

# THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

TEXAS' LARGEST AND BEST SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



La Grange, Texas 78945

Volume 100, Number 31

One Dollar per Copy

## INSIDE



### Great Scott!

LG sophomore nails game-winning shot at the buzzer.

See Sports, Page B1

## FOR THE RECORD

### Mobile Food Truck

The Central Texas Food Bank truck will be at Waldeck Lutheran Church located at the Junction FM-1291 and FM-2145 on Friday, Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. It will be drive-thru only and all clients are to remain in their vehicles. Someone will be there to direct traffic. Clients are advised to make room inside their car trunks and truck beds. Food boxes will be pre-packaged and placed into each vehicle by volunteers. Health safety guidelines require volunteers to wear facemasks and to social distance. Clients are urged to wear facemasks while in the drive-thru.

### Texas Exes Dinner

The Fayette County Chapter of Texas Exes Annual Independence Day Celebration and Dinner will be held Wednesday, March 2 at the Frisch Auf! Valley Country Club in La Grange. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. with the dinner at 6:15 p.m. Please make your reservations with Don Jones by phone, (713) 962-8549 or email, [don@donjfones.com](mailto:don@donjfones.com). Tickets are \$50 per person and can be paid by Venmo ([don@donjfones.com](mailto:don@donjfones.com)) or Square or at the door. There will be a cash bar. RSVP by Feb. 21.

There's more  
For the Record  
on Page A2

## WEATHER WATCH

This Week's Forecast		
	High	Low
Friday:	59	34
Sunny		
Saturday:	66	42
Partly cloudy		
Sunday:	73	62
Partly cloudy		
Monday:	82	64
50% chance of rain		

### Burn Ban In Effect

## INSIDE TODAY

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## Capital Murder Trial Begins in Death of Infant Logan Atkins

By ANDY BEHLEN

The Fayette County Record

The capital murder trial against Billy Polasek of La Grange began on Monday, Feb. 14. The trial is expected to last two weeks.

Day one started with opening remarks from the prosecution and defense. Polasek, 39 of La Grange, was initially indicted back in October 2016 for felony

injury to a child. That child was seven-month-old Logan Atkins of La Grange, who died on July 4, 2016. Polasek was reindicted for capital murder in 2020. Authorities have never said what happened before the trial began.

The State, represented by Joshua Somer and Andrew Roundtree of the Texas Office of the Attorney General, argue that Polasek caused Atkins' death.

The indictments state that Atkins died by blunt force trauma to the head by some unknown object. Candace Clay, lead attorney for the defense, argues that Atkins' death was an accident.

"The real question is, why are we here?" Clay told the Record on Tuesday.

Clay is being assisted by three other attorneys: Leonard Martinez, Addy Miro and An-

gelica Cogliano.

Witnesses who testified on Monday include Robert Gulash, the DPS State Trooper who pulled over Polasek on the morning of July 4, 2016, while Polasek rushed Atkins to the emergency room at St. Mark's Hospital; Fayette County Sheriff's Deputy Mark Bennett, who initially investigated the death; an EMS who attempted to treat Atkins

during the traffic stop; and Texas Ranger Brent Barina, who later headed up the investigation.

The jury heard interviews with Polasek in which he said Atkins' mother, Nicole Lambert, dropped the child off at Polasek's home near Ruttersville around midnight the night before, July 3. Polasek, who is not the father, told investigators that he gave

See Trial, Page A6

## Richard Schulze Day is Proclaimed in La Grange

By ANDY BEHLEN

The Fayette County Record

La Grange Mayor Jan Dockery signed a proclamation Monday honoring Richard Schultze on his retirement as La Grange Municipal Judge. Dockery officially declared the date of Feb. 14, 2022 as "Richard Schultze Day" in La Grange.

Schultze retired at the end of last year after 33 years as the city judge. Schultze's retirement caps off an illustrious career not only as an attorney. Schultze is also a retired Lt. Colonel from the U.S. Army where he served as a Green Beret and paratrooper.

Schultze has also been a member of the La Grange Main Street Committee. He even served as a tour guide once for former Texas Governor and U.S. President George W. Bush.

As a member of First United Methodist Church, Schultze has served on many Kairos Prison Ministry retreats, where he served the spiritual needs of incarcerated men, women, youth and their families.

"On behalf of the entire City Council, I want to express my sincere appreciation to Richard for his exceptional service to our community, our incarcerated seeking God's word and our citizens of La Grange," Dockery said. "I wish him much happiness and success as he begins this next chapter in his life."

The La Grange City Council honored Schultze with a reception before the City Council meeting Monday, Feb. 14. The reception was well-attended by many of Schultze's friends, family and colleagues.



