

Rains County Leader

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Vol. 139, Issue 9 - 2 Section, 12 pages

EMORY, TEXAS - THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025

PRICE 75¢

RAINS COUNTY

Rains and neighboring fire departments fight structure fire at Kearney Trailers

By TREY HILL

Rains County Leader staff

At approximately 2:02 p.m., on Saturday, August 2, the Emory Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to Kearney Trailers on Highway 19 South in response to a possible structure fire. According to a report by the department, upon arrival, crews found the manufacturing building at the rear of the property fully involved, with heavy smoke pouring from the eaves and doors.

Engine 1 immediately put out a call for full mutual aid for an

industrial structure fire. With rapid response from Rains County fire departments and neighboring agencies, firefighters successfully contained the blaze to the main building and its contents. No surrounding structures were damaged.

The fire was declared extinguished by 7:30 p.m. after a coordinated effort from multiple fire departments and support crews. Assisting departments included Point Volunteer Fire Department, East Tawakoni Volunteer Fire Department, City of Alba Volunteer Fire Department, Arbala Volunteer

Fire Department, Hopkins County Fire Department, Edgewood Volunteer Fire Department, Brinker Volunteer Fire Department, Como Volunteer Fire Department, and Hopkins County EMS. Hopkins County EMS provided hydration and rehab support with an Ambus unit, and South Van Zandt VFD Chief Gregg Beverly offered to staff Emory's station during the incident.

Community members played a vital role, arriving with water, snacks, and moral support. "We

see **KEARNEY** on page 2



Photo from Emory Volunteer Fire Department

Be the One



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Participants in the Second Annual Bicycle Ride to National Convention for PTSD take a break at the American Legion Post 517 in West Tawakoni. The ride aims to raise money and awareness for PTSD. The riders will pedal 1,275 miles to the American Legion National Convention in Tampa Bay, Fla. where they plan to arrive on August 23. Riders pictured are (l-r) Bill Kuehner, Jeff Perkins and Joe Johnson.

RAINS COUNTY

Bicycle ride for PTSD awareness passes through Rains County

By CHUCK FITTS

Rains County Leader staff

The 2nd Annual Bicycle Ride to the National Convention passed through Rains County on Saturday, August 2.

Riders participating in the 1,275 mile ride from Dallas to Tampa Bay stopped on Friday, August 1, at the American Legion Post 517 in West Tawakoni.

Veteran rider Jeff Perkins said the ride is to raise awareness and money for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) through the Be the One campaign of the American Legion.

The website for the American Legion states that the Be the One campaign "destigmatizes asking for mental health support, creating opportunity for those

with mental health issues to speak freely and get the support they need."

Perkins stated that he was challenged last year after raising over \$23,000 while riding across Texas with two other veterans.

"Someone told me that I couldn't ride to New Orleans," Perkins said. "So I rode 491 miles to New Orleans and raised \$20,000 on that ride for PTSD."

Perkins noted that he arrived in New Orleans for the American Legion National Convention in 2024. He plans to arrive in Tampa Bay in time for the 2025 American Legion National Convention. He said that there was one big change about this year.

"Going back and looking at what is going on with PTSD," Perkins said

"There are no female facilities for treating female first responders or veterans anywhere in the world."

The goal of the bicycle ride is to raise one million dollars for that purpose. A web page has been put together by American Legion Post 597 in Carrollton to accept donations and provide information.

The site states that "donations will support the treatment for our veterans and first responders across the U.S. and the future home of the first ever women's PTSD facility."

For more information or to make donations, visit the website <https://americanlegion597.com/bicycle-ride-for-ptsd> or email bike.ride.ptsd@gmail.com.

COMPTROLLER OF TEXAS

Texans expected to save \$133.2 million during Sales Tax Holiday

Acting Texas Comptroller Kelly Hancock has announced that Texas families are expected to save an estimated \$133.2 million in state and local sales taxes during this year's annual Sales Tax Holiday, set for Friday, Aug. 8, through Sunday, Aug. 10.

"Back-to-school costs can add up fast," said Hancock during a visit to a major retailer in Midland. "Whether you prefer to shop in person or online, this tax-free weekend helps families stretch their hard-earned dollars—saving about \$8 for every \$100 spent. Texans have saved more than \$2 billion since this tradition began in 1999, and we're proud to continue it."

The three-day holiday allows shoppers to purchase a range of school-related items tax-free, including: most clothing and footwear, school supplies, and backpacks. (Each item must be priced under \$100 to qualify.)

Additionally, diapers (both cloth and disposable) and select sanitizers and wipes with drug facts labels are exempt from sales tax year-round.

Online and Layaway Purchases Included

The tax exemption applies whether shoppers make purchases in-store, online, by phone, or through mail order. Items placed on layaway or paid off during the holiday also qualify, as long as each item is under \$100.

Consumers who are mistakenly charged tax on eligible items can request a refund from the retailer. More information on tax refunds and qualifying purchases is available at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

The dates and item eligibility list for the Sales Tax Holiday are set annually by the Texas Legislature. The 2025 holiday runs from Aug. 8 through midnight on Aug. 10.

The Comptroller's Office encourages Texans to shop local and take full advantage of the tax-free weekend to save on essential back-to-school items.

SPOTLIGHT

Nicole York appointed new Tax Assessor-Collector

By JUDY KRAMER

Rains County Leader contributor

Nicole York began her first day as Rains County Tax Assessor-Collector on June 20. She was appointed to complete the term of former Tax Assessor-Collector, Sheila Floyd, and plans to enter the race for a full term during the general election on November 4.

York has a long employment history, but her most recent position was 10 years as a paraprofessional and one

year as a substitute at Lone Oak Independent School District. She also previously held the position as assistant manager at a Dollar General store.

York and her family live between Point and Emory on 59 acres of land that has been in her husband Billy's family for over 100 years. The couple currently have five dogs and a cat, but used to have goats, horses and pigs. They are planning to get another horse.

She and Billy York got married when she was 17 years old and en-

rolled in Lone Oak High School. She graduated in 2004. They have three children – a son who is 20 and just became a father, and two daughters, 17 and 19, who both work part time at different Whataburger fast-food restaurants.

York plans to stay in her position as Tax Assessor-Collector as long as possible. Rains County has given her retirement credit for her years at Lone Oak ISD, and she has full benefits including health care, dental and vision.



Nicole York



City Girl:
Signs of Fall
page 3

Jody Dyer:
Flash Flood Safety...
page 3

Wildcat Sports
page 8

Rain Report
Fri., Aug. 1 0.34 in.
Sun., Aug. 3 0.01 in.
Mon., Aug. 4 0.23 in.
Total for Aug. 0.58 in.
Year to date 33.41 in.

Community outreach & organizations

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Emory – Tues. & Thurs. 7:00-8:00 p.m., open meetings.
Emory 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

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 COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY – 3rd Thurs., 1:00 p.m., Meadows Cultural Center, Rains Co. Public Library

LAKE COUNTRY NEIGHBORS – 1st Thurs., 11:30 a.m., www.lakecountryneighbors.com

LAKE FORK BAPTIST CHURCH FOOD PANTRY – 2nd Tues., 1-3 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. Jamie's Restaurant, Lake Fork Marina

MARS HILL MASONIC LODGE
#1440 – 4th Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Lodge on Hwy. 69

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 GARDEN CLUB – 1st Mon., 11:00 a.m., House of Prayer Family Life Center, 1382 FM 515, Email TheRainsGardenClub@gmail.com

RAINS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY – 3rd Mon., 6:00 p.m., Jan., Mar., May, July, Sep., Nov., Emory City Hall.

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 SOCIETY – 3rd Sat., 1:00 p.m. Meadows Cultural Center, Rains County Public Library

RAINS COUNTY REPUBLICANS – July 31 & Oct. 30, 6:30 p.m., Roma Restaurant, 2450 FM 47

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

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 August from 8:00 a.m.-noon. Funds go to buy food for the needy and to operate the center.

Wildcat Reserve Tickets on Sale

Reserve season tickets for the 2025 Wildcat Football Season will be on sale through Friday, August 21, in the administration office for those who held 2024 season tickets. Reserve season tickets that are not renewed will be available for purchase beginning August 25. Season tickets will be \$40 per seat. Single game tickets can be purchased at the gate. For more information, contact the administration office at 903-473-2222 ext. 4117.

Pageant Applications Now Available

The 2025 Rains County Fair Pageant applications are now available at <https://rains.agrilife.org/country-fair/> The deadline to enter is August 8, 2025.

American Legion Breakfast Sat., Aug. 9

Rabb Brothers Memorial American Legion Post #156 will hold a breakfast buffet on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 7:00-10:00 a.m. at the Post home at 215 N. Duffy St. in Emory. Takeouts are offered. Payment is by donation, which goes towards the upkeep of the home and for veterans' projects.

Pippin-Hill Cemetery Meeting

The Pippin-Hill Cemetery Association will meet on Saturday, August 9, at 10:30 a.m., for a business meeting with lunch and fellowship to follow. Donations for the upkeep and care of the cemetery may be mailed to: Pippin-Hill Cemetery c/o David Hoover, 623 Private

Road 5937 Emory, 75440. For more information, call Mary Lou Hoover at 903-268-8451.

Grief Share Sessions Begin Aug. 13

Are you grieving the death of someone close to you? Find comfort and encouragement at Grief-Share on Wednesdays, Aug. 13 - Nov. 5, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home, 803 N. Texas Street, Emory. For more information, call Jordan or Renee at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home at 903.473.3545 or email wilsonorwosky@familyfh.com.

