

Rains County Leader

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EMORY, TEXAS - THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2025

PRICE 75¢

Elected officials take oaths of office



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Rains County Judge Linda Wallace (center) administered the oaths of office to recently elected county officials during a special meeting on Thursday morning, January 2, in the Rains County Courthouse.

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains County Commissioners Court held a special meeting on Thursday, January 2, to swear into office the county officials elected in the November 5 General Election.

Michael Hopkins was sworn in to serve a four-year term as the Sheriff of Rains County after being elected for the first time to the position. He had been appointed in October of 2022 by the commissioners court to fill the unexpired term of former Sheriff David Traylor.

Commissioner for Precinct 1 Jeremy Cook and Commissioner for Precinct 3 Korey Young took the oath of office to begin their second terms on the governing body for Rains County. They both ran unopposed for the positions in the primary and general elections.

Sheila Floyd was sworn in to serve her fourth four-year term as Rains County Tax Assessor/Collector and Rains County Auditor Tammi Byrd took the oath of office after being reappointed to her position by the district judges.

Rains County Attorney Robert Vititow and Rains County Constable Allen Davis were unable to attend the meet-

ing and will take care of oaths for office at a later date.

Rains County Judge Linda Wallace administered the oaths of office to Ken Player and Cody Beaver to serve on the board of the Rains County Emergency Service District #1.

The commissioners court will hold its regular meeting today, January 9, at 10:00 a.m. in the Rains County Courthouse. Among the items on the agenda will be to approve the bonds for Rains County Treasurer Jennifer Trevino, Davis, Cook, Young, Floyd, Vititow and Hopkins.

SALES TAX ALLOCATIONS

Total sales tax receipts for 2024 fall short of 2023 totals

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

Local sales during October pushed East Tawakoni to better monthly returns than last year, but all districts remain behind 2023 totals of sale revenues being returned to the local taxing district.

The office of Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that \$1.2 billion would be returned in December to Texas cities, counties, transit systems

and special purpose taxing districts based on sales made in October by businesses that report tax monthly.

Rains County, with a half-cent sales tax rate, will have \$81,802.71 returned from the state, which is 5.35 percent less than was returned to the county in December of last year. The year-to-date total remains 2.21 percent behind last year at \$973,169.05.

As for the cities in the county, East Tawakoni saw an increase in the amount of money being returned in De-

cember from the 1.5 percent sales tax rate, while Emory and Point saw decreases compared to 2023.

With an increase of 6.32 percent in sales tax revenues from this time last year, East Tawakoni is expecting \$7,557.36 from the state in December. The city remains 1.27 percent behind the total sales tax allocations for last year at \$100,667.07.

Emory saw a decrease of 10.01 per-

see **SALES TAX** on page 2

ELECTION 2025

Candidate signup for May 3 election begins January 15

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

Candidates may begin to file for a place on the May 3 General Election ballot on Wednesday, January 15, with seats on the Rains Independent School District Board of Trustees, Emory City Council and East Tawakoni City Council up for election.

The positions up for election include three seats on the Rains ISD school board, two seats on the Emory City Council, the mayor of Emory, and the mayor and all seats on the council of East Tawakoni.

Candidate packets may be picked up at each local entity, and the last day to file an application to run is Friday, February 14, by 5:00 p.m.

The Rains ISD will need to elect Places 1, 2 and 3 on the board of trustees which are held by Robert Burns, Dr. Maggie Salem and Philip Alexander, respectively. A school board trustee is elected to serve a four-year term.

Applications may be picked up at the Rains ISD Administration Office at 1759 W. US Hwy. 69 each weekday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The City of Emory will hold elections for the four year terms of seats 2 and 4 on the council, as well as the mayor of the city. Mayor Earl Hill III, Council Member 2 Travis Potts and Council Member 4 Jacob Roan are facing expiring terms.

Application packets are available at the Emory City Hall at 399 N. Texas St. during regular business hours.

The City of East Tawakoni will hold an election for all seats on the council, including mayor. The current council is Council Member Place 1 Terri Rose, Council Member Place 2 Kammi Garner, Council Member Place 3 William Moore, Council Member Place 4 Nastasia Ruffino and Council Member Place 5 Harold Chandler.

Candidate packets for the two-year term on the council can be picked up at the East Tawakoni City Hall at 288 Briggs Blvd. every weekday during normal business hours.

To qualify to run for the offices that are up for election, candidates:

- Must be a United States Citizen;
- Must be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the time of the election for which they are filing for;
- Have been a resident of Texas for at least twelve (12) months and resided in the jurisdiction of the entity you seek election to for at least six (6) months preceding election day;
- Have a current voter registration

see **ELECTION** on page 2

SPOTLIGHT

Montalvo learned to give back to her community from her family

By **JUDY KRAMER**
Rains County Leader contributor

Susan Montalvo lives to leave the legacy of a better place in the world. East Tawakoni (ET) and other parts of Rains County benefit greatly from her efforts. She and Lyn Baldwin spearhead the Dolly Partin Imagination Library (DPIL) program in Rains County that allows all enrolled children who reside within the Rains ISD boundaries to receive a free Blue Ribbon, age-appropriate book, addressed to them in their mailbox, once a month.

"We are trying to get as many children as possible in the birth to five years of age category in the DPIL program," said Montalvo. "We are partnering with Rains ISD to identify younger siblings of kids in school so

they can get free books."

Montalvo and her husband have also installed two little free pantries (like blessing boxes at some churches) providing a place for people to donate food, and a place for those with food insecurities to obtain food with zero barriers. These pantries are located outside the ET library, and at Emory Baptist Church.

She and her family volunteer at the food bank in Greenville and she knows that food banks have different kinds of structures including hours of operation and paperwork. In the little food pantries, people can come when they want without any qualifications they must meet. These are supported by people in the community with cash and food.

Montalvo also volunteered (for the

second year) to help ET librarian Cynthia Willis give out Thanksgiving food. The food was available three different days and recipients could "grocery shop" to get the things they need. She was also involved in the Emory Christmas parade.

Montalvo and husband Robert moved to Oak Cove in ET seven years ago and spent 14 months remodeling their home. She previously served as National Director of the American Heart Association (Emergency Cardiovascular Care Department) for business development and accounting sales and services for 25 years. Her husband worked for the main United States Postal Service office in statistical programs.

see **SPOTLIGHT** on page 2



Susan Montalvo (right) with Lyn Baldwin



City Girl:
Jewelry with
Stories
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AgriLife:
Protecting
the 3 Ps...
page 3

**Wildcat
Sports**
page 8

Rain Report
Sun., Jan. 5 0.16 in.
Total for Jan. 0.16 in.
Year to date 0.16 in.

CITY GIRL

Jewelry with Stories

By Linda Brendle

I love jewelry that's not just decorative but has some sort of story behind it. When I read a story, I like a plot that draws me in and keeps me guessing, but I also want the characters to be complex and likeable and to have an interesting back story.

In the same way, my favorite pieces of jewelry, mine and those belonging to others, are those that come with a history that evokes an emotion deeper than just the admiration of a pretty piece of artwork.

Sunday morning, one of my friends was wearing a very pretty cross. When I admired it, she smiled and said, "It's very special - it comes with a story." I'll share that story with you in a minute, but first I want to tell you a couple of other stories that her tale brought to mind.