La Grange Mayor Jan Dockery (right) signed a proclamation Monday honoring Richard Schultze (left) on his retirement as Municipal Judge.

Photo by Andy Behlen

## Hope Hill Annexation No Longer a Controversial Issue –Apparently

By ANDY BEHLEN

The Fayette County Record

The La Grange City Council unanimously approved the first reading of an ordinance on the annexation of the Hope Hill neighborhood, which was built for local victims of the 2017 Hurricane Harvey Flood.

The Council held a public hearing on the annexation. Two residents of the neighborhood attended the hearing, but no one spoke either in favor of or against the proposal. Back when plans for the neighborhood were first announced, the discussions at

See LG Council, Page A6



This house fire was sparked Tuesday night.

Photo by Fayette Co. Emergency Management

## Barbeque Pit Suspected Cause of Fire

By JEFF WICK

The Fayette County Record

A barbeque pit on a porch is believed to have sparked a fire Tuesday night that gutted a house at 4588 State Highway 159 across from Windy Hill Lane outside La Grange.

La Grange fire chief Frank Menefee said a 911 call came in at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday about the fire and by the time he arrived three-quarters of the front of the cabin-style home owned by Tony Van Wisse was already burning.

Firefighters from La Grange

### Burn Ban Enacted!

Full Story, Page B4 today

and Fayetteville battled the fire and Fayette County Sheriff's Department and EMS were also at the scene.

Authorities did not clear the scene until 11:58 p.m.

That was one of a number of fires this week for the La Grange fire department.

Monday, about eight acres burned near the intersection of Munke Road and Bohuslav Road in the Ammannsville area when a trash fire was spread by

the wind and caught an adjacent pasture on fire.

Wednesday carbon build up on a oil well flare off Morgan Road caught adjacent grass on fire and it spread to a brush pile.

The fire was quickly put out by the La Grange fire department but their truck got stuck in the mud.

That scene underscores the unusual situation Fayette County is facing. The ground is wet from recent rain, but dead vegetation frozen over the winter is still very dry, and a significant fire danger.

## Valentine's Day Royalty



The annual Valentine's Day Party was held for the residents at Jefferson Place assisted living facility in La Grange. Shown above are the Valentine's King and Queen, Mike Anders (second year in a row) and Grace Robilio.

## Dubina Church Designated "Diocesan Shrine," Pilgrimage Site

By JEFF WICK

The Fayette County Record

Dubina has long been an informal pilgrimage site.

Now it's officially one.

In front of a packed congregation Monday at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, including at least seven priests, students from St. Micheal's School, and others from all across the state, Bishop Brendan J. Cahill officially designated the church as a Diocesan Shrine

"to which the faithful may come in pilgrimage."

Cahill said it was the first such designation he has made since he became Bishop of the Diocese of Victoria in 2015.

As he read the official designation document to the congregation Monday Cahill said "spiritual benefits would be granted to the faithful who make a pilgrimage to this shrine" including plenary indulgences

See Dubina, Page A6



Bishop Brendan J. Cahill talks to the congregation Monday as he stands next to a painting of Sts. Cyril and Methodius.



Faithful packed the beautiful Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Dubina Monday as the church was officially dedicated a Diocesan Shrine.

Photos by Jeff Wick



# FOR THE RECORD

**Seminar at La Grange Church of Christ**  
La Grange Church of Christ is hosting a seminar with John Dobbs from Monroe, La. on following Jesus through life's storms. The seminar will focus on what God has to say to us when life is difficult. The Sunday evening session will specifically focus on grief and loss of a loved one. The seminar is free and open to the public. John will be speaking at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 6 p.m. on Sunday, **Feb. 20** and 6:30 p.m. on Monday, **Feb. 21**.

**City of La Grange Holiday Hours**  
La Grange City offices will be closed Monday, **Feb. 21** in observance of Presidents' Day. Waste Management will be working their normal garbage schedule. If you need additional information, call (979) 968-3127.

**Hermann Sons Life Meeting**  
The Ellinger Hermann Sons Life Lodge will meet on Monday, **Feb. 21** at the Ellinger Fire Station at 6 p.m.

**Guest Speaker at Winedale**  
Join Winedale on Tuesday, **Feb. 22** at 12 noon for a special book talk with legendary newsman (and Briscoe Center advisory council member) Neal Spelce. He will discuss his recent memoir, "With the Bark Off," and his time working with LBJ in the White House. Neal's book was published by the center and is distributed by University of Texas Press.

**La Grange Garden Club Meeting**  
The La Grange Garden Club will meet at the Randolph Recreation Center located at 653 East Pearl St. at 2 p.m. on Thursday, **Feb. 24**. This month's program, entitled "Herbs for Everyone" will be presented by Phoebe Lake. She will provide information on growing and using a variety of herbs and will also have a variety of fresh herbs available for purchase. Everyone is invited to attend and new members are always welcome. For more information, call club president Pwennie Lee at (713) 254-1132.

