O. Box 670, Emory, TX

Dependable weekly service
 Serving residential & commercial
 Roll carts, Dumpsters and
 Roll on Containers Available

FOR SERVICE CALL
903-473-8721
DAVID GASTON
 Family Owned & Operated

STORAGE UNIT SALE

Saturday, December 10th • All Day

299 Lake Fork Drive, Emory, TX

Everything in four units **MUST GO!**

21 CENTURY 21 Lake Country



Kathy Layne
 Realtor
 Sale Associate

886 E. Lennon STE 111
 Emory, TX 75440

CELL: 903-474-0447

Office: 903-473-1222
 Fax: 903-473-1229
kathylayne21@yahoo.com

M & R Machine & Hydraulic

- Machines Shop
- Hydraulic Cylinders
- Welding Services
- Repair Services
- Pick Up/Delivery

903-394-6858

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Sports

RAINS LADY CAT & WILDCAT BASKETBALL

Wildcats, Lady Cats add to wins at weekend tournaments



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Junior Nick Bowman (4) glides through the lane for the shot while sophomore Trent Kirby (35) prepares to rebound during the 75-67 loss to the Gladewater Bears on Tuesday, December 6.

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains Wildcat and Lady Cat varsity basketball teams added three more wins for the season as they competed in tournaments last weekend.

The Wildcats were in White Oak and lost one game, but bounced back to win the next three.

On Thursday, December 1, the varsity boys suffered a loss to the Jefferson Bulldogs, 61-44.

Later that day, they pulled it together for a 43-41 victory over the Kilgore Bulldogs.

The Wildcats rolled to a 76-60 victory over the Sabine Cardinals on day two of the tournament.

They finished the weekend

with a win over the Shelbyville Dragons, 72-60.

The Lady Cats traveled to Glen Rose and finished the weekend with two wins and three losses.

On day one of the tournament, the varsity girls lost to the Ft. Worth Nolan Catholic Lady Vikings, 82-39.

They suffered a 66-18 loss to the Glen Rose Lady Tigers on Friday, December 2.

Later that day, the Lady Cats bounced back with a 59-36 victory over the Gatesville Lady Hornets.

On the final day of the tournament, they beat the Caprock Lady Longhorns, 38-25, but lost to the Palo Duro Lady Dons, 41-36.

On Tuesday, December 6, the

Wildcats lost to the Gladewater Bears, 75-67, at home.

The Lady Cats traveled to Farmersville on the same night and beat the Lady Farmers, 58-32.

The Rains Lady Cats are 8-8 for the season, while the Rains Wildcats are 4-6.

The Lady Cats take on the Dodd City Lady Hornets at Rains High School on Friday, December 9.

They will travel to Pattonville to open district play on Tuesday, December 13, against the Prairiland Lady Patriots.

The Wildcats will compete at a tournament in Brownsboro on December 8, 9 and 10.

They will host the Winnsboro Raiders on Tuesday, December 13, at Rains High School.

RAINS LADY CAT SOFTBALL

Songer commits to be a Texan



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Senior Avery Songer commits to play softball for the Tarleton State Lady Texans during a ceremony held on Friday, December 2. Songer is flanked by her parents, Cori and Richard Songer.

RAINS WILDCAT FOOTBALL

Two MVP, two first team Wildcats

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains Wildcat varsity football team was honored with two MVPs and two first team players when the District 5-3A selection were announced last week.

Junior Prabhdeep Singh was selected as District 5-3A Utility MVP, while senior Jesse Colunga was honored as the district's Special Teams MVP.

First team selections to the All-District team are junior quarterback Shawn Robertson and senior lineman Dalton Honea.

Senior linebacker Ivan Rodriguez, junior running back Manuel Mares and senior lineman Collin Holcomb were selected as second team all-

district.

Honorable mention selections to the all-district team include senior receiver Jacob Alvarado, senior lineman John Hinch, senior linebacker Jordon Chambers, junior defensive back Miguel Mares and senior

lineback Hayden Fuller.

Wildcats receiving Academic All-District are junior Kentlee Neighbors, sophomore Tylis Oakes, sophomore Kameron Vinson, Carson Blalock, Fuller, Hinch, Holcomb, Honea and Robertson.

RAINS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

JH One-Act Play honored at district



Contributed photo

The Rains Junior High One-Act Play group placed second at the District 12-3A competition on Friday, December 2. Pictured are, from left, Kaylee Oertwig, Honorable Mention All-Star Cast; Nataleigh Sheffield, Best Performer; Bryce Williams, Tech Award; Anthony Barrios, One-Play Director; Saylor Barrios, One-Act Play assistant teacher; Jude Burch, All-Star Cast; and Sarah Lanham, All-Star Cast.

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