

Regional tournament bound!



Leader photo by CHICK FITTS

With a packed stand for support, the Rains Lady Cat basketball team defeated the Ponder Lady Lions 51-45 to advance to the Class 3A Region II basketball tournament. The Lady Cats' first opponent in the tournament will be the Tatum Lady Eagles and will begin Friday, February 23, at 6:00 p.m. at Prosper High School. See related story on page 8.

RAINS COUNTY ESD Board approves EMS building upgrades

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains County Emergency Service District approved upgrades for the EMS building in Emory and annual exemptions during the regular meeting on Monday, February 19.

The board was presented with bids for repairs of the shower stalls in the EMS building. The stalls were found to not have a proper foundation so the bid to correct that issue along with the repairs of the stalls was unanimously approved.

Board members approved a motion to upgrade the internet service for the EMS building and authorized Kristi Ratliff to choose the best option.

Rains County ESD Board President Ken Player stated that final paperwork was being drafted to complete the purchase of the Point VFD building so no action or discussion was needed at this time for purchase of land next to the building.

The board approved the annual exemption for historic properties in Rains County and to not tax personal/recreational vehicles.

In monthly activity reports for January, Hopkins County reported 150 requests for service, with 45 refusals. The average response time on life threatening emergencies calls in the city was reported to be 13 minutes

see ESD on page 2

ELECTION 2024

Early voting underway for March 5 primary

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

Early voting in the March 5 primary election began on Tuesday, February 20, in Rains County with 78 residents voting in one contested local race and several contested state and federal offices.

As of press time, 68 residents had voted in the Republican primary, while 10 residents voted in the Democratic primary.

The lone contested race in Rains County is the election for Sheriff of Rains County in the Republican primary. Michael Hopkins is seeking election to the office that he was appointed to in October of 2022 by the Rains County Commissioners Court. Jamison

“Jamie” Beck seeks election to the office after being the Chief of Police for the City of Point for almost two years.

Uncontested races in the Republican Primary for Rains County include Jeremy Cook for County Commissioners of Precinct 1, Korey Young for County Commissioner of Precinct 3, Allen Davis for county constable, Sheila Floyd for County Tax Assessor-Collector, Robert Vititow for County Attorney, Eddie Northcutt for 8th District Judge and Keli Aiken for 354th District Judge.

Area elections affecting Rains County have incumbent Cole Hefner, Jeff Fletcher and Dewey Collier seeking election to repre-

see EARLY VOTING on page 2

EAST TAWAKONI

Council purchases new equipment, updates EDC’s AOI

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The East Tawakoni City Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 20, to improve equipment at the city water department and update by-laws and articles of incorporation of the East Tawakoni Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

During the meeting, the council was presented with options for a new backhoe for the city’s water department. The current equipment is not considered safe for use and the department has had to rent the equipment when needed.

The council had approved at the November meeting for the purchase of a used back-

hoe if one could be found for under \$40,000. One could not be found for that price so the option to lease-to-own a new Case backhoe for \$3,500 a month was brought to council.

The department has rented a smaller Kubota backhoe as needed for \$186 a day or \$771 a week. The three year agreement for the newer backhoe would include maintenance and the equipment would belong to the city at the end of the agreement.

Council members approved in a 3-1 vote to purchase the new backhoe as the cost to rent the equipment would be higher than the monthly purchase payments. Councilwoman Nastassia Ruffino voted against the motion as

see EAST TAWAKONI on page 2

SPOTLIGHT

John Turk’s farming skills began with a high school class in horticulture

By JUDY KRAMER
Rains County Leader contributor

John Turk spent his young life in Garland and moved to Point eight years ago, after marrying his wife Michelle who is a native of the area. When he went to high school in Garland, he played a couple of years of football, went fishing a lot, and took a class in Horticulture which led to his skill in, and love of farming. Although he and his wife both own Turk Farm, at 4054 Hwy. 276 in Point, he runs the business year-round while she works elsewhere in sales.

“We bought the farm from Michelle’s grandmother in 2014, and have a farm store, greenhouse sales, do a few gardening classes and have goats for petting and chickens for feeding,” said Turk. “We also do special events that are seasonal such as a pumpkin patch, sunflower and fresh cut flower meadow, and try to do something

for Valentine’s Day and Christmas. There is no fee to visit the farm. We only charge for items bought in the farm store or from our green houses.”

Turk said that his wife’s family has lived in Point for a long time and Michelle’s grandparents had the 11-acres they sold to him, 10 acres that Michelle’s parents live on plus several other acreages. The grandparents raised cattle on their land as well as land they rented. Turk Farm has plenty of room for its store, a 95 x 24-foot greenhouse, a smaller 12 x 20-foot greenhouse, goats, chickens and other facilities. The focuses in the nursery are flowers and vegetables, seedlings, succulents and trees in smaller containers.

“We get a good turnout here, getting shoppers from Dallas as well as local customers,” said Turk. “We also get visits from garden clubs in Rains County, Dallas and Collin County and there is a lot of business online. We are trying to do gar-

dening classes occasionally, such as one about starting onions. We want to offer more classes in the future. Our busiest time of the year is spring and slowest time is August.”

Items that are growing now include fresh tomatoes, micro greens, seed potatoes, and onion sets. In the farm store are fresh farm eggs, and canned items. More information about Turk Farm can be found at <https://turkfarmonline.com/>.

The Turks were married 10 years ago after being introduced to each other by friends. They have a five-year-old son and a pet Dachshund named Winston and an outside cat. Michelle’s parents live on 10 acres next to the Turks, and her grandmother lives further down the road on about six acres.

The Turks like to travel, especially to Mexico and Colorado. They also go to the lake to fish and like spending time at the beach.



John Turk with wife Michelle and son



City Girl:
To vote or
not to vote!

page 3

Bartee Haile:
Texans invade
New Mexico...

page 5

Wildcat
Sports

page 8

Rain Report

No rain recorded this week.

Total for February 2.72 in.
Year to date 7.31 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. Dos Charros 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., 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 – Food Pantry open 1:00-4:00 p.m. Mon. & Thurs.

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 Miracle Faith Baptist Church

WOMEN'S SERVICE CLUB – 2nd Mon., 6:00 p.m., Rose Community Center

WOMEN IN NEED, INC. – A Battered Women's Shelter. Call 903-455-4612 or 903-454-HELP

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 Thurs., 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 for Mon.-Wed. are 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., closed noon-1:00 p.m. Hours for Thursday are 8:00 a.m. - noon. Thrift sales will be open every Saturday in February from 8:00 a.m. - noon. Funds go to buy food for the needy and to operate the center.

Tri-County Beef And Forage Conference

The Tri-County Beef and Forage Conference will be held on Friday, March 1, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., at the Rains County Fairgrounds. The cost is \$30.00 per person, which includes lunch. Three CEU hours will be given. Topics will include Using Soil Fertility as Weed Control Mechanism; and Beef Cattle Management Decision Making, etc. Contact 903-473-4580 with any questions or to RSVP.

ESD

Continued from page 1

and 32 seconds while county calls averaged at 12 minutes and 13 seconds.

Of the 89 transported to a medical facility by EMS in January, 72 went to Sulphur Springs, 14 to Greenville, one to Quinlan and two to other hospitals or air transport. The most common calls were for breathing problems, a person feeling sick, a fall, motor vehicle accidents, chest pains and an unconscious individual.

The Emory VFD responded to 56 calls during the month of January. The department

responded to 32 medical assists, seven fires, six good intent calls, five motor vehicle accidents, three gas leaks, two hazardous conditions calls and a public assist.

In the month of January, the Point VFD was dispatched on 41 calls including 34 medical assists, three fires, two motor vehicle accidents, a gas leak and a canceled en route call.

The next regular meeting of the Rains County ESD Board is scheduled for Monday, March 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the Emory VFD Fire Station.

EARLY VOTING

Continued from page 1

sent District 5 in the Texas House of Representatives in the Republican Primary. No candidate is running for the office in the Democratic primary.

Angela Paxton will run unopposed for Texas State Senator of District 8 in the Republican primary while Rachel Mello will run unopposed for the same office in the Democratic primary.

Other statewide races include Railroad Commissioner and several judgeships.

The election for Congressman to represent District 4 in the United States Congress has incumbent Pat Fallon and Don Horn on the Republican primary ballot and Simon Cardell on the Democratic primary ballot.

