

Rains County Leader

Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1887

Web Site: www.rainscountyleader.com
e-mail: news@rainscountyleader.com

Vol. 139, Issue 22 - 1 Section, 10 pages

EMORY, TEXAS - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025

PRICE 75¢

ELECTION 2025

Rains County voters: VATRE, No; Amendments, Yes

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

The proposition to use a higher tax rate by Rains ISD was voted down by Rains County voters for a fourth time during the November 4 general election.

The voter approved tax rate

election (VATRE) was placed on the ballot by the Rains ISD school board. In this election, the tally had 1,182 voters saying no to the tax increase, while 1,127 wanted the higher rate, as it would increase funding from the state.

Election results show that 1,305 votes were cast early on

the proposition with approval of the VATRE at 53-percent, but the 984 votes on election day tilted the vote to the opposite direction.

The only contested race on the ballot for Rains County saw Becky Decker retain her seat on the Point City Council with 38 votes, while Kimberly

Hall received 22 votes. Uncontested races in Point had Angela Nelson elected as Mayor, Kimberley Berg taking over seat four on the council, and Ray Lacy re-elected to place 2 on the council.

As for the 17 amendments to the Texas Constitution, they were all approved by

Rains County voters as well as voters all over the State of Texas.

The election results show that 2,366 of the 9,278 registered voters in the county, or 26-percent, cast a ballot in the general election.

Recognized for excellence



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Rabb Brothers Memorial American Legion Post 156 recognized excellence in local departments during the sixth annual First Responders Banquet on Thursday, October 30. Above, Darren Renshaw and Craig Taylor accept the award for First Responders of the Year on behalf of the Emory Volunteer Fire Department from Post Commander Ed Chalk. Below, Roger Hunt, on the left, of the Point Volunteer Fire Department was awarded Firefighter of the Year by David Harvey.

RAINS COUNTY

Veterans Day celebrations planned for Saturday, Tuesday

By **CHUCK FITTS**
Rains County Leader staff

Rains County will celebrate the heroes that have served in the armed services with Veterans Day programs.

The Rabb Brothers Memorial American Legion Post 156 will host a Veterans Day program and parade on Saturday, November 8, to honor all who served.

The lineup for the parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Emory City Center and will move through downtown Emory around 11:00 a.m. Grand Marshalls are Buster Rivers and Walter Floyd Mosely, while Tonia Cason Brimer will serve as Honorary Grand Marshall.

Following the parade, a ceremony will be held by the Veterans Memorial at the Rains County Courthouse. Guest speakers will include Commander of American Legion Post 156 Ed Chalk, Randy Davis and Sue Medders. Everyone is invited to attend the event.

On Tuesday, November 11, the Rains High School will host their annual Veterans Day Program in Talkington Gym. Veterans and guests will have breakfast at 8:15 a.m., followed by the program at 9:15 a.m.

The program will recognize each veteran attending and honor the military branches. Everyone is invited to attend the program.

CITY OF EMORY

Council discusses permit fees during special meeting

The Emory City Council met in a special session Tuesday evening, October 28, in the council chamber at Emory City Hall. Among the items for discussion or action was a schedule of fees for building permits, inspections and other related items. The item had been placed on the agenda for previous meetings; however, no action was taken because further research was needed before it could be presented to the council.

Leah Drown, the interim city administrator, addressed the council, stating that when Bureau Veritas was selected to handle inspections for the city, there was no ordinance in place to reflect how the city would recoup the fees charged by Bureau Veritas. Drown stated she was not ready for the council to set a rate at this time, but she wanted to show them what she was working toward.

The council was given a printout of a hypothetical project, along with the charges from Bureau Veritas and a calculation of what the city should pass on to the customer. Drown stated that in that particular instance, the 10-percent markup would not cover the city's expenses for the plan review process, as well as the coordination of inspections for the project.

Drown told the council that they should consider increasing the percentage to 15 percent. She said that Emory would still be below the rates charged by cities like Mineola and Quinlan. She also recommended that the city include penalties for failure to comply with the ordinance.

No action was taken on the matter. Drown said she would prepare a chart with finalized numbers for the council and present it to them in a future meeting.

The council was given a see **EMORY** on page 2

SPOTLIGHT

Karen Young has a servant's heart

By **JUDY KRAMER**
Rains County Leader contributor

Karen Young's dream job is to work at a funeral home because she believes that God gave her a servant's heart. She already provides services for many people through her business "Country Flowers & Gifts" by preparing beautiful and unique floral arrangements for funerals, as well as for birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions. She talks with customers about happy and troubled times, al-

lowing them to express their emotions. She said that she and her assistants often cry with some people who come into her shop.

Young opened Country Flowers & Gifts in 1986 and has been in her present building at 883 North Texas Street for 19 years. She has been working in floral arrangements since about 1978.

"I was a summer baby, growing up in Garland and graduated high school in Winnsboro at 17 years of age," said Young.

"My best friend and I were ready to be grown ups and get out on our own, so we moved to Sulphur Springs, but there were no jobs there. Then my mom told me that SS Floral was hiring, and I took the job. I had thought I wanted to be a teacher, but God had different plans for me."

Young married in 1980 and moved to Emory to be with her husband who worked at various jobs including becoming owner

see **SPOTLIGHT** on page 3



Karen Young (left) with her assistants



City Girl:
*Listening with
your face*
Page 3

Jody Dyer:
*Ordinary
Heroes and...*
page 3

**Wildcat
Sports**
page 10

Rain Report

Sat., Nov. 1 0.02 in.
Total for Nov. 0.02 in.
Year to date 39.91 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 – Mon., 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

American Legion Breakfast Sat., Nov. 8

Rabb Brothers Memorial American Legion Post #156 will hold a breakfast buffet on Saturday, November 8, 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.

Veteran's Day Parade Nov. 8

The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary Veteran's Day Parade will be held on November 8, at 11:00 a.m., with lineup beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Emory City Center. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Veteran's Memorial on the north side of the courthouse square.

Angel Tree Applications Available Online

The 2025 Angel Tree applications will only be available online and must be received by 11:59 p.m. on November 8. Flyers with the link will be delivered to each RISD campus, the Rains County Leader office, and will be on the Rains County Angel Tree Facebook page. Help with filling out the applications will be available at the Rains County Library each Saturday through November 8. For more information, text 903-662-8621.

Grief Share Seminar Nov. 12

Surviving the Holidays is a 2-hour seminar for people grieving the death of a loved one. It will be held on Wednesday, November 12, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home, 803 N. Texas St., Emory. For more information, call Jordan or Renee at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home at 903.473.3545 or email at wilsonorwosky@familyfh.com.

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

Toys For Tots Applications Available Online

The 2025 Toys for Tots Applications will only be available online and must be received by December 1. The link for the application may be found at www.toysfortots.org. Boxes for donations are located at businesses in the community. Any business wishing to have a box may also apply online.

Point Volunteer Firefighter of the Year



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Heather Rollins (left) presented Kaitlyn Sullivan with a City of Point Certificate of Achievement for being the Point Volunteer Firefighter of the Year during a First Responders' dinner held Thursday, October 30.

Social Security Myths: What to Know

There are some myths around Social Security we should clear up.



BRANDON ROBERTS
Edward Jones
Financial Advisor

The first is that it is going bankrupt. However, according to a Social Security Administration analysis

of Social Security, Congress can change benefit amounts, which they have not done. Currently, the Social Security Administration states that benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for current recipients will not be delayed.

Third is the myth that these benefits are no longer taxed. However, if your combined income exceeds certain thresholds, you'll owe taxes on part of your benefits.

For now, save adequately and make informed decisions about when to claim your benefits. A financial advisor can help.

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

from June 2025, benefits will continue – though starting in 2033, it may only pay 77 cents on the dollar. Congress has options to fix the shortfall before then.

The second myth is that budget cuts will delay or reduce benefits. Budget cuts and staff reductions may affect wait times when calling or visiting a Social Security

THE PUBLIC FORUM

Dear Editor

I believe that many voters in TX 32 would like to have a candidate to support for their nominee who has a deep connection to Rural Issues.

Water Rights, Land Rights and Environmental Protection policies.

As a voter living in a rural county I have concerns with the people's representative not residing in the Congressional District they want to represent.

There are no requirements prohibiting a candidate from representing a district they don't live in, this is where the majority of voters in the district have an obligation to consider a candidate who would better represent their constituents and not the Party in Power.

Government of the people
By the people
For the People
The American people have an awesome responsibility to protect and defend

our constitutional republic from tyranny by one man's rule regardless of their political affiliation

Many Americans have raised their right hand and taken their oath to protect and defend the constitution against all enemies foreign or domestic.

Each and every elected official has also taken this oath they should and will be held accountable for their failure to fulfill their oath of office

We have at least 7 announced candidates for the GOP primary to become the next representative of TX 32

Can't we find a candidate from a Rural County in TX 32 to represent our views in the United States Congress

Rural Committee for responsible representation of our Rural Communities

Marvin Henson
Point, Tx 75472

Editor's Note: According to constitution.congress.gov, the House Qualifications Clause set forth at Article I, Section 2, Clause 2 requires a Member to be at least twenty-five years of age, a United States citizen for seven years, and an inhabitant of the state from which he or she is elected at the time of election. The Framers designed these minimal requirements to give people freedom to choose the person who would best represent their interests in Congress.

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., Philip Alexander Board Room
Rains ISD Administration Building.

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

THE OLDEST BUSINESS IN RAINS COUNTY
Rains County Leader

Established June 10, 1887

(Publication Number USPS 454-560)

Postmaster: Send Form 3579 to:

RAINS COUNTY LEADER
P.O. Box 127, Emory, TX 75440

Telephone: 903-473-2653

www.RainsCountyLeader.com • Email: news@rainscountyleader.com

EDITOR/PUBLISHER
Earl Hill III

ADVERTISING
Chuck Fitts

CLASSIFIED SALES
Lea Reed

Published every Thursday except the last Thursday in December
Entered at the Post Office in Emory, Texas, as a Periodical

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Inside Rains County, 1 year, \$28.00;
Out of County, 1 year, \$35.00; E-Leader (online only edition), 1 year, \$25.00.