**LG Optimist Soccer Registration**  
The La Grange Optimist Club Spring Soccer registration is open to boys and girls ages four years old through 8th grade. Cost is \$50. Deadline is **March 11**. Registration forms can be picked up and returned at Texas One Stop or Hengst Printing. Online registration is available at [www.leaguelineup.com/optimistsports](http://www.leaguelineup.com/optimistsports). For more information, text Misty at (979) 639-1551.

**Fayette Co. Libertarian Party Meeting**  
The Fayette County Libertarian Party will meet Monday, **Feb. 21**, at 6:30 p.m. at the Swiss Alp Farm Bureau Hall. County Judge Candidate Will Martin will be present to meet voters.

### Texas Ramp Builds 48 Ft. Ramp



On Feb. 10, the Fayette County volunteers with the Texas Ramp Project built this 48 ft. ramp on TX-159 in La Grange.

### La Grange Weather Report

Week Ending February 12	
Week's high Feb. 11.....	77 Degrees
Week's min. high Feb. 11.....	49 Degrees
Week's low Feb. 12.....	26 Degrees
Year low Feb. 3.....	21 Degrees
Year high Jan. 1.....	84 Degrees
Rainfall for week.....	0.00 Inches
Rainfall for year.....	4.50 Inches
Rainfall to date-2021.....	2.71 Inches
Rainfall to date-2020.....	3.45 Inches
Rainfall to date-2019.....	4.17 Inches
Average annual rainfall.....	40.23 Inches



Lions Diana Wilson, Craig Moreau, and David Wagner present appreciation vouchers to Chief David Gilbreath, also a Lions Member.

## La Grange Noon Lions Present Vouchers to Law Enforcement

The La Grange Noon Lions Club has caught the La Grange Police Department doing a great job keeping the community safe. Thursday, Lion Craig Moreau, Lion David Wagner, and Lions Sam and Diana Wilson presented Lion Chief David Gilbreath with 18 vouchers, each worth \$20 at any one of six local eateries to show our appreciation for a job well done. The six local eateries, including Latte on the Square, Hank's Express, Jay Dee's Sports Grill, Reba's Deli and Pizzeria, Sealand Seafood and Steaks, and Texas One Stop of La Grange, all joined in to show their appreciation agreeing to accept the vouchers during the month of February.

According to FBI data released in September of 2021, assaults, violent crime, burglary and vehicle theft in La Grange were all below both the Texas and national average. There were only 110 reported incidents for the year. And with 18 officers and staff, they keep the city safer with fewer officers coming in 29.9% below than Texas average and 35.2% less than the national average in officer count.

Chief Gilbreath has two investigators, two sergeants, two

school resource officers, seven patrol officers, and an animal control officer. And the office is supported by three excellent staff members. And while these men and women help with traditional law enforcement activities, many of which have the potential of putting them in harm's way every day, they also promote bicycle registration, the citizens police academy, operation identification, a volunteer chaplain program, and neighborhood watch. They also provide a range of community services including homeowners' insurance reduction inspections, security surveys, and they frequently speak on safety and security at businesses, schools, churches, service organizations.

Across the nation there is a lot of media attention focused on police, good and bad. Residents are very fortunate to live right here in Texas, in Fayette County, in La Grange, on the banks of the lazy Colorado River where we have a great police department, and life is grand. The community thanks all the members of the La Grange Police Department for all they do keeping the community safe and secure.

The La Grange Noon Li-

ons Club was founded in 1928 with a mission quite simply... To Serve. If you are interested in learning more about how we serve our community, or are interested in becoming a member of the club, contact Lion Sam Wilson at [sam@offln.com](mailto:sam@offln.com).

### CTL TREE SERVICE

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Serving Fayette & Surrounding Counties • 25 Years Experience  
TDA Licensed For Insect And Disease Control  
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**979.732.7237 979.732.7198**  
[sdwigans@yahoo.com](mailto:sdwigans@yahoo.com)



### PUBLIC INVITED

Fayette County Country Music Club Opry  
**21ST ANNIVERSARY**  
**FEBRUARY 21, 2022**  
TRIBUTE to GEORGE STRAIT with DEREK SPENCE  
Doors Open 5:30 p.m. • Show at 7 p.m. • Admission price \$7  
La Grange Knights of Columbus Hall - 190 S. Brown St.  
SPONSORS: BROWN DISTRIBUTING - BUD LIGHT, ERIC LEHMANN - FINANCIAL PLANNING - 979-338-9998, FAYETTE MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME, NATIONAL BANK & TRUST, OVIEDO CHEVROLET, GMC, CHRYSLER, JEEP & DODGE