Lake Country Neighbors Anniversary Celebration

The Lake Country Neighbors will be holding a 25th Anniversary Celebration on August 14, from 4:00 p.m to 6:00 p.m., in Venue 101 at 101 N. Texas St. in Emory. Everyone is invited to stop by and join in the celebration.

RHS Class of 1965 Reunion Sept. 6

The Rains High School Class of 1965 will have its 60th reunion at Wayne's house on Saturday, September 6, starting at 11:00 a.m. with lunch being served at noon. Bring a lawn chair for each person and a dish of your choice. Call Wayne at 903-355-0914 to confirm your attendance. Spread the word.

Veteran Photos Needed

The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary, along with the *Rains County Leader*, will be honoring Veterans whose photos are submitted by the community. The photos will be displayed during the week of Veteran's Day in the *Rains County Leader* as a tribute to their sacrifice and dedication. Submit photos to ads@rainscountyleader.com by October 30, or call Lana Carlisle at 214-264-9149. Include the Veteran's name and branch of service. Photos of individuals in their uniforms are preferred.

Why rebalancing your portfolio matters



BRANDON ROBERTS
Edward Jones
Financial Advisor

In life, balance is everything — whether it's finding time between work and family or maintaining a healthy diet.

The same goes for investing. Have a balanced, and occasionally rebalanced, portfolio helps you have the right mix of investments like stocks, bonds and cash for your individual needs.

This “mix” — known as asset allocation — should reflect your personal comfort with risk, your investment goals and how long you have until you need the money.

Your ideal mix will change as your life changes. Younger investors might favor stocks for growth. As you near retirement, you'll likely focus more on income and stability.

Over time, the value of each investment may change, causing your portfolio to become unbalanced. Rebalancing helps you adjust for this or as your goals evolve.

So, indulge in a few snacks while following a healthy diet. But take time to consider balance in your investments as well.

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

KEARNEY

Continued from page 1

are truly blessed to have a community that supports their fire departments as much as y'all do,” Emory VFD stated.

In a statement released by Kearney Trailers, the company expressed deep gratitude to all who responded and supported them. “To the brave EMS teams, the fire departments who responded swiftly, and the community members who showed up for us without hesitation: thank you,” the Kearney family

said.

Despite the damage, the company remains resilient. “Amidst all the rubble and damage, our KT light went dark yesterday... Today, we rewired it. We brought it back to life,” the business shared. “We will rebuild, stronger than ever. And in true East Texas fashion... we're back to business.”

Kearney Trailers reopened for business Monday morning, August 4.

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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 Tues., 6:45 p.m., Point City Hall

RAINS COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
3rd Thurs. of every month, Rains Tax Office at 12:00 p.m.

RAINS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT
2nd & 4th Thurs., 10:00 a.m., Rains County Courthouse

RAINS ISD SCHOOL BOARD
2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Rains ISD Board Room

RAINS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1
3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Emory Fire Station

RAINS COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE:
Mon., Tues. and Thurs., 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., 110 E. North St.
TRANSPORTATION:
To schedule a ride Call 903-474-7231

RAINS COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE
Open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-4 p.m. 903-473-5099 or 5098

MEMBER 2025 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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H.W. Martin - 1887
Sam Fitzgerald - Before 1900
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A.S. Hornbeck - Before 1900
J.H. Bradford - 1901-1904
Tom W. Hill - 1904-1937
Earl Hill, Sr. - 1937-1960
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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!

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

Stealing Elections

The United States Constitution sets the rules for when congressional districts can be redrawn in accordance with the Census Data collected, every 10 years not the 5 year timeframe Donald Trump is Demanding from the state of Texas.

Why would such unconstitutional actions be greenlighted by a state previously claiming 12 Th Amendment aka States Rights who are now bowing down to “King Donald Trump “ to appease his fragile ego!

The current demographics in Texas reveal that 36% of the state’s population are minorities, yet Texas is represented by over 60% Anglo/white people in Congress.

Austin had 2 Democratic Party seats
With the newest Republican Gerrymandered map to be voted on by the Texas legislature this would result in only one Democratic District and the creation of 6 new Republican districts across the state, California might retaliate by Creating New Democratic Districts by redrawing the map to make changes into law reducing Republican districts.

Several other blue states are currently considering similar legislation.

Why would such actions be necessary unless the Republican Party Knows they are “loser’s in 2026 midterms and they are not capable of making a winning policy decision based upon the Merits in the plan already being enacted,

Project 2025 Donald Trump’s roadmap to his Authoritarian Government

The Government of Trump
By Trump
For Trump
Where do we fit into the new system of “Control by Government “?

We provide the Resources for the benefit of “King Donald “ and his band of merry men in charge of implementing Project 2025 and the pain it inflicts upon the American people!

Violating the Constitution to steal the election is the required course of action for Trump to enact his own agenda with the culpability of Sycophants in elected office who are

“Too Spineless “to Stand Up for the Rule of Law embodied in the Constitution

Marvin Henson Point, Texas

Sheriff's Report

The Rains County Sheriff's Office took the following reports of activity during the week of July 28-August 3:

Arrests

7-28: Brandon Bryant. Driving with license invalid with previous conviction/suspension, no bond set. 7-28: Colton Reed. Criminal trespass/warrant, \$10,000 bond.

Calls

7-28: FM 514 at CR 4452 Accident with motorcycle rider on the ground with injuries; FM 2324 Female was advised to walk on the correct side of the road; CR 1330 Medical assist 62-year-old male with chest pains and trouble breathing; FM 515 One-vehicle accident and vehicle went through the shop; Hwy. 19N Animal welfare concern for animal in crate; CR1140 Medical assist for male; CR 1402 Goats out by the bridge; Sheriff's Office (SO) caller Male claims Point police have stolen \$100 from him and he wants to know who to contact; SO lobby Report of stolen firearm; CR 3325 Animal welfare concern for dog in the sun with no water; CR 1320 Neighbors keep coming onto property and causing issues; Briggs Blvd. Welfare concern for male; Lake Tawakoni Stranded boater hit a stump and is taking on water; Duffy St. Female reports verbal assault; SO lobby Female reports a scammer has her driver's license number and picture and has stolen money out of her account; Mohawk Tr. Car speeding down the road with a kid hanging out the window; FM 2737 Reckless driver in Chevy unable to maintain lane; FM 514 Medical assist 68-year-old male fell with his walker possibly broke his leg. 7-29: Hwy. 69 Male with a gun walking by gas station; FM 514 Medical assist 72-

year-old female fell and has knee and shoulder pain; Airport Rd. Controlled burn; S Texas St. Medical assist 78-year-old female with nausea and congestive heart failure; N 1st St. Medical assist patient with swollen leg and blisters; S Texas St. Male reports a scam asking for \$20; Quitman St. Suspicious persons pulling into driveway; N Texas St. White Toyota pickup truck in accident; SO caller female wants to know who to call about a court order not being followed; FM 2324 Vehicle was bought and the title is illegal with fake names on it; SO call Male states he had five lambs go missing while he was out of town; CR 1540 Caller had a boat at a mechanic and the shop caught on fire and burned the boat and the motor is also missing and they are having trouble with the insurance; S Dunbar Ln. Medical assist 78-year-old male with difficulty breathing; W Hwy. 69 Medical assist possible reaction to CBD oil; Hwy. 19N Medical assist patient with abdominal pain and headache; Ravine St. Medical assist 58-year-old with recent triple bypass has chest pain. 7-30: Hwy. 19N Male having mental crisis; SO caller reporting young adults keep calling and harassing her; FM 514 Two young adults in black clothing jumping into traffic; Hwy. 19 Male was driving and his engine went out and he is stranded; W Lennon Dr. Calf out on the highway in front of Hootens; CR 3232 Medical assist 75-year-old male fell on the floor and hit his head; CR 1410 Baby mother trying to take their child to homeless shelter; SO lobby Female receiving harassing phone calls and text messages; Hwy. 69 Grass fire; CR 1621 Neighbor's dog attacked caller's dog; Hwy. 19 Vehicle coming into county with suspect involved in multiple thefts; SO call Report of illegal marijuana on a property as well as mistreatment of dog and meat bunnies; SO call