FORMER EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS OF THE RAINS COUNTY LEADER:

H.W. Martin - 1887
Sam Fitzgerald - Before 1900
W.O. Heblsen - Before 1900
A.S. Hornbeck - Before 1900
J.H. Bradford - 1901-1904

Tom W. Hill - 1904-1937
Earl Hill, Sr. - 1937-1960
Kathleen Hill Becknell - 1962-1995
Earl Hill, Jr. - 1995-2019

Edward Jones

Member SIPC

Brandon R Roberts
CFP®

Financial Advisor
132 N Texas St | P O Box 1221
Emory, TX 75440
903-473-1592

Holly Wasson
Financial Advisor

132 N Texas St | P O Box 1221
Emory, TX 75440
903-473-1592

MKT-58940-A-A4 AECSPAD

> edwardjones.com

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!

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

News? Advertising? Questions?

Contact us at: 903-473-2653 or

news@rainscountyleader.com

ads@rainscountyleader.com

sports@rainscountyleader.com

subscription@rainscountyleader.com

chuck.fitts@rainscountyleader.com



Rains County Angel Tree

APPLICATIONS DUE
NOVEMBER 8TH

Applications available
October 6th - November 8th

* MUST LIVE IN RAINS COUNTY & BE
UNDER 18 OR ENROLLED IN RAINS ISD
(PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED)



ONLINE
APPLICATION

Application help available
Saturdays 9AM-12 Noon
at the Rains County Library
Questions: (903) 662-8621

Separate
application
required for
each child

CITY GIRL

Listening with your face

By Linda Brendle

Last week I wrote about common courtesy, specifically, taking time to pay attention to your children and to those around you. Several people responded to that story, and our conversations sparked more thoughts about the subject, specifically about active listening. As has become my practice, I looked up the term to be sure I'm using it correctly, and the definition I found says that actively listening is "the practice of engaging closely with what a speaker is saying and indicating understanding, typically by asking relevant questions, using gestures, and summarizing." That's a technical description, but I like the way a friend put it – listening with your face.

A good example of the failure to listen completely is children trying to get their parents' attention. Now, anyone who has raised children knows that kids have an innate knack of choosing the worst moments to tell you the earth-shattering news that they saw a pretty rock yesterday or their friend can stand on one leg for a long time. It's usually while you're on the phone, just stepped into a badly needed bubble bath, or the soup just boiled over. But all too often I see little ones being ignored in favor of the latest text or Facebook post. And if children can't get the attention they want and need quietly, they'll find a way to get it, sometimes in extremely inappropriate ways.

Children aren't the only ones who sometimes need a listening ear. At one point in my work career, I was the office manager – among other things – for a local showroom and cabinet shop.

The regional manager had a corner office, and the rest of the office staff – eight of us, give or take one or two – occupied semi-private cubicles. My cubicle contained a small filing cabinet, an L-shaped desk, and a guest chair. Somehow that guest chair became known as the "therapy chair," because at one point or another, everyone in the office as well as a couple of the shop managers, visited my workspace to sit in that chair and tell me their problems. My computer and phone were in the corner of the desk which put my back to the opening of the cubicle and the chair. And like children, my visitors didn't always choose the most convenient times to come see me. I realized, though, that listening to them, if not part of my job, was part of my responsibility as a friend. So, I developed a habit of, when I heard someone come in, putting down my pen or my mouse and swiveling my chair around to face them. I guess you could say I was listening with my face.

Regardless of the importance of electronics in our lives, society isn't totally unaware of our need to pay more attention to each other. I normally ignore commercials when they come on, but one series has caught my eye. I'm not sure what company it's for, but it talks about being able to bring in substitutes in real life when what you have isn't working. The ad I particularly like shows two women in a coffee shop. One is pouring out her heart about a troubled relationship while the other one is totally engrossed in her phone. When the first woman asks for some feedback, the second nods absently and grunts a reply at which point the first woman brings in a substitute. The sub sits down and puts his elbows on the table, propping his chin in his hands. Then, staring straight into the woman's eyes, he says, "Go!" He never moves or says anything until

she asks what he thinks, and then he gives a very insightful and helpful comment. I don't know how effective the ad is in selling the company's product, but I hope it's effective in raising an awareness of the need for active listening.

The young woman who first mentioned listening with your face to me was a co-worker who often occupied the therapy chair in my cubicle. She was coming out of a bad relationship and had been swept off her feet by a young man who seemed nice enough. She was soon making wedding plans, but I thought she needed more time to heal before she got involved in another serious relations. I was wrong, and I realized it when she told me about the night she didn't feel like he was listening to her. Sometimes it was hard to give her your full attention because she talked a lot, and I guess it was one of those times for him. She finally said, "You're not listening to me!" He said he had heard every word. "But I need you to listen to me with your face," and he did.

Listening with your face is a skill that has been mostly lost in an era of handheld screens and constant electronic input. We've exchanged personal interaction for artificial intelligence, and society at large is the worse for it. However, there are some who still listen. Ours is also an era of throw-away marriages, but after almost twenty-five years, the marriage of my young friends is still strong. We've lost touch, but I still keep up with them on Facebook now and then. They look happy in a way that tells me she is probably still letting him know what she needs and he is still listening to her with his face.

Linda Brendle writes a weekly column for Believers' Baptist Church. She is a published author and also writes about caregiving, faith, and family on her blog at <http://www.LifeAfterCaregiving.WordPress.com>. You can e-mail her at LindaBrendle@yahoo.com.

Ordinary Heroes and Veterans Day Coke

"Happy are those who dare courageously to defend what they love."

Ovid (Roman poet)



JODY DYER
Typewriter Weekly

The Vietnam War, pitting communist North Vietnam against South Vietnam and its primary ally the United States, was a long and divisive conflict. It occupied American attention and involvement for over 20 years, with our combat forces in-country and on the ground from 1965-1973. Over 58,000 Americans lost their lives in the war. Those who served in Vietnam answered their country's call when needed. They deserve our gratitude and respect for their service.

One of those who served was Mr. Ricardo Cortez, a combat-wounded veteran from Lytle, Texas. I recently had the honor of speaking with Mr. Cortez and wanted to share his story.

Ricardo (Richard) Cortez was just 18 years old in 1965 when he was drafted into the Army during the war in Vietnam. He experienced much as a member of the U. S. Army's 4th Infantry Division (nicknamed the *Ivy Division* for the pronunciation of the unit's number in Roman Numerals - IV). While engaged in combat operations, Mr. Cortez saw plenty of action. From Camp Jackson Hole, near the Cambodian border in the Central Highlands region of Vietnam, men of the 4th Infantry were tasked with continuing search and patrol missions. They scouted and tracked enemy positions engaging North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces at every opportunity. The 4th Infantry endured some of the worst fighting of the war. After volunteering for an extra support and combat mission, Mr. Cortez was wounded when his unit was ambushed as their convoy navigated the *Ho Chi Minh Trail* inside Cambodia. In the midst of a firefight, the truck he was driving hit a landmine. Blown from the cab with

severe injuries, he survived the fight, saved by stalwart Army medics and a medevac helicopter crew.

After treatment in-theater, he was sent to hospital in the Philippines and was later transferred to Madigan Army Medical Center in Seattle for recovery and rehab. With Purple Heart in hand, Mr. Cortez was discharged in 1967 (during his combat tours he also received a Bronze Star). In 1978 he joined the Army Reserve and went on to serve during the Gulf War in Operation Desert Storm as a 1st Sergeant with the 1st Cavalry Division. He currently serves as a member of the Honor Guard with his local VFW chapter. In the past 22 years he has helped perform ceremonial duties for more than 2,000 military funerals.

Leading a proud military legacy, Mr. Cortez's sons have also served. Army veterans Sergeant First Class Dion Cortez and Staff Sergeant Richard Cortez, Jr. are proud of their dad. Along with Mr. Cortez and his twin brother Henry, both sons served in the Gulf War. Mr. Cortez's life has been marked by a heart for service. He loves his country, and he was proud to serve. He is an ordinary hero. And those are the best kind.

Recently, students at Lytle High School produced a short documentary film about Mr. Cortez and his family's military service. They were awarded a bronze medal for the film in the state finals for the UIL Young Filmmakers competition. You can watch the documentary on YouTube ("*He Will Continue to Serve - UIL Young Filmmakers State Bronze Medal 1-3A Documentary Award*").

Mr. Cortez's heart for service continues today with what started out as a simple idea to raise the spirits of his comrades. And this service is tied to America's favorite soft drink, Coca-Cola.

Historically, the Coca-Cola Company has been a great supporter of our military. During WWII, the company pledged to supply every service member in uniform with a bottle of

Coke. At the request of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, they even set up portable bottling plants to supply American G.I.s and Marines in combat with Coke. Today the company continues to support the military through partnerships with the USO and other organizations.

Albert Cortez, Mr. Cortez's youngest son, shared with me his father's artistic bent and new creative project idea involving Coke. His dad collects empty pill bottles and other containers. After disinfecting the containers, he creates a collage on each, using pictures for a military service theme along with Coca-Cola logos. He and his boys like Coca-Cola. He then fills the bottles with candy and other small gifts, giving them out to veterans and other VFW friends. He also passes these out to patients and nurses at the local hospital. His containers are beautiful, patriotic, and show his love for America...and Coke.

Inspired, Mr. Cortez had the brilliant idea of presenting this to the Coca-Cola Company. He would like to design special commemorative Coke cans for Veterans Day. I think this idea for Veterans Day Coke cans, designed and created by a veteran, is a genius-level marketing concept. Americans would surely love patriotic Veterans Day Coke cans.