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\*Negatives \*Slides  
High Resolution Scans  
Remove cracks, tears & stains  
Thursday & Friday 10 am - 4 pm  
Saturday until 2 pm



## CRAIG MOREAU FOR COUNTY JUDGE

I am Fayette County's current Chief of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. You have trusted me to get through the ice storm, floods, and the pandemic, and now I am asking for your vote to lead the county as your county judge. Here is a little more about me:

- Fayette county is my forever home and I have lived here most of my adult life with my wife and 3 daughters, who were all born as Fayette County natives. My only son is buried in Fayette County, and one day I will be buried here
- Senior Captain with the Houston Fire Department, retiring in 2022
- Chair of the Workforce Commission for Rural Texas Coalition
- Member of the Homeland Security Task Force and Regional Intelligence Center
- Active in 4H, FFA, church activities, medical mission trips all over the globe, board member of the Gardenia E. Janssen Animal Shelter, auxiliary member of the Fayette County Republican Women
- Recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Community Service Award, Recognized by Congressman Mike McCaul for supporting law enforcement, recognized by State Representative Ben Leman for outstanding pandemic response

Please visit my interactive Facebook page where you can engage in discussion of issues that are important to you. You will also find more about me and my plans for the county on my website. If you believe that I am the most qualified to lead our county, please sign up to help me accomplish that goal.

Warmly,

[www.moreau22.com](http://www.moreau22.com)  
Paid for by the Moreau Campaign

### HANK'S EXPRESS

Daily Plate Specials  
Monday, February 21:  
**BAKED POTATOES ALL DAY!**  
**KING RANCH CHICKEN**  
Tuesday, February 22:  
**CHICKEN FRIED CHICKEN BREAST**  
Wednesday, February 23:  
**FRIED PORK CHOPS**  
Thursday, February 24:  
**CHICKEN FRIED STEAK**  
Friday, February 25:  
**BAKED POTATOES ALL DAY!**  
**FRIED FISH W/ HUSHPUPPIES**  
**OR HAMBURGER STEAK**  
Saturday, February 26: CLOSED  
Sunday, February 27:  
**SMOTHERED STEAK**  
**OR FRIED CHICKEN**  
BREAKFAST: M-F 6:30-10 am; SUN 7-10 am  
LUNCH: M-F 10:30 am - 2 pm  
EVENINGS: Thurs. & Fri. 5-8 pm w/ Grill  
GRILL INCLUDES HAMBURGERS & SUCH  
SUNDAY: 11 am - 2 pm  
**979.966.0500**  
[www.hanks-express.com](http://www.hanks-express.com)  
154 S. Jefferson • La Grange





# Urban and Homeowner Soil Testing Campaign Runs Through March 4

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Fayette, Washington, Austin, and Colorado Counties are conducting an urban and homeowner soil testing campaign Feb. 10 through March 4. All plants need adequate amounts of nutrients to grow and flourish. Some plants have different soil requirements, for example, are you trying to produce vibrant flowers, an immaculate turf for yard of the month, or to grow the best produce in the county? A soil test can narrow down what is avail-

able to the plants you grow to make balanced fertilizer applications that will help them thrive. Homeowners who wish to participant can pick up testing forms and soil sample bags at the following locations: Fayette County Extension Service Office, 255 Svoboda Ln. Ste. 134, La Grange Washington County Extension Service Office, 1305 E. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham Colorado County Extension Service Office, 316 Spring St., Columbus

Austin County Extension Service Office, 800 East Wendt St. Bellville **Soil Testing** Two types of soil tests for ag producers will be offered at a reduced rate for this campaign. The routine analysis will cost \$8 which will tell you the pH, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, sodium, and conductivity of the soil sample. The routine and micronutrient analysis will cost \$15 per sample. This will give you a reading of the levels of

zinc, iron, copper, and manganese, in addition to the elements analyzed in the routine sample. Soil samples may be brought to the Extension Office starting Feb. 10 through March 4 at 5 p.m. The samples will be analyzed by the TAMU Soil, Water, and Forage Testing Laboratory in College Station. Results will be mailed to your home address. Soil testing probes are available at the Extension Office to assist with sample collections. Deliver all samples to your County Extension Office by 5 p.m. on March 4.

Payment is required when you drop off your samples. Make checks payable to Multi-County Ag Fund. Forms must be filled out completely in order to get the discounted rate.