Female wants to know how long a former tenant has to get their things out of her house; FM 515 Reckless driver in low rider white Chevy; FM 2324 Black bull and brindle heifer out; FM 2795 Caller has a yearling that got onto caller's property and he has been unable to contact the owner; PR 5451 Neighbors are fighting and its gotten physical; Oakleaf Tr. Verbal disturbance male with history of mental illness is screaming at female; FM 2737 Side by side with no lights headed towards Hwy. 276. 7-31: Oldmill Ln. Male bitten by his own dog; N Texas St. Automatic phone alert for crash - phone found in the middle of the road and taken to SO; SO call Male wants to know where he can keep is RV; CR 2220 Black calf out on the road; CR 3325 Medical assist 76-year-old male fell out of his chair; CR 3324 Medical assist female with chest pains and shaking; CR 3379 Medical assist 69-year-old diabetic male with low blood sugar; Hwy. 276E Reckless driver white Honda sedan all over the road; SO lobby Male wants to press charges on a family member; CR 1605 Female wants to speak with a deputy about shots that were fired at her house; SO Scam involving warrants for arrest and paying a bondsman; E Lennon Dr. Female had her wallet in the basket and another female came and took it; Hwy. 19N Reckless driver silver Honda Accord going 20mph under the speed limit and swerving; SO lobby Report of criminal activity against a male and female; Skyline Dr. Male reports another male is drunk at his house; Robinson Rd. Five cows and one calf out on the roadway; CR 2350 Tree across the road; CR 3319 Gun shots heard in the area; S Texas St. Medical assist 68-year-old male can't breathe; FM 2737 Someone cut the fuel line to truck. 8-1: Hwy. 69 Reckless driver red Toyota swerving all over the road; Kenny's Landing Motorist assist for

flat tire; CR 3380 Medical assist 77-year-old male with high fever; Hwy. 69E Reckless driver 18 wheeler unable to maintain lane; FM 514 Strong smell of gas; Hwy. 19 Medical assist ambulance needed for male with pain and unable to sit up; FM 515 Medical assist 50-year-old male with trouble breathing; SO call Female was told to contact the SO concerning her license being revoked even though she wasn't the one driving who got and signed the tickets; CR 3330 Verbal disturbance S Texas St. Cow on the roadway; PR Male ran over mother-in-law's foot with a tractor; PR 7704 Welfare concern for female who hasn't shown up for work all week; PR 7715 Suspicious activity found to be just individual there to do flooring; Industrial Blvd. Medical assist 80-year-old male with low oxygen levels; Hwy. 19 Reckless driver blue 18 wheeler swerving all over the road; CR 3150 Welfare concern for female with abusive boyfriend; CR 1320 Two buildings fully engulfed in flames as well as two large brush piles, two sheds and abandoned camper; CR 1308 Female punched a hole in bedroom door and damaging everything around the house. 8-2: CR 3150 Medical assist for person with breathing difficulties; McMillan Rd. Medical assist 67-year-old male with chest pains;

FM 275 Controlled burn; CR 2220 One brown cow out; PR 7370 Male has evidence of other male on his property; CR 3330 Medical assist 73-year-old male in a lot of pain; Hwy. 69 Cow out; CR 2610 Red and dark brown bulls and one heifer and yearling out; CR 3330 Medical assist 54-year-old female with heart issues; PR 7370 Female was mad at a male because he came on her property to get his dog; Hwy. 19N Reckless driver red Dodge passing over double yellow line; FM 515 Customer in Dodge Ram jumped the curb and ran into the light pole; Hwy. 19S Fire at the rear of Kearney Trailers; FM 515 Small grass fire in the ditch; PR 7703 Report of someone driving to Oklahoma and buying drugs and selling them in Steamboat Shores; Dunbar Ln. Controlled burn; 2nd Ave. Emory Controlled burn; Hwy. 19 Animal welfare concern for dog on short leash and no water; CR 4230 Accidental shooting male shot in the chest transported by Flight for Life; S Hwy. 19 Rekindle at Kearney Trailers; FM 515 Black Tahoe doing donuts across from Sportsman's Lodge; CR 1402 Horse loose; CR 4470 Someone drove into the ditch; FM 514 Medical assist person with leg pain and short of breath; CR 3150 Cow out on the road; 2nd St. Point Someone is squatting in

house for sale; CR 4310 Medical assist male hunting on neighbor's ranch has a broken ankle; N Texas St. Medical assist 102-year-old fell and can't get up; Hwy. 19N Reckless driver small red Mazda speeding with children in the back; Smith Cir. Controlled burn; CR 3330 Medical assist person with recent back surgery can't sit up; Hwy. 19 Someone going through the dumpsters; Duffy St. Indecency with a child; FM 514 RV on fire.

The Sheriff's Department reported 296 calls for the week. Among the calls were: 1 criminal mischief, 1 criminal trespass, 2 disturbance, 3 harassments, 4 structure fires, 1 gas leak, 11 livestock on roadway, 1 neighbor dispute, 2 grass fires, 1 indecency with child, 9 reckless drivers, 2 repossessions, 2 scams, 1 shots fired, 1 stranded boater, 1 street blocked, 1 suicidal subject, 3 suspicious activities, 6 suspicious persons, 1 suspicious vehicle, 2 thefts, 2 verbal disturbances, and 4 welfare concerns, 5 accidents, 5 controlled burns, 1 aggressive animal, 7 business alarms, and 3 animal welfare concerns.

There were 27 medical calls and 23 transports; 126 traffic stops, 21 citations and 98 warnings.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
GOP legislators unveil redistricting map as Dems flee

Texas Democrats left the state Sunday in hopes of derailing a mid-decade redistricting plan, The Dallas Morning News reported.



GARY BORDERS
Texas Press Association

State Rep. Gene Wu, D-Houston, announced that Democrats had left the state to break the quorum and stymie a vote

in that chamber. "This is not a decision we make lightly, but it is one we make with absolute moral clarity," Wu said in a statement. "Governor [Greg] Abbott has turned the victims of a historic tragedy into political hostages in his submission to [President] Donald Trump."

Wu was referring to bills pending in the special session addressing the July 4 floods that killed at least 137 people in the Hill Country.

Democratic advisers told The News the lawmakers will use Chicago as their base but plan to travel across the state to rally supporters to their cause.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton blasted the fleeing Democrats.

"Democrats in the Texas House who try and run away like cowards should be found, arrested, and brought back to the Capitol immediately," he wrote on X.

Republican lawmakers hope to gain five more seats in the U.S. House under a redistricting map unveiled last week during the ongoing special session, which was voted out of committee Sunday and sent to the full House.

The primary changes would be to urban districts in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, Austin-San Antonio, and South Texas regions.

The unusual mid-decade redistricting comes at the behest of President Trump in hopes that the GOP can hold on to a majority in the House after the 2026 general election.

Texas Democrats in Congress called it an illegal attempt to dilute the state's minority voices.

"This map is a disaster — crafted to divide neighborhoods and rig the game for Donald Trump," U.S. Rep. Julie Johnson, D-Farmers Branch, said in a statement. "It's a desperate move from a party losing its grip on a changing state."

Meanwhile, a growing number of Texas Republican legislators are rejecting assertions by the U.S. Department of Justice that the current district maps, drawn in 2021 by a Republican majority, violate voters' rights.

"I want to say right now, I don't think the map that is in place for Congress today is discriminatory," state Sen.

Phil King, R-Weatherford, said Tuesday.

The special session ends on Aug. 19. However, Abbott is free to call another special session if he wishes.

Democrats raise money to cover fines for leaving state

Now that the Democrats have left in hopes of breaking quorum, they face considerable expenses. After a similar move in 2021, the Legislature approved a daily fine of \$500 and the threat of arrest if the Democrats flee again. The Texas Tribune reported that deep-pocketed donors appear ready to cover those fines and other expenses.

U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett, D-Dallas, was part of the 2021 quorum break. She said it might not be necessary to raise money — an estimated \$1 million a month — by launching a legal challenge instead.

"I think that the first step would be to make sure that there are attorneys on deck to actually challenge the legality of these rules," she said.

Crockett and other Democrats say a quorum break would buy time to educate the public of the harms they believe the new maps would create and also allow a court challenge around the current maps to continue to make its way through the judicial system.

Hill Country flooding survivors recount anguish, neglect

A joint hearing of Senate and House select committees convened in Kerrville and heard from anguished flood survivors who described losing children, going days without contact from emergency management, and calling for more adequate flood warning systems, The Tribune reported.

A local contractor who lives downstream from the RV parks on the Ingram-Kerrville border testified he saw more than 100 RVs swept downstream, some still with families inside.

The panel also heard from survivors of the Sandy Creek flood in Travis County, saying county officials didn't deploy emergency resources for days after the early July floods.

"Nobody came, nobody came, nobody came for us," said Auburn Gallagher, a 25-year resident of Sandy Creek.

Survivors from both Travis and Kerr counties said human remains are still unrecovered and faulted the methods used by emergency management teams to identify missing persons.

"I found a hip and a leg on my property," testified Ashley Willis, who lives near Sandy Creek in Travis County.

In response, state Sen.

José Menéndez, D-San Antonio, said cadaver dogs should be used.

At the hearing, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick slammed Kerr County Judge Rob Kelly for being absent as flood waters swept his county on July 4, killing more than 100 people.

"I don't know where you were on Day One, on July 4, but you should have been here. You should have been here directing that response. That is your responsibility," Patrick told Kelly at the hearing.

Abbott hopes to cut taxes by limiting local spending

The Legislature reduced homeowners' property taxes by \$3.5 billion in the last regular session. Now the governor wants to further reduce taxes by capping how much cities and counties can hike spending, The News reported.

Abbott wants to do that by tying local spending increases to population growth and inflation, which would be similar to existing limits on state spending.

He plans to push the issue much as he did with school vouchers and bail restrictions passed by the Legislature earlier this year.

"I'm just thinking, well, it worked with these two strategies, maybe it's time to employ the same strategy as it concerns property taxes," Abbott said in June.

While school districts make up most of the tax bills, cities and counties are being scrutinized for spending practices as well.

"There is a growing recognition at the Capitol that it doesn't matter how much money we put toward tax relief, if we don't do things to control the appetite of local government, they'll just eat it up," said James Quintero of the conservative Texas Public Policy Foundation.

Local jurisdictions already must get voter approval to raise property taxes more than 3.5 percent and larger cities and counties are also banned from slashing law enforcement spending, which is usually a major part of their budgets.

The policy director of the Texas Conference of Urban Counties expressed concern about Abbott's proposal.