I have forwarded a copy of this column, along with Mr. Cortez's contact info to the Coca-Cola Company in hopes that they adopt his idea and enlist his help in creating Veterans Day Coke!

Thank you, Mr. Cortez. You are an inspiration to us all. We honor you, your beautiful wife Ninfa, and your family as you continue to serve...

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

typewriterweekly.com
© 2025 Jody Dyer

SPOTLIGHT

Continued from page 1

of Chubby's Diner. They had a daughter in 1982, a son in 1986, and a surprise son in 1991. She tried to stay at home for a while, but when her third son came along, she was already working.

Her business started out in floral arrangements in a location near the former Rains County Leader building. In 2006 she built her current space and now dyes real and artificial flowers, puts together wreaths and offers many different gifts. She can send flowers anywhere and says that there are interesting people she meets who like to talk and vent when arrangements are personally delivered.

"It is such a service business," said Young. "It is my ministry, and it has taken me

30 years to proclaim that this is my gift. God has used me to touch people. It is okay to cry and laugh with them. I lost my husband in 2011, and my assistant lost a child, so we both have insights into how others feel during similar bereavements. God has brought this business the perfect people (staff) to minister to others."

Young said there is a lot of work involved in the business, including processing flowers that come in boxes, doing weekly cleaning of the cooler and disinfecting buckets. It is a lot of physical work, but the shop is colorful and fresh looking from the efforts.

Some examples of unusual arrangements made by Young are a flying duck

headed for floral greenery, a floral green base with a tackle box, minnow bucket and fish, all floral cats, a watermelon made of flowers and an arrangement made to look like a piece of red velvet cake.

All three of Young's grown children live close by. Daughter, Kristin, is an online fourth grade teacher. Son, Korey, is a chiropractic doctor and Rains County Commissioner for Precinct 3, and son, Klay, works at Sierra Nevada in Greenville. She has six grandchildren ranging in age from three to 18 years of age. She takes care of her mother who will be 91 in January, and after losing her 14-year-old labradoodle, she has a dog named Beckett who is a year old.

FISHING REPORT

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department released the following information for Lake Fork and Lake Tawakoni taken on October 29:

Fork: Good. Normal stain; 74 degrees; 2.03 feet below pool. The morning bass bite is good with topwaters, buzz baits popper, and sexy dawgs on points and around grass. Work chatterbaits, spinnerbaits and flukes off the edge of grass and in the flats. Midday timber just off the edge of points is producing bites with shaky heads and Texas rigs 5-7 feet. Squarebill crankbaits are fair in 3-5 feet

around ditches.

Black Bass are beginning to school in open water. Fly fish with small top water patterns. Cooler nights will drop water temperatures and bass will move shallower. Streamers are enticing bass early and late. Bream are shallow, try small hoppers. Sandbass are schooling mid-lake.

Crappie are good as the fish transition to a fall and winter pattern. Fish can be found throughout the lake in 10-40 feet of water. Seeing lots of fish still on brush piles, underwater bridges and shallower trees in 10-20 feet. We

also still have fish on some lay downs in big numbers. Also look for fish on timber in 18-40 feet along creek channels, flats and the edge of timber lines. Small hand tied jigs actually out fished minnows this week on my boat but any crappie baits will get you bit as water temps cool down. We should see fish on mid lake bridges as the fish migrate towards deeper water chasing the bait fish.

Tawakoni: Good. Water lightly stained; 74 degrees; 1.25 feet below pool. The hybrid striper and white bass bite are good. The fish are moving hard looking for good pockets of water. Fish main lake points in 8-15 feet using inline spinners and slab spoons. The eating sized catfish bite is still red hot. Easy limits on half day trips are the standard right now. Baited holes in 12-20 feet using prepared baits such as punch or dip baits. The trophy blue catfish are beginning to feed. We have seen fish in the 20-30 pound range on medium sized pieces of cut baits in 10-25 feet. Crappie are improving under bridges and on shallow brush with the bite on minnows. Large-mouth bass are extremely shallow and prefer fast moving shallow crankbaits and spinnerbaits.

Don't drive under the influence of your phone.

TALK / TEXT CRASH

"Hometown Banking With Your Neighbors & Friends"

Veterans Day is Tuesday

We will be closed on Tuesday, November 11, to honor our military veterans.

We encourage you to thank and honor those you know who currently serve or have served our country in the past.

The sacrifice they've made is a great one, and one we all appreciate.

CBT_x
Commercial Bank of Texas

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2025 by Orbison Bros.

ACROSS

1 TX "Big Bopper" hit: "Chantilly" _____

5 TXism: "bone _____" (study)

6 seat of Odham County

7 TX Mandrell (init.)

8 payable now

9 car crashes

15 hair ringlet

16 TXism: "_____ them than Carter has liver pills"

19 after WWII, "_____ Field" became part of the Dallas Naval Air Station

21 Mexican cornfield

22 Astro or Ranger

27 phone type

28 NE Fort Worth suburb on highway 377

29 actress Whelan of film "San Antonio"

30 TXism: "ran like _____ out of a burning stump"

32 Texas' western neighbor (abbr.)

33 TXism: "camps out in the amen corner"

36 "no" votes in the Texas legislature

37 former Texas sports net., before Fox Sports SW

38 house that is built before and then assembled on site

39 more handsome

41 San Antonio street: "Ben. _____"

42 TX Janis hit: "Me and _____ McGee"

45 Devine, TX was named after a Texas judge born in _____ Scotia

46 TXism: "_____ high time you did it"

47 TX "Babe": Mildred _____ Didrikson

48 TXism: "_____ the mark"

49 materialize again

52 Texas flag is flown with white stripe _____

53 TXism: "_____ your bill" (drink)

54 not a Texas snake

55 pig's "casa"

DOWN

1 bumper sticker: "Fool Wuth, I _____ Yew"

2 TXism: "fits like ugly on an _____"

3 "True Grit" character "Rooster"

4 TXism for "toothbrush" (2 wds.)

8 TX Kris & Rita Coolidge in the 1970s

9 Plainview, TX University (2 wds.)

10 Skeleton of "Texas Carnival" (init.)

11 "Hook '_____ Horns!"

12 Texas-born Gene Autry wrote "Here _____ Claus"

13 former country Odessa AM station

14 King of Texas' King Ranch: "Buy land and never _____"

15 remote controls: "channel _____"

16 "Texas Rose Festival is _____ in Tyler"

17 30 minutes SE sailing from Galveston (2 wds.)

18 TXism: "plov chaser"

20 competitor of Lewis

22 elected county prosecutor (abbr.)

23 "no _____ is human"

24 former Texas restaurant chain: "Steak and _____"

25 Greek archaeological site, and also a small city

26 capital and largest city of Lebanon

28 an ideal call sign for a radio station in Tye, TX?

31 TXism: "_____ a scratch" (unharmd)

34 TXism: "_____ the creek don't rise" (as long as there's no unforeseen problems)

35 former Oiler coach: "_____ 'Bum' Phillips"

37 swimmers' "casa"? Houston's summer home on Trinity Bay: "Flaven _____"

43 Texas soybean oil is used to make this (margarine)

44 TXism: "_____ bears without salt pork"

50 endangered Texas herb: "_____ mallow"

51 "The King of Rock and Roll" (init.)

Solution at www.cbtx.com

903-473-2611
Member FDIC

Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home
Your family-owned, hometown full service provider

Full service cremation provider

Traditional funeral services
Pre & post funeral gathering room
200 plus seated chapel • Grief support

903-473-3545
803 N. Texas St. • Emory, Texas
wilsonorwosky@familyfh.com • wilsonorwoskyfuneralhome.com

Paws for love, some treats



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Teri Ballard, Jennie Henson, Connie Clark Kelley and Dianne Kennemer represent the Point Ladies Civic Club at the Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot of the First Baptist Church in Point on Halloween night.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

Deadly Premonition Comes to Singer

by Bartee Haile

In the middle of the night on Nov. 5, 1960, Johnny “Battle of New Orleans” Horton’s premonition of dying at the hands of a drunk



BARTEE HAILE
Historical Columnist

came true on a dark highway in Central Texas. John Gale Horton grew up on the move with a family of migrant farm workers

shuttling back and forth between the East Texas county of Cherokee, which they called home, and the produce fields of California, where he was born in 1925. But the lettuce-picking gypsies did stay in one place long enough for their Johnny to finish high school at tiny Gallatin just up the road from Rusk. Then he did something that most young people in his circumstances only dreamed about – he went off to college.

According to Horton’s biographers, who disagree on various details of his life, he attended Lon Morris Junior College in Jacksonville to study for the ministry, to play basketball or both. Although one claim that he received two dozen scholarship offers is most likely an exaggeration, there can be no doubt that he was a gifted athlete. Other stops on his campus tour were Baylor and Seattle University, and he may have been a member of both schools’ basketball teams.

Deciding college was not for him, Horton wandered the West working odd jobs in California before winding up in Alaska in 1949. When he was not catching fish, a lifelong love, he was writing

songs. Although he learned the guitar from his mother at age 11, this was the first time that he took a serious interest in music.

Returning to his roots in 1950, Horton got up the nerve to enter a talent contest in Longview held by a radio deejay named Jim Reeves. First prize gave him the necessary confidence to try his luck as a guitar-plucking singer at small venues around East Texas.

The promising newcomer soon caught the eye of Faber Robison, a manager and promoter with a mixed reputation. But Horton needed the guidance of someone with inside knowledge of the music world, and the smooth-talker seemed to fill the bill.

After Robison landed a recording contract with Corman Records, Horton felt he had made the right choice. When the small label went out business before he cut a single record, he wondered whether it was bad luck or his manager’s bad judgment.

To placate the unhappy performer, Robison formed his own company for the sole purpose of putting Horton’s voice on vinyl. Then he convinced his client to reinvent himself as “The Singing Fisherman” and arranged appearances on radio and television in the Los Angeles area.