When my son Christian was in second grade, we planned a summer vacation to Colorado, and we invited his best friend Ian to come with us. Both boys were very excited, and most of the trip was wonderful - but there were traumas along the way. Ian had not been away from home for such a long time before, so bedtime was a little difficult, and sometimes there were food issues. One morning we started out early and didn't get much of a breakfast. By mid-morning, we were all hungry so we stopped at McDonald's for an early lunch. Unfortunately, we were told it was too early for burgers, and all they had to offer at that time of day was Egg McMuffins. Ian was Jewish, and we were offering him an English muffin with Canadian bacon, an egg, and cheese. He looked a little horrified at first, but he ate it without a word of complaint.

The biggest trauma, though, came one afternoon when we were visiting friends and the boys were

playing outside. Suddenly I heard Ian scream, and I ran out to see what was going on. He was too hysterical to tell me at first, but I finally understood that he had lost his mezuzah, a small box he wore on a chain around his neck that contained verses from the Torah (the first five books of the Bible). Our friends joined the search, and all six of us scoured the yard inch by inch. I don't know about anyone else, but I was praying as I searched, knowing how much this piece of jewelry meant to Ian. We were about to give up when someone shouted, "Here it is!" The relief was palpable, the smiles were bright, and Ian had a special story to tell about his trip to Colorado and his lost Mezuzah.

A similar story happened to my best friend Mary. One day when she was a relative newlywed, long before I met her, she realized that the solitaire diamond was missing from her wedding ring. She searched the house thoroughly, even vacuuming the closet hoping to suck up the missing stone. No luck. Months later, she was clearing out some clothes and shoes from the back of the closet to take to the thrift store. There, in an old tennis shoe, was the lost diamond. She was surprised and thrilled, and she had the stone remounted. She no longer wears the ring, but she still has it. It's stored in a red satin bag with another ring and a Swiss watch. Any time there is a tornado warning in her area, she grabs the red bag and stuffs it into her purse, just in case. After all, a story is much more fun to show than just tell.

This brings me back to Jackie, my church friend. The necklace is a simple gold cross on a sturdy silver mixed link chain, and there is a beautiful diamond mounted in the center of the cross. "The diamond was given to me by my grandmother," she explained. "We almost lost it in a burglary, but somehow it was overlooked. I wanted to do something with it so I could keep it with me, so I

asked a cousin who makes jewelry to make the cross. I wear it all the time."

"What a lovely story," I commented.

"Oh, but that's not all. One fall we were doing a lot of clean up in the yard, cutting limbs and trees and stacking the debris at the curb for pickup. We went inside to clean up, and I realized my cross was gone. We searched every place we had worked, and we even did a sweep of the yard with a metal detector without success. I looked at that huge pile of wood and knew we couldn't tear it apart and restack it, so I gave the necklace up as lost. I'm not sure why I did it - maybe one last-ditch effort to find the cross - but I raked leaves which I don't usually do, sweeping some of them into the flower beds as mulch.

"Now, fast forward to Easter Sunday morning. I was ready for church a little early, so I went outside to enjoy the newly budding flowers. I saw something shiny among the leaves, and there was my cross. After the Easter celebration was over, I took the cross to a jewelry to get a new chain. He pulled out a selection and began to go through them. 'Too delicate, too fancy, too big...' I told him to go back to 'too big.' I told him that's the one I wanted because I didn't want to take a chance of losing it again." Definitely a story worth sharing.

Have you ever looked at a model home or a display room in a store and thought that, although it might be aesthetically pleasing, it seemed cold and lifeless. That's because there are no people, and where there are no people, there are no stories. One thing I've learned in being a writer is that everybody has stories. Why not share yours with someone and add some life to that picture, that lamp, that crocheted afghan - or that piece of jewelry.

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.LifeAfter-Caregiving.WordPress.com>. You can e-mail her at LindaBrendle@yahoo.com.

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICES

Protecting the 3 Ps (Pets, Plants, & Pipes) in Winter Weather

Winter weather with sub-freezing temperatures is forecasted throughout much of the state over the next few weeks. Here are some tips on protecting the three Ps (pets, plants, and pipes) from the cold.



SARAH LATHAM
Rains County
AgriLife Agent

Protecting Pets

Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory provides tips about caring for pets during winter weather.

- Pets should be kept inside during the day and night. If dogs must be left outside for any time, they should have a draft-free shelter large enough to stand and turn around in, yet small enough to retain body heat. Use a layer of straw or other bedding material to help insulate them against the cold. Make sure the entrance faces away from the incoming wind and snow.

- When possible, keep smaller dogs and cats indoors during freezing temperatures. Be mindful that cats left outdoors in cold weather seek shelter and heat under the hoods of automobiles and can be injured or killed when starting the engine. Banging loudly on the hood of your car a few times before starting the engine will help avoid tragedy.

- Be aware of pets around salt and deicing chemicals. Salt and chemicals on sidewalks to combat ice buildup can irritate skin and are easily ingested. Thoroughly clean your pets' paws, legs and abdomen to prevent ingestion of toxic substances and prevent their pads from becoming dry and irritated. Signs of toxic ingestion include excessive drooling, vomiting, and depression.

Winter is also a good time to leave pets' coats a little longer than normal to provide extra warmth.

Protecting Plants

Frosts and freezes can damage or kill exposed plants, especially those in containers. Damage can vary greatly among plant varieties, and cold-sensitive plants will require more

protection than hardier plants.

Watering plants and making sure they are not drought-stressed before freezing temperatures arrive can help. Watering just before the freeze can also help because water creates warmth and loses heat slowly. Drought-stressed plants are more susceptible to the cold. If you are not able to bring plants inside, the best option is to cover and place them in a location that gets ample sunlight.

Plants in containers should be moved inside the home or garage, any space where temperatures will stay above freezing. If container plants are unable to move indoors, put them on the south side of the house, water them well and pile on mulch, leaves, or hay to protect the roots and/or cover them with a frost blanket. Cold-sensitive landscape plants can also be covered with similar protection.

When covering plants, drape them with cardboard or cloth material to the ground and secure it. The idea is to trap enough warmer air escaping from the soil to protect plants from a killing freeze. Not ready to put up the holiday lights, stringing them around sensitive plants and covering them with a tarp can provide protection from light freezes.

Protect Pipes

When it comes to winter weather freeze damage to your home, protecting exposed pipes is critical when temperatures dip below freezing. Homeowners should protect pipes around

the house or in wellhouses before temperatures drop below freezing.

Water pipes can freeze and burst when the outside temperature reaches 20 degrees or below, but you should take precautions anytime temperatures are expected to dip below freezing. Pipes with northern exposure face an increased risk of freezing and bursting. Additionally, exposed pipes, including outdoor faucets, water sprinklers, water pipes in basements, crawl spaces, attics or garages, pipes running along exterior walls, swimming pool supply lines and well houses are especially susceptible to freezing temperatures.

Letting indoor faucets drip may also help during prolonged freezing temperatures, and using heat lamps to raise temperatures in lesser-insulated spaces with pipes like well houses or basements may also help prevent busted pipes.

Many protective products to insulate water pipes like sleeves, insulation, or heat tape are available at local plumbing supply retailers. If you are not able to locate protective products in stores, newspapers can also provide a slight level of protection when wrapped thoroughly around exposed pipes.

For additional weather safety tips, visit <https://agentsarah.blogspot.com/2024/01/>.

For questions or concerns, please contact 903-473-4580 or email Sarah.Latham@ag.tamu.edu. To view upcoming events or additional information visit <https://rains.agrilife.org/> or follow Rains County AgriLife on Facebook.

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Third-Wave Coffee - A Gift for the Modern World



Jerry Seinfeld on coffee - "This liquid is taking over the world!"

Of all the benefits we have living in this increasingly modern world, I would maintain that one especially good thing is the blessing of third-wave coffee. For those not familiar with this term, an explanation is in order. Simply stated, the third-wave coffee movement has brought about the production of higher-quality coffee, following the historical arc of first and second-wave coffee.