Other national offices on the primary ballots in Rains County include the United States Senator for Texas and President of the United States.

The Republican ballot includes 13 propositions approved by the Texas Republican Executive Committee.

Residents of Rains County can vote early at the elections office in the Rains County Annex at 220 West Quitman Street in Emory. Polls will be open for early voting from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each weekday from Tuesday, February 20, through Friday, February 23.

Polls will be open Saturday, February 24, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Early voting will continue each weekday from February 26

through March 01, with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The primary in Texas will be held on March 5 with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Rains County residents will be able to cast a ballot in the primary at eight voting precincts throughout the county on March 5 including:

Voting precinct 101 in the Rocky Point Community Center at 2134 South Hwy 19.

Voting precinct 102 in the East Tawakoni Community Center at 288 Briggs Blvd in East Tawakoni.

Voting precinct 203 in the Bright Star Church Community Center at 1399 RS CR 3480.

Voting precinct 204 in the Rose Community Center at 109 Ravine in Emory.

Voting precinct 305 in the Della Blanton Memorial Hall at 200 RS CR 4370.

Voting precinct 306 in the Emory VFD Fire Station at 1205 West Lennon St. in Emory.

Voting precinct 407 in the Point Community Center at 241 S. First Street in Point.

Voting precinct 408 in the fellowship hall for the First Baptist Church of Point at 985 Industrial Blvd in Point.

For more information about the election, contact the Texas Secretary of State's office at 1-800-252-8683 or visit the website, www.votetexas.gov.

For information about the local elections, contact the Election Administrator at 903-473-5009 or visit www.co.rains.tx.us/page/rains.Elections.

How will higher rates affect you?

As you know, interest rates have risen considerably over the past couple of years.

BRANDON ROBERTS
Edward Jones
Financial Advisor

How does this affect you as a consumer and as an investor?

From a consumer's standpoint, you'll likely pay more in interest on new or refinanced mortgages, along with car loans and credit cards. Paying these loans and debts at higher rates can affect your cash flow, so you may have to make some choices about your overall budgeting and spending plans.

As an investor, higher rates can mean different things. Some stocks do better than others in a high-interest-rate envi-

ronment, but when considering any stock or stock-based investment, you'll want to look at its merits and fundamentals.

If you own bonds, their value might go down when interest rates rise. That's because investors won't pay full price for your bonds when they can get newer ones issued at higher rates. However, you, too, can invest in new bonds that pay these higher rates, providing you with bigger interest payments.

In any case, it's useful to be aware of what's happening with interest rates. The more you know about the factors affecting your investments, the better off you'll be.

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EAST TAWAKONI

Continued from page 1

she wanted a chance to look for more options in purchasing a backhoe.

The water department presented a proposal to purchase new radio water meters. The new meters would allow for the reading of meters without getting out of the vehicle or entering resident's properties.

The replacement of old meters would not be too time consuming, and would be conducted over several years. The cost would include new software, computer and training on the radio meters and the city would incur a yearly maintenance fee.

The council unanimously voted to table the item as the cost to the city would require them to get two more bids for the same or similar equipment.

The council was presented with the updates to the articles of incorporation and the by-laws for the East Tawakoni EDC. The updates and amendments were discussed and worked on during a two-day workshop on January 30 and 31.

After some discussion and changes, the articles were unanimously approved by the council, but the by-laws were tabled to allow the EDC governing body to approve the by-laws and have a lawyer look over them.

Council members considered whether to approve a stipend for council members and the mayor to be used to attend seminars, events or courses to further their knowledge in local government. As a stipend would be considered pay for being on the council, the item was denied in a 3-1 vote with the knowledge that any council member wanting training paid for by the city should bring it to the council for approval.

The council was presented with a contract for legal services for a lawyer to consult with the city concerning EDC business. The current city attorney had declined to review the documents or provide a legal opinion as he stated that he didn't have the experience in the area.

A motion to table the matter to look for more options for a lawyer died for lack of a second. They unanimously approved a motion to approve the contract with a term limit of one year added to it.

Mayor Holly Calhoun opened the only bid received for management services for a grant to purchase sirens and emergency generators for the city. The council unanimously approved the motion to accept the bid from Grantworks.

Council members discussed whether to stop verbal reports from department heads during the regular meetings. Typed reports are part of every council member's agenda packet and the time could be used for just questions from the council for the department heads.

The council unanimously approved a motion to stop with verbal department reports, but all typed reports would be available to the public at the meeting or at city hall.

The council unanimously approved a permit for a garage on Harris Harbor with variances, to not allow the assessment of ad valorem taxes on non producing personal vehicles, a contract to conduct the 2023 audit of the city and the appointment of Kole Davis to the planning and zoning committee.

During the open forum, a resident spoke about damage to her property from the opening of a fire hydrant near her property. The hydrant had been opened several times to relieve pressure on the city's water system while repairs were conducted. The excess water overflowed the natural drainage to the lake and caused flooding and damage to her property.

In council comments, Councilwoman Kammi Garner presented council members with information on the pay for local law enforcement in the area and asked an item be added to next month's agenda to discuss pay for the city police department.

Calhoun stated that there was a plan for a workshop in March to update the city's employee handbook. She noted that a citizen's concerns about property damage from the open fire hydrant would be on the next agenda.

Councilwoman Jana Dandridge was not present for the regular meeting.

The next regular meeting of the East Tawakoni City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of East Tawakoni City Hall.

Advertising Works

903-473-2653

Economic Growth

I watched Kudlow Weekend on Saturday February 10, 2024.

Chairman of the House Ways and means committee Steve Smith brought forward a 78B dollar economic growth tax cut bill heading to the Senate.

The bills language provides a tax cut for businesses to make needed equipment investments expanding their manufacturing capabilities.

The bill also has a child tax credit for eligible families and children.

The Child Tax Credit was first proposed by Republicans in 1997.

A bipartisan agreement was reached between House Republicans and House Democrats on the ways and means committee.

Participants will be chastised by members of their own party.

Republicans on Republicans

Democrats on Democrats

Charge: Working with the Enemy. Beneficial legislation for American families and American Businesses which actually cuts taxes with a win/win objective!

Marvin Henson Point, Texas

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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!

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

CITY GIRL

To vote or not to vote!

By Linda Brendle
The United States Constitution, as originally written, did not define specifically who could or could not vote—but it did establish *how* the new country would vote. Article 1 of the Constitution determined that members of the Senate and House of Representatives would both be elected directly by popular vote and that the president would be elected by the Electoral College.

The question of who could vote was left to the states into the 1800s. In most cases, only landowning white men were eligible. Black men gained the vote in 1869 and women followed in 1920. Voting rights were further expanded in 1964 by the elimination of the poll tax, in 1965 with the end of Jim Crow laws, and in 1971 when the voting age was lowered from 21 to 18.

It would seem that, since people fought so long to win the right to vote, that everyone would be eager to exercise that privilege. Too often, though, that is not the case. According to one source, 35 percent-60 percent of eligible voters don't take part in any given election. The main reason given for not voting seems to be because they don't think their vote matters. They may think their candidate is so far ahead that their vote isn't needed or that one person's vote won't swing an election one way or another. Some don't think their vote counts because of the Electoral College System.

The truth is that voting is a right, people have died to win that right for you, and every vote counts. Logic would tell us that one vote in a sea of millions doesn't make a difference, but several close elections tell a different story. The 2000 presidential election between Gore and Bush was decided by 537 votes in Florida. While your vote may not directly elect the president, it matters in the outcome of the electoral vote. In 2016, although the vote wasn't decided by a few individual votes, the Electoral College vote was very close because of individual votes in several

swing states. And don't forget local and state elections which generally get a much smaller voter turnout. According to a Portland State University Study, as few as 15 percent of eligible voters take part in local elections, and these are the decisions that have the most effect on our daily lives.

Many non-voters don't believe anything will change regardless of who is elected. They don't know anything about the candidates, or maybe they know too much and don't like any of the candidates. Some don't know where their polling place is and others don't vote because of long lines at the polls or because they don't get paid time off from work to vote. Early voting times aren't any more convenient, and they don't trust mail-in ballots, so they just don't vote at all. Health issues, physical disabilities, lack of photo ID, and other situations can also be barriers to exercising the right to vote.