By 1952 Horton had come back from California and become a regular on the popular Shreveport-based radio program “The Louisiana Hayride.” Then in short order, his first wife left him and Robison dumped him to take over Jim Reeves’ blossoming career.

Horton filled the void with a new friend and mentor, the legendary Hank Williams

who rejoined “The Hayride” after being kicked off the “Grand Ole Opry” for his drinking. After Williams’ death in the backseat of a Cadillac on New Year’s Eve 1952, his widow married his hero-worshipping protégé.

In spite of the exposure “The Hayride” provided, Horton’s recording career was dead in the water. All that changed in 1955, when he signed with Tillman Franks. By the end of the year, he was under contract to Columbia Records and on his way to stardom with the classic “Honky Tonk Man.”

Horton quickly proved he was no one-hit wonder. In less than a year, he followed “Honky Tonk Man” with “I’m a One-Woman Man,” “I’m Coming Home” and “The Woman I Need” which climbed to number seven, 11 and nine on the country-music chart.

Then the hits stopped coming. The drought did not break until the fall of 1958, when “All Grown Up” put Horton back in the Top Ten. But the best was yet to come.

With rock-’n-roll squeezing out traditional country on the radio, Horton took a chance on story-telling. The risky move paid off big-time with “When It’s Springtime in Alaska,” which not only reached number-one on the country chart but “crossed over” into the popular music ratings.

But it was “The Battle of New Orleans,” that in 1959 sold a million copies in seven weeks, that cemented Horton’s stature as the first country artist to bust the pop charts. “Johnny Reb” and “Sink the Bismarck” were also historical ballads and dual Top Ten hits.

“North to Alaska” was released in early November 1960, but Horton would not be around to see it sell a million records too. In recent months, he had become obsessed with the haunting certainty that a drunk would end his life and in the early hours of Nov. 5 that bad dream turned into a terrible reality on Highway 79 near the town of Milano.

The car driven by Johnny Horton was hit head-on by a pick-up with an intoxicated college student at the wheel. Horton and his two badly injured passengers were rushed to the hospital in nearby Cameron, but the singing sensation was dead on arrival. And, as is all too common, the drunk driver walked away with nothing worse than a few bumps and bruises.

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

MY TAKE ON TECH

The End of the Web?

Lately there have been some very large lawsuits from several media companies (newspaper, cinema, online news, social media and others) against several high-profile artificial intelligence (AI) systems. They claim that AI systems are using a tremendous



JOHN KELLY
Certified Information
Systems Security
Professional

amount of research and copyrighted materials from social media sites, web sites, news sites, hobbyist sites, and countless other types of sites without proper attribution or compensation.

The emergence of artificial intelligence as a primary source of knowledge presents a significant dilemma for the future of traditional websites. For three decades, the web has operated on a simple but effective exchange: creators produce valuable content, and users access it through search engines or direct visits, generating traffic that supports further creation through advertising, subscriptions, or visibility.

This ecosystem allowed for diverse perspectives, funding models, and economic sustainability for content producers. However, the increasing number of lawsuits against AI providers reveals that AI-powered systems are disrupting this model by harvesting vast amounts of web content to train AI systems which subsequently provide direct answers to user queries. The inquirer never has to visit an actual website to get answers

to their questions.

This shift threatens to undermine the very infrastructure that enabled AI’s development. When users receive instant answers from AI interfaces rather than clicking through to websites, traffic declines dramatically, jeopardizing the revenue models that support quality journalism, educational content, and specialized expertise. The convenience of AI comes at the cost of transparency—users often cannot discern the original sources of information, raising concerns about attribution, context, and the potential loss of perspective that human creators provide.

Many websites today have original copyrighted information that is provided for a user to view and enjoy but not take and use themselves in their own original work.

For example, a person may ask an AI system to generate a poem about a particular topic. To do so, the AI system may pull from its database an actual copyrighted poem. The AI user may not realize that and include that poem in some work being done thinking that it’s not really anybody’s individual work but rather the public domain creation of an AI system.

My understanding is that AI systems require the end user to agree and accept that they are responsible if they use anything that turns out to be copyrighted, rather than the AI system. The original author and copyright owner of that poem can go after the person who published it (having gotten it from an AI system) for damages in violating the

copyright on the poem. The liability issues could be very unpleasant and expensive for people who had no idea they were publishing the original copyrighted work of another person instead of the random output of an AI system.

Despite the use of AI systems by increasing numbers of people to get information in lieu of visiting websites, it may be that giving last rites to websites may be premature. While AI excels at summarizing existing information, human creators still provide original research, investigative reporting, and authentic experiences that machines cannot replicate.

The solution likely lies in a recalibrated relationship between AI systems and content creators – one that includes proper attribution, fair compensation mechanisms, and transparent sourcing. The web may evolve rather than disappear, with websites potentially serving as verified knowledge repositories that feed AI systems while maintaining their role as destinations for those seeking deeper engagement, community interaction, and authoritative content.

I suspect that the various lawsuits will eventually lead to a more cooperative environment between web information providers and the AI models that want useful, accurate, and timely information. An ongoing sustainable compensation system will no doubt be a key element in the settlement of these pending lawsuits. In a future post I will cover how that might work.

John can be reached at john2645@mytakeontech.net.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

Premiums rise as ACA open enrollment begins

The window for signing up for health insurance through the Affordable Care Act is now open through Jan. 15, with most



GARY BORDERS
Texas Press Association

Texans expected to pay considerably higher premiums, The Texas Tribune reported. Federal subsidies that reduced premium rates will expire at year’s end without congressional action.

The government shutdown is now entering its second month. Democrats say they will not vote to reopen the government unless the subsidies are extended. Republicans say they will not consider extending the subsidies until the government is reopened.

Nearly 4 million Texans signed up for ACA coverage during the last enrollment period, a number that health experts predict will drop by a much as one million if the subsidies end.

Most people who choose ACA are not able to obtain employer-sponsored insurance – the most common method – or they make too much money to qualify for Medicaid.

The nonprofit health policy group KFF projects Texans who now receive the ACA subsidies will see their premiums rise by 115%, or \$456 a year, if they are not extended.

TDI offers tips on buying a health plan

With open enrollment underway at HealthCare.gov, the Texas Department of Insurance is offering tips to find a health plan that fits one’s needs and budget. TDI notes new plans come out every year, so consider looking at other plans to make sure to get the best coverage for the price.

Other factors to consider:

- Update your income every year to see if you qualify for a premium tax credit.
- Be sure each plan you are considering will allow you to use your current health-care professionals.
- Know what you will have to pay in copays, deductibles and coinsurance.
- Ask the plan if a referral is needed to see a specialist.

You can access TDI’s health plan shopping checklist at this address: <https://tinyurl.com/384we9s7>.

Poll: Most Texans oppose sending Texas soldiers to other states

A poll released last week shows most Texans oppose Gov. Greg Abbott’s deployment of National Guard soldiers stationed in Texas to cities outside the state, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The University of Texas at Austin’s Texas Politics Project found 51% oppose the deployment with 43% strongly opposed. Only 41% support the move, with 24% strongly supporting it.

Abbott last month agreed to send 200 Texas troops to Chicago at Trump’s request. However, a judge blocked that deployment, and the troops remain stationed outside the city.

Paxton sues Tylenol company over autism claims

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing the makers of Tylenol, accusing Johnson and Johnson of failing to warn women about the risk of taking acetaminophen while pregnant, claiming it is a possible cause of autism.

The Texas Standard reported the lawsuit is the first of its kind from a state government. It comes a few weeks after U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. dis-

couraged pregnant women from taking the drug.

Paxton, who is running in the GOP primary against incumbent U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, said in a statement that “by holding Big Pharma accountable for poisoning our people, we will help Make America Healthy Again.”

There are conflicting medical studies concerning the effects of acetaminophen on pregnant women. Dr. Brian Lee, a Drexel University epidemiologist who headed one of the largest studies, said that while more research is needed, “the needle is pointing strongly toward there being no causal effect of acetaminophen use during pregnancy on autism.”

‘Financial literacy’ class now required in high school

Texas is now the 30th state to offer financial literacy classes, with a half-credit to be offered starting with the graduating class of 2029, according to The Dallas Morning News. The Texas Education Agency plans to send school districts a list of companies that will offer free curriculum.

John Pelletier, director of the Center for Financial Literacy in Vermont, says the extra classes address what he terms “financial fragility.” He notes lack of proper money management is a key reason only half of Americans could come up with \$2,000 in an emergency.

He added that the pandemic showed how unemployment levels could jump almost overnight, leaving people who have not saved or are in serious debt at greater risk of financial catastrophe.

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@texaspres.com.



Lake Fork Physical Therapy

Paul Bacon, P.T.

Over 22 years experience in rehabilitation sports medicine injuries, orthopedic surgeries and various geriatric ailments.

(903) 474-9436

fax (903) 473-3170

903 E. Lennon St., Ste 101 • Emory, TX 75440

Now Open 5 Days Per Week



211 E. Lennon
(Hwy. 69)
Emory
903-474-9600

Call-ins welcome

Credit cards accepted

EATING OUT IN RAINS COUNTY

Best Margaritas in Town

Daily Lunch Specials

Hours:
Tue-Sat: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sun: 11 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

400 W. Lennon Dr.
Emory, Texas
903-473-0007

Tex Mex Restaurant
www.doscharrostexmex.com



Alba

FAMILY RESTAURANT & FISH HOUSE

OPEN
TUE - THU 7AM-8PM, FRI & SAT 7AM-9PM
SUNDAY 7AM-2PM, CLOSED MONDAY
150 E GREENVILLE ST | ALBA, TX | 903-765-9215

“Y’ALL COME BACK” — CAFE —
659 W. Lennon Dr. • Emory, Texas
903-473-2224

Daily Breakfast & Lunch Specials

Monday-Saturday
6:00AM - 2:00PM
BREAKFAST SERVED ALL DAY



RAINS WILDCATS vs. MINEOLA YELLOWJACKETS



Friday Night • 7:30 p.m. • Meredith Memorial Stadium



Getting vertical to air it out. Rains Wildcat Major Wallace (6) jump passes to the open receiver near the goal line during the 71-6 loss to Commerce on Friday, October 31.