Until the late 1800s, home roasting was the most common way to prepare coffee. The rise of commercial coffee roasting after the Civil War led to what we now call first-wave coffee. This commodity coffee - think Folgers, Arbuckle's, Maxwell House - was not the highest quality, with the primary focus being low price, consistent taste, and mass production. First-wave coffee is still available and popular today. Grocery store canned coffee, diner, donut shop, and bad gas station coffee are all examples of first-wave coffee. And when your Uncle Bud breaks out his percolator and can of Folger's on Christmas Day, that's first-wave coffee at its finest.

Second-wave coffee is generally credited to compa-

nies like Peet's and Starbucks. Beginning in the late 1960s, these companies began sourcing their beans from artisanal producers and highlighted countries of origin. They also became known for their signature dark roast profile. The meteoric rise of Starbucks especially brought a new level of coffee culture to the U.S. Second-wave coffee is known for higher-quality beans and brewing equipment. Companies like Starbucks have promoted new ways of preparing coffee and popularized espresso drinks, flavored coffees, and cold brew. Point of interest - Starbucks is now the largest coffee chain in the world, with over 35,000 stores in 80 countries. They have 16,000 stores in the U.S.

Third-wave coffee describes an artisanal approach, elevating coffee to a place similar to wine or craft beer. The third-wave coffee movement evolved from a small community of roasters and cafes in the early 1980s. These folks were experimenting with lighter roast levels and new styles of roasting and brewing. The term third-wave coffee was coined in 1999 and soon became a rapidly growing trend. As more coffee drinkers learned there was more to coffee than bitterness and bad tastes, a coffee renaissance emerged.

Third-wave coffee is known for single origin beans, specific flavor notes, light and medium roast profiles, manual brewing methods, and freshness. Freshly

roasted coffee is truly wonderful. Note - if you are manually brewing your coffee (pour over / French press, etc.), fresh coffee will bloom when it comes into contact with hot water (bloom is the quick bubbling up as grounds release carbon dioxide).

Third-wave coffee is often referred to as specialty coffee, and the two are related. It is also often called craft coffee. Specialty coffee refers to the coffee beans themselves. Specialty coffee beans are high-quality Arabica beans (the best tasting coffee) with a score of 80 or higher out of 100 points in the Specialty Coffee Association (SCA) grading system. Coffee with high scores only come from producers who are meticulous in their cultivation and processing.

Without specialty coffee beans, we could not have third-wave coffee. And without third-wave coffee, there would be no market for specialty coffee beans. Third-wave coffee is a cheap luxury that we can enjoy today.

If you have yet to enjoy the luxury of third-wave coffee, now is the time to start. If you live near a good third-wave or specialty coffee shop, this is easy. If not, find a good coffee roaster online (look for roasters selling single origin freshly roasted beans). Order a bag of fresh whole bean coffee. You will need a coffee grinder (always grind coffee fresh - beans lose flavor quickly after grinding). Then choose a brewing method (I like a French press the best) and begin. Once you get the hang of brewing good coffee for yourself, you'll never go back to bad coffee again.

Enjoy the wonderful gift of good coffee today!

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.

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ACROSS

- 1 TX Buddy Holly tune: "___ On"
- 5 Jack of 1974 sitcom "The Texas Wheelers"
- 6 large birds raised on some Texas ranches
- 7 Edwards Aquifer is the ___ source of drinking water for San Antonio
- 8 TX Pride was 1971 CMA ___ of the Year
- 16 Dallas Morning News banned these from the front page in 1907
- 17 TXism: "he's ___ (not alert)"
- 21 TX Barbara Mandrell sang "(If Loving You ___ Wrong) I Don't Want to Be Right"
- 22 Olney hosts "One-Armed Dove ___"
- 23 TX rancher Chuck Norris was ___ weight karate champ
- 24 TXism: "couldn't fight his way out of ___ bag"
- 29 TXism: "___ up on" (study)
- 30 TX Lefty Frizzell hit: "Always ___ With Your Kisses"
- 31 Grapeland High class
- 32 big oil producer: East ___
- 34 TX Buddy Holly hit: "Not ___ Away"
- 35 Nolan's full initials
- 36 the Texas Capitol was ___ in 1995
- 37 this Meredith hit in 1941 western "The Son of Davy Crockett"
- 38 TX Kite green stroke
- 39 film "JFK" had this type of cast (2 wds.)
- 41 once a Bellview AM
- 42 and the rest (abbr.)
- 43 crime or shopping
- 44 TXism: "he's only got one ___ the water"
- 45 ___ Harvey Oswald
- 46 pronounced punishment
- 48 TX Patrick Mahomes, e.g.
- 49 actress Sorvino
- 50 camp bed
- 51 wonder
- 52 hallucinogenic drug (abbr.)
- 4 TXism: "never let ___ you sweat"
- 9 cattle ___-up
- 10 noted Texas choreographer, Tommy
- 11 Cowboys play in ___ Stadium
- 12 TX Vikki Carr hit: "___ Must Be Him"
- 13 West Texas plains tribes were these
- 14 cream of the crop
- 15 discourteous
- 18 this school beat A&M in 1993 and 1994 Cotton Bowls (abbr.)
- 19 Texas outlaw Ringo sometimes rode with the ___ gang
- 20 TXism: "old as a banker's ___"
- 22 TX Bonnie & Clyde pulled 'em (2 wds.)
- 24 Austin band: Asleep ___ The Wheel
- 25 Corpus Christi is 65 ___cent water
- 26 tree choppers
- 27 delicate hue
- 28 after the Cowboys, Roger Staubach had a career in real ___
- 29 Texas garden crop
- 30 TXism: "___ up" (bed ridden)
- 33 Willie 1992 album: "The ___ Tapes"
- 34 penalty point tries by the Mavs or Rockets (2 wds.)
- 35 expressed clearly
- 37 TXism: "spittin' image of"
- 38 French pronunciation of Paris
- 40 TX Larry Hagman show: "I ___ of Jeannie"
- 41 Andrews FM
- 44 Texas is number ___ in Fortune 500 companies
- 47 overjoyed

DOWN

- 1 former ___ Base in Lubbock
- 2 they're in a "Joy" candy bar
- 3 where Texas banks keep the dinero

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Sheriff's Report

The Rains County Sheriff's Office took the following reports of activity during the week of December 30-January 5:

Arrests



MICHAEL HOPKINS
Rains County Sheriff

1 2 - 3 0 : Dennis Ray Elm ore. Driving while intoxicated s e c o n d , \$3,500 bond.

1-2: Misty Lewers. Failure to appear (t r a f f i c) , \$100 bond; expired driver's license, \$100 bond.

1-3: Cameron Elizabeth Fleskes. Abandon/endanger child individual without intent to return, \$200,000 bond (x2).

1-4: Teresa May Williams. Tampering with witness family violence case with previous family violence conviction, unknown bond.

1-5: Brandon Dale Gowin. Criminal nonsupport, unknown bond.

1-5: Shawn Thomas Taylor. Criminal trespass, \$5,000 bond.