On the other hand, the reverse of the estimate of eligible voters who don't vote would indicate that 40 percent-65 percent do vote, and their reasons are as varied as those who stay home. They might think that voting is a civic duty that gives them the power to make a difference. Others are moved by peer pressure or driven by anger about a certain issue or because they realize that voting affects them directly. Besides electing a candidate, voting gives you an active role in issues that affect not only the country as a whole but also your community, your family, and you personally like the economy, foreign policy, healthcare, education, taxes, the infrastructure, and so much more.

It's important to vote not just in national elections but also in state and local elections. The fact that a few votes can determine an election is especially true on the local level. Your vote could sway a result from someone who doesn't have your best interests at heart to someone who believes like you do.

The upcoming election is the primary election for the November national election, but there are a number of county positions to vote on as well as 13 propositions. If you don't like any of the candidates in

one particular race, skip it and cast your vote for someone in another race that you support.

By the time this column is published, early voting for this year's primary election will have already started. Inconvenient timing should not be an excuse to skip voting because the polls will be open seven days a week between now and March 1. I've posted a copy of the schedule at the end of this column for your convenience. If you need information about who is running or what propositions are on the ballot, go to <https://www.co.rains.tx.us/page/rains>. Elections where you will find sample ballots and Rains County Voter Information that includes voting locations and a precinct map.

Don't sit out the March 5 election. Your vote is powerful, but it must be exercised to tap into that power. Cast your vote or the votes of others will make uncontested decisions for you.

EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024 – Friday, Feb. 23, 2024 – 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 – 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 26, 2024 – Friday, March 1, 2024 – 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, March 05, 2024 Sources:

<https://education.national-geographic.org/resource/why-voting-important/>

<https://aactnow.org/why-vote/>

<https://apiavote.org/how-to-vote/why-vote/>

<https://www.altamed.org/articles/5-reasons-why-you-should-vote>

<https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/non-voters-poll-2020-election/>

<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/why-people-dont-vote/>

<https://www.axios.com/2021/11/16/election-voting-rights-congress>

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.



Super Coffee – Rocket Fuel for Health

"The morning cup of *Cafe' Noir* is an integral part of the life of the Creole household. The Creoles hold as a physiological fact that this custom



contributes to longevity, and point, day after day, to examples of old men and old women of fourscore, and over, who attest to the powerful aid they have received through life from a good, fragrant cup of coffee in the early morning."

Picayune Creole Cookbook -1909

A fragrant cup of coffee in the early morning is one of life's greatest pleasures. And, like the Creole, I would attest that good coffee, consumed regularly, can contribute to longevity. My grandmother lived to the age of 100. She savored her coffee every morning.

Studies galore have confirmed that coffee is good for us. Linked to a decreased risk of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, liver disease, type 2 diabetes, depression, and more, consistent coffee consumption is associated with living longer. And we all want that.

The previous quote, from the famous *Picayune Creole Cookbook* (published during the early part of the 20th century in New Orleans), mentions *Cafe' Noir*, or black coffee. This is favored by many. But some people find that adding to their morning cup makes their coffee even more delectable. You might consider some of the following, many of which are reported to significantly magnify coffee's health benefits.

Of all the things you can add to your coffee, CINNAMON might be the most beneficial. Loaded with healing antioxidants and full of vitamins and minerals (including manganese, calcium, iron, and vitamin K)

cinnamon provides amazing health benefits, stabilizing blood sugar, preventing inflammation, and supporting heart health. Cinnamon also sweetens your coffee without the calories of sugar. When combined with caffeine, cinnamon gives you an extra boost of energy. Cinnamon can be added to coffee after brewing. Add ¼ to ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon per cup (or use sticks).

NUTMEG adds mild earthy notes with a sweet taste to your coffee and it pairs well with cinnamon. These two spices will make your coffee smell like Christmas. Try adding ½ - 1 teaspoon to your coffee grounds before brewing.

CARDAMOM, called the *Queen of Spices*, has been a popular addition to coffee in the Middle East for centuries. Cardamom is believed to have anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer properties and has been used to treat high blood pressure and diabetes. Sweet and spicy with a hint of citrus, cardamom is potent, so a little goes a long way (try ¼ teaspoon per cup, or less). You can add whole pods to coffee beans and grind together (use green pods instead of black for coffee) but note flavor may remain in grinder afterwards. You can also add ground cardamom to coffee grounds and brew together.

CLOVES will add aroma and health to your cup. Cloves are said to relieve symptoms of arthritis and improve blood circulation. The compounds in cloves may reduce cancer cell growth and promote cancer cell death. Cloves also promote digestive health and protect the liver.

CACAO (in powder form or *nibs*) added to coffee is another good option. Research has revealed that cacao helps improve mental performance, brain function and mood. Further studies have shown positive results using cacao and cocoa extracts in reducing breast, prostate, liver, pancreatic, colon cancer, and leukemia.

COLLAGEN is another popular additive for coffee. Almost tasteless, collagen is a protein that promotes healthy hair, skin, joints, bones, and muscles. It's the main component that makes up connective tissues in our bodies. As we age, it becomes harder for our bodies to produce collagen. Stir a teaspoon, or more, into your cup, and enjoy.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention MCT OIL and its use in coffee. MCT oil (medium-chain triglycerides often derived from coconut oil) has been popularized through the *Bulletproof Coffee* craze. I have written about *Bulletproof Coffee* before, and I drink it regularly. Pioneered by the father of biohacking *Dave Asprey*, *Bulletproof Coffee* consists of coffee with added MCT oil and *grass-fed butter*. It feeds your brain, enhances mental capabilities, and provides fat burning support. Many folks drink *Bulletproof Coffee* for weight loss. Use a blender and mix well (do not simply stir) and start with a small amount of MCT and work up. Too much MCT oil can result in *disaster pants*.

Other things you might consider adding to your coffee include *mushroom powder* (good for your gut), *salt* (it can balance the bitterness in coffee), *trace mineral drops* (use a few drops per cup), *lemon* (fun and refreshing), and *honey* (super sweetener that goes well with coffee, esp. with added heavy cream if you want to be decadent).

Consider adding some of these beneficial ingredients to your brew. You can make that fragrant cup of coffee every morning rocket fuel for your health.

JODY DYER is a columnist, author, and former teacher. Described by some as a Renaissance man, he is a baseball fan, coffee roaster, and accomplished feral hog trapper. He likes to read, appreciates the outdoors, and is good with dogs and children. He is the father of three, and lives with his wife in Texas.

typewriterweekly.com
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Pitch perfect ... almost



Leader photo by TREY HILL

Wyatt Cook pitches his third shot onto the green during the Rains Golf Invitational held Tuesday, February 20, at Lake Fork Golf Course. Cook's pitch rolled further than a comfortable birdie putt; however, he was able to two-putt for an easy par on the par-5 13th hole.

CASTING FOR KALE

Fundraising tournament and raffle scheduled to benefit fallen WHS student

Tragedy struck the Winnsboro High School community on Saturday, February 17, when one of its students collapsed and died while participating in a THSBA (Texas High School Bass Association) tournament being held at Lake Bob Sandlin.

Kale Robinson, an avid fisherman who had caught his personal best on the water, collapsed minutes into the weigh-in.

A tournament and raffle fundraiser has been organized, with the proceeds going directly to the family. NTX Bass Elite

Series, Lonestar Bass Series, THSBA, and Joe Casey Shipley will host the two-day event which will include a dinner, live music, raffle and tournament.

Kasting For Kale Memorial Bass Tournament is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17. Saturday features a cookout and live music. The tournament and raffle are scheduled to be held on Sunday at Lake Fork. The event is open to the public. For more information, go to <https://thsba.mybigcommerce.com/kale-robinson/>.



Kale Robinson

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Contact the Rains County Leader at:

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ACROSS

1 San ____ County

5 Palestine AM

6 ____ wood, Texas

7 Greek god of love

8 this Texas doctor was the first to implant an artificial heart (2 wds.)

17 respect and wonder

18 TXism: "book

horse smart" (wise)

21 this Darrin helped the Cowboys win 2 Super Bowls (init.)

22 TXism: "could shoot the eyes out of a ____" (good aim)

23 33rd Chief of Staff of the Army. Dennis Joe, who got training at Fort Bliss in Texas

24 petitioned God

29 when a tennis serve hits the net and then goes over (2 wds.)