Wayne's Automotive
3383 HWY 19 SOUTH
903-473-0186

DOS CHARROS
Tex Mex Restaurant
400 W. Lennon Dr. • 903-473-0007

CITY BARBER SHOP
600 E. LENNON DR. • 903-268-4326

TEXAS FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
Leisa Pennebaker, Agent
350 W. Quitman St. • 903.473.5539

Hooten's Hardware
Lumber • Hardware
Welding • Tractor Supplies
Hwy. 69 N. • 903-473-8788

CNB
CITY NATIONAL BANK
711 E Lennon Dr., Emory, TX • 903-473-0090

Emory Livestock Auction
Sale Each Tuesday & Saturday
Emory • 903-473-2512

Korey Young
Rains County Commissioner, Precinct 3

EMORY AUTOMOTIVE
Hwy. 69 • Emory • 903-473-3775

MILLER GROVE CATFISH
ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET!
EVERY FRI. & SAT. 4:00-9:00

D.E. Plumbing Services
Jonathan Christian
903-513-0063
RMP 38867
• New Construction
• Repairs
• Remodel

Ratliff Bookkeeping & Tax Service, LLC
www.ratliff-financial.com
903-473-6385

First National Bank of East Texas
Together, We're Better
Ginger Diana One City Big Sandy Pittsburg
Quinn Mineau Emory Mount Vernon
903-843-4100 • fnbtx.com

OAKES CONSTRUCTION
903-348-8630

CBTx
Commercial Bank of Texas, N.A.
800-723-7601
www.cbtx.com

VALERO Max-A-Mart
205 S. Texas St. • Emory, TX

QUALITY AUTO BODY REPAIR
A&R COLLISION
COUNTY ROAD 2220 • EMORY
903-473-4445

Legacy Ag Credit, ACA
"Financing Your Legacy"
(866) 885-3522
WWW.LEGACYACA.COM

Clarks Chapel Church of God
Our Mission and Vision is to help connect people to Jesus
6345 FM-47 Point TX
http://clarkschapelcog.org/

Go Wildcats! Hooten's Westside Storage
(903) 473-4130

L. L. SPENCER REAL ESTATE
Don Spencer & Associates
Hwy. 69 • Emory
903-473-2225

K Espresso Kafe
Open: 6:30AM - 6:00PM
369 W. Lennon Drive, Emory

STAR MART
4080 FM 515 - EMORY

Mike and Dianne Willis

SIDEKICK'S Bar & Grill
Keith & Cassie Patton
909 E. Lennon Dr. • Find us on Facebook
Breakfast served daily • 903-953-0090

SONIC
Hwy 69, Emory, TX • 903-474-9600

POTTS FEED STORE
EST. 1962
Hwy. 69/19 • Emory • 903-473-2249

Point Church of Christ
Everyone welcome!
www.pointchurchofchrist.org

SISK BORING & TUNNELING
HEATH & KRISTI SISK
903-473-2520

State Farm
Toni Threadgill Agent
903-473-2553

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

HILLIARD OFFICE SOLUTIONS
Your IT and office equipment solution
866-326-4510 • hilliardos.com

TRIPLE E ELECTRIC
129 Lake Fork Dr.
(903) 473-2915

Hooten Financial, Advisory & Tax
since 1972
903-473-2061

EMORY BAPTIST CHURCH
DOWNTOWN EMORY • EMORYBAPTIST.ORG

Bill & Anna McBride

POTTS GAS COMPANY
"Providing the Service You Deserve"
Emory • 903-473-2714

BLATT FUEL COMPANY
OPEN SUNDAY-THURSDAY 11:00AM - 9:00PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM
386 E LENNON DR. IN EMORY

Robert's Cycle & Sound, LLC
Hwy. 69 • Emory
903-473-2566

BAKER REMODEL & RESTORATION LLC.
STEVEN BAKER (903)714-2285



GO WILDCATS!



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



John Henry Abernathy
Army



Dwain Asbill
Army



Lincoln Barnes
Marine



Rider Barnes



Sarah Beattie
Air Force



Jordan Bernier
Navy



Andrew Bond
Army



David Brendle
Navy



J.P. Brendle
Navy



David Broome
Army/Marine



Lou Carista, Jr.
Army



Gene Carista
Army



Lou Carista, Sr.
Army



Jerry Carlisle
Air Force



Leroy Cason
Navy



Tonia Cason
Army



Lowell Chalk
Air Force



Billy Gene Cobb
Army



Douglas Conner
Navy



Elaine Davis
Army



Randy Davis



Kenneth Dennis
Army



Katherine Derham
Army



Dana Durham
Army



Vernell Edwards
Army



Danny Fenter
Marines



George Fenter
Army



William Fenter
Army



James Michael Gaby
Army



Stephen Gowin
Army



Cliff Green
Army



Kyle Green
Marine



Mel Hall
Navy



Marvin Hartog
Army



David Harvey
Navy



Kenneth Hayes, Sr.



Alan Henderson, Sr.
Navy



Alan Henderson, Jr.
Navy



Cole Henderson
Navy



Robert Henderson
Navy



Duane Hensley



Jerry Wayne Heuer
Army



Clifton Hobbs
Navy



James Hooten
Army



J.C. Hooten
Air Force



Larry Hooten



William Hunter
Air Force



Brian Jackson
Army



Gavin Roy Jackson
Air Force



George Jacobs, Sr.
Air Force



Troy Jacobs
Navy



Bobby Jennings
Army



Curtis Lee Jones
Navy



Bryan Kelley
Army



Steven Legate
Army



Alan Little
Air Force



Roy Maxwell, Jr.
Navy



Roy Maxwell, Sr.
Army



Tom Maxwell, Jr.
Navy



Tom Maxwell, Sr.
Army



Bill McBride
Army



Chris McClaskey
Army



Jerry McSwain
Navy



Chris Messinger
Navy



L.M. Mosley
Army



Walter Mosley
Army



Thomas Nelson
Navy



Bill Nichols
Navy



Jeffrey Niemann
Army



Norris Northcutt
Army



Jasper Northcutt
Army



Marvin Northcutt
Army



Howard Oler
Navy



Max Orsborn
Navy



Don Rabb Jr.
Navy



Harold Rabb
Air Force



Joel Rabb
Army



Robert Rabb
Army



William Rabb
Army



Keith Rabe Sr.
Navy



Jimmy Rabe
Army



Dennis Radcliffe



Ron Radcliffe
Marine



Aaron Rivers
Army



Buster Rivers
Army/Air Force



Matthew Robare



Chase Robertson
Navy



Jack Rudder
Marines



Debbie Runion
Air Force



Skyler Runion
Army



Lonnie Sanders
Navy



Billy Shockley
Air Force



Bob Sisk
Air Force



Wade Charles Small
Navy



Daniel Smith
Army



Jeffrey Lee Smith
Air Force



Robert Stepney
Army



Danny Stover



Trogan Vaught
Navy



Thomas Waters
Air Force



Jim Weddle
Marine



Joe Weddle
Army



Jon Perry Weddle
Air Force



Ben Wedeking
Navy



Jon Wedeking
Army/Navy



Wendell Williams
Navy

THANK YOU, VETERANS

Obituaries

Ronnie Glenn Hargrove
1947 – 2025

A family led memorial gathering for Ronnie Glenn Hargrove, 78, will be held at a later date. Mr. Hargrove died on November 1, 2025. He was born on June 22, 1947, to Sam and Odell Hargrove. Mr. Hargrove married Winnie Carol Latham on August 22, 1964, and they were married 61 years. They had three children. He retired from L-3 in Greenville. Mr. Hargrove is survived by his wife; sons, parents; and many other family members. Tommy Hargrove and wife Mellanie of Emory,



and Kevin Hargrove and wife Kim of Point; daughter, Ronda O'Bier and husband Chris of Tom Bean; grandchildren, Marcus Hargrove, Casey Hargrove, Kaylee Hays, Kyle Hargrove and Preston O'Bier; great-grandchildren, Brantley Hays, Gannon Hargrove and Emma Hargrove, and one due on November 5, Stella Hays. He was preceded in death by his

Douglas Johnson
1940 – 2025

A memorial service for Douglas Johnson, 85, will be held on Saturday, November 22, at 1:00 p.m., at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Johnson died on October 31, 2025, in Seagoville. He was born on May 4, 1940, in Kaufman, to Arthur and Truman Louise Johnson. Mr. Johnson loved playing pool and taught others the nuances of the game. He organized pool tournaments and was instrumental in founding the American Poolplayers Association in East Texas. He cherished his small farm, where he found joy in gardening. He was skilled with his hands, and could fix anything that needed repairing. His skills as a mechanic



allowed him to work on cars. He also enjoyed spending time with friends, never turning down a game of dominoes or darts. Mr. Johnson is survived by his children, Joy Lynn Rivera, Duane Johnson and wife Debbie, Gay Lynn Cook and husband Dennis, and Sandra Lamb; seven step-children; sibling, Billie Bennett; 13 grandchildren; 27 great-grand-children; 11 great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Good Samaritans of Emory in honor of Douglas. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at 12:00 p.m. at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home.