Calls

12-30:Whataburger Criminal trespass issued for a male who is there again; Old Mill Ln. Street blocked by downed tree; E Lennon Dr. Vehicle ran into a building; FM 275 EMS call elderly female not breathing after falling earlier in the day; E Lennon Dr. EMS call 70-year-old male fell and hit his head and is non responsive transported by Flight for Life; Hwy. 276 Great Pyrenees killed a miniature horse; FM 47 EMS

call 67-year-old blind male diabetic is in pain all over; FM 514 Welfare concern for a male; FM 514 Male chasing a cow on the bridge; Hwy. 69 Kim's Male laying at the entrance of the store; Emory 2nd St. Burglary in progress; FM 515 EMS call 49-year-old male with high blood pressure; FM 779 Debris in the roadway; Point Tawakoni Dr. Welfare concern for suicidal female; Tawakoni Tr. Welfare concern for female who didn't show up for appointment; Emory Family Dollar Theft report; Sheriff's Office (SO) Female states her boyfriend was arrested and his family will not let her get her mobile home and truck from the family's property; E Lennon Dr. Man sleeping on the shoulder of the road with a blanket; E Quitman St. Ferret came into business and owner doesn't know what to do with it; E Lennon Male sleeping on the sidewalk; Brookshire's Possibly intoxicated male drove into the ditch in front of the store.

12-31: CR 3226 Medical assist 74-year-old male possibly having a stroke; Hwy. 19N Male thinks he is having a heart attack and his wife is driving him to Sulphur Springs hospital; CR 7702 EMS call 70-year-old male not responsive and moaning; Ravine St. Medical alarm; CR 1540 EMS call 80-year-old female confused; E Lennon Dr. Manager wants male removed from the property; E Lennon Dr. Accident; Duffy St. Animal welfare concern; Hwy. 69 Large bale of hay blocking the northbound lane of the roadway; SO lobby Report of a dog bite; FM 515

Welfare concern for a male with several medical issues; E Lennon Dr. Minor 2-vehicle accident; Cr 3202 EMS call 8 day old infant with high fever; CR 1315 Hay bale in the roadway; E Lennon Dr. Two-vehicle accident; S Texas St. EMS call 72-year-old male fell; S Texas St. Antenna fell across power line; CR 1402 Dispute between grandchildren and grandmother; Hwy. 69 Point Female lives alone and she sees lights in the pasture and she's worried it might be trespassers; CR 1605 Male states his neighbor shot at him; Hwy. 69 Fletcher's Fireworks Dispute between two males and one is injured; CR 1533 EMS call 68-year-old male fell and is bleeding from the head.

1-1: Elm Ln. EMS call Female screaming for someone to call EMS; E Lennon Dr. Medical assist Male states he is super intoxicated and needs help; CR 1540 Little white car ran off the road and hit several mailboxes; CR 2610 Female states she was assaulted by three females; Shoreline Dr. Male states that his wife was transported to the hospital some time the night before but they won't tell him where she is and that he was drinking last night and doesn't remember when they came; W North St. Stolen vehicle; FM 275 Four white sheep on the side of the road; FM 2737 Domestic disturbance; Geneva St. Structure fire; Hwy. 69 Grass fire; CR 3130 Medical assist 84-year-old male shaking and difficulty breathing; FM 515 Medical assist Female with difficulty breathing; CR 1691 Dog bite; PR 7709 Medical

assist male having a seizure or heart attack.

1-2: Briggs Blvd. Medical assist male's catheter came out; FM 3274 Dog attacked a horse; Dunbar Ln. Gas tank was broken into; SO call Male had a mechanic take his truck to do work on it in Cumby and it ended up missing; FM 779 EMS call 26-year-old diabetic pregnant female with heart racing and nothing is bringing sugar up; W Lennon Dr. Female reports male who did work for her now is talking ugly to her and she's scared; CR 1490 EMS call Home health needs EMS for 64-year-old male; Smith Cir. Shots fired and two males ran around the corner; CR 1308 Sexual abuse of a child; CR 1300 Grass fire the size of a pool; PR 7709 EMS call for 58-year-old diabetic female; SO lobby person wants to discuss an incident that happened on New Years; Emory 2nd St. Traffic stop and arrest made; CR 3120 Lift assist for 83-year-old male; Hwy. 69 Traffic stop subject passed out in vehicle from public intoxication; Point Smith Cir. Neighbor moved in and their dog tore holes in the fence and attacked caller's wife and dog; FM 514 Road hazard removed from the road.

1-3: CR 1220 Dogs attacked donkey; Skyline Dr. Grass fire; FM 2946 Motorist assist for trailer blocking the road; FM 275 Harassment; CR 3325 Welfare concern for female in Rains Co.; CR 3030 Illegal dumping of rotting deer meat; SO lobby follow up investigation regarding vehicle left on the side of the road; E Quitman St. Officer

requested to come draw the winner in the Women's Service Club drawing; CR 3393 Street blocked by someone moving a house; Hwy. 47 Brush fire; FM 515 Medical assist home health nurse with 49-year-old male who isn't taking his medication; FM 2324 Animal welfare concern for dog that looks like it doesn't have any water; PR 5505 Domestic disturbance young child reports parents are fighting and she needs help; FM 2324 Animal welfare concern; Emory 4th St. Motorist assist; FM 47 Welfare concern for a sick male; CR 4515 Abandoned vehicle; Clark Dr. Minor accident truck struck a manhole cover; East Tawakoni (ET) Catfish Rd. Male walking around looking for his vehicle and doesn't know where he is; FM 779 Brush fire started from fireworks; CR 4253 911 hangup; Hwy. 276 Medical assist male thinks his liver is giving out.

1-4: PR 5450 Medical assist 57-year-old female who is not alert; Hwy. 19 Stranded motorist; SO call Male wants to know how to get his motorcycle back because it was towed when he had a wreck and he was told by another male that he could leave it there while he was being treated; CR 1540 Harassment; FM 515 Dollar General manager wants someone criminally trespassed from the property; Mohawk Tr. Suspicious circumstance bottle of vodka left on porch overnight; Wells St. EMS call 75-year-old female fell and hit her head; Mohawk Tr. Loud explosions heard; E Lennon Dr. Two-

vehicle accident no injuries; FM 515 Grass fire; CR 1310 Female reported a scam of someone impersonating a Dallas officer; CR 4452 Medical assist 71-year-old male with high blood pressure and trouble breathing; Hwy. 69 Domestic disturbance wife hit male in the head with her hand; CR 3345 Someone shooting automatic weapons; CR 3202 Medical assist for male; Hwy. 69 Reckless driving vehicle all over the road; Hwy. 276 Pig on the roadway; CR 1330 Medical assist 61-year-old male with chest pains.

1-5: W Lennon Dr. Male criminally trespassed from location; PR 7709 Medical assist 59-year-old female with leg and back pain; FM 2324 Animal welfare concern for dog left out in the cold; FM 2795 Livestock on the roadway; Hwy. 69W EMS call 76-year-old male passed out; PR 7702 EMS call 61-year-old female with low blood sugar and incoherent; Duffy St Animal welfare concern for animals tied to a post in the back yard; SO lobby Found property citizen turned in credit cards; N Texas St. Welfare concern for male and female who have dementia and aren't supposed to be driving; CR 1540 EMS call 66-year-old female with chest pain; Hwy. 19N Reckless driving maroon Ford F250; Ave. D Three aggressive dogs running around the neighbor's house trying to attack another dog; E Lennon Dr. Subway Report of harassment; PR 7709 EMS call Neighbor possibly having a stroke; CR 1307 EMS call 69-year-old male needs help.

PUBLIC NOTICE

On December 17, 2024, Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) requesting Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) authorization to construct the Hallsville Natural Gas Plant located in Harrison County, Texas and the natural gas fuel conversion of the Welsh power plant located in Titus County, Texas (collectively, the Projects). The docket number and style of the case are Docket No. 57376, *Application of Southwestern Electric Power Company to Amend its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct the Hallsville Natural Gas Plant in Harrison County, Texas and Convert Welsh Power Plant Units 1 and 3 to Natural Gas*. SWEPCO has more than 190,000 Texas retail customers, all of whom are affected by this Application. SWEPCO has filed separate applications for authorization of the Projects with the Arkansas Public Service Commission and the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

Both Projects were market tested in SWEPCO's competitive Request for Proposals process to meet SWEPCO's generation capacity need. Table 1 below summarizes the Projects SWEPCO is pursuing, their size, and projected in-service dates.