## Bluebonnet Electric Offices Closed President's Day

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative's offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 21, in observance of Presidents' Day. Bluebonnet members can access their account information and make payments while the offices are closed through the co-op's website at [bluebonnet.coop](http://bluebonnet.coop). Bluebonnet members can report power outages during Presidents' Day by calling 800-949-4414, or through the co-op's mobile app or website at [bluebonnet.coop](http://bluebonnet.coop). Members enrolled in Bluebonnet's Outage Alerts can report an outage by texting out to 85700. To enroll, text boutage to 85700 from a mobile phone or tablet and follow the prompts. Should an outage occur, Bluebonnet personnel will be on call during the holiday to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

## Liberty Matters - Believe Elect William Bernsen for County Judge



Mr. Scott Armstrong of La Grange says... "His familiarity with both U.S. & Texas law is **IMPRESSIVE**. He attributes...that knowledge to his work as a surveyor... However... I've [concluded it's because] he's



**INTERESTED** in it and **LOVES** it. It's obvious...he's a **STUDENT** of **HISTORY** and...**LAW**. [Why?]...he loves this country...It's clear...he is a man of **INTEGRITY** and **PRINCIPLE**. To him, the law is the law...not to be bent or distorted...to accommodate friends, relatives or neighbors...[no] looking the other way.

Are those in government subject to the same laws as we citizens are?...If...yes...then your vote for the next County Judge must be for William Bernsen."

**Liberty Breeds Prosperity** - [www.WilliamForLiberty.com](http://www.WilliamForLiberty.com)

*The endorsement is NOT paid. Paid pol ad by the William Bernsen Campaign*

# Fayetteville City Council Update

A special meeting of the city council was called by council members on Monday, Feb. 7 concerning the repaving of Fayetteville streets by the county. Our costs for the upcoming election would have been drastically reduced if the city council had voted in the meeting to participate with Fayette County in the joint election.

Note the new hours for our city offices: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you need to make a water payment when the office is closed, there is a drop box by the front door of city hall.

The next city council meeting is Monday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. If you choose to vote in the General Democrat and Republican Joint Primary Election on Tuesday, March 1, polling places and times are listed here: [https://www.co.fayette.tx.us/upload/page/1737/2022/signed\\_notice\\_of\\_election.pdf](https://www.co.fayette.tx.us/upload/page/1737/2022/signed_notice_of_election.pdf)

**Public Safety** The response zone for the Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department covers 72 square miles, serving a population of 1,271. Officers for 2022 are Fire Chief Randy Noviske and Assistant Fire Chief Rodney Sladek. Captains include Shawn Faldyn, Damon Faldyn, Dusty Walcik, Kenneth Chovanec and Brad

## FAYETTEVILLE News



By **CINDY STEPHENS**  
*Fayetteville News Correspondent*

Neville. Ricky Kovar serves as president. The vice-president is Vince Orsak and secretary/treasurer is Bill Herrington. Chief Noviske wishes to remind citizens to please post 911 addresses so when an emergency occurs, first responders will be able to locate your address. 911 signs may be purchased at the county judge's office for \$15.

Calls for January included one structure fire, three residential fire alarm calls, two assist EMS first responder calls and two grass fires.

**Fundraiser** Proceeds from the Musical Monday event at The Wine Bar will support WindSync's (wind quintet) Fine Art Assembly performances in area schools. The event is Monday, March 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. For reservations,

contact Chef George at (979) 716-6988. Cost is \$65 per person.

**Food Pantry** Look for the Central Texas Mobile Food Pantry to be at the Waldeck Lutheran Church this Friday, Feb. 18 from 10 to 11 a.m. Drive-thru only. Someone will direct traffic. Please remain in your car and make room inside your trunks or truck beds for the prepackaged food boxes. Volunteers will load you up. All clients and volunteers are required to wear facemasks and to social distance.

**Birthday Wishes** Happy Birthday wishes to: Kevin Kramr-19; Kathleen Kramr, Marilyn Kocurek, Tyler Goerig and Taylor Goerig-20; Jim Sula-22; Madeline Michalec, Brady Noska-24.

**Have news?** The deadline for sending news for this weekly column is every Sunday morning. Feel free to share what's going on or coming up in our small town. Lots of special events, family gatherings and celebrations, home projects, community, school, business and organization activities happen around here. If it's special to you or someone you know in our community, feel free to text, call (713) 261-0786 or email [newsinfayetteville@gmail.com](mailto:newsinfayetteville@gmail.com).

# Winedale Quilt Show Opens this Weekend

Winedale's upcoming quilt show, "Connecting Threads: New Acquisitions in the Winedale Quilt Collection," will be open the weekends of Feb. 18-20 and Feb. 25-27. In this exhibition, five new acquisitions engage in conversation with previously acquired pieces from the Winedale Quilt Collection. Contact Tricia Blakistone at [tricia.blakistone@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:tricia.blakistone@austin.utexas.edu) for more information.

**School Holiday** Round Top-Carmine ISD students have a holiday Monday, Feb. 21. For more information about the school, you may contact the Elementary campus at (979) 249-3200, or the High School campus at (979) 966-6118.