William Keath
1939 – 2025

Funeral services for William Keath, 86, of Emory, will be held on Friday, November 7, at 11:00 a.m., at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Keath died on November 1, 2025, in Greenville. He was born on July 13, 1939, to Norman Ray and Cynthia Margaret Keath (Gross), in Independence, Kansas. After high school, he answered the call of duty and proudly served in the United States Navy for three to four years. Following his honorable discharge, he lived life with a kind spirit, never meeting a stranger along the way. Mr. Keath was a member of the League Street Church of Christ since 2014. His faith was an integral aspect of his life, guiding him through his various pursuits and passions. He found joy in nature. A true outdoors-man at heart, he loved fishing and hunting. He also enjoyed sports, especially going to see his grandchildren and great-grandchil-



dren playing. His proudest accomplishment was his family. He instilled values of kindness, love and a legacy that will continue for generations. Mr. Keath is survived by his children, Shanna Elaine Moore and William Glen Keath; grand-children, Alisha Marie Netz and Tony, and Cameron Gabriel Keath Headrick; great-grandchil-dren, Case Anthony Netz, Caleb Ray Netz, Colter Lee Netz, Jacob Roy Netz, and Brigid Ann Ruth Netz; and siblings, Kay Sellers and James Keath. He was preceded in death by his wife, Shirley Ann Keath; second wife, Mary Helen Keath; his parents; siblings, Mary Woods, Nancy Wellington, Margaret Coon, Marilyn Roark and Leland Keath. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at 10:00 a.m., at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Johnnie Taylor
1942 – 2025

Johnnie Taylor, 83, died on October 28, 2025, at his home in Emory. He was born on September 11, 1942, to Lewis and Wanda Taylor (Reed) in McKinney. Mr. Taylor married the love of his life, Brenda, on June 5, 1992, and they shared a beautiful 33 years of marriage and 45 years as partners in life. A dedicated professional, he spent 35 years at Love Field, where he worked as a machinist and inspector. Mr. Taylor loved fishing and spent many hours working in his garden and mowing his yard. He is survived by his wife, Brenda;



daughter, Amanda Lally and husband Michael; sons, Timothy Taylor and wife Laura, Randy Dinsmore, Raymond Parker and wife Misti; grandchildren, Caro-line Taylor, Julia Taylor, Nicholas Dinsmore, Joseph Dinsmore and Miranda Parker; great-grandchild, Loelie Dinsmore; and many nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; and siblings, Jackie Taylor and wife Faye, and Janice Allen. Donations may be may in Mr. Taylor's honor to the Lymphoma Cancer Research Foundation or plant a tree in his honor.

Believer's Baptist Church

By Linda Brendle

But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. Luke 11:17 This week, Pastor Jason Rolen returned to the Gospel of Luke with sermon titled "The Incomparable Christ: Deity or Devil? Jesus told a parable about a frightening strong man who represented Satan, but Jesus was stronger. If Jesus's power came from God, they had a choice to make. We also have a choice. Will we believe the lies of Satan or will we believe Jesus. BBC Playground Fundraiser Garage Sale, will be held on November 7 and 8, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Emory Methodist Church

By Mary White

He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight." Luke 16:15 Rev. David Banks continued his series Follow Me with a lesson titled "Courage For the Long Haul" with scripture text taken from Luke. In this scripture text we are encouraged to be trustworthy with God's true riches. We are to be responsible for outcomes, not just show up, and must be willing to sacrifice our comfort for someone else's good. We must have the courage to serve, so check your heart daily and that will keep you faithful for the long haul. On Thursday, November 6, we went to the Emory Health & Rehab Outreach and enjoyed visiting with those wonderful folks.

The Church Praying, a time of intentional prayer as a congregation, meets next Sunday at 6:00 p.m. The RAFFA Baby Bottle Boomerang Fundraiser ends November 16. Return your filled baby bottles on or before that Sunday. Student Ministry Girls & Guys night Sunday, November 16. Times and location to come. There will be a Hymn Sing, on Sunday, November 30, at 6:00 p.m. Join us for a time of praising God with hymns, old and new. The Asking for a Friend Podcast Episode #232 is titled "Tradition and Church Music with Andrew Pressley." Find the link at www.bbcmemory.org.

We sang and praised the Lord for His love. Next Sunday we will serve the Veterans breakfast before morning worship to thank them for their service and for their love of our country. Our communion offering for November is for the Rains County Good Samaritans and we all know what a great service they do for Rains County residents. The Christmas Shoe Boxes go out today and Emory Baptist Church gracefully let's us send them with theirs. Anniversary wishes go to Billy and Marlene Morris. Pray for Dee Fleming, Sue Caruana, Mickey Cooper, Dorothy Riddle, Bobby Phillips, Rocky Pietila, and the Robert Cain Family. Share your peace wherever you go and remember be kind.

Thomas Wesley Nelson
1941-2025



Thomas Wesley Nelson was born on January 23rd, 1941, in Point, Texas and died on November 1st, 2025, in Point, Texas. He is to be buried in Lone Star Cemetery along with his father Thomas Jeff Nelson and other family members such as his half brothers and sisters that are buried there. Wesley joined the Navy in January 1957 where he spent 5 years in service. Upon being discharged he spent several years working as an AC and Heating man. He later met and married Ms. Retta L. Dodd and they had one child together, Angela Leigh Nelson. After Mrs. Retta Nelson passed away, some years later, Wesley met and married Ms. Annette K. Spurr, where they had a fun-filled life together. They both enjoyed similar hobbies such as riding motorcycles, horses, tractors, and "play daying". Wesley always had a love for classic antique cars. He and both of his wives enjoyed going to and participating in car shows. When Mrs. Annette passed away 15 years later, Wesley always had his little four-legged critters to keep him company. Pudge and Ginger really helped him through life's struggles when he had no one else. Pudge and Ginger were good friends not only to each other and him, but also Mrs. Annette. Ginger was Annette's riding partner whether it was in a car, saddle, or as ride along on the tractor, as long as she had a breeze in her ears and whiskers. Pudge was more laid back but he enjoyed going on adventures in the pastures, hanging out and seeing what the horses were getting into. Pudge made sure to stay Wesley's little buddy until the very end. Ginger was always there as well, until her passing, but made sure his new critter Sadie would know how to comfort him to continue their legacy. Wesley later reunited with Vickie Newsom with whom he shared and really made a heart felt remainder of his life with her. They helped one another and she helped him more than she knew when things started to get rough. Whether it be errands or just company, she was there. Wesley will be remembered and dearly missed by his daughter, Angela Nelson; his four grandkids, Dawn Magers, Desiree Magers, Jack Magers, and Hailee Hill; his great-grandchildren, Brycen Vaughan, Misty Vaughan, Killian Ford, Leelan Ford and Axion Sell; and his friend, Vickie Newsom. He was a great, kindhearted man who would help anyone when he could. He had quirks like anyone else does, from his collection of sunglasses, to the small models of antique cars on his TV stand, to his collection of hats. So many that it seemed like he had hats for his hats at times. His sense of humor and the jokes he would tell will always be remembered especially by those who knew him most. He will be missed, but we know we will see him again one day. Services will be held at Ingram Funeral Home Chapel in Quinlan, Texas on Friday, November 7th, 2025, at 2pm with a burial to follow at Lone Star Cemetery. The family will be accepting guests prior to the service at 1pm.

Paid obituary

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

Calvary Baptist Church
INDEPENDENT FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST
11:00 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Worship
Pastor: Jimmy Jarrett
Hwys 515 & 779
2-1/2 Miles East of Emory
903-269-8737

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 stjohndemory.org for Mass times.
From Brookshires, go east 1.2 miles. Turn right onto FM 2795

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

We invite you to study God's word with us soon.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Hwy. 69 N. • P.O. Box 68
Emory, TX 75440
903-473-2658
Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 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
Pastor Dan Wynn
903-598-3220
www.fbcpoint.com

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 Rolen — 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

PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS

§
§
§

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE

RAINS COUNTY

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 October 30, 2025, seized, levied upon, and will offer for sale the following properties, on the first Tuesday in December, 2025, the same being the 2nd 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 10:30 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	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0010-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 1 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 1 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,450.00
2	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0020-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS LTD.	TRACT 2 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 2 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,450.00
3	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0030-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 3 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 3 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,450.00
4	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0040-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 4 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 4 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,450.00
5	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0050-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 5 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 5 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,450.00
6	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0060-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 6 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 6 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,668.00
7	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0070-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 7 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 7 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,450.00
8	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0210-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 8 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 21 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 8,9,10,11,12,13,14 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,668.00
9	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0220-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 9 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 22 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 8,9,10,11,12,13,14 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,668.00
10	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0230-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 10 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 23 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 8,9,10,11,12,13,14 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,668.00
11	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0240-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 11 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 24 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 8,9,10,11,12,13,14 FOR ONE COMBINED BID) (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,668.00
12	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0250-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 12 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 25 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 8,9,10,11,12,13,14 FOR ONE COMBINED BID)	\$1,668.00
13	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0260-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 13 AB 14 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 26 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 8,9,10,11,12,13,14 FOR ONE COMBINED BID)	\$1,944.00
14	3163TX 08/22/25	2301-0000-0270-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BOWIE LAND PARTNERS, LTD.	TRACT 14 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 27 SALES NOTES: (SELLING TRACT# 8,9,10,11,12,13,14 FOR ONE COMBINED BID)	\$1,450.00
15	3167TX 08/20/25	0013-0180-0300-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. CARLOS PAREDES MALAGON	A0013 BREWER JOHN TRACT 300 ACRES 12.0 SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$552,607.00
16	3198TX 08/22/25	0263-0030-0000-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. HORACE HOSKINS, ET AL	A0263 WILLIAMS JOHN ACRES 17.0 (DIV 6 TR 15 AC. TR 2 12 AC) SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$112,337.00
17	3213TX 08/20/25	2752-0000-M100-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. REGINA PIERCE	A0014 BROOKS THOMAS SURVEY SHADY OAKS LOT 10 IMP ONLY SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$90,081.00
18	3217TX 08/20/25	0280-1120-0000-40 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ET AL VS. JON DOUGLAS GILES, ET AL	A0280 YARBER GREEN B ACRES .237	\$107,779.00
19	3233TX 08/20/25	2900-0000-4140-41 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JULIE ANN RINGSTAFF	A0229 TOLLETT MARGARET SURVEY: (LL) WHISPERING OAKS LOT 414 SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$313,340.00
20	3252TX 08/22/25	0049-0111-0000-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT. ET AL VS. PATRICIA HARVEY	A0049 CASE DANIEL M ACRES 4.012 SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$68,974.00
21	3256TX 08/22/25	2800-00B0-0010-43 OCTOBER 30, 2025	RAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PETE SUTTON, AKA PETE DUMOND SUTTON	A0033 CHITTENDEN N G:SUN POINT, BLOCK 00B0, LOT 1 SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$82,833.00
22	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 HERMITS COVE #2 LOT 45	\$1,495.00
23	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	\$52,365.00
24	3089TX 07/19/24	2300-0000-0730-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. LARA MILLER	TRACT 1 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS CORV #1 LOT 73 SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,690.00
25	3089TX 07/19/24	2300-0000-0740-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. LARA MILLER	TRACT 2 A0014 THOMAS BROOKS SURVEY HERMITS COVE #1 LOT 74 SALES NOTES: (SUBJECT TO POST-JUDGEMENT TAXES)	\$1,690.00
26	3108TX 09/20/24	0189-0175-0000-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. ADDIE MAE BRUMIT, AKA MRS. RM BRUMIT, ET AL	A0189 RITTER GEORGE W ACRES 8.25	\$85,997.00
27	3144TX 07/19/24	0080-0300-0060-43 DECEMBER 18, 2024	RAINS COUNTY, ET AL VS. HELEN ENGLISH	A0080 JAMES FORSYTHE SURVEY, 0.341 ACRES	\$5,320.00