Table 1 – Projects Overview

	Hallsville Natural Gas Plant Units 1&2	Welsh Natural Gas Conversion Project	
		Unit 1	Unit 3
Size (Nameplate MW)	450 MW	525 MW	528 MW
Planned COD	December 2027	May 2028	November 2027
State	TX	TX	TX
County	Harrison	Titus	Titus
Location (RTO)	SPP	SPP	SPP

The Hallsville Natural Gas Plant will be a nominal 450 MW simple cycle natural gas facility located at SWEPCO's now-retired Pirkey Generation Station. It will consist of two General Electric combustion gas turbine generators. Siting the Hallsville Plant at the Pirkey Generation Station is beneficial in several ways. With Pirkey's retirement in March 2023, SWEPCO formally requested the reuse of Pirkey's transmission interconnection with the Southwest Power Pool (SPP). This reduces transmission system and facility upgrade costs and the time required by SPP to study the proposal and the impact on the grid compared to the timing and uncertainty of any new SPP transmission interconnection request. Further, the Hallsville Natural Gas Plant will reuse the existing water intake structure, site infrastructure, and necessary permits to reduce the project costs to the greatest extent possible.

Welsh Units 1 and 3 are currently operating as pulverized coal-fired units located northwest of Cason, Texas with net generating capacity of 525 and 528 MW, respectively. Welsh Units 1 and 3 were placed in service in 1977 and 1982, respectively. The Welsh Natural Gas Conversion Project will convert SWEPCO's existing Welsh Units 1 and 3 coal-fired boilers to burn natural gas. The Welsh plant will continue to be owned entirely by SWEPCO.

The total combined project capital cost for the Projects is approximately \$723 million.

Persons with questions about this Application should contact SWEPCO at 428 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101 or call toll-free at (888) 216-3523 during normal business hours. Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon action sought, should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the 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. All communications should refer to Docket No. 57376, and any request to intervene in that docket should include an email address and fax number (if available) as contact information. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is January 16, 2025 and you must send a letter requesting intervention to the Commission that is received by that date.

A copy of SWEPCO's Application may be viewed on the Commission's webpage at <https://www.puc.texas.gov>. The Commission maintains an electronic copy of all filings on the "Filings" section of its webpage. The control number for this proceeding is 57376.

Believer's Baptist Church

By Linda Brendle

But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins—he said to the man who was paralyzed—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home."

Luke 5:24

This week Pastor Jason Rolan returned to the series from Luke titled "The Incomparable Christ." His sermon was called "Jesus Demonstrates His Authority" and addressed the following points that proved Jesus is the Son of God: 1) Jesus exerted His authority and power to forgive sins by telling the paralyzed man his sins were forgiven. 2) The Pharisees doubted His authority to do so because only God can forgive sins. 3) Jesus explained His authority by telling them He was the Son of Man, and He demonstrated it by healing the man's paralysis. 4) Jesus' authority was recognized and praised as the

man rose, picked up his bed, and walked out as he and the entire crowd glorified God.

January Schedule:

- January 14, 7:00 a.m. – Men's Bible N Biscuits resumes.
- January 15, 9:30 a.m. – Women's Bible Study resumes.
- January 15 – Full Wednesday night schedule resumes.
- January 18-20 – Youth Retreat at Camp Akiva. Cost \$75.
- January 26 – Greeters Ministry meeting
- January 26 – Members meeting
- Save the dates!
- February 2 – Home Groups meet.
- February 4 – 55+ Fellowship
- February 9 – Sunday night Corporate Worship
- February 14-15 – Marriage Retreat.
- February 23 – The Church Praying

Emory Methodist Church

By Mary White

But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a Ruler Who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.

Matthew 2:6

On the first Sunday of the new year Rev. David Banks' message was titled The Theophany: The Three Wise Men & Their Gifts, with scripture text taken from Matthew. David explained the difference between Theophany and Epiphany. Theophany is a visible manifestation of God. Epiphany refers to a sudden realization or insight commemorating the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus. The story never gets old as we remember it each new year. When we see God show up that is when we need to become the hands and the feet of Jesus Christ.

This is going to be a slow week for we need to adjust to the change in weather. We will have the Winds of the Spirit Prayer Team meeting on Wednesday at 8:30 a.m., and our Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. and again at 5:00 p.m. AA meets in the fellowship hall every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday at noon. Our Communion for the month of January is MaryBeth Applewhite Fund which is a love offering to support our church family in times of need.

Birthday wishes go to Cassie Franklin, Bonita Calhoun, Cheryl Traylor, Cay House, Jeri Humphrey, Opal Franklin and Frances Cason.

Pray for the Roy Franklin family and the Ernie Woods family.

Happy New Year, my friends! Celebrate Jesus, for His mercies will greet you every day in this new year 2025.

Obituaries

Roy Dean Franklin

1950 – 2025



A memorial service will be held for Roy Dean Franklin on Friday January 10, 2025 at the Wilson Orwosky Chapel from 1- 3 P.M.

Roy Dean Franklin, born on January 8, 1950, in Sulphur Springs, Texas to Roy Franklin and Marjorie Jobe, passed away on January 3, 2025, at Christus Hospital in Tyler, Texas. He was 74 years old.

Roy dedicated a significant portion of his life to his work at Potts Feed Store in Emory, where he found joy and fulfillment. His entrepreneurial spirit also led him to own a gas station, car wash, and laundry mat in Emory, reflecting his industrious nature and connection to the community he cherished.

Known for his friendly demeanor, Roy was easy to talk to and got along well with those around him. His helpfulness was a hallmark of his personality.

Outside of work, he found delight in hobbies such as gardening, fishing, and old cars. He particularly cherished the moments

spent with family, especially during fishing trips for trout with his wife, where laughter and bonding transcended the lines of everyday life.

Roy is survived by his wife, Janett Franklin; children, Cindy Franklin and Luis, Alan Franklin and Julie, Jeff Jordan, John Jordan; grandchildren, Devin Jordan, Joshua Jordan, Jadin Klein and

Taylor. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Roy is remembered as a beloved figure in Emory for his contributions to the community and the warmth he brought to those who knew him.

In this time of remembrance, those who were touched by Roy's kindness are invited to celebrate a life dedicated to service, family, and the simpler joys of life.

Consider making a donation to the American Cancer Society in his honor. <https://donate.cancer.org>.

Richard Law

1949 – 2025



A memorial service for Richard Law, 75, was held on January 5, at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Law died on January 2, 2025. He was born on September 14, 1949, to J.D. Law and Emma Scott.

Mr. Law served honorably in the US Army for twelve years, during which he completed one tour in Korea, two tours in Vietnam, and two tours in Germany. His military service was one of his proudest accomplishments. He also took immense pride in his family, his children, and his wife, considering his marriage another significant achievement in his life.

He enjoyed fishing, leather working,

woodworking and ceramics.

Mr. Law is survived by his wife, Frankie; daughters, Tamara Weatherspoon and Kenneth, Karen Williams and David, Melissa Neufeld and Brian; grandchildren, Chrystal Sowell, Tabatha Sowell, Cassidy Sowell, Lindsey Williams, Lauren Williams, Lance Williams, Justin Neufeld, Makayla Smith, Taryn Neufeld; great-grandchildren, Abigail, Alaina, Kayliegh, Jaycee, Luke, London, James; sisters Doris, Betty and Joyce Dee.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and siblings, Maurice "Sonny" Law, Marvin "Buddy" Law, and Katherine Guffy.