30 football snap

31 TX Clint Black 1992 hit: "____ Tell Ourselves"

32 TXism: "he can ____ and dance all night" (stamina)

34 physicians, for short

35 bikini top

36 interprets a situation incorrectly

37 TXism: "I can dance to that ____" (agree)

38 TX Bob Wills sang "I'm a Ding Dong Daddy ____ Dumas" in 1937

39 TXism: "out ____" (ease up)

41 dribbles

42 a Canadian "can"

43 TXism: "you got to play the hand you're ____"

44 early Rio Grande: "____ las Palmas"

45 Bible's 2nd pt.

46 ____ Rosa State University in Alpine

47 "yankkee behaviors never ____ to amaze me"

48 most wealthy

50 "that puts ____ in my coffin" (detrimental)

51 an explosive

52 some Texas subdivisions have this type of aspn.

53 snake-like fish

3 poetic "go away"

4 school exam (2 wds.)

9 in Young County on highway 79

10 sdy

11 TXism: "traidy ____"

12 "use it ____ lose it"

13 TXism: "covered like white ____"

14 vegetables related to the onion

15 actress Adams in "Racquet" with TX Lynda Day George

16 sweet tater

19 TXism: "he'd complain if they hung him with a ____" (particular)

20 TX Roy Orbison ballad: "In ____"

22 TX Roy Orbison wore dark ones

24 this Texan was TV's Clair Huxtable (init.)

25 Sea ____ State Park

26 "I take ____ view of that" (disapprove)

27 affirmatives

28 TXism: "plain as the ____ a mule"

29 totaled

30 car horn sound

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

34 "fix it" tape

35 TXism: "dainty as a June ____"

37 TXism: "he sits ____ saddle"

38 in Navarro County on highway 22

40 TX Tommy Lee 1978 film: "Eyes of ____ Mars"

41 "buanas ____" (good day)

44 rod and ____

47 exotic deer raised in Texas since 1932

49 TXism: "paddle your own ____" (do it yourself)

Solution at www.cbttx.com

903-473-2611 Member FDIC

Sheriff's Report

The Rains County Sheriff's Office took the following reports of activity during the week of February 12-18:



MICHAEL HOPKINS
Rains County Sheriff

Arrests

2-13: Justin Collins. Failure to comply with sex offender duty to register annually.
2-15: Jeremy Tucker. Injury to a child/disabled criminal negligence, bond denied.
2-15: Christopher Lowe. Driving while intoxicated third or more, 20 years institutional division.
2-17: Donald Phillips. Parole violation, unknown bond.
2-18: David Wallace. Burglary of building, unknown bond.

Calls

2-12: CR 1150 Tree fell in the roadway; Rains Elementary School Two-vehicle accident, unknown injuries; FM 275 Livestock in the roadway; CR 3335 Report of son at a house and causing a scene; Sheriff's Office (SO) Male would like to file a complaint on his cousin; FM 2795 Medical assist 78-year-old female possibly having a stroke; CR 1155 Money stolen from a home; CR 3340 Male is trespassing; CR 4500 Report of someone trespassing on male's property; CR Briggs Blvd. 18-month-old child is choking; Hwy. 69 Male has questions about people living on his property; Emory Park Female locked herself out of the vehicle; FM 275 Possible fire; CR 1451 Female tied up her neighbors aggressive dogs since she is scared they may attack her child; Hwy. 19S near FM 2324 Mattress in the roadway; CR 3335 Caller has low blood sugar.
2-13: Hwy. 69 near Meadowview Ln. Vehicle vs. bus, no injuries; FM 779 Lung cancer patient is malnourished and

unable to get up; CR 1410 Pistol recovery; CR 3330 near CR 3345 Male walking down the roadway; CR 3340 Male walking in caller's yard; Hwy. 276 Medical assist female thinks her husband is choking; FM 515 Medical assist male having an epileptic seizure; CR 3324 Alarm call; FM 47 Medical assist male has very high blood pressure; Hwy. 276 near CR 1230 Motorist assist; Hwy. 276 Stolen vehicle seen by camera coming into the county; Point Dollar General Child custody issue.
2-14: Hwy. 69 Male states his stepfather assaulted his mother; PR Female put her credit information online and now thinks she's being scammed; CR 1622 Deputy out on a paper service; FM 515 coming into Emory Wood Co. got a call that sounded like a female yelling for help; Bent Tree Motel Emory PD out on a follow up; FM 2324 Dogs impeding traffic; CR 1219 CPS needs a welfare check done on three children; Hwy. 69 Caller states their neighbor came over with a bat since his dogs went on their property; CR 3330 67-year-old female with lung cancer having issues breathing; CR 4325 Medical assist 52-year-old male is very disoriented; FM 2795 Possible intoxicated person walking; Stop sign by the court house Emory PD Motorist assist; Hwy. 276 near CR 1530 Caller states it looks like a car missed a turn and hit the ditch; SO Female states that someone filed taxes in her son's name; CR 1307 Medical assist 68-year-old female who had a stroke two weeks ago fell; CR 1410 Medical assist 98-year-old female with labored breathing and slurred speech; CR 4453 Medical assist 70-year-old male with high blood pressure and a hard time breathing; CR 3330 Medical assist female fell, and has a cut on her head and knee; FM 515 Emory Fire Dept. advised that there is a male riding his bike in the middle of the road with no reflectors or lights.

2-15: CR 1402 One-year-old female shaking and not breathing CPR is in progress; E Lennon Emory Eye Care Patient passed out; CR 4261 Female states there is a German Shepherd in her yard; Hwy. 69 Livestock in the roadway; CR 4261 Caller states there is a dog walking with its owner and it is not on a leash; CR 3237 Medical assist 29-year-old female had a seizure and fell and hit her face; CR Hwy. 276 Male in all black keeps walking by caller's driveway; Hwy. 69 Caller states there is a male walking with his bicycle; Hwy. 69 and Hwy. 19 intersection Two-vehicle accident, unknown injuries; CR 1605 Caller states he has a package missing and another box has damage; Rabe Rd. CPS would like a welfare check done on a 1-year-old female; Quick Save Two-vehicle accident, unknown injuries; E Lennon Report of a dog on a leash attached to the back of a truck; FM 2795 Child in red threw a rock at caller's windshield; CR 3370 Suspicious vehicle; Sky Point Male says his brother will not let him have his mother; PR 7704 Female came into the lobby with a note that was left on her car in regard to a minor's welfare; Point Max-A-Mart Medical assist Male thinks he is having a heart attack; Point Max-A-Mart Male states he saw a weird interaction with a male and female earlier, states she looked about 17-year-old.
2-16: PR 5503 Point Max-A-Mart 59-year-old female with extreme back pain; FM 47 Medical assist male really sick and just not looking right; Meadow View Dr. Reckless driver; Hwy. 69 Point PD Follow up on a call from previous night; CR 3330 Report of a missing son who was last seen an hour ago and takes several medications; CR 1495 Female states her son is in foster care and they may be abusing him; South 1st St. near Rabe Rd. Livestock in the roadway; East Lennon Dr. Accident in front of Brookshire's,



Leader photo by TREY HILL

Rains County deputy Keith Lewis lends a hand fighting a grass fire Tuesday afternoon, February 20. The fire, which was located on FM 515, appeared to begin by sparks created during the process of removing a skeletal structure of a previously burned out building.

unknown injuries; CR Duffy St. Deputy on a paper service; N Texas St. Carrier's personal vehicle was hit some time the night before; W Lennon Alarm call; Steamboat Shores Male and woman standing outside of Steamboat and they tried to get caller to stop; CR 3315 Medical assist 96-year-old female throwing up and has upper stomach pain; Steamboat Shores Hopkins Co. called and advised they would be serving two warrants in our county and asked for our units to assist; Briggs Blvd. 18-month-old female was choking but caller was able to get it out; Hwy. 69 and Hwy. 19 Female states her truck died and people are just waiting behind her, she is trying to wave them around; FM 2946 Medical assist 90-year-old female fell and is now bleeding from her head; Club Ct. Dr. Possible rabid raccoon; Point Max-A-Mart Point PD Motorist assist; PR 5222 Caller states there is an estate sale tomorrow where someone will be selling guns;