"We house the state's prisoners, we build the state's roads, we run the state's elections, we care for the indigent population, health care — all of those are state responsibilities that they put down on the counties to do, all the while saying, 'cut your property taxes' — and now, 'cut your expenditures,'" Adam Haynes said.

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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Believer’s Baptist Church

By Linda Brendle
And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”
Luke 9:23
Sunday’s message from The Incomparable Christ series was “I have decided to follow Jesus.” Pastor Jason Rolan asked the question: *Are we willing to die to follow Him?* Satan says: *Why do it the hard way?* But Jesus’ way to glory is not about who is the highest but about the cross. He offers an invitation to any who would come after Him, but He sets the rules about how to follow Him.

The adult Sunday School Classes for the fall began this Sunday. The choices and teachers are: Acts, Lane Garland; Exodus, Duffey Henderson; Galatians, Ken Bernhard; Apologetics, Jason Rolan; I Timothy, Kyle Slaymaker and Jerod Haygood.
Ignite, a new Wednesday night program for students ages 4 years through 5th grade, begins September 17. Watch for more details!
Bibles & Biscuits, an early-morning men’s Bible study, returns September 16, and the women’s Wednesday morning Bible study returns on September 17.

Emory Methodist Church

By Mary White
Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.
Psalms 100:3
Rev. David Banks continued his series on Psalms with a message titled “Wonder & Delight” with scripture text take from Psalm 100. We come in awe and wonder as we celebrated Communion and remember why we come to worship. We come to praise God with our inmost being and rejoice in His steadfast love and mercy. Knowing who God really is leads us to experience joy and fills us

with hope.
We have a busy day Thursday for we go to Rains Intermediate School and serve the teachers breakfast and then we go to Emory Health and Rehab Outreach at 10:00 a.m. and visit with those wonderful folks. Anniversary wishes go to Reggie and Dorothy Riddle.
Pray for the Max Fletcher family, Graham Hines, Kai Wilcox and Robert Terry. AA meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Have a wonderful week and give someone a smile and be kind.

Obituaries

Rebecca Suzanne Knight
1961 – 2025



Funeral services for Rebecca Suzanne Knight, 64, will be held on Saturday, August 9, at 11:00 a.m., at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Sand Flat Cemetery in Grand Saline.
Mrs. Knight died on August 2, 2025. She was born on July 11, 1961.
Mrs. Knight had a deep love for Jesus. She found happiness for rescuing stray animals, and cherished every plant she tended to in her garden. She was a great cook and everyone loved her dishes. She loved gathering around the table with family and friends and created memories filled with laughter, stories, and the shared delight of good food. Some of her happiest days were spent fishing and going to the beach.
Her greatest pride came from her family. She was married to the love of her life, Dan Knight, and they spent 37 beautiful years

making a life together. She treasured her children and grandchildren above all else. They were her legacy, a continuation of the love she poured into this world.
She is survived by her husband, Dan Knight; mother, Janice Vaillencourt; children, Micah and Tricia Staple, of Emory, Courtney and Christopher Wells, of Emory, Cathy and Ryan Marple, and Mitchell and Bashia Knight; grandchildren, Wesley, Jacob, Terrell, Lexus, Lillian, Riley, Cylas, Alley, Connor, Jordan, and Murphy; great-grandchildren, Bre, and Kinsley; siblings, James Vaillencourt, Sarita Stuart, Sonja Joiner, of Emory, and Jovanaha Vaillencourt.
She was preceded in death by her father, James Vaillencourt Sr.
A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at 10:00 a.m., at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Max Jones Fletcher
1944-2025



It is with deep sorrow that the family of Max Jones Fletcher announces his passing on August 2, 2025, at his home in Emory, Texas, surrounded by his loving family.
Born September 10, 1944, to Joseph (Joe) Lee Fletcher, Jr. and Velma Jones Fletcher, Max lived a life filled with love for his family and community. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Emory, Texas and will be remembered for his warmth, dedication, and the many cherished memories he leaves behind.
Max was very successful at everything he did. After high school, he began farming while working as a security guard at LTV in Greenville, Texas. He later started an unclaimed freight business, buying salvaged goods from railroad companies and large grocery distributors. From there he opened grocery stores throughout the surrounding areas, beginning with a Piggly Wiggly in 1972.
Over the years, Max went on to open multiple grocery stores and convenience stores. He was a cattle rancher, owned a dairy farm, farmed wheat and watermelons, owned a Warehouse Distribution Center in Dallas, Texas and owned and operated Tower Crane Company erecting and dismantling tower cranes in Dallas, Texas. Max was

never afraid of hard work or conquering new challenges. In recent years, he expanded his ventures and opened and owned liquor stores, continuing his lifelong entrepreneurial spirit.
He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph (Joe) Lee Fletcher, Jr. and Velma Jones Fletcher, his brothers, Joseph Lee (Joe L.) Fletcher III and Robert Gayle Fletcher, and his beloved grandson, Dakota Ryan Barker.
He is survived by his sister, Leslyn Ann Murphy, and by his children, Staci Maxanne Fletcher of Emory, Texas, Tonja Fletcher-McCoy (John) of McKinney, Texas, Christopher Brant Fletcher of Emory, Texas and Taylor Maxlynn Fletcher (Tracy Kirby) of Lone Oak, Texas. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Mackenzi Meagan Christian (Justin), Krista Marie McCoy, Makala Madison McCoy, Joseph “Josey” Jones Fletcher, Tatum Lynn Kirby and Trager Max Kirby, as well as his great grandchildren Skylar Kate, Lincoln Brant, Dakota Ryan, and Baby Christian, expected to arrive in 2026.
Funeral services will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Emory, Texas. A private burial for immediate family and close friends will follow at Prospect Cemetery in Emory, Texas.

Paid obituary

Arlon Hugh Ragsdale
1941 – 2025



Services for Mr. Arlon Hugh Ragsdale, 83, of Alba, were scheduled for 11 a.m., Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at Amazing Grace Fellowship Church, with Pastor Jacob Chaffin officiating, under the direction of Wilson-Bartley Funeral Home, Alba.
Interment was held at Salem Cemetery.
Arlon Hugh Ragsdale entered into the presence of his Lord and Savior on Friday, August 1, 2025. Arlon was born on September 25, 1941, in Alba, to Fitz Hughlee Ragsdale and Bulah Ida Delilah Parmer. He was blessed with one brother, Waymon Ragsdale (Diane), and one sister, Fern McGahee (Bill), both of Alba.
He met and married the love of his life, (Helen) June Harrison of Winnsboro on February 8, 1963, and they were married for over 60 years, until June’s passing in 2024. Three children were given to them from the Lord, Terri Chaffin, (Arlon) Hugh Ragsdale, Jr., and Junella Brown.
He was preceded in death by his parents, Hughlee and Bulah Ragsdale; his son, Hugh Ragsdale; nephew, Kolton McGahee; wife, June; and son-in-law, Jackie Chaffin.
He is survived by a host of nieces and nephews as well as friends who he considered family.
Arlon was blessed with seven grandchildren, Jacob Chaffin (Maegen), Jaclyn Hinojosa (Rick), Ethan Ragsdale (Julie), Cy Ragsdale (Allie), Korth Ragsdale, Nicholai and Sean Elkins, Jennifer Nash (Preston), and Stephanie Galvez (Joey).
The real spark in Arlon’s life was

when he began to have great-grandchildren. He found renewed energy for playtime and the love of golf cart rides when they came to visit. His freezer was always stocked with ice cream, just in case they needed a snack. His great grands were Adalie, Madalyn, Jaxon and Aniyah Chaffin, Harper, Mia and Everly June Hinojosa, Madison and Jackson Nash, and Lainy and Waylon Galvez.
Arlon was an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God. He pastored churches in Leonard, Jacksboro, Lavon, Early, Byers, and Alba. He LOVED loving people. He never met a stranger and always made sure he talked to them about Jesus. One of his grandsons asked him one day, “Pawpaw, do you know everybody?” He replied, “No, but you never know when you’re going to need a friend.” Family and friends alike have expressed that Arlon made a bigger impact on their Christian walk than anyone else in their lives.
In his lifetime he answered to many names, Arlon, Babe, Daddy, Pastor, Bro. Ragsdale, Bro. R., and even Speedball, just to name a few. However, if given the chance to leave you with one thought, he would no doubt say, his greatest title throughout his life was “Child of God.”
In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Cottonwood Assembly of God Building Fund, P.O. Box 38, Golden, TX 75444.
The family received friends at 10 a.m., Tuesday, at the church, before service time.