Shirley Roughton Smith

1946 – 2024



Shirley Roughton Smith, 78, of Emory, died on December 30, 2024, in Sulphur Springs. She was born on June 30, 1946, in Bentonville, Ark., to Kenneth and Bonnie Hanson Roughton.

Mrs. Smith is survived by her husband of 28 years, David Smith, of Emory; three sons, John England of Joplin, Mo., Dale England of Joplin, Mo., and Phillip Smith of Grand Saline; and two daughters, Letha Roughton.

Harris of Stockton, Mo., and Teresa Williams of Neosho, Mo.; brother, Billy Roughton of Jarrett, Va.; sister, Ellen Wolf of Joplin, Mo.; twelve grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren, and two on the way; and numerous other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and two brothers, Marvin Roughton and Richard

FISHING REPORT

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department released the following information for Lake Fork and Lake Tawakoni taken on September 4:

Fork: Good. Water Stained; 54 degrees; 1.78 feet below pool. The lake level is on the rise after the recent rains, but the bite has slowed. Squarebill crankbaits and chatterbaits are fair in 3-5 feet. Suspended jerkbaits around timber in 5-7 feet are fair. Carolina rigs on points and humps or road beds in 12-18 feet are good. Texas rigs and Viper XP jigs on big wood slow in 5-7 feet. Report by Marc Mitchell, Lake Fork Guide Service.

Cooler water so the bass will be deeper. Black bass are slow in 5-10 feet. Some smaller bass are chasing shad on warm days. Black Clousers with sinking tip lines are a good bet. Focus on creek bends and drop-offs.

small streamers and top water patterns might catch active bass in creeks on warm days. Report by Alex Guthrie, Fly Fish Fork.

The Lake Fork crappie fishing continues to be excellent as the surface temperatures continue to drop. Lots of fish can be found on timber, brush and bridges in 18-58 feet. If you find areas with tons of shad there will be crappie close by. Look for fish migrating towards deeper water that sometimes follow creek channels. The jig bite has kicked in for the winter. Small hand tied jigs are producing extremely well and soft plastics will get you a bite. Minnows are always a go to bait for crappie on Lake Fork. Report by Jacky Wiggins, Jacky Wiggins Guide Service.

Tawakoni: Good. Water lightly stained; 63 degrees; 2.11 feet below pool. Lake Tawakoni has shifted from a

fall bite to more of a winter pattern as cold front after cold front continues to cool the water temperatures. The hybrid striper bite has been very up and down the last week. Lots of big wind has made it difficult to fish areas that are holding fish. Swim-baits and slab spoons are working best. Seems like the 10-25 foot range are holding fish. The eating sized catfish bite in the 1-4 pound range are still excellent. Baited holes are working best in 15-25 feet with punch bait. The trophy catfishing continues to improve weekly. Fish are being caught on cut bait in 2-15 feet. The large-mouth bite has been good on plastics in 1-6 feet. Slow rolling shallow cranks are still putting fish in the boat but downsizing is working best. Report by Captain Michael Littlejohn, Lake Tawakoni Guide Service.

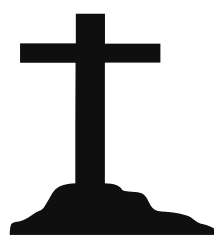
ADVERTISING WORKS 903-473-2653

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

John 16:31-33 (ESV)



Church Directory

EMORY
METHODIST CHURCH
We All Matter To God
Dr. David Banks
456 Texas St.
One Block from the Square
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Time 10:30 a.m.
903-473-2411 • EmoryMC.org

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

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

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.
Pastor Joe Pierce
903-259-1147 & 903-259-0348

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

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

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 4:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
emorychurchofchrist.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Point, TX
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. ... Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
6:00 p.m. .. Wednesday Service
903-598-3220

On The Square
Corner Of North & Planters
Downtown Emory
903-473-3357
emorybaptist.org
EMORY BAPTIST CHURCH
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 6:30 p.m.
Student Ministry 6:30 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

Pastor Rudy and CJ Bond
Come worship with us
Sundays - 10:45 am
Wednesdays - 7:00 pm
Clarks Chapel Church of God
Our Mission and Vision is to help connect people to Jesus
6345 FM-47 Point TX
<http://clarkschapelcog.org/>
<http://www.facebook.com/clarkschapelcogemorytx>

NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS
RAINS COUNTY

§
§
§

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Rains County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on December 18, 2024, seized, levied upon, and will offer for sale the following properties, on the first Tuesday in February, 2025, the same being the 4th day of said month, at the west side of the Courthouse of the said County, in the City of Emory, Texas, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 10:00 AM, and will proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Rains and the State of Texas, to-wit:

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
1	3052TX 07/19/24	2301-0000-0450-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. JOHN MERRILL BELL, ET AL	A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITTS COVE #2 LOT 45 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$1,495.00
2	3072TX 09/20/24	0055-0175-0000-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. BARBARA NELL PRICE, ET AL	A-55 CALEB DECKER SURVEY, 1.103 ACRES SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$52,365.00
3	3079TX 09/20/24	2255-0000-0050-40 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. TERRY L. ROBINSON	A0087 FINLEY REBECCA SURVEY EMORY NORTH ADDITION, LOT 5 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$68,049.00
4	3088TX 04/22/22	0151-0100-0010B-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. JOE S MAYBERRY, ET AL	MOBILE HOME ON SITS ON R3109, LABEL# TEX0309190 / TEX0309191 TITLE # 00225754, SIN1 HCTXSN41026A; SN2 HCTXSN41026B SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES *MOBILE HOME ONLY - LAND NOT INCLUDED*	\$35,206.00
5	3089TX 07/19/24	2300-0000-0730-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. LARA MILLER	TRACT 1 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SUREY HERMITTS CORV #1 LOT 73 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES SELLING TRACT #1 & #2 TOGETHER FOR ONE BID	\$1,690.00
6	3089TX 07/19/24	2300-0000-0740-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. LARA MILLER	TRACT 2 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SUREY HERMITTS COVE #1 LOT 74 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES SELLING TRACT #1 & #2 TOGETHER FOR ONE BID	\$1,690.00
7	3097TX 07/19/24	0194-0000-0020-40 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. MIKE W. GOWIN, ET AL	A0194 RIDMON EMILY ACRES .55 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$173,205.00
8	3108TX 09/20/24	0189-0175-0000-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. ADDIE MAE BRUMIT, AKA MRS. R M BRUMIT, ET AL	A0189 RITTER GEORGE W ACRES 8.25 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$85,997.00
9	3124TX 12/08/23	0003-0410-0003-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. MARICELA PINEDA, ET AL	EAGLES NEST LOT 13, LABEL# TEX0301683, SN1 2648114318 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES *MOBILE HOME ONLY - LAND NOT INCLUDED*	\$12,037.00
10	3140TX 09/20/24	2200-0010-0210-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. TIMOTHY NOEL WOOD, ET AL	A0014 BROOKS THOMAS SURVEY; BLK 1 LOT 21 CEDAR CREEK ESTATES SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$246,476.00
11	3144TX 07/19/24	0080-0300-0060-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. HELEN ENGLISH, ET AL	A0080 JAMES FORSYTHE SURVEY, 0.341 ACRES SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$5,320.00
12	3182TX 07/19/24	0286-0210-0010-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. J C WHITE	A0286 PADILLO DELORES ACRES 7.932 SALES NOTES:SUBJECT TO POST JUDGMENT TAXES	\$341,589.00

(any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Rains County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s), interest, penalties, and cost; and any property sold shall be subject to the right of redemption of the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the time and in the manner provided by law, and shall be subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

RECENT CHANGES IN THE PROPERTY TAX CODE NOW REQUIRE PURCHASERS OF TAX SALE PROPERTY TO HAVE A STATEMENT FROM THE RAINS COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR CERTIFYING THAT THE PERSON/FIRM/COMPANY PURCHASING PROPERTY AT A TAX SALE OWES NO DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES TO ANY TAXING ENTITY WITHIN THE COUNTY. YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A TAX SALE DEED TO ANY PROPERTY YOU PURCHASE WITHOUT THIS CERTIFICATE.

TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR RAINS COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE SALE.

Dated at Emory, Texas, December 18, 2024



Sheriff Michael Hopkins
Rains County, Texas

By _____
Deputy

Notes:

The Minimum Bid is the lesser of the amount awarded in the judgment plus interest and costs or the adjudged value. However, the Minimum Bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgments against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or LINEBARGER GOGGAN BLAIR & SAMPSON, LLP, attorney for plaintiffs, at (903) 597-2897

For the latest in local sports news subscribe to

Rains County Leader

Call 903-473-2653

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

Teacup Chihuahua puppies, 1 male left. \$100. Ready for sale in January. 903-474-0898.

Good Samaritan's Thrift/Clothes store will be open Saturdays in January from 8am - noon. Clothes sale is open Mon.-Wed., 8 am -12 pm, and 1 pm-4 pm. Open 8 am - noon on Thurs.

HOOTEN'S HARDWARE, LLC

Browse our wide selection of RV Parts and Accessories. Hwy. 69N in Emory. 903-473-8788.

RENT/LEASE

Abbington Walk of Emory, Now leasing 1, 2 and 3 bd. Contact the office for December Move-in special. Tel: 903-486-5473. www.Abbingtonwalk.com, abbingtonwalk-leasing@fdimgt.com.

208 Duffy Street Unit A, 3BR/2BA Manufactured home, \$1,100/mth. Apply at eagleinapartments.com.

ALL BILLS PAID EAGLE INN APARTMENTS

2-BR \$833/mth. \$1127 deposit. Apply at eagleinnapartments.com.

STORAGE UNITS

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

HELP WANTED

RAINS ISD NEEDS: Custodian/Custodian Substitutes, Bus Drivers/Substitutes, Food Service Employee/Substitutes, Child Development Center Employee/Substitutes. Salary based on experience. \$320/month of full-time employee health coverage paid. Apply on-line at https://www.rainsisd.org Equal Employment Opportunity.

SERVICES

CONSTRUCTION

MCKENZIE LAKE WORKS. Building bathhouses and docks since 2001. Steel/metal bldgs., & home remodeling. www.mckenzielakeworks.com. 903-269-6173.

HOOTEN'S HARDWARE, LLC

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF EMORY, TEXAS THAT A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE CITY OF EMORY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION ON THURSDAY, the 23rd DAY OF JANUARY 2025 AT 5:30 PM, AT THE EMORY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 399 N. TEXAS STREET, EMORY, TEXAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION ON THE FOLLOWING:

REQUEST BY NGUYEN CHINH TRUONG (C/O KEELY ROAN) TO CONSIDER A LAND USE CHANGE FROM RESIDENTIAL (R1) CONDITIONAL USE FOR MEDICAL TO COMMERCIAL (C-1) for PROFESSIONAL BUILDING OR COMMERCIAL BUILDING FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT KATY ADDITION #1 BLOCK FOR LOTS 4 and 5 (JOSEPH HARGES SURVEY).

A SECOND PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Emory City Council on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. The public hearing will be held at Emory City Hall Council Chambers, located at 399 N. Texas Street, Emory, Texas 75440.

PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE THAT, NATT PACKAGE STORE INC D/B/A RAINS BEVERAGE & SPIRITS LOCATED AT 112 E. US HWY 69, POINT, RAINS COUNTY, TX 75472 HAS FILED APPLICATION FOR A PACKAGE STORE PERMIT AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTORS PERMIT.

RAJBIR S. NATT, PRES/SECY/DIR

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.

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Sports

RAINS LADY CAT & WILDCAT BASKETBALL

Wildcats, Lady Cats overcome set backs with big victories

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains Lady Cats bounced back from their lone, District 12-3A loss to roll off three straight wins, while the Wildcats notched a win after suffering their first district loss.

The Lady Cats hosted the Sulphur Springs Lady Cats on December 31 for a non-district game and notched a 48-37 victory.

In the new year, the Lady Cats and Wildcats traveled to Commerce on Friday, January 3, for district contests.

The Lady Cats beat the Lady Tigers, 52-36, while the Wildcats suffered their first district loss to the Tigers, 63-55.

On January 7, the high school teams hosted Mount Vernon at Rains High School, and the Lady Cats rolled to a 63-25 victory over the Lady Tigers.

In the later game, the Wildcats jumped out early and cruised to a 75-28 win over the Tigers.

The Lady Cats move to 23-3 for the season, and 4-1 in District 12-3A. The Wildcats are 15-5 and 2-1 in district.

The Rains Lady Cats move up to ninth in Class 3A by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.

The high school teams will travel to Pattonville on Friday night, January 10, to take on the Prairiland Patriots and



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Emma Knight (13) elevates to steal the pass intended for the Lady Tiger during the 63-25 win over Mount Vernon.

Lady Patriots.

The teams will hit the road again on Tuesday, Janu-

ary 14, as they travel to take on the Paris Chisum Mustangs and Lady Mustangs.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

For Once the Indians Win a Battle

Although everything was in their favor, the Kickapoos, who were only passing through West Texas en route to Mexico, went out of their way to avoid a fight on Jan. 8, 1865.

The first sign of the Kickapoo exodus from the Indian Territory was detected the previous month at the headwaters of the Brazos River. Militiamen on routine reconnaissance came across an empty

camp of 92 wigwams and tents that had been vacant no more than a couple of days. The two dozen volunteers hurried home with the unfounded hunch that hundreds of hostiles were on the warpath.

Since nearly all able-bodied Texans were away at war, a "home guard" had been created to deal with domestic emergencies. As a result, 325 adolescents, old men and maimed veterans of the North-South carnage assembled at Meridian the week before Christmas under the command of Capt. S.S. Totton.

Everyone had something to prove. For the ragtag rank and file, the expedition offered the opportunity to refute the charge that they were the cowardly dregs of Lone Star society. For Totton, whose military career had been cut short by a Yankee bullet, it was the chance to show he was still fit for combat.

Equally as eager for a share of the glory was the captain of the Rebel regulars at Fort Chadbourne. While common sense dictated that he wait for the militia, Henry Fossett set out in search of the unidentified Indians on Jan. 3, 1865, with an insufficient force of 165 troops.

During four days in the saddle, the Confederates discovered a string of four large campsites. On the fifth day, scouts found the migrating

Kickapoos on Dove Creek 16 miles from present-day San Angelo.

The elated Fossett announced his plan for an immediate attack only to have the party crashed by several home guardsmen. He grudgingly agreed to rendezvous with the "flop-eared militia," as the regulars called them, in a ravine three miles from the Kickapoo stronghold.

The Confederates reached the location at two o'clock in the morning seven hours ahead of their civilian counterparts, who had to ride all night to keep the appointment. The impatient Fossett not only ruled out a nap and a meal for the exhausted volunteers but also put a five-minute time limit on the strategy session with co-commander Totton.