Hwy. 276 Possible stranded boat; Hwy. 19N headed to Emory Caller states there is a gray Bronco that keeps brake checking an 18-wheeler.
2-17: FM 2795 Deputy out on a paper service; CR 3330 Medical assist 83-year-old female fell and hit her head two nights before and today she is confused and seeing things; PR 7330 Medical assist 72-year-old male has fallen and is shaking and is COVID positive; CR 1410 Suspicious vehicle; N 1st St. Verbal disturbance between mother and son; FM 275 Welfare check on male; FM 2795 Male is concerned that someone is going to steal his wallet out of his truck; FM 275 Caller states someone is going fast down the road and running over their dogs; W Lennon Dr. Female states she is being harassed; N Texas St. Emory PD Motorist assist; Hwy. 276 Trailer on fire; E Lennon Two-vehicle accident, unknown injuries; Hwy. 69 Male states someone hit his trailer; 3rd St. Female is in the bathroom and

her boyfriend won't let her out.
2-18: Hwy. 275 Broken down trailer and truck and truck is out of the roadway the trailer is not; CR 1150 Female states there is a 30 ft. camper parked there that she wants towed; N Texas St. Accidental fire alarm; CR 4481 Welfare check; Hwy. 276 Welfare check on 40-year-old male; CR 3345 Medical assist 84-year-old male is having trouble moving; CR 2120 Caller states their neighbor is outside revving their engine; CR 4516 Cattle keep coming on to male's property; S Texas St. Neighbor's aggressive dog is on caller's property; CR 3060 Deputy giving a courtesy transport; Canton ER called and advised they have a 10-year-old male that was bitten by their family dog; Clark Dr. Female states there are two cars sitting in front of her house; CR 3480 Medical assist female fell and hit her head and is bleeding; Hwy. 69 Point coming to Emory Vehicle driving on the wrong side of the road.

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICES

Growing Potatoes

Experienced vegetable gardeners understand planting potatoes around Valentine's Day is customary in this region, with



STEPHEN GOWIN
Rains County
AgriLife Agent

the general guideline being by February 15. While we may be a bit behind schedule this year, there's still time to plant your potatoes if you haven't already.

Potatoes are among the simplest root crops to cultivate, offering the added perk of being edible at various growth stages, including as tender "new potatoes." Here are some tips for successfully growing potatoes in your garden:
Potatoes typically thrive in average soil conditions, requiring minimal soil preparation. However, incorporating some compost or peat moss can be beneficial. Avoid using fresh manure or lime, as they may lead to scab formation on the potatoes. Applying a balanced fertilizer like 5-10-10 or 10-20-20 before planting can also help. Ensure thorough mixing of the fertilizer into the planting soil, tilling or spading to a depth of ten to twelve inches.

When planting small to

medium-sized seed potatoes, plant them whole. For larger potatoes, cutting them into halves or quarters with two to three "growth eyes" per section is suitable. Allow the cut surfaces to dry and form a callus before planting.
Potatoes can be grown using various methods, such as in-ground planting, stacking in straw or mulch, using black plastic bags, or even in containers like garbage cans or stacked tires. This versatility makes potatoes a fun and accessible crop to grow.

Traditional field growing involves planting seed potatoes about twelve inches apart in rows spaced two to three feet apart. Seed pieces are typically planted one inch deep and covered with soil as sprouts emerge. Hilling or mounding soil around the plants as they develop is another common technique.

In the straw method, potatoes are planted above ground in stacks of straw or mulch. Additional straw or mulch is added around the base of the growing vines, resulting in clean potatoes that can be harvested early.

Tire stacking offers two approaches: stacking tires vertically and planting them in each tier, or placing a single tire on

the ground, filling it with soil, and adding more tires as the plants grow. Both methods have shown high yield potential, with proper watering and fertilizer management being critical factors.

Regardless of the method chosen, consistent watering is essential to avoid issues like hollow centers or irregularly shaped potatoes. Weekly watering during warmer weather is generally sufficient.

Growing potatoes in containers is ideal for those with limited space or smaller households. It's a straightforward method that requires minimal space and effort.

The information herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended or no endorsement by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service is implied.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

Federal judge appears skeptical of new border law

A federal judge is expected to rule quickly on the constitutionality of a Texas law about to go into effect that institutes new state penalties for illegal border crossings. During a hearing last week, U.S. District Judge David Ezra said he had concerns that other states would follow Texas' lead in creating their

own immigration laws – a power given exclusively to the federal government under the U.S. Constitution.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the U.S. Justice Department sued the state over the law set to go into effect next month. It would allow any law enforcement official in the state to arrest someone here illegally, with mandatory sentences of between six months and 20 years.

An attorney with the Texas attorney general's office argued the state's immigration law should be seen as necessary because of increased illegal immigration. Ezra questioned the ramifications of Texas setting a precedent for other states to reject federal authority and create their own immigration laws.

"I will try to get my decision out as quickly as I possibly can," he said, noting that however he rules, it will be appealed.

Paxton, Cornyn trade barbs over aid bill

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton escalated their feud last week, after Cornyn backed a \$95 billion aid package to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, The Dallas Morning News reported. Paxton on social media blasted Cornyn, with the senator responding that the embattled attorney general should mind his own business – specifically his pending securities fraud trial.

"Unbelievable that @John-Cornyn would stay up all night to defend other countries borders, but not America," Paxton

posted on X, formerly Twitter.

Cornyn quickly responded. "Ken, your criminal defense lawyers are calling to suggest you spend less time pushing Russian propaganda and more time defending longstanding felony charges against you in Houston, as well as ongoing federal grand jury proceedings in San Antonio that will probably result in further criminal charges," he wrote on X.

Painfully slow rollout of broadband feared

Texas is due to receive \$3.3 billion in federal funds for expanding broadband internet, but internet providers in rural areas are worried the money won't be used efficiently to improve high-speed connections for the 7 million residents now lacking that resource.

The Texas Tribune reported a relatively new state office is trying to build a staff to oversee the work, noting earlier federal funding programs have seen limited success because many companies underestimated the costs to install broadband in sparsely populated areas.

"We want to make sure that there's a responsible allocation of these dollars," said Rusty Moore, COO of Big Bend Telephone Company in Alpine. "We've been very vocal about where the challenges are."

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act signed by President Joe Biden in 2021 provides \$42.5 billion nationwide for broadband access and aims to connect 2.5 million households in Texas. Texas received the largest portion of the funds and created the Broadband Development Office to manage disbursement of its share.

Democrats propose bill to connect Texas to national grids

Two Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives plan to introduce legislation that would require the Electric Reliability Council of Texas to connect to major electric grids outside of Texas, the Houston Chronicle reported.. The measure, sponsored by

Rep. Greg Casar, D- Texas, and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., said Texans would save money, avoid blackouts, and help fight the climate crisis since Texas leads the nation in clean energy production.

"Over 10 million Texans needlessly lost power, hundreds of people died, and there were these mass power outages that we all knew could have been avoided," Casar said in a news conference last week, referring to the February 2021 winter storm.

Nearly all of Texas is served by the state's stand-alone grid system, except for parts of East Texas, El Paso and the upper Panhandle.

Nonmedical vaccine exemptions at record levels

Vaccine exemptions for non-medical reasons hit record levels among Texas schoolchildren last year, the Chronicle reported, with 3.24 percent of Texas kindergarteners receiving an exemption "for reasons of conscience," according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That's almost double the rate from 10 years ago.

The exemptions are part of the "post-pandemic momentum behind anti-vaccine messaging," the story said. A number of bills were filed during the 2023 legislative session to restrict education regarding vaccines and access to vaccines. House Bill 44 was signed into law and took effect last September. It threatens to withhold Medicaid funding for physicians who refuse to offer vaccine exemptions for patients.

"I'm looking at the unintended consequences that lawmakers aren't necessarily thinking about because they want to get their win and move on," said Rekha Lakshmanan, chief strategy officer at The Immunization Partnership. "But then, all of us Texans are left holding the bag."

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



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Obituaries

Margaret Cagle 1965 – 2024

Margaret Cagle, 58, died on February 15, 2024. She was born on November 30, 1965, in Terre Haute, Indiana, to Robert Sabo and Beverly Borden. She married Kenneth Cagle on November 21, 1987, in Terre Haute, Indiana. She was the manager of the Senior Meals Program and leaves



behind a legacy of compassion and selflessness. She is survived by her husband; son, Zachry Cagle; and mother-in-law, Barbara Loughary. She was preceded in death by her parents; and brother, Robert Sabo, Jr.

Richard Campbell 1952 – 2024

Funeral services for Richard Campbell, 71, were held on February 17, at Pilgrims Rest #1, officiated by Pastors Keith Brister and David Hendricks. Interment followed in Hooker Ridge Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers were Jeff Johnson, Scott McLeroy, Larry Parker, James Scully, Cesar Segura and Mike Hoffmeyer. Honorary pallbearers were Michael Adams and Ronnie Turney.