Paid obituary

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Church Directory

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

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

EMORY BAPTIST CHURCH
On The Square
Corner Of North & Planters
Downtown Emory
903-473-3357
emorybaptist.org

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

Sunday
Sunday Morning
Small Groups 9:15am
Morning Worship 10:30am
Evening Worship 6:30 pm

Wednesday
Wed. Worship 6:30pm (Adults, Youth, Children)
Choir Practice 6:30pm

Believers' Baptist Church

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

Wednesday
Adult Bible Study 6:30 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

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
Come worship with us
Sundays - 10:45 am
Wednesdays - 7:00 pm

PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The RAINS ISD will hold a public meeting at 06:30 PM (CT) 08/18/2025 in Phillip Alexander Board Room at Administrative building for Rains ISD, 1759 W. US Hwy. 69, Emory, TX . **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Maintenance Tax | \$ <u>0.756900</u> /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations) |
| School Debt Service Tax | |
| Approved by Local Voters | \$ <u>0.087400</u> /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) |

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| Maintenance and operations | <u>19.55</u> % increase | or | <u> </u> % (decrease) |
| Debt service | <u>0.0</u> % increase | or | <u> </u> % (decrease) |
| Total expenditures | <u>19.04</u> % increase | or | <u> </u> % (decrease) |

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Preceding Tax Year | Current Tax Year |
| Total appraised value* of new property** | \$ <u>1,696,574,159</u> | \$ <u>1,786,344,061</u> |
| Total appraised value* of new property** | \$ <u>54,441,077</u> | \$ <u>48,501,706</u> |
| Total appraised value* of new property** | \$ <u>1,172,133,986</u> | \$ <u>1,133,220,259</u> |
| Total taxable value*** of all property | \$ <u>49,745,908</u> | \$ <u>41,994,586</u> |

* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** “New property” is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** “Taxable value” is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* | \$ <u>7,370,000</u> |
|---|---------------------|

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates

| | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Maintenance & Operations | Interest & Sinking Fund* | Total | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
| Last Year’s Rate | \$ 0.666900 | \$ 0.087400* | \$ 0.754300 | \$ 5.050 | \$ 7,250 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$ 0.666900 | \$ 0.087400* | \$ 0.754300 | \$ 5.050 | \$ 7,250 |
| Proposed Rate | \$ 0.666900 | \$ 0.087400* | \$ 0.754300 | \$ 5.050 | \$ 7,250 |

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence

| | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| | Last Year | This Year |
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$ 219,540 | \$ 224,302 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$ 117,331 | \$ 100,556 |
| Last Year’s Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$ 0.7543 | \$ 0.8443 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$ 885 | \$ 849 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | \$ -36 |

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.754299 . This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.754299 .

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$ <u>7,370,000</u> |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$ <u>7,370,000</u> |

A school district may not increase the district’s maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district’s debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

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

NOTICE OF ESTIMATED
TAXES AND TAX RATE
ADOPTION INFORMATION

Visit texas.gov/propertytaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information regarding the amount of taxes that each entity that taxes your property will impose if the entity adopts its proposed tax rate. Your local property tax database will be updated regularly during August and September as local elected officials propose and adopt the property tax rates that will determine how much you pay in property taxes.

You may also access the Rains site directly using the following link: <https://rains.countytaxrates.com/tax>.

Taxpayers can also register for Truth in Taxation updates by visiting rains.countytaxrates.com/tax. You will then search for your property and click view. Once on this page, you will click the “Register to receive Notice of Estimated Taxes” button in the top right-hand corner. You will then enter your information, agree to receive email notifications, and then click confirm.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Rains County Appraisal District at 903-473-2391 or visit our office at 145 Doris Briggs Pkwy, Emory, TX. 75440

PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposed Salary Increase of Elected Officials

Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of paragraph 152.013 of the local government code, the Commissioner's Court of Rains County proposes the following increase of salaries and allowances of the elected officials of Rains County, Texas.

Rains County

Notice of Proposed Increases to
2025/2026 Elected/Appointed Officials
Salaries and Benefits

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | New Salary & Allowances | Increase |
| Official | | |
| County Judge | \$54,869 | 0 |
| Commissioner Precinct 1 | \$46,851 | 2,231 |
| Commissioner Precinct 2 | \$46,851 | 2,231 |
| Commissioner Precinct 3 | \$46,851 | 2,231 |
| Commissioner Precinct 4 | \$46,851 | 2,231 |
| Justice of the Peace | \$53,048 | 2,526 |
| County Treasurer | \$50,400 | 0 |
| County Clerk | \$52,038 | 2,478 |
| District Clerk | \$53,888 | 3,006 |
| Tax Assessor/Collector | \$50,400 | 0 |
| Constable | \$51,707 | 2,462 |
| Sheriff | \$80,578 | 2,857 |

LEGAL NOTICE:

This Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket game will close on August 17, 2025. You have until February 13, 2026, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#2626 7** (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.66. This Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket game will close on September 1, 2025. You have until February 28, 2026, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#2640 Sizzling Hot 7s** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 4.26. These Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket games will close on September 16, 2025. You have until March 15, 2026, to redeem any tickets for these games: **#2541 20X Power Blitz** (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.83, **#2542 30X Power Word Blitz** (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 4.38, **#2543 50X Power Blitz** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 4.07, **#2544 100X Power Blitz** (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.88, **#2598 \$50, \$100 OR \$500!** (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 9.43, **#2612 Cash Payout** (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.89, **#2545 200X Power Blitz** (\$20) overall odds are 1 in 3.72, **#2596 \$1,000,000 Lucky 7s** (\$20) overall odds are 1 in 3.40, **#2603 Lucky Millions** (\$20) overall odds are 1 in 3.99, **#2435 500X Loteria Spectacular** (\$50) overall odds are 1 in 3.20. [Texaslottery.com](https://texaslottery.com) is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2025 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

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Rains County Leader

Call 903-473-2653

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
5:00 P.M. TUESDAY

FOR SALE

For Sale, 2016 Forest River Vibe series RV, M-268RKS, 35x8, \$9,000 obo, 903-394-3978.

2019 Skeeter ZX190, Yamaha 150, Trailer trolling motor, custom cover. \$36500 Tawakoni 214-725-0806.

For Sale, 40-year-old DOUBLEWIDE, to be moved. Metal roof, working AC, 4-year-old water heater, Clean, No pets. \$30,000, OBO 903-474-5873.

Rains County Good Samaritan Thrift/ Clothes store will be open Saturdays in August 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.

MOVING SALE

Moving Sale Fri. & Sat., Tommy Gaston residence, 2063 RCR 2370, Alba.

RENT/LEASE

ALL BILLS PAID EAGLE INN APARTMENTS
2-BR \$933/mth. No deposit! Apply at eagleinnapartments.com.

FOR RENT

For Rent 3BR/2BA Trailer, \$1,000/dep. \$1,000/rent. No pets. References required. 903-473-1404, 8am-4pm.

STORAGE UNITS

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

SERVICES

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PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE

UNKNOWN HEIRS AND KNOWN HEIRS WHOSE ADDRESSES CANNOT BE ASCERTAINED

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

TO THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EARL A. KELLEY, DECEASED - GREETINGS:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT OF RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS AT THE RAINS COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX LOCATED AT 220 W. QUITMAN ST., EMORY, TEXAS 75440. BY FILING A WRITTEN CONTEST OR ANSWER TO THE APPLICATION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP FILED BY SMITH, BILLY, ON 6/11/2025 IN CAUSE 3362 IN THE COUNTY COURT OF RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING STYLED: IN THE ESTATE OF EARL A. KELLEY, DECEASED ON OR BEFORE THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF 10 DAYS FROM THE DATE THIS CITATION WAS PUBLISHED. BY THE APPLICATION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, APPLICANT SEEKS THE COURT TO DETERMINE AND DECLARE THE HEIRS OF EARL A. KELLEY, DECEASED AND THEIR INTERESTS IN SAID ESTATE. ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT AT OFFICE IN EMORY, TEXAS, THIS June 11, 2025.

Mandy Sawyer, County Clerk
Rains County, Texas
By: Molly Lennon

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Rains ISD offers a variety of career and technical education programs. Admission to these programs is based on interest and aptitude, age appropriateness, and class space availability.

It is the policy of Rains ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

It is the policy of Rains ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Rains ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator at portwoodj@rainsisd.org, and/or the Section 504 Coordinator at davidsonm@rainsisd.org, 903-473-2222.

EDUCACIÓN PROFESIONAL Y TÉCNICA NOTIFICACIÓN PÚBLICA ANUAL DE NO DISCRIMINACIÓN

Rains ISD ofrece una variedad de programas de educación técnica y profesional. La admisión a estos programas se basa en el interés y la aptitud, la edad apropiada y la disponibilidad de espacio en la clase.

Es norma de Rains ISD no discriminar en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales y brinda igualdad de acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos juveniles designados por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Es norma de Rains ISD no discriminar en sus procedimientos de empleo por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Rains ISD tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos de quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX en (dirección), portwoodj@rainsisd.org, y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504 en (dirección), davidsonm@rainsisd.org, 903-473-2222.

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Sports

RAINS WILDCAT FOOTBALL

Fall practice underway for Wildcats



Rains Wildcats drive through the tackling dummies during drill on the second day of fall practice at Wildcat Stadium on Tuesday, August 5.



Rains Wildcat offense line goes through protection drills during morning practice on the second day of fall camp on Tuesday, August 5, at Wildcat Stadium.

LUKE CLAYTON

A Tale of Hogs and Hawgs



Jeff Rice and guide David Hanson (right) show off a Lake Fork Channel catfish landed this past week while fishing in the shade of a bridge.

Summer is not done yet but I always consider the opener of dove season as the beginning stages of fall. Oh, the temperature is usually well into the nineties in early September but there is often an early cool front or rain from a tropical depression to give us a foretaste of what's to come in October. For the next few weeks though, hot weather will likely persist. I'm about to tell you how some friends and I beat the heat this past week and enjoyed an evening and the next morning hunting hogs and catching some big channel catfish. Hunting Hogs and catching HAWGS! Has a ring to it, right?