As orders filtered down through the ranks, a tribal elder appeared out of nowhere to plead the Kickapoo case. He explained that his people were "friendly Indians" whose sole desire was safe passage to Mexico. Fossett retorted that any Indian caught in Texas was by definition up to no good and had the emissary executed on the spot.

The militiamen with Capt. Totton in the lead were already wading Dove Creek in a suicidal storming of the Kickapoo defenses. From the dense brush on the opposite bank, as many as a thousand warriors opened fire with Einfield rifles killing 18 part-time soldiers and seriously wounding 14 others.

The panic-stricken survivors "fled like stampeded cattle," according to an eyewitness. Totton begged and bellowed, but his frightened followers refused to budge from their flickering campfires. There was nothing the captain could say to persuade them to return to battle.

The initial wave of 75 Confederates escaped a similar ambush with minor wounds. However, when the regulars regrouped for a counterattack, they were pinned down by a cleverly conceived

crossfire that would have made a West Point graduate proud.

The troopers spent the rest of the day flat on their stomachs rarely rising to risk a shot at their invisible foe. The estimated 1,400 Kickapoos could have crushed the Confederate contingent at any moment yet were content to inflict a few token casualties.

The Indians pulled back soon after sunset allowing their helpless opponent to slip safely out of the trap. The uniformed Rebs and their plainclothes comrades owed their lives to a wise Kickapoo chief.

Common sense rather than compassion guided No-Ko-Wat's decision not to slaughter the whites, whose actions merited no mercy. He knew that a massacre would mean annihilation of the Kickapoos because Texans never let a bloodbath go unavenged. By sparing his adversaries, the chief saved his own people.

Captains Fossett and Totton colored their accounts of the debacle at Dove Creek in a clumsy attempt to save face and salvage their reputations. Both minimized the scope of the humiliating defeat, while wildly exaggerating the losses suffered by the other side.

The record was eventually set straight by an Austin newspaper that published an Eagle Pass interview with No-Ko-Wat. Readers were shocked to learn that his dead totaled 14 instead of the hundreds claimed by Fossett and Totton.

In other words, the Kickapoos pulled their punches and still kicked butt.

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

LUKE CLAYTON

Planning is almost as much fun as hunting

By the time you are reading this, you won't need me to remind you of the blast of Arctic air that pushed through the state this week. Just step outside; but better



LUKE CLAYTON
Outdoor Columnist

put your long johns before you do! It's early Sunday morning and I'm comfy and warm at my computer. Just watched the weatherman state without hesitation that we are about to get our first really cold weather of the winter. I have a very busy day planned that I want to tell you about. We hunters never really know how a hunt will unfold, especially when it's timed to coincide with the arrival with a blast of frigid air accompanied by strong winds!

I will be joining my good friends Edgar and David Cotton on Edgar's ranch in Kaufman County this afternoon. Two other great friends, Larry Weishuhn and Rick Lambert (Miranda's Dad) will be joining us for what might be an afternoon hunt in deer stands with howling north winds or.... possibly a good visit around a warm fire at the camp house. One thing I do know is that we will be eating "high on the hog." Edgar has some ribeyes marinating and I have all the fixings to make a big Dutch Kettle Cobbler. No telling what the other guys might have in store. I'm hoping Rick will bring his guitar and sing a few tunes after we eat. It's easy to see where Miranda gets her talent! He likes to joke that he pays his way by entertaining but in truth Rick is just a nice fellow with lots of interesting stories to tell. We won't hold his feet to the fire about the entertaining!

What can I say about my friend Larry Weishuhn aka "Mr. Whittail"? For the past 18 years Larry has been a big part of my weekly radio show "Catfish Radio" and for the past 5 years, the digital TV show "A Sportsmans Life with our friend Jeff Rice. I'm often asked, "Luke what's it like to actually spend time and hunt with Larry?" I reply that it's exactly like spending time with one of the best friends you ever had. I greatly respect all that Larry has done to better the outdoor lifestyle we all love, but I truly believe we would be friends regardless the careers we chose. The fact that he is an outdoor legend has absolutely zero to do

with our friendship.

I've been friends with the Cottons a couple years but its seems as though I've known them a lifetime. That's the way it often is with folks that share a true love for the outdoors. During the time we have been friends, we enjoyed lots of fun time hunting, fishing and cooking. I've heard folks say, "I wish we'd know each other earlier in life". Well as the Bible teaches, there is a time and a season for everything and to my way of thinking, NOW is the appointed time for us to spend together!

One thing all my buddies have in common is their love of a tasty peach cobbler cooked on oak coals in a Dutch Kettle! At our yearly outdoor Revendzous in Greenville at the Top Rail Cowboy Church, I have been ordered not to show up without my 14 inch Dutch Kettle and ingredients for a big cobbler. I thought I'd surprise my friends this evening! The only challenge I have is finding a spot sheltered from that freezing north wind so that the coals can do their job heating the cast iron kettle!

The Cotton Ranch is on a Texas Parks and Wildlife management plan that Weishuhn helps set up each year. Hunting on these ranches is allowed through February but the general deer season ended this past weekend. With the close of the general season comes muzzleloader season and the special youth season (Jan 6-19). Make sure and check the TWPD site for regulations regarding the county you are hunting.

When hunting late season deer, finding the food source is key. Locate what the deer are eating and you will be on your way to some late season venison steaks and roasts. At the Cotton Ranch as well as most of the state, the acorn crop is gone and deer are hitting food plots are corn feeders with regularity. Some of those mossy horned old bucks that have been sticking tight to cover except for the peak of rutting activity will be coming out of the brush and now is a great time to take a mature animal. A lot is said about hunting the peak of the rut and it is a great time to see lots of deer in general but patterning a particular buck during the rut is iffy at best. He might be frequenting the area you have seen him on trail cameras previously or, he might be a couple miles away in pursuit of a receptive doe.

Late season deer hunting

is different. At the Cotton Ranch we will be hunting big food plots or 'green fields' as we used to call them back in the day. Each plot has a feeder throwing corn a couple times each day and these are the areas we will be hunting. On our hunt later today, conditions will be both good and bad. Frigid weather gets deer up and moving but deer lose much of their safety mechanisms when a steady strong wind is blowing. The wind rattles the bushes, which limits their ability to detect approaching danger with their eyes or noses. And deer often seek sheltered areas at the onset of a really cold spell with wind.

Sitting here at my computer, I would predict little deer activity this afternoon with the strong cold north winds but I've been hunting deer way too long to bet on what deer will do. The biggest buck of the season might venture out into one of the food plots just before dark, wind or no wind! So I'm debating on whether to head out to one of the elevated blinds on the ranch where the north wind will be whistling or stick around the camp house, get the campfire going on the sheltered side of the camp and prepare my cobbler. At the moment, I'm leaning toward tending the fire and cooking cobbler but who knows, I'll probably get excited when I join my buddies and head to a stand. Regardless, this promises to be a great 'hunt-cook out.' I'll devote a little space in next week's column to let you know how the evening went. Knowing me, I'll probably wind up shooting a hog from camp and having some backstrap grilling on the fire when my buddies get back from their hunt.

I have a muzzleloader hunt planned with my CVA 50 caliber Optima later this week up in Wood County and getting a fat doe or spike after the passage of this "Blue Norther."

Remember our Sixth Annual outdoor Rendezvous on March 1 on the grounds of the Top Rail Cowboy Church in Greenville. Booth space is available. There is live music and plenty of campfires. All my friends mentioned in my column this week will be there around the campfire to share their tales with you. To learn more or to reserve your booth spot, contact Pastor Charlie Nassar at 903-217-3778 at the church.





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