Mr. Campbell died on February 13, 2024. He was born on July 2, 1952, in Dallas, to Eli Melvin Campbell and Virginia Lamb. He graduated from Samuel High School in 1970. He married Pam Franklin on March 2, 1991, in Point.

Mr. Campbell was a product sales manager at Hensley Attachments and traveled extensively. He was a Christian, and served as a deacon at his



church in Duncanville for many years. He moved to Point in 2020, built a home, and joined Pilgrim's Rest #1 Baptist Church in Emory. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, working out in his shop, listening to music, fishing, building things and being outdoors.

He is survived by his wife of almost 33 years; daughter, Amanda Campbell;

son, Andrew Perry and wife Lauren of Waxahachie; grandchildren, Wyatt Jason Campbell, Parker Lee Campbell, Jordan Carter Perry and Brooke Olivia Perry; brother, Tom Campbell and wife Cathy of Desoto, Missouri; brother-in-law, Donald Hall and wife Sandra of Waxahachie; mother-in-law, Linda Jacks Franklin of Point; and numerous relatives and friends.

Edna Renee (Nelson) Collier 1933 – 2024

Edna Renee (Nelson) Collier, 90, died on Monday, February 20, 2024. She was born on December 26, 1933, in Point, to Thomas Jeff Nelson and Maudy Ophelia Nelson. She graduated from Point High School and Rutherford Business College.

Throughout her life Mrs. Collier participated in various hobbies and interests including girls basketball in high school, and Future Homemakers of America. She attended Sunnyvale Baptist Church and was



part of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mrs. Colliers is survived by her daughter, Felicia Collier-Melton; grandchildren, Andrew Michael Melton (Rachel), and Sarah Alane Contreras (Dan); great-grandchildren, Leiah, Levi, Addy and Thomas; and brother, Thomas Wesley Nelson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Farris "Glen" Collier; and sisters, Daisy Keeton and Letha Mae.

Ronald Edward Mays 1944 – 2024

A memorial service for Ronald Edward Mays, 79, will be held on Saturday, February 24, at 10:00 a.m., at Eastridge Church of Christ, 670 N. Stodghill Rd., Rockwall, TX 75087.

Mr. Mays died on January 19, 2024. He was born on December 31, 1944, in Emory, to Edward and Oleta Mays. He graduated from Rains High School Class of 1963, where he played many sports. He played football and baseball at Tarleton State University and received his Masters degree from Texas A&M Commerce. He was a proud member of the United States Army and served in Vietnam.

Mr. Mays married Pamela Peebles on August 26, 1967, and they were married 47 years before her death in 2015. He was a coach and they made several moves from Athens to Alpine, but ended in Rockwall. He coached around the DFW area

and ended his career at Garland High School.

They loved to travel and spend time with their grandchildren, attending any events they had. He was active in his church and loved to play golf.

Mr. Mays is survived by his children, Shelley Trinidad and husband John; Ashley Mays and Matt Mays; grandchildren, Ryland and Cruz Trinidad and Dayne and Deveraux Johnson; sisters, Laverne Graham and Cornelia Bowles; brother, Gary Mays; sister-in-law, Patricia Adcock and husband Gayle; and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; daughter, Julie Amanda Mays; and brothers, Lillard and Gregory Mays.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the American Cancer Society or the Wounded Warrior Project.

Pamela "Pam" Sue Tignor 1956-2024

With loved ones by her side, Pamela "Pam" (Terrell) Tignor peacefully went home to be with Jesus on February 16, 2024. Pam lived loyally in community with others and was guided by her strong convictions. Her family honors her as a woman of character and faith.

Pam's journey began in 1956 when she was born to Kae Deal and Norma Fay Terrell in Artesia, NM. Pam was cherished by her siblings Jimmy, Norman, Joe, Bonnie and Connie. Pam was raised in Bethesda, AR and graduated Batesville High School in 1974. Pam married the love of her life and pride and joy Gene "Chainsaw" Tignor on June 19, 1976.

Pam and Chainsaw lived a wonderful life together where at any time you would hear Chainsaw say, "That's my Girl!" when referring to Pam. Pam ended her working career at TI/Raytheon after 38 years of dedicated service and was the recipient of the Employee of the Year Award for her work with "Improved Target Acquisition System" in which she led her team.

Pam and Chainsaw worked in the Dallas area and lived in Garland, Texas for many years until retirement, where they built their dream home in Emory, Texas to fulfill their fishing dreams. Pam has always been the best at everything whether it was her love of bowling, passion for fishing or attending teas at Scarborough Haven, she was simply the "Pam Show" she conquered anything she took on with her unbreakable spirit.

Among her fishing accomplishments Pam



fished a Pro-Am Bass Gal Tournament on Lake Ray Hubbard. Fishing Guides would watch her and take her advice on baits and style. Pam recorded 3 bass over 10 lbs. In addition to her love of sports and passion of fishing, Pam also loved birds and spent time counting hawks.

Pam and Chainsaw were faithful members of Clark's Chapel in Flats, Texas. Pam is preceded in death by her parents, Kae and Norma; her mother-in-law, Jewell Tignor; sister-in-law, Patricia Tignor; brothers-in-law, Bill Veino, Glenn Tignor and Scott Tignor.

Pam is survived by her husband of 47 years, Gene "Chainsaw" Tignor; brothers, Jimmy Terrell (Jeannie), Norman Terrell (Paula), and Joe Terrell; sisters, Bonnie Mamula (Peter), and Connie Nyitrai (Alan); sisters-in-law, Iris Veino and Carol Reynolds (Dwayne); brothers-in-law, Craig Tignor (Tamera) and Robert Tignor; and numerous nieces and nephews and a lifetime of friends. A Memorial Service to honor the life of Pamela Sue Tignor will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2024, 10:00 am - noon at Clarks Chapel Church of God, 6345 FM-47, Flats, Texas 75472. In lieu of flowers please donate to t2t.org (Tunnels to Towers) Special Dedication from sister-in-law, Iris Veino: No more pain, no more sorrows. No more tears for her tomorrows! Happy is her Home Eternal! Mansion bright and joy Supernal. In that land where streets are gold and runs the Crystal River from the Throne.

Paid obituary

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

Texans invade New Mexico for second time

by Bartee Haile

Lone Star Confederates beat the daylights out of the Yankee rearguard in the New Mexico Territory on Feb. 21, 1862 and took a giant step toward winning the West for Richmond.



BARTEE HAILE
Historical Columnist

Twenty-one years after the Santa Fe Expedition ended in death for a few and dungeons for many more, Texans were back in New

Mexico. This time their mission was not to annex the land for the Lone Star Republic but to conquer it for the Confederacy.

Never one to sit still, Col. John R. Baylor was not about to spend the Civil War patrolling the Rio Grande. Confident the comparative handful of northern soldiers stationed in Arizona would turn tail at the sight of a Rebel column, he ordered his tiny command to saddle up.

The unauthorized gamble paid off big-time. Proclaiming the Confederate Territory of Arizona in August 1861, Baylor appealed for reinforcements to repel the inevitable counterattack. After all, no one in his right mind could expect him to hold his ground with only 258 troops.

But that was exactly what Baylor's superiors ordered him to do, at least until Brigadier General Henry H. Sibley launched his ambitious invasion of New Mexico. Until then, the Texans at Tucson were on their own.

By the time Baylor heard about the campaign, Sibley was halfway to San Antonio on his return from the Confederate capital. The veteran of every armed conflict for the past 30 years had sold President Jefferson Davis on his bold plan to give the South a fighting chance.

Confederate strategists

already realized the northern naval blockade would slowly strangle Dixie. Banking on the element of surprise and the popularity of the secessionist cause out West, Sibley proposed the military annexation of New Mexico, Arizona, California and Mexico's northern states. Mesmerized by the prospect of Pacific ports open to southern ships, Davis personally instructed Sibley to proceed.

The recruitment of three cavalry regiments at San Antonio was a snap. As would be the case until the final months of the war, there was no shortage of Texans itching for the chance to take a crack at the enemy.

As the 2,500-man brigade prepared to depart El Paso in January 1862, an officer let his family in on the secret. "As soon as the Confederate Army should occupy the Territory of New Mexico," he wrote in a letter home, "'on to San Francisco' will be the watchword."