HOGS FIRST I joined my friend Jeff Rice on his ranch on the upper end of Lake Fork an hour or so before sunset this past week, armed with my CVA Cascade VH chambered in .223 topped with an ATN THOR LTV thermal scope. I checked the zero on my rig a few days before and had it shooting 'spot on' at 75 yards which is about the maximum distance I shoot hogs at night. I've found the lighter caliber does a great job on hogs with proper shot placement. Our goal was to harvest one of the many fat porkers that had been hitting one of the corn feeders on a daily basis. To stack the odds ever farther in our favor, Jeff had 'corned' the road near one of the feeders. His plan was to keep the hogs in the area a bit longer. Hogs often gobble up the corn under a feeder and quickly depart to the next one. The extra corn on the road would insure they stay in the area, hopefully long enough for us to make a silent approach.

Rather than sit in a stand in the late afternoon heat, we decided to enter the area we planned to hunt a few minutes before dark. Many people think thermal scopes are strictly used for night hunting but they work equally well in the light of day.

Sunset was about 8:20

and we entered the woods about 8:45. There was still a little light but it was fading fast, in ten more minutes it would be totally dark.

From the cover of a stand of pines a hundred yards away, we stopped and, using binoculars, checked the feeder. Sure enough there were about 12 porkers busily at work on the corn that Jeff's Vineyard Max feeder distributed in a wide orb around the feeder.

Our goal was to stalk within about 75 yards toward the hogs where Jeff would begin filming for this week's show on "A Sportsmans Life" for Carbon TV www.carbontv.com and YouTube. Luckily there were several large water oaks that provided perfect concealment for our approach. The trick was staying directly behind the giant oaks so as to block our movement. The woods were as still as a graveyard with absolutely no wind to carry our scent to the hogs. The set up was perfect. As Jeff positioned the camera on the outside edge of one of the big trees, I got a good rest and eased back on the trigger. We had our pork on the ground and 25 pounds of ice back in my truck to keep the meat chilled. Success and we never broke a sweat as we finished the butchering back at camp. The evening was beginning to cool down and we 'hit the hay' early in preparation for some fun fishing at Fork the next day with my longtime friend guide David Hanson.

ON TO HAWGS Just as day was breaking the next morning, we pulled up to the dock where David Hanson was waiting in his big Falcon guide boat. He had briefed me on the phone about his method of limiting out on channel catfish under the shade of a nearby bridge.

"Good morning boys," Y'all ready for a LONG boat ride? All of about 200 yards to that bridge over yonder?" David pointed to the form of a bridge that was just coming into view in the early morning light. With pork in the cooler in the back of the truck, we were more than ready for the second half of our adventure, the pull of some hard fighting catfish and procurement of some

great tasting fillets! In short order, David had his Falcon boat secured aft and stern under the bridge, rods with #6 treble hooks were passed out and we were fishing. We were no more than six minutes from the dock where we launched.

Cut shad or even pieces of rough fish are tops for blue catfish but for catching lots of channel catfish, nothing beats a good punch bait with just the right amount of fiber to keep the pungent cheese based bait on the treble hooks. David opened a bucket of Tony P's Punch-bait and in turn we began baiting! Usually the fishing gets better a bit after the baits are put in the water. The scent disperses and the catfish are drawn in like hogs to a trough. But my bait no more than hit the water than then I saw my line go slack, a catfish had picked up the bait near bottom and was swimming toward the surface. Channel catfish sometime bite 'funny.' At times they try to jerk the rod out of your hand and other times they 'mouth' the baits. We had a few hard strikes but it was very important to watch for that slightest twitch of the line before setting the hook.

I'm convinced we could have limited out without chumming the area with a few cattle range cubes but occasionally David would toss out a handful of cubes which no doubt attracted even more fish under the boat. After an hour or so of catching, the graph plotted solid catfish, all within a couple feet of bottom. By the time the sun had risen enough to push the shadows under the bridge to the bow of the boat, we had limited out on catfish. As usual Jeff "Big Fish" Rice caught the biggest fish (photo accompanying this article).

Yep, a lot of folks abandon the woods and water this time of year awaiting fall and cooler weather. This little outing proved that a good time can be had with both endeavors , just as long as it's done early...or late! Contact guide David Hanson at 903-268-7391. Email outdoor writer Luke Clayton through his website www.catfishradio.org.

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A letter from the superintendent



It's that time of year again; summer is winding down and the new school year is upon us. I hope you have had a great summer and are starting to get excited about the new year. Last year, we made meaningful strides in a positive direction. Across our campuses, we saw improvements in academic growth and school culture. In many

ways, we began shifting the momentum of our district, and we're beginning to see the results in both data and daily experiences.

This year, our mission remains centered on students. Every decision, every initiative, and every effort is grounded in the belief that all students can learn and grow, and that it's our responsibility to help them do so in a safe, supportive, and challenging environment. Together we will build on recent success as we accelerate toward excellence.

Our administration and many staff members have been diligently preparing over the summer to ensure a smooth and positive start to the school year. Their hard work and dedication are a testament to the commitment we all share to provide the best possible educational experience for our students.

Parents, your involvement and support are crucial to the success of our schools. We value and appreciate your partnership. To keep you well-informed and engaged, I encourage you to download the Rains ISD app, follow the district on social media, and ensure that your contact information is up to date in Skyward, our student information system. Additionally, please be on the lookout for campus and teacher invitations to join communication groups, which will help you stay connected with your child's progress and school activities.

Together, we can provide an environment where every student feels supported and motivated to reach their full potential. As a school community, let's work collaboratively to make this school year successful and rewarding for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Sincerely,
Joe Nicks
Superintendent

Rains ISD Contact Information

Administration Building
P.O. Box 247
Emory, TX 75440
PH 903-473-2222
FX 903-473-3053
Superintendent Joe Nicks
Email: nicksj@rainsisd.org
General Info: Pam Gilliard, ext. 4112
Email: gilliardp@rainsisd.org

Rains Elementary
PH 903-473-2222 ext. 3108
Principal, Anastasia Armstreet
Email: armstreeta@rainsisd.org
Asst. Principal, Mandy Lutz
Email: lutzm@rainsisd.org

Rains Intermediate
PH 903-473-2222 ext. 8008
Principal, JC Vance
Email: vancej@rainsisd.org
Asst. Principal, Dusty Asbill
Email: asbilldu@rainsisd.org

Rains Jr. High
PH 903-473-2222 ext. 2106
Principal, Jennifer Moore
Email: moorej@rainsisd.org
Asst. Principal, Heath Blalock
Email: blalockh@rainsisd.org

Rains High School
PH 903-473-2222 ext. 1401
Principal, Mr. Jeff Akin
Email: akinj@rainsisd.org
Asst. Principal, Kortney Clayton
Email: claytonk@rainsisd.org

Athletic Director
Bryan Oakes, ext. 1145
Email: oakesb@rainsisd.org
General Info: Karen Brimer, ext. 4117
Email: brimerk@rainsisd.org

Special Services Director
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A letter from the
Elementary Principal

Welcome back from Rains
Intermediate Principal



Welcome back to another exciting school year! I hope your summer was filled with fun, rest, and memorable moments with family and friends. As your principal, I am thrilled to welcome you to the 2025-2026 school year.

At Rains Elementary, we are committed to putting students first, engaging families, and fostering a learning environment where every child can thrive—academically, socially, and emotionally. Our dedicated teachers and staff have been hard at work preparing for the year ahead, and we are eager to partner with you in supporting your child's success.

Together, let's make this a year of growth, discovery, and achievement. Here's to a fantastic school year!

Here are a few ways to make sure you stay connected:

- Class Dojo app (more information will be provided by your student's teacher)
- Facebook: "Rains Elementary Wildcats"
- Website: rainsisd.org
- Rains ISD app

Important Reminders:

Enrollment

- All new and returning students

must be fully enrolled in Skyward

- Fully enrolled includes uploading required documents such as proof of residency
- For enrollment questions, contact Kristen Childers (childersk@rainsisd.org or ext. 3147)

August 7 Back to School Events

- Class lists posted on front doors at 3:00PM at the Elementary campus. Student names will only be included for fully enrolled students
- Meet the Teacher from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Elementary campus for fully enrolled students
- Back to School Fair from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the High School campus

First and Second Day of School

- August 11 is the first day of the 2025-2026 school year
- You may walk your child to class on both August 11 and August 12 at 7:30AM

School Hours

- The school day begins at 7:40 a.m. and ends at 4:05 p.m.
- The building will open to students at 7:15 a.m.
- Please allot extra time during the first few days of school for drop-off and pick-up

Contact Information

- It is important that we have up-to-date contact information for all families. Please make sure all information in Skyward is accurate.

Lunch Visitors

- The campus will be closed to lunch visitors until September 8 due to allowing time for students to get reacclimated to school and learn all necessary procedures.

Our emphasis for this school year is on what it means to be a Rains Wildcat - instilling school and community pride, while providing students with a solid foundation to be the best version of themselves.

Welcome back to school, and let's make this year a great one!

Anastasia Armstreet
Rains Elementary Principal



As the summer winds down and the new school year approaches, I want to take a moment to welcome all of our students, families, and staff back to Rains Intermediate for what promises to be a fantastic year of learning, growth, and success.

At Rains Intermediate, we believe every student has the potential to achieve greatness. Our commitment is to provide a safe, supportive, and engaging environment where that can happen each and every day. Whether your child is returning or joining us for

the first time, we are excited to partner with you in making this school year a positive and rewarding experience.

Our teachers and staff have been preparing classrooms, planning engaging instruction, and developing ways to build strong relationships while inspiring a love of learning. This year, we will continue to focus on academic excellence, building character, and creating a school culture where every student feels seen, heard, and valued.