**Book Talk** Also at Winedale on Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 12 p.m., there will be a special book talk with legendary newsman (and Briscoe Center advisory council member) Neal Spelce. He will discuss his recent memoir, "With the Bark Off," and his time working with LBJ in the White House. Neal's book was published by the center and is distributed by University of Texas Press. Contact Tricia Blakistone at [tricia.blakistone@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:tricia.blakistone@austin.utexas.edu) for more information.

**Garage Sale Fundraiser** The Round Top Historical Society's annual Garage Sale fundraiser continues, Saturday, Feb. 19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Household goods, furniture, antiques, decorative items, glassware and more will be available at the campus behind the Round Top Post Office located at 397 E. Mill Street. For more information, contact Rose Diers at (713) 376-9454 or (281) 610-8274.

**St. Cecelia's Episcopal Church** St. Cecelia's Round Top Episcopal Church holds services with Father Bill Miller Sun-

## ROUND TOP News



By **KYLA GOEBEL**  
*Round Top News Correspondent*

days at 10:45 a.m. in the historic Haw Creek Chapel in Henkel Square. Music is provided by Joey McGee.

**St. Martin's Catholic Church** St. Martin's Catholic Church in Warrenton holds service on the second Tuesday of the month for the intentions left on the altar. View the bulletin online at [stjohnsfayetteville.com](http://stjohnsfayetteville.com) for more information.

**Round Top Christian Fellowship** Round Top Christian Fellowship Church holds service at 10 a.m. For more information, please visit their website at [www.roundtopchurch.org](http://www.roundtopchurch.org).

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church** Bethlehem Lutheran Church holds services with Pastor John David Nedbalek Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Confirmation class is held Wednesdays at 4:15 p.m.

Sewing Circle meets Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 9 a.m. Rug Hookers will meet Saturday, Feb. 26 at 10 a.m.

**City of Refuge Church** The City of Refuge Church on Hwy. 237 in Round Top holds bible study on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. followed by church service at 11 a.m. For more information visit their Facebook page at [facebook.com/cityofrefugeHC](https://facebook.com/cityofrefugeHC).

**St. Paul Lutheran - Shelby** St. Paul Lutheran Church in Shelby holds Worship service at 8 a.m., followed by fellowship, coffee, and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Game day is the first

and third Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m.

**Monday Night Social** The Round Top Rifle Hall Monday Night Social takes place the first through fourth Monday of each month. All proceeds benefit the continued improvement of the RTRA. For more information about the Rifle Hall or to book it for upcoming events, visit [roundtoprifle.com](http://roundtoprifle.com).

**Round Top Family Library** Round Top Family Library is open Monday to Friday from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Arts After School is held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. for 4th-6th grades.

The After School Kids Garden Jr. Master Gardener meets Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. for 4th-6th grades.

Chess Club for adults and children ages 7 and up meets on Wednesdays from 3:40 to 4:45 p.m. This club includes free chess instruction.

Adult Yoga meets Mondays at 5 p.m.

A healthy cooking class will be held Saturday, Feb. 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please email or call the library to sign up. An iPhone class will be held Feb. 28 from 2-4 p.m. This is a basic class for iPhone beginners.

For more information about the library or any of these classes, call (979) 249-2700, or visit [ilovetoread.org](http://ilovetoread.org).

**Hermann Sons Life** Hermann Sons Life's next meeting will be Feb. 24. There will be no meeting in March due to the antique show.

**Birthdays** Happy birthday wishes go out to Katie Kovar, Christopher Simpson-Feb. 20; William Noak; Tommy Burger - 23.

**Have News?** Send any news or notices you wish to have announced to [Kyla@roundtoprealestate.com](mailto:Kyla@roundtoprealestate.com).

16 years ago, I made some very poor decisions, which resulted in my arrest and placement in the Fayette County Jail. The next day, while in jail, a Justice of the Peace told me I was a peace of \_\_\_\_\_. He told me I was going to stay in jail and that I was not fit to breathe air.

A friend of mine, Noel "Peanut" Tiedt knew I was in trouble, so he contacted another Justice of the Peace. His name was Dan Mueller.

Justice of the Peace Dan Mueller got me out of jail. He was stern, but compassionate. He told me that I had to face the consequences of my actions and that I would have to pay my debt to society. But he also urged me to get help. He encouraged me to turn my life around. And I did just that.

Today, I am a local business owner, a landowner, and an active member in our county society. Dan Mueller's actions were the actions of a leader. He had faith in me 16 years ago and I have faith in him today.

I hope you join me in voting for Dan Mueller.