Sibley tried to skirt a fort south of Albuquerque, but the garrison foolishly refused to look the other way. The Texans routed the Unionists at the Battle of Valverde, seized the cannon they carelessly left behind and blasted the fleeing federals with their own fieldpiece.

Albuquerque and the capital of Santa Fe surrendered without a shot. On the surface everything seemed to be falling into place for Sibley, but he fretted over the failure to capture a huge stockpile of provisions. Stretching over a thousand miles of Indian-infested desert, the Texans' supply line could break at any moment.

Although he did not know it at the time, Sibley had another serious headache. On a forced march through the snowbound mountains, hundreds of crack Colorado volunteers were rushing to the rescue of their comrades. Assuming the passes were closed until the spring thaw, Sibley concentrated on

consolidating his easy conquest.

The Confederates paid dearly for their commander's mistake, when the Coloradans caught them napping. Sandwiched between two Yankee contingents, the never-day-die Texans fought hand-to-hand in the waist-deep snow. Judged strictly in terms of the number killed and wounded, Glorieta Pass was a bloody draw.

But the loss of their supply train turned the battle into an unmitigated disaster for the Rebs. A stunned Sibley wrestled with the perplexing problem for two weeks before finally facing the fact that not even his invincible Texans could keep on fighting without rations or bullets.

Sibley could not bring himself to sound retreat until alerted to the imminent arrival of fresh federals from Kansas. The crestfallen Confederates, their ranks thinned by 700 casualties, pulled out of New Mexico in May 1862.

Perched on a perilous limb in the aftermath of Sibley's withdrawal, Baylor abandoned Arizona. The West remained in Union hands for the rest of the war.

Although many survivors favored a another invasion, strengthened enemy defenses ruled out the reckless idea. Cooler heads prevailed in Richmond, and the notion never amounted to anything more than empty bravado.

Sibley had hoped to live off the same scorched earth that scarcely supported the Navajo, a colossal miscalculation that in retrospect he sought to minimize. Summing up the collapse of the campaign that wrecked his career, he bitterly observed, "The Territory of New Mexico is not worth a quarter of the blood and treasure expended in its conquest."

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

For the commandments are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Romans 13:9-10

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Believer’s Baptist Church

By Linda Brendle

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Matthew 28:19

Mack Tomlinson, pastor/elder at Providence Chapel in Denton, who also has an itinerant preaching ministry around the U.S. and various areas around the world, brought a missions message from Psalms and Matthew during morning worship. The title was “Missions Me! Missions You! Missions Now!” 1) Missions now is God’s will for you as you proclaim, declare, and say “Jesus is Lord of all.” 2) Missions will triumph as the Gospel is heard throughout the world. 3) Our/my availability and willingness – choose today to make missions personal.

Next Sunday Jerod Haygood, BBC Student and

Family Pastor, will bring the morning message. A special Great Commission Offering will be taken, and the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated.

The Church Praying will meet Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 6:30 p.m. (after the 5:45 dinner.) Sign up for the dinner at bbcemory.org.

Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study, “God Doesn’t Whisper” by Jim Osman, will resume March 6.

Bible & Biscuits Men’s Bible Study of “The Screwtape Letters” by C.S. Lewis meets Tuesday at 6:30 a.m.

A young adult (18-30) Sunday School class will begin March 3. Jason and Stacy Rolan will teach “Living Out Loud.”

The Asking for a Friend podcast Episode #177 is titled “Why should I study church history, Pt 2?” The link is available at www.bbcemory.org.

Bright Star Baptist Church

By Glenda Galyean

“But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.”

I Kings 19:4

Wednesday evening Pastor Andrew Grills brought a very good message from I John admonishing us to have “Love for the Brethren.”

What a wonderful service Sunday morning! We were excited to welcome our visitors and our members during our fellowship time. Our hearts were blessed by young Ella playing the piano and singing. It is so exciting to see our young people

using their talents to praise the Lord. Sharon Draper played the piano and sang a beautiful song before Bro. Andrew’s message from I Kings continuing the messages from Elijah’s life “The Prayer, Persecution, and Depression of Elijah.”

We have a Youth event scheduled for March 8.

Come join us as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We are dedicated to following the Lord’s will as we endeavor to be a help to those in our community. Check out our Bright Star Baptist Church Facebook page?

Jesus is coming back soon. Have YOU accepted the precious free gift of salvation that Jesus died to purchase for you? Are you ready to meet Him?

Enjoy your family, and have a safe week.

Country Baptist Church

By Donna Boughton

We had an amazing time in our services. This was our all singing, praise and testimony service. We began our services by singing a praise song, then Joel Frazier dismissed us to our classes.

Donna Jones led our children’s class in a continued study about Noah, the Ark, and the rainbow.

Our adult class was taught by Joyce Hall, Janice Burk, Kelsey Frazier, and Joel and Courtney Frazier.

Worship services began with Joel again leading us in song. We always open this special service with two great songs that talk about making a joyful noise and serving a Great God. The opening was followed by congregational songs chosen by

our members. Special music was provided by Pastor Mike Frazier, Joel and Lincoln Frazier, Jameson Frazier, Kelsey and Avery Frazier, and Benny Thompson. This special service ended by our closing song that talks about us one day going home. Donna Jones dismissed us and blessed our meal that was waiting for us in the fellowship hall.

Food and fellowship time was very good. We all seemed to linger just a little bit longer because the fellowship was so sweet.

Continue to pray for our students, the teachers and staff, our community, and all those that are grieving the loss of their loved ones. Continue to pray for our country, the fast approaching elections, and that God would send revival all over our land.

Emory Baptist Church

By Ronnie Witt

Even though it had turned cold again by Sunday morning, the fellowship was warm at Emory Baptist. Bro. Richard Pile’s sermon from Luke on Sunday morning was titled “Jesus’ Absolute Authority.” In it, Bro. Richard pointed to Jesus’ ministry in Capernaum, where He rebuked demons and disease to show that He has authority to teach and preach the kingdom of God. In the evening, Emory Baptist youth hosted the Winter Banquet to raise money for church camp. Students served tables and cleaned up for all of the guests. The Winter Banquet took the place of the evening service.

Over the week, Emory Baptist was busy. The Intentional Christian Grandparenting group met on Monday evening in the fellowship hall. T.E.L. met

Tuesday at noon in the fellowship hall. Men’s & Women’s reading groups met for the third time this semester on Wednesday mornings to read through the book, *The Pursuit of God*. Men meet at 6:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall and women meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Memorial Hall youth room. The Senior Adult Ministry meets on Thursday at noon for lunch and game day.

Looking ahead to the weekend, Family Fun Night was rescheduled from last Saturday to this Saturday, February 24, at 5:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall. Bring something for the potluck meal and join one of the games around the table. Stop by for fellowship and fun. Then, on Sunday, February 25, EBC will hold the February members’ meeting during the evening service.

Emory Methodist Church

By Mary White

“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

Matthew 6:6

Rev. David Banks’ message was titled “Prayer’s Pathway: Teach Us to Pray” with scripture text taken from Matthew 6. The heart of prayer is our relationship with God. David emphasized the power of prayer in our lives and the importance of establishing a personal relationship with God while engaging in prayer. On our journey of discovering God’s call upon our lives and spiritual growth we need humility and a willingness to listen as we grow in our prayer life. Jesus taught His disciples and us to pray the Lord’s Prayer and that is our call during this Lent season to fast and

pray and draw closer to our Lord and Savior.

Our Ash Wednesday service was wonderful and David placed the imposition of ashes with the sign of the cross on our forehead. This is such a special service and it’s a time to recommit ourselves to the One who loves us.

Coming up this week Thursday, February 22, we go to the nursing home at 10:00 a.m. and then our 40 day Prayer Circle will meet at 11:30 a.m. Our Administrated Board will meet on Monday, February 26, at 5:30 p.m.

The AA Meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 12:00 noon.

Pray for Gabriel Basham, Cay and Nolan House, the Betty Ancheta family, and Sandra Bernight.

Have a great week.

SAVVY SENIOR

Do I need to file a tax return this year?

Dear Savvy Senior,
What are the IRS income tax filing requirements for retirees this tax season? I didn't file a tax return the past two years because my income was below the filing threshold, but I got a part-time job late last year, so I'm wondering if I'm required to file this year.