We also know that attendance matters, and we're rolling out new initiatives to encourage students to be present and ready to grow every day. When students show up, they thrive — academically, socially, and emotionally.

I'd also like to invite all Rains Intermediate families to Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, August 7 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to visit our campus, connect with teachers, and help your child feel confident and excited for the year ahead.

Let's make the 2025–2026 school year one to remember. The staff at Rains Intermediate is ready, and we can't wait to welcome our Wildcats back!

With Wildcat pride,
J.C. Vance
Rains Intermediate Principal

“A new school year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships and new challenges. The slate is clean and anything can happen”

– Denise Witmer

Rains Elementary teacher assignments

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| PRE-K Bridges Bixler, L.; Caraway, S.; Collins, T.; Elwood, N.; Frank, E.; Garcia, J.; Silva, G.; Gordon, A.; Hawkins, M.; Martinez, Z.; Meyer, J.; Peals, L.; Perez, L.; Perez, M.; Rodriguez-Clah, A. | Smith, J.; Wilson, L.; N.; Wilson, C.; Young, R. Winckler, L. | Hughes Cardoso-Munoz, G.; Castro, Co.; Christian, D.; Douglas, K.; Duncan, D.; Duncan, D.; Fajardo, C.; Gabriel, K.; Gordon, B.; Hinojosa, S.; Knight, E.; Montana, A.; Moss, H.; Quill, F.; Stigall, S. | 2ND GRADE Crawford Arnold, J.; Bixler, J.; Blackstead, S.; Carver, M.; Guerrero, A.; House, E.; Kirkpatrick, R.; McComic, E.; Newsom, C.; Nine, H.; Russell, A.; Siedel, S.; Slaymaker, M.; Smith, C.; Worden, B. | D. |
| Clark Asbill, S.; Chavez, E.; Cooke, R.; Cordon, J.; Dove, R.; Escobedo, E.; Jones, P.; Jordan, B.; Lindsey, K.; Moreno, G.; Fernandez, C.; Strebeck, J.; Valle, L.; Weaver, K. | Clifton Cox, C.; Dale, L.; Drake, H.; Fivecoat, E.; Florencio, J.; Hobden, C.; Hollon, B.; Jones, L.; Pemberton, E.; Perea, K.; Rogers, H.; Rotenberry, R.; Shumate, W.; Willow-Montgomery, W.; Stanley, E. | Melancon Alexander-Hampton, K.; Cerasuolo, O.; Guzman, S.; Jones, J.; Mares, H.; Mendez, A.; Mileski, D.; Miller, N.; Nowell, K.; Nugent, L.; Oldham, M.; Ord, Haven-Ord.; Russell, S.; Shreves, M.; Tolley, C. | Robinson Argueta, A.; Beasley, H.; Bryant, K.; French, R.; Haney, O.; Harwell, H.; Hocutt, K.; Lane, M.; McGuire, K.; Oliver, K.; Smith, H.; Snider, X.; Sustaita, Z.; Winkler, L.; Young, P. | Kellam Banias, O.; Couch, T.; Gaines, R.; Hernandez, Mendiola, E.; Krager, L.; Lovell, L.; Martin, L.; Miller, W.; Neris-Macey, N.; Perez, S.; Shields, E.; Taylor, H.; Thompson, R.; Waid, J.; Weddle, R. |
| Glover Brimer, H.; Burns, E.; Dell, J.; Douglas, K.; Erwin, T.; Grell, K.; Hazel, C.; King, K.; Krieger, A.; Malagon, G.; Meads, P.; Reeves, K.; Ruiz, T.; Shumate, H. | Hendrick Bixler, M.; Bunch, K.; Castillo, J.; Fite, E.; Jenkins, J.; Lane, E.; Martinez, A.; Parra, N.; Puente, R.; Robinson, K.; Weaver, K.; Wells, R.; White, M. | IST GRADE Beck Bearden, A.; Blodgett, R.; Cabrera, J.; Cobb, C.; Daniels, J.; Hampton, N.; Hazel, P.; Hines, P.; Hogue, S.; Kappel, L.; Jamison, N.; Robinson, C.; Sasser, R. | Hobbs Ainsworth, E.; Dowty, H.; Florencio, R.; Garrett, A.; Hollon, C.; Kelley, B.; Lawler, W.; Lowe, J.; Ramsey, C.; Rhodes, R.; Scott, S.; Serrano, E.; Tate, B.; Vega, J.; Wray, K.; Yeley, | Rogers Bixler, B.; Bryant, N.; Christian, L.; Harms, K.; Hollon, C.; Jackson, N.; Jones, B.; Moore, L.; Myers, R.; Pecina, M.; Perez, E.; Ross, K.; Whitmore, B. |
| Lynn Abernathy, K.; Cabrera, A.; Bixler, L.; Gonzalez, R.; Hartke, L.; Justice, J.; Kerbo-Aragon, R.; Lewis, D.; Melton, Z.; Miller, G.; Moore, J.; Mullins, S.; Pugh, K.; Schnorrush, H.; Smith, D.; Trevino, A. | Hutchison Castillo, V.; Crabb, L.; Evans, S.; Geisenhagen, C.; Gilbert, C.; Hooten, J.; Lemons, R.; McBride, W.; Parker, C.; Potts, N.; Reyes, G.; Shearer, K.; Smith, L. | Burgin Adair, J.; Battles, G.; Carteret, S.; Castro, C.; Cisneros, J.; Cooke, R.; Diaz, J.; House, R.; Justice, W.; Lagard, J.; Lusty, D.; McCormack, M.; Sellers, E.; Thompson, E.; Weaver, G.; White, A.; Young, H. | Tanton Aguayo, E.; Carrington, P.; Condel, E.; Dieken, D.; Gordon, R.; Hughes, H.; Illingsworth, L.; Jones, T.; Lemons, L.; Leon, A.; Marble, G.; Martinez, A.; Melancon, E.; Mendez, E.; Reeves, A.; Teague, G.; Turk, M. | |
| KINDERGARTEN Brown Arellano, A.; Argueta, S.; Avdeef, A.; Beasley, W.; Bowling, L.; Brisby, L.; Brown, W.; Cain, L.; Cheek, C.; Dominguez, A.; Knight, L.; Knight, R.; McBride, I.; | Lively Campbell, M.; Cooksey, A.; Fulk, B.; Hargiss, K.; Lamb, B.; Mayne, I.; Parson, A.; Pemberton, W.; Robinson, K.; Sale, J.; Slayton, E.; Sterling, A.; Strang, J.; Stunkard, A. | Burnett Anderson, S.; Braddock, T.; Castillo, R.; Chapman, P.; Diaz, L.; Dorton, J.; Garner, W.; Gossett, L.; Harms, K.; Kirby, J.; Mitref, R.; Potts, P.; Rodriguez-Clah, M.; Smith, C.; Walker, M.; Walker, W. | | |
| | McAllister Beaver, T.; Bramhall, L.; Busby, O.; Finley, C.; Gabriel, K.; Gaines, P.; Griffin, B.; Jones, E.; Martin, L.; Meyers, B.; Phillips, M.; Sawyer, C.; Shedd, B.; Tracy, S.; Welt, | | | |

Welcome back,
Rains ISD!

Best wishes to
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have erasers.”
-Wolfgang Riebe

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A letter from the Junior High Principal



raising the bar even higher. We are focused on empowering students and teachers in greater ways through leadership opportunities, strong instruction, and purposeful recognition. Our House System continues to build character, reward effort, and celebrate success in academics, attendance, and behavior, and we look forward to spotlighting these successes throughout the year. We are committed to strengthening our connection with families and community. Stay connected by following Rains Junior High on Facebook, and we hope our Wildcat families will continue checking the RJH Wildcat Weekly Newsletter for important updates and helpful resources. We love our students and are here to serve. If you feel led to support our mission, stop by our front office. We want and welcome both parent and community involvement. Together, we're ready to make this the best year yet. Let's do this, Wildcats--Game on!

Jennifer Moore
Rains Junior High School Principal

It is "Game On" this year at Rains Junior High as we welcome the 2025-2026 school year. We are ready to kick off another great year with passion, purpose, and a plan to empower our students and staff in even greater ways. Last year's academic growth was nothing short of inspiring, a direct reflection of the dedication, heart, and hard work from our incredible teachers and students, and this year, we are

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
Nelson Mandella

A letter from the High School Principal



can be both exciting and challenging, and we are here to support you every step of the way. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or need assistance. Communication and collaboration between the school and our families are essential to the success of our students. I encourage you to stay informed and engaged by attending school events, joining our parent-teacher association, and keeping up with school news through our website and newsletters. Make sure you download the Rains ISD app. Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/RHSCats. Check Skyward for our weekly newsletter. As we move forward together, let us remember that every member of our community plays a vital role in the success of our school. Your support, involvement, and dedication make a significant difference in the lives of our students. We would love to see you at: Back to School Fair on August 7 from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m., followed by Meet the Teacher from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Meet the Wildcat on August 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Wildcat Stadium Thank you for entrusting us with your children's education. I am confident this will be a fantastic year filled with learning, growth, and memorable experiences. Welcome back Wildcats!