Political Ad Paid for by Michael Schlabach



# Fayette County Texas Exes Chapter Independence Day Dinner March 2

The Fayette County Chapter of Texas Exes Annual Independence Day Celebration and Dinner will be held Wednesday, March 2 at the Frisch Auf! Valley Country Club in La Grange. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. dinner at 6:15 p.m.

The chapter is honored and delighted to have Dr. Jim Kearney, a resident of Colorado County and member of the faculty of the University of Texas at Austin, as speaker. The topic and Dr. Kearney's latest book is

"Inside the Texas Revolution: The Enigmatic Memoir of Herman Ehrenberg". Ehrenburg was a survivor of the Goliad massacre of 1836 and kept a diary of his life during the Texas Revolution. This book won the 2021 Summerfield G. Roberts Award for the best book on the Republic of Texas. This is the second time Dr. Kearney has won this award!

Make your reservations with Don Jones by phone, (713) 962-8549 or email, [don@don-](mailto:don@don-jones.com)

[jones.com](mailto:don@don-jones.com). Tickets are \$50 per person and can be paid by Venmo ([don@donjones.com](mailto:don@donjones.com)) or Square or at the door. There will be a cash bar. RSVP by Feb. 21.

The Fayette County Chapter of the Texas Exes invites everyone to come and enjoy the event. The mission of the chapter is to provide scholarships for Fayette County high school graduates planning to attend the University of Texas at Austin. Hook 'em!

# Blessings Abound at Mt. Calvary

Church celebrates 60th anniversary, Preschool celebrates Lutheran Schools Week and 100th Day of School

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church and Preschool of La Grange had a very big week with much to be thankful for and many blessings to count. On Jan. 28, MCLC crossed her 60th year in the proclamation of the Gospel. This celebration coincided with National Lutheran Schools Week (Jan. 24-28) and the preschool's 100th Day of school (Jan. 27).

In church architecture, we should always see the numbers before our eyes as deliberate and pedagogical. The repeated features in church sanctuaries are generally done on purpose. They also serve to teach about the Christian faith, reminding us about something significant. Mt. Calvary's new logo for this 60 year milestone features two elements of our ecclesiastical architecture. The brickwork that flanks the cross in our sanctuary has a central column consisting of two independent bricks and a continuous column. This "three" is a Trinitarian symbol. The Trinity is the core upon which eight horizontal bars hang. Elghts in the church are symbols of resurrection, recreation, new life in Christ, and baptism.

The theme of this year's National Lutheran Schools Week, "In All Things," is a reminder that the Christian story encompasses all things. Nothing, and no one, is left out. Christ is the source of all life and the goal of all creation. Throughout the week, the Preschool children took the opportunity to worship Christ in all things—their baptism, creation, families, the church family, and the community—with different dress-up themes and activities.

In the middle of these celebrations, they also celebrated being in school for 100 days!

The children enjoyed special treats and activities revolving around the number 100.

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church and Preschool continues to celebrate God's faithful blessings in His ministry and hope in the certain blessings yet to come! Please join us for our worship service on Sundays at 9 a.m. and Bible study at 10 a.m.



This is the image from the sanctuary used to create the 60th Anniversary logo.



The new logo for Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church and Preschool.



Mrs. Leesa's Turtle Class celebrated the love of Jesus during National Lutheran Schools Week.



Mrs. Amber's Bee class enjoyed a special 100 Day treat.



Mrs. Linda's Llamas show off their pajamas for 100 day.



Mrs. Katrina's Caterpillars and Mrs. Tiffany's Fish celebrated God being everywhere around the community.

# Deputies Make Drug Arrests Over Weekend

Fayette County Sheriff Keith Korenek reports that Fayette County Deputies conducted several drug arrests over the weekend.

On Feb. 12, Deputy Jared Michalec stopped the driver of a vehicle traveling on State Hwy. 71 near Hatterman Ln. for speeding. During the investigation of the stop Michalec observed the odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. A search of the vehicle resulted in marijuana and prescription pills being located. Arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and a controlled substance was 34-year-old Jacob Spears of Austin.

On Feb. 12, Deputy Michalec stopped another driver of a vehicle on State Hwy. 71 near Zapalac Rd. for an expired registration. During the investigation of the traffic stop a firearm was located in the vehicle and

the driver admitted that THC wax was in the vehicle. A search of the vehicle resulted in THC wax and gummies being located. Charged with possession of a controlled substance and unlawfully carrying of a weapon was 23-year-old Brodee Browder of Florence. Also charged with possession of a controlled substance was a passenger in the vehicle, 21-year-old Dylan Alvarado of Austin.

On Feb. 13, Deputy Orlando Buitron stopped a driver of a vehicle on State Hwy. 71 near the Busy B for defective equipment. The investigation during the stop resulted in the odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. A probable cause search of the vehicle resulted in THC wax, THC oil and marijuana being located in the vehicle. Charged with possession of a controlled substance was 19-year-old Jacob Fitzpatrick of Austin.