(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, October 30, 2025



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

Classified Ads

We Accept

936-473-2653

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
5:00 P.M. TUESDAY

FOR SALE

CONSTRUCTION

PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICE

The Rains County Good Samaritan Thrift/Clothes store will be open Saturdays in October from 8 am - 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

ALL BILLS PAID EAGLE INN APARTMENTS
2-BR \$973/mth. No 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 boathouses and docks since 2001. Steel/ metal bldgs., & home remodeling. www.mckenzielakeworks.com. 903-269-6173.

Has all your welding, welding repair and lumber needs available on site. Hwy. 69N in Emory. 903-473-8788.G

DODSON AND SONS Painting, drywall, carpentry and more. 903-259-8541. For plumbing needs call Scott Trieb 903-474-4129.

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

LAWN/LANDSCAPE/MOWING

HOOTEN'S LAWN & TREE SERVICE, LLC
Tim Hooten
Lawn maintenance, sodding, landscaping, tree trimming & removal, retaining walls, irrigation systems. LI 0019094. 903-473-8706, 903-474-4402.

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

YARD & PASTURE mowing, weed control, backhoe work, and more.903-474-3897.

TREE SERVICES

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

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

APPLIANCE REPAIR

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS BUYING PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY OF THE CITY OF POINT WATER SYSTEM
City of Point Water urges all prospective land buyers to verify with the water operator or city secretary at City of Point at our office located at 320 N Locust Street Point, TX 75472 or by calling 903-598-3296 ext. 220 whether or not water service is available to the property in question.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS BUYING PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY OF THE MILLER GROVE WATER SUPPLY CORP.
Miller Grove Water Supply Corp. urges any prospective land buyers to verify with the manager at our office located at 14966 FM 1567W in Miller Grove or by calling 903-459-3383 whether or not water service is available to the property in question.

LEGAL NOTICE
Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Q Wine Only Package Store Permit by FIRST-GEN ENERGY LLC, dba ONE \$ MART, to be located at 482 STATE HIGHWAY 276 STE 110, East Tawakoni, Rains County, Texas 75422. Officers of said corporation are Amit Shrestha, a Manager, Laxman Paudyal, a manager, Manoj Bhandari, a manager and Ramesh Gnawali a manager.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS BUYING PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY OF THE EAST TAWAKONI WATER SYSTEM
The City of East Tawakoni understands that property is sometimes sold with the representation that water is available to the property from the City of East Tawakoni water system. Such is not always the case, and the City of East Tawakoni urges any prospective buyer to verify with the City of East Tawakoni at 288 Briggs Blvd., East Tawakoni, Texas, or call 903-447-2444 that water is in fact available at the particular tract in question.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS BUYING PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY OF THE CITY OF EMORY WATER SYSTEM
The City of Emory understands that property is sometimes sold with the representation that water is available to the property from the City of Emory water system. Such is not always the case, and the City of Emory urges any prospective buyer to verify with the City of Emory at 399 North Texas Street, or call 903-473-2465 that water is in fact available at the particular tract in question.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS BUYING PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY OF THE SOUTH RAINS SUD WATER SYSTEM
South Rains SUD understands that property is sometimes sold with the representation that water is available to the property from South Rains SUD water system. Such is not always the case, and the South Rains SUD urges any prospective buyer to verify with South Rains SUD at 121 N. Dunbar Lane, Emory, Texas, or call 903-473-2122 that water is in fact available at the particular tract in question.

CITY OF POINT PUBLIC NOTICE
Accepting sealed bids on seizure vehicle from October 23 2025-November 23 2025.
Bids will be opened during regular council meeting on December 9th 2025 @ 6pm.
2009 Red Chevy Cobalt 4 door passenger vehicle
Will need to be towed.
Can view in parking lot of Point City Hall.
Turn in sealed bids at:
Point City Hall
320 N Locust Street
Point, TX 75472
Questions may be forwarded to cityclerk@cityofpoint.org

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT!
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!
For information, call 903-473-2653



Quinlan Family Dentistry

903-356-3017

Fax: 903-356-3029

ProfessionalDenture Systems

Dentures

\$1195/SET

FROM

- New Patients Welcome
- Lab on premises
- Relines
- Soft-Lined Dentures
- Repairs while you wait
- Oral Surgery
- Sedation
- General & Cosmetic Dentistry

PROUDLY SERVING HUNT COUNTY SINCE 1998

9011 Hwy. 334S, Suite A Quinlan, TX 75474

*Prices may vary with additional or different techniques used or individual needs of patients

BY LINE SURVEYING

OFFICE : 903-473-5150

109 Prosperity Pkwy, Emory

FIRM NO: 10194233

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

Visit www.cbtx.com for all your banking needs

Toby Boatman GARAGE DOORS

Residential Commercial

Sales • Service Installation

903-348-6170

903-438-1970

dial 911

at the first sign of a stroke.

StrokesNoJoke.org

RYAN'S

FOREIGN DOMESTIC TRANSMISSION

Remember us for all your transmission needs: Overhauls • Clutches • Sealed Jobs • Filter & Fluid Changes

201 W. Main, Quinlan • 903-356-4900 • Mon.-Fri. 8 to 5:30

ADVERTISING WORKS

903-473-2653

LEGAL NOTICE:
This Texas Lottery scratch ticket game will close on December 17, 2025. You have until June 15, 2026, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#2458 Great 8s** (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.40. **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. **PLAY RESPONSIBLY.** For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2025 Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

RICHARD SONGER SEPTIC

SAND, ROCK & GRAVEL

DRIVEWAYS

HOUSE PADS • LPD SYSTEMS

CONVENTIONAL SYSTEMS

AEROBIC SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Service Policies for All Aerobic Systems

Over 20 Years' Experience (903) 473-3899

4450 FM 515, Emory, TX 75440 Installer's License 1 & License 2

J&R

DISCOUNT AUTO SUPPLY

PARTS PLUS

595 W. Lennon Dr. Emory, Texas 75440

903-473-2950

903-473-3657

L.L. Spencer Real Estate

"Your Hometown Realtor" Since 1959

Don R. Spencer Owner/Broker

903-473-2225

Judy Moody - 214-536-3214

LLSpencerRealEstate.com

D.E. Plumbing

Services

RMP 38867

jonathanchristian76@gmail.com

- New Construction
- Repairs
- Remodel

Jonathan Christian

903-513-0063

Rains County Residents, Have a new arrival??

Announce your good news in the Rains County Leader for **FREE!**
Email info and photo to news@rainscountyleader.com. Include name, date of birth, height/weight, parents names and grandparents names.

Sports

RAINS WILDCAT FOOTBALL

Bad third quarter dooms Wildcats in loss to Tigers

By CHUCK FITTS
Rains County Leader staff

The Rains Wildcat football team competed with the Commerce Tigers all night, but big plays off of miscues in the second half resulted in the lopsided 71-6 loss on Friday night, October 31.

The Wildcats looked to tie the game halfway through the second quarter, but a blocked extra point, returned for a score, stole any momentum.

The third quarter was disastrous for Rains as they had a strip sack, an interception returned for a touchdown, a fumble on the kick return and an interception in the end zone.

The Rains offense did most of its work in air as they had 186 passing yards and 97 rushing yards, while the Tigers gained 541 yards in the game.

Junior Jabari Shields led the team on the ground with 46 yards on eight carries, while sophomore Major Wallace ran nine times for 38 yards.

Under center, Wallace completed 10 of 19 passes for 171 yards and a touchdown.

Sophomore Adam Colson caught three passes for 88 yards and a touchdown, and J. Shields had four catches for 33 yards.

For the defense, senior Kenneth Griffith finished with six tackles, while senior Jordan Hobbs finished with four tackles.

Rains recovered the attempted onside kick of Commerce and started in their power-T formation. After gaining a yard, the second run turned disastrous as the ball was knocked loose and recovered by the Tigers.

The first play by Commerce was a touchdown, but it was called back for holding. Two plays later the Tiger quarterback threw a deep pass into the end zone for a touchdown. Rains 0, Commerce 7.

The Wildcat offense was held to no gain and then shifted back to spread offense. They gained a yard on a pass and a yard run before setting up to punt.

Trickery was on the table that night. Junior Carson Cook took the snap like normal, but then threw the ball to senior Kenneth Griffith for the first down.

Back on the field, the Rains offense found some room to run with rushes of three yards and six yards. Wallace caught the defense off guard on the short yardage situation as he dropped back and connected with Colson for 23 yards.

A scramble by Wallace moved the ball inside the 10-yard line, but an incomplete and tackle-for-loss backed up the offense. The ball went over on downs after a throw into the end zone fell incomplete.

The Tigers moved the ball down the field to the Rains' four-yard line in seven plays, but an attempted quick throw was intercepted by Hobbs in the end zone to stop the scoring opportunity.

Wallace scrambled for six yards to start the next drive



Leader photo by CHUCK FITTS

Wildcats Adam Colson (8) and Jason Jones (22) wrap up and drag down the Tiger ball carrier during the 71-6 district loss to Commerce on Friday night, October 31.

and T. Shields fought for another three yards. A quarterback sneak netted a first down and the quarter ended.

A huge sack set the offense back and a penalty, scramble and incomplete would force a punt. The attempted fake punt pass was intercepted by the Tigers.

Commerce started the drive with a first down run, but a personnel foul backed them up. The Tiger quarterback seemed to throw for the first down, but stepped across the line of scrimmage to back the offense up more. A twenty-yard scramble still wasn't enough so they punted on fourth-and-21.

Wallace started the drive with a 50-yard pass to Colson to move into the red zone. Three straight runs set up a fourth-and-one, but a false start backed up the offense.

On the fourth down attempt, Wallace scrambled away from pressure and found Colson in the back of the end zone for the touchdown. The extra point was blocked and returned for a score. Rains 6, Commerce 9.

After penalties backed them up 15 yards, the Tiger offense went to work as they got the first down and then scored on a 67-yard touchdown pass. Rains 6, Commerce 16.

The Wildcats were held to three-and-out and punted, while Commerce moved down the field in seven plays to score on a five-yard touchdown run as the game went to halftime. Rains 6, Commerce 23.

Commerce started with the ball in the second half and scored on a 19-yard run after three plays. Rains 6, Commerce 30.

The Wildcat offense started the drive with J. Shields taking off on a 15-yard run and then scrambled for another first down. Two run plays were stopped for minimum gain, and when Wallace tried to throw to the open receiver, the ball was stripped away.

The Tigers recovered the loose ball and scored on a 56-yard touchdown pass on their first offensive play. Rains 6, Commerce 37.

The Rains offense started with an eight-yard run, but only got a yard on the next play. A penalty gave them a first down, but a pass down the field was tipped and intercepted. The Tigers returned the intercepted ball for a touchdown. Rains 6, Commerce 44.

Rains fumbled the kickoff return to give the ball back to Commerce, and five plays later, they would score from eight yards out. Rains 6, Commerce 51.

J. Shields ran for nine yards, caught a pass for 14 and then got a face mask penalty to move the ball down the field. Two runs by T. Shields and a pass to sophomore Triston Hurley got to the nine-yard line of Commerce.

Unfortunately, the pass into the end zone by Wallace was intercepted and the Tigers took over. The Wildcat defense gave up some yards but was able to force a fourth down. On that play, the Tiger quarterback scrambled away from the rush and weaved his way 40 yards to the end zone. Rains 6, Commerce 58.

An 18-yard pass by Wallace overcame an early penalty, but the ball was knocked loose on the next run. The Wildcats recovered the loose ball for a big loss, but were forced to punt after an incomplete.

The snap was high and the punter was tackled for another loss. Three plays later, the Tigers scored from nine yards out. Rains 6, Commerce 65.

Rains was held to a three-and-out and punted. The first play by Commerce was a 39-yard touchdown run. The extra point try was no good due to a high snap. Rains 6, Commerce 71.

After a three-and-out by the Wildcat offense, the Tigers kneeled to finish the game. Rains 6, Commerce 71.

The Rains Wildcats move to 1-4 in District 3A-7-1 and 2-7 overall.

They will finish the season on Friday night, November 7, in Mineola against the Yellowjackets with kickoff at 7:30 p.m.

LUKE CLAYTON

Warm Weather Deer Hunting

Thus far, this October is on record as being one of the warmest (hottest) in recent years and if the current high-pressure system continues to dominate, we Texas deer hunters might have to endure the warmest October on record.

I'm usually fired up about the opener of bow season but this year with the AC running almost nonstop at home, I couldn't force myself to endure time on stand swatting mosquitoes and sweating as though I'd single-handedly dragged a bull elk off the mountain. For the first time in recent memory, I was happy keeping my archery skills tuned up with a few arrows launched at my old 3D deer target early each morning while it was still relatively cool.



Luke Clayton
Outdoor Columnist

Deer season to me is all about cooking a big pot of venison chili in my 4-quart cast iron Dutch Kettle at camp and sitting around the campfire swapping tales of past hunts, not swatting mosquitoes and sweating! It was the second week of bow season before I first spent time in one of my stands close to home and to be honest, I felt more like I was setting high in the bleachers at a Rangers afternoon game in mid-August.

But things are about to change. A look at the ten-day weather forecast indicated a bit of relief as we enjoyed a little cool front this past weekend. A couple early mornings with predicted highs in the upper fifties and a few days with afternoon temperature in the upper seventies is way better than what we've been getting. As an old outdoors writer, I am fortunate to pick and choose the days I hunt and I'm making plans to be in the woods during the cooler periods. Surely by the opener of rifle season it will be campfire and chili time!

But I haven't been twiddling my thumbs the past few days. This past week I set up a new ground blind with longtime friend Bill Carey (Striper Express Guide Service) in an area I have wanted to hunt many years. Grayson County up on the Red River is well known as a spot to arrow a big white tail. This is a bow-only county, no rifles allowed. Most bowhunters know about the annual draw hunts at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge and the giant bucks that have been taken in Grayson County. Whitetail from the Kings Ranch were stocked at Hagerman back in the 1940's and thanks to the great genetics and an excellent management plan, the refuge and adjacent lands are a big buck hotspot.

Bill has game cameras out on his ranch which is located a scant three miles from the closest part of Hagerman Refuge. As of this writing, bucks are still running in bachelor herds. The cameras showed a big 10-point that



Contributed photo

Bow hunting has been tough for many hunters this year because of the warmer than normal weather. Clayton showing off the buck harvested during a hunt.

looked to score around 150 BC coming to one of the feed sites just before dark but also several mature, less than trophy, class bucks.

I've often said any deer hunter that says he or she is not a trophy hunter might not be telling the complete truth. I'm not strictly a trophy hunter, but my goal is to always harvest a mature buck, one that has reached his full potential. On many occasions I've passed on heavy horned, 3-year-old bucks to harvest a mature old, what some might call a 'cull' buck.

I hunt deer with not only archery equipment but big bore air rifles, muzzleloaders, and center fire rifles as well. Long ago, I found it to be fun to learn about totally new ways to enjoy shooting and hunting. Each endeavor has its own set of challenges but hunting with a bow is by far the most challenging and rewarding way to hunt. There is something very exciting about being a scant few yards from a big game animal. I've often said that everything has to be perfect in order to harvest a mature whitetail buck or... savvy old doe for that matter!

There are many more experienced bow hunters than me but here are a few things I've learned through the years that might help you put 'Ole Mossy Horn' on the meatpole!

USE A MANAGEABLE DRAW WEIGHT Most grown men can draw a 65 or 70 pound bow while standing. With today's very fast bows, I've found 55 or 60 pounds is more than ample for effectively harvesting game inside 25 yards. Actually, a bow set at 50 pounds is more than enough to do the job. The trick is to draw without spooking the deer. A lighter poundage makes this much easier, especially when in a sitting position on stand or when hunting in cold conditions.

SIGHT ADJUSTMENT I set my top sight pin, always green, to be dead on at 25

yards. When hunting deer, it's the only pin I use. Whitetail deer have extremely quick reflexes and I simply don't shoot them at distances greater than 30 yards. With my sight pin set at 25 yards, I can hold center of shoulder from point blank out to 30 yards and the arrow will be in the kill zone. To be honest, I did kill a buck up in North Dakota at 33 yards several years ago and held just a bit high. This was with only a couple minutes of legal shooting time left and the opportunity to take one of those heavy northern bucks. The shot was good, by the way!

THIRTY MINUTE RULE Unless I see a deer go down after the shot, I always wait 30 minutes to make the recovery. This is a good policy that has served me well when bowhunting.

AVOID 'IFFY' SHOTS I have learned to take only broadside standing shots. Slightly quartering away shots are very effective but I avoid shots at deer quartering to me.

SIGHT IN WITH BROADHEADS YOU HUNT WITH There are many very effective broadheads on the market today, both fixed blade and mechanical. Make sure after you have sighted in with field points that you check your point of impact by shooting with the broadheads you plan to hunt with. If using 100 grain field points for practice, make sure your broad heads are the same weight. Most broadheads today shoot very close to the field points.

HAVE COVER IN FRONT When possible, I like to leave a bit of brush out in front of my blind. This allows the opportunity to draw the bow without detection when the deer steps behind the cover. This technique has helped me arrow deer on many occasions.

Email outdoors writer Luke Clayton through his website www.catfishradio.org.

CHURCH
GARAGE SALE
Playground Fundraiser
THIS FRIDAY & SATURDAY!
November 7 & 8th
8am - 2pm
SATURDAY 12PM - 2PM ONLY
EVERYTHING 1/2 OFF!
Believers' Baptist Church
1133 N Texas St, Emory, TX

**A FREE TEST COULD
SAVE YOUR LIFE.**

Call **888.223.8620**
to receive a free, at-home colorectal
cancer screening test.

TO QUALIFY, YOU MUST:

- ☐ Be between the ages of 45 and 75
- ☐ Have no personal history of colorectal cancer or colon surgery
- ☐ Have not completed a stool-based test in the last year or a colonoscopy in the last 10 years

Colorectal cancer screenings for those who qualify provided by Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT).

UTSouthwestern

MONCRIEF.COM