Dr. Jeff Akins
Rains High School Principal

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Rains High School! I hope this letter finds you well-rested and ready to embark on a journey of growth, learning, and achievement. As we begin the 2025-26 academic year, RHS is filled with optimism and enthusiasm about the opportunities that lie ahead for our students, staff, and families. Our dedicated teachers and staff have been working diligently over the summer to prepare for your return, and we are committed to providing a safe, supportive, and enriching environment where every student can thrive. I would like to extend a special welcome to our new students and their families. Transitioning to a new school

Rains Intermediate teacher assignments

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| 3RD GRADE Bartley Asbill, J.; Beaver, H.; Daves, S.; Denson, C.; Lorenz, K.; McCormack, A.; Patton, M.; Savage, T.; Silva, N.; Warren, H.; Washburn, Z.; Yanez, A. Blake Balentine, H.; Busalachi, A.; Chavez, M.; Cobb, O.; Fernandez, A.; Frost, R.; Goforth, B.; Hernandez, A.; Hernandez, A.; McIntire, K.; Meeks, K.; Newcomb, C.; Reyes, J.; Seymour, L.; Shields, B.; Teague, C. Buchanan Adair, P.; Balentine, L.; Brown, J.; Busby, W.; Cady, | A.; Chapman, B.; Greenhaw, A.; Hessbrook, S.; Hunt, V.; Lara, I.; Lively, B.; McGuire, K.; Ordonio, L.; Parker, K.; Roberts, D.; Sage, Z.; Yeley, T.; Young, N. Farmer Boyd, R.; Carteret, S.; Davis, H.; Dove, B.; Dryden, A.; Hernandez, A.; Hinojosa, S.; King, A.; Lehman, E.; Newomb, C.; Powell, C.; Shelton, E.; Shreves, M.; Sowders, M.; Stofle, E.; Walls, D.; Wells, J.; Yeley, D. Jeffers Butler, J.; Castro, S.; Donaldson, S.; Diles, J.; Erwin, K.; Evans, N.; | Herriage, C.; Killough, T.; Munoz, V.; Pantoja, I.; Potts, J.; Taylor, A.; Thompson, J.; Walmsley, C.; White, C.; Wilk, I. Massey Aaron, S.; Braddock, C.; Denson, N.; Guzman, M.; Holcomb, H.; Pitre, I.; Ruiz, T.; Silva Martinez, A.; Slemmons, R.; Turner, G.; Warren, H.; Young, P. 4TH GRADE Maberry Anderson, H.; Argueta, S.; Banasiak, J.; Bearden, A.; Blackwell, M.; Cobb, M.; Dieken, C.; Goble, J.; Guerrero, A.; Harms, H.; Hernandez, A.; Johns, H.; Meeks, C.; Morgan, P.; Newcomb, C.; Robinson, D W.; Shumate, F.; Yeley, David. McKenney Adolph, A.; Blevins, Z.; Brazel, S.; Burnes, L.; | Green, E.; Harris, A.; Hubbard, E.; Hunt, N.; Lemoine, S.; Martinez, A.; Perez, V.; Quill, K.; Solis, D.; Swift, P. Watkins Cabrera, C.; Greer, J.; Hargiss, K.; Hines, B.; Johnson, L.; Justice, A.; Leon-Freeman, N.; Noble, J.; Reece, R.; Smith, N.; Spence, W.; Turner, E.; Wilmany, W. Woodrum Barko, S.; Burt, H.; Conner, R.; Cruz, E.; Daws, K.; Florian Lemus, A.; Funk, B.; Kennemer, M.; Kirby, S.; Morgan, G.; Owen, K.; Robinson, C.; Spann, F. B. Young Casali, A.; Diaz, A.; Diles, J.; Garner, E.; Giesenhagen, T.; Lopez, S.; Mason, J.; Mayne, W.; Nunez, F.; Reid, J.; Robinson, S.; Sale, A.; | Shearrer, A.; Thomison, A.; Vasilyev, L. 5TH GRADE Erwin Alaniz, D.; Brown, S.; Erwin, T.; Fernandez,I.; Frazier, C.; Hessbrook, T.; Hughes, J.; Mason, J.; Peoples, M.; Phillips, C.; Smith, E.; Smith, J.; Tapp, C.; Thomas, K.; Wallace, A. Jones Beaird, H.; Bryant, W.; Christian, R.; Daves, E.; Grisham, K.; Harper, K.; Hiroms, L.; Moczygemba, E.; Trammell, R.; Walmsley, N.; Worley, B.; Mayne, B.; Vander, S.; Walker, K. Tunnell Brantley, A.; Loden, L.; Northcutt, J.; Prather, G.; Prock, K.; Thomas, M.; Thurman, C.; Vega, A.; Washburn, J.; Ford, L.; Russell, J.; Sills, K. | Walden Cady, A.; Couch, F.; Dunning, P.; Fritz, J.; Frost, R.; Hargrove, G.; Lanier, I.; Lawler, W.; Morgan, K.; Prather, G.; Silva, Marcus.; Waid, P.; Washburn, A.; Wilk, E. Williams Aaron, C.; Alcorn, D.; Autrey, C.; Busby, L.; Gudger, N.; Hernandez, L.; Howle, T.; Jones, J.; Kephart, C.; Lara, N.; McGowan, K.; Molina , J.; Moody, E.; Powell, C.; Ruiz, T.; Washburn, B.; Wiley, S. Chamness Allen, H.; Baker, A.; Beaird, O.; Combs, J.; Cordon Menedez, V.; Davis, T.; Enriquez, S.; Frey, P.; Hubbard, P.; Kerbo-Prock, K.; Thomas, M.; Aragon, A.; Owens, E.; Pantoja, S.; Parker, M.; Reid, J.; Sage, A.; Sitzes, O. |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|

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- Chinese Proverb
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Rains ISD New Teachers and Staff



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

New Rains ISD staff for the 2025-2026 school year. In no particular order, Cynthia McEnturff, Kaylee Rush, Shana Bellows, Jennifer Goggans, Khindra Kent, Kathy Goldsmith, Staci Neilon, Aaron Brown, Shawn Ford, David Smith, Anna Creech, Terry Satterfield, Jana Satterfield, Allison Fincher, Kenlee Clifton, Sarah Cordova, Tayler Green, Mariah Burns, Jason Bellows, Ashley Burgin, Shatoya McMillan, Virginia Beck, Samantha McPhearson, Elyssa Hutchison, Hannah Hendricks, Traci Kuntzman, Jason Stephenson, Brianna Harrison, Lisa Batchelder, Jana Darby, Debbie Christian, Crystal Beaudoin, Kellie McPherson, Kimberly Macura, JoAnna Crosby, Brittany Sullivan, Shannon Gardenhire, Dara Crawford, Jari Rabb, Stephanie Burnett, Steve Wells, Tom Dracos. Not pictured: Tarah Young, Peyton Rogers, Kenna Kellam, Inge Heijlingers, Matthew Hook, Odis Bonner, Jayla Moulder, Minnat Fivecoat, Darcie Rochester, Kaleigh Walker



WILDCAT & LADY CAT SPORTS



2025 Wildcat Varsity Football

| DATE | OPPONENT | SITE | TIME |
|-------|-------------------------|------|------|
| 8/15 | Wills Point (Scrimmage) | Away | TBD |
| 8/21 | Winona (Scrimmage) | Home | TBD |
| 8/29 | Lone Oak | Away | 7:30 |
| 9/5 | Leonard | Home | 7:30 |
| 9/12 | Grand Saline | Away | 7:30 |
| 9/19 | Paris Chisum | Home | 7:30 |
| 9/26 | Eustace* (HC) | Home | 7:00 |
| 10/3 | OPEN | | |
| 10/10 | Mt. Vernon* | Away | 7:00 |
| 10/17 | Winnsboro* | Home | 7:00 |
| 10/24 | Malakoff* | Away | 7:00 |
| 10/31 | Commerce*(SN) | Home | 7:00 |
| 11/7 | Mineola* | Away | 7:00 |

* District Games

2025 Lady Cat Volleyball

| DATE | OPPONENT | PLACE | TIME | TEAMS |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|------|-------|
| 8/9 | Scrimmage | Mineola | 9:00 | JV/V |
| 8/12 | Scurry-Rosser | Scurry-Rosser | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 8/14-16 | TBD | | | V |
| 8/19 | Brownsboro | Brownsboro | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 8/22-24 | TBD | | | V |
| 8/26 | Blue Ridge | Rains | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 8/27-29 | TBD | | | V |
| 8/29 | Canton | Canton | 4:30 | V/JV |
| 9/2 | Sulphur Springs | Rains | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 9/5 | Van | Rains | 4:30 | V/JV |
| 9/6 | TBD | | | JV |
| 9/9 | Sulphur Bluff | Rains | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 9/12 | Alumni Game | Rains | 4:30 | V |
| 9/16 | Neches | Neches | 4:30 | V/JV |
| 9/19 | Alba-Golden | Rains | 4:30 | JV/V |
| 9/23 | Mt. Vernon* | Rains | 4:30 | V/JV |
| 9/25 | Prairiland* | Prairiland | 4:30 | JV/V |
| 9/30 | Lone Oak* | Rains | 4:30 | V/JV |
| 10/3 | Commerce* | Commerce | 4:30 | JV/V |
| 10/7 | Paris Chisum* | Rains | 5:00 | V/JV |
| 10/10 | Mt. Vernon* | Mt. Vernon | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 10/14 | Prairiland* | Rains | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 10/17 | Lone Oak* | Lone Oak | 4:30 | V/JV |
| 10/21 | Commerce* | Rains (SN) | 5:00 | JV/V |
| 10/24 | Paris Chisum* | Paris | 4:30 | V/JV |

* District Matches

Good luck in the new year!


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-Michael Jordan

“The capacity to learn is a gift; the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a choice.”

- Brian Herbert

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