# New Stop Sign to be Installed in Carmine

Travelers be advised that the local Texas Dept of Transportation will be making a change to the signage at the intersection of SH 237 and SP 458 in Carmine to enhance the safety of this intersection. Northbound traffic on SH 237 turning left onto Spur 458 headed towards Carmine will now encounter a new Stop sign. In addition, a stop bar will be painted on the pavement to enhance the stop condition. The current Yield sign will be permanently removed and replaced with a Stop condition.

The sign change is planned for Tuesday, Feb. 22, depending on weather conditions. To

make drivers aware of the new Stop Sign, TxDOT plans to use a changeable message sign to alert drivers of the upcoming change.

**Important Things to Remember:**

- Always come to a complete stop at the stop line. Rolling Stops are not acceptable.
- Make sure there is no oncoming traffic from your left or right side before entering the intersection and then proceed with caution.
- Avoid Distracted Driving so that you can give your full attention to driving and to the road.



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**BBQ Chicken & Sausage To-Go**  
**Sunday, Feb. 27th**  
Drive-Thru 10:30 a.m. to 12 Noon  
KC Center, La Grange  
**979-968-5117**  
Slab of Pork Ribs - \$20  
Chicken \$10 • Sausage \$7  
*Orders Guaranteed on Call-Ins*  
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Political Ad Paid for by Brad Neville, Sharon Neville, Treasurer, 3135 East State Hwy. 159, Fayetteville, Texas 78940




**Early Voting has started and it's time to vote for the best candidate who will represent you and your family as Fayette County Judge. I want to be that person.**

**My years of experience serving Texans has given me the knowledge and dedication I will use to not just talk about leaving taxes the same, but reduce them using planning and common sense. My goal will always be to keep our families happy and safe.**

**VOTE LORI BERGER**  
**for Fayette County Judge**

Political Ad paid for by Campaign to Elect Lori Berger Fayette County Judge  
Lee Fritsch, treasurer

PO Box 527, Flatonia, TX 78941





# La Grange’s Johnston Pens New Book About Overcoming Abuse

“A Road Map Home: Leaving a Life of Abuse, Entering a Life Full of Grace” is a new book by author Pam Johnston, a La Grange wife, mother, and grandmother who is serving as co-pastor alongside her loving husband at the Living Vine Christian Church.

Johnston shares, “‘A Road Map Home’ is a compelling story of the actual heart-wrenching accounts of an abusive life suffered for years in secret by the author and her sister. No one in their family ever knew of the horrific events that they both lived through for years. They lived in the same house, and they didn’t know what the other was going through until this book. The author shares with you the journeys of hopelessness and despair to a life filled with grace and a purpose. For anyone who has a story of their own, ‘A Road Map Home’ will encourage and enlighten your path of hope.”

Published by Christian Faith Publishing, Pam Johnston’s new book paints a dark and unsettling picture of what life is like for many who suffer at the hands of those that are meant to be protectors.

Johnston shares an emotionally raw tale of the devastating effects of abuse and how one can find healing through God’s love.

Johnston has lived in La Grange since 2006, and she is also a financial Counselor at



La Granges Pam Johnston with her book “A Road Map Home: Leaving a Life of Abuse, Entering a Life Full of Grace”

Photo by Jeff Wick

Baylor Scott and White in Br-enham.

“If anyone needs help reach out,” Johnston said. “If they need someone to talk to, they can contact me at [livingvineoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:livingvineoutreach@gmail.com).”

Consumers can purchase “A Road Map Home: Leaving a Life of Abuse, Entering a Life Full of Grace” at The Fayette County Record, or online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), Apple iTunes store, or Barnes and Noble.

# Fayette County Community Theatre Box Office and Studio Opens in LG

After spending five years bringing the arts to La Grange and Fayette County with full length plays, student workshops and productions, and participation in community events, the theatre group is excited to open a space of their own. “We are so happy to be able to offer in-person ticket sales, workshops and open mic night events,” said Operations Manager Heather Barthelme. “If someone needs a space to offer music, art, or theater lessons, we have space to do that, too!”

FCCT held their grand opening event Feb. 12.

“It was so exciting to have so many people come through our new space and learn about our plans for this year,” said Vice President of Productions Melissa Weltner. Season six will begin in earnest March 20-21, when FCCT holds auditions for the May 13-15 production of the hilarious comedy “The Play That Goes Wrong.” That play will be performed at the Sanford Schmid Amphitheater on the grounds of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center.



Stop by and see what FCCT is up to at 120 S. Washington, La Grange, Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment.

The summer Middle School/High School Workshop in June and