JIM MILLER
Savvy Senior

Dear Retired, Whether or not you are required to file a federal income tax return this year will depend on how much you earned last year (in 2023), as well as the source of the income, your age and filing status.

Here’s a rundown of this tax season’s IRS tax filing requirement thresholds.

For most people, this is pretty straightforward. If your 2023 gross income – which includes all taxable income, not counting your Social Security benefits, unless you are married and filing separately – was below the threshold for your filing status and age, you probably won’t have to file. But if it’s over, you will.

- **Single:** \$13,850 (\$15,700 if you're 65 or older by Jan. 1, 2023).
- **Married filing jointly:** \$27,700 (\$29,200 if you or your spouse is 65 or older; or \$30,700 if you’re both over 65).
- **Married filing separately:** \$5 at any age.
- **Head of household:** \$20,800 (\$22,650 if 65 or older).

• **Qualifying surviving spouse:** \$27,700 (\$29,200 if 65 or older).

To get a detailed breakdown on federal filing requirements, along with information on taxable and nontaxable income, call the IRS at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you a free copy of the “1040 and 1040-SR Instructions for Tax Year 2023,” or you can see it online at [IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1040gi.pdf](https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1040gi.pdf).

Check Here Too

Be aware that there are other financial situations that can require you to file a tax return, even if your gross income falls below the IRS filing requirements. For example, if you earned more than \$400 from self-employment in 2023, owe any taxes on an IRA, Health Savings Account or an alternative minimum tax, or get premium tax credits because you, your spouse or a dependent is enrolled in a Health Insurance Marketplace plan, you’ll need to file.

You’ll also need to file if you’re receiving Social Security benefits, and one-half of your benefits plus your other gross income and any tax-exempt interest exceeds \$25,000, or \$32,000 if you’re married and filing jointly.

To figure all this out, the IRS offers an online tax tool that asks a series of questions that will help you determine if you’re required to file, or if you should file because you’re due a refund. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete.

You can access this tool at [IRS.gov/Help/ITA](https://www.irs.gov/Help/ITA) – click on

“Do I Need to File a Tax Return?” Or you can get assistance over the phone by calling the IRS helpline at 800-829-1040.

Check Your State

Even if you’re not required to file a federal tax return this year, don’t assume that you’re also excused from filing state income taxes. The rules for your state might be very different. Check with your state tax agency before concluding that you’re entirely in the clear. For links to state tax agencies see [Taxadmin.org/lfta-members](https://www.taxadmin.org/lfta-members).

Tax Preparation Help

If you find that you do need to file a tax return this year, you can free file through the IRS at [IRS.gov/FreeFile](https://www.irs.gov/FreeFile) if your 2023 adjusted gross income was below \$79,000.

Or, if you need some help, contact the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (or TCE) program. Sponsored by the IRS, TCE provides free tax preparation and counseling to middle and low-income taxpayers, age 60 and older. Call 800-906-9887 or visit [IRS.treasury.gov/freetax-prep](https://www.irs.treasury.gov/freetax-prep) to locate services near you.

You can also get tax preparation assistance through the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide service. Call 888-227-7669 or visit [AARP.org/findtaxhelp](https://www.aarp.org/findtaxhelp) for more information. You don’t have to be an AARP member to use this service.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit [SavvySenior.org](https://www.savvysenior.org). Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.



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Sunday
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
MorningWorship 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday
Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Student Ministry 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Jason Rolan — Pastor
Jerod Haygood — Student & Family Pastor
Duffey Henderson — Music & Media Minister
www.bbcemory.org 903-474-0027



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Chris Henderson—Minister of Music & Sr. Adults
Ronnie Witt— Minister of Youth & Education

Sunday Sunday Morning Small Groups Morning Worship Evening Worship	Wednesday Wed. Worship (Adults, Youth, Children) Choir Practice	 6:30pm 6:30pm
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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

Calvary Baptist Church
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10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Worship

Pastor: Jimmy Jarrett
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Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Pastor: Bro. Andrew Grills
903-638-1170

Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church
1140 FM 2964, Emory

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Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
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Pastor Joe Pierce
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2	3	6	5	1	8	9	4	7
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Sports

RAINS LADY CAT & WILDCAT BASKETBALL

Lady Cats advance to regional tournament, Wildcats eliminated

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains Lady Cats basketball team makes it's first trip to the Region 2-3A tournament after wins over Whitesboro and Ponder, while the Wildcats were eliminated from the playoffs by Howe.

The Lady Cats jumped out early and rolled past the Whitesboro Lady Bearcats, 67-37, in the area round of the Class 3A playoffs on Friday, February 16.

Sophomore Caroline Piles led the team with 13 points while senior Haley Robertson and senior Jasey Campbell contributed 11 points each in the win.

On Tuesday, February 20, the Wildcats opened the Class 3A playoffs against the Howe Bulldogs in Caddo Mills and were eliminated from the playoffs, 56-52.

Senior Shawn Robertson scored 18 points and junior Franki Payne added 8 points.

On the same night over at Heath High School in Rockwall, the Lady Cats fell behind by as much as 14 points to the Ponder Lady Lions but battled back to tie the game late in the fourth quarter.

The Lady Cats called a timeout with three seconds left after a Lady Lion hit a three point shot.

When play resumed, sophomore Presley Kilgore threw an inbound pass to Campbell just across the half-court line. Campbell immediately tossed the ball to Robertson and she hit a three point shot to send the game to overtime as the buzzer sounded.

In the overtime period, the Lady Cats outscored the Lady Lions and dribbled the clock out for a 51-45 victory.



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Rains Lady Cat Haley Robertson (1) puts a little touch on her shot in the lane during the 67-37 playoff win over Whitesboro on Friday.

Robertson finished the night with 18 points with Campbell scoring 10.

The Rains Wildcats finish the season at 18-13 and a second place finish in District 12-3A at 8-4.

The Rains Lady Cats will continue their historic run in the Class 3A playoffs with their first trip to the Region 2-3A tournament at Prosper High School in Prosper on Friday and Saturday,

February 23-24.

They will open the single elimination tournament against the Tatum Lady Eagles on Friday at 6:00 p.m. If they win the game, they will play on Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

RAINS LADY CAT SOFTBALL

Lady Cats off to hot start on diamond



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

With the umpire watching closely, Rains Lady Cat Emma Knight (14) catches the low pitch during the 18-1 victory over Eustace during the tournament on Saturday, February 17.

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains Lady Cats softball team has allowed only two runs in seven games as they start the new season on the diamond.

They opened the 2024 campaign with a 15-0 victory over the Caddo Mills Lady Foxes on February 13.

The Lady Cats hosted games for a tournament co-hosted with Sulphur Springs and Grand Saline.

On Thursday, February 15,

they beat the Anna Lady Coyotes, 3-0, and the Duncanville Lady Panthers, 10-0.

The softball team notched a 15-0 victory over the Gilmer Lady Buckeyes and a 3-0 over the North Lamar Pantherettes on Friday, February 16.

The Lady Cats allowed their first run on the season as they wrapped up the tournament by beating the Eustace Lady Bulldogs, 18-1.

On Tuesday, February 20, they traveled to Henderson and walked away with a 2-1 victory

over the Lady Lions.

The Rains Lady Cats start the season at 7-0 and ranked third in Class 3A by the Texas Girls Coaches Association (TGCA).

The Rains Lady Cats will compete at the Mt. Pleasant tournament on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 22-24. They are scheduled to play Pleasant Grove, Mineola, Hooks, Sulphur Springs and Mt. Pleasant.

They will travel to Bullard to take on the Lady Panthers on Tuesday, February 27.



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Rains Wildcat Shawn Robertson (11) draws the foul on his drive to the basket during the 56-52 lose to Howe on Tuesday, February 20.

The L.D. Kearney Family would sincerely like to thank all those who came to honor "L.D." at the visitation and service. Our beloved Husband, Father, Brother, PawPaw and Friend will be greatly missed.

We would like to give special thanks to Robert Cook for creating the Memorial videos, Preacher Ed Ridge and Brother Wayne Darty for officiating the service, Family First Home Health and Hospice for caring for L.D., Point Police Department and Rains County Sheriff's Department for police escort, County Line Baptist Church for hosting the service, Bartley Funeral Home in Grand Saline and all those who prayed and brought gifts of food, flowers, cards and calls to the family. We greatly appreciate all the kindness shown to the family during this difficult time.

Sincerely with Love and Appreciation,

The L.D. Kearney Family



The L.D. Kearney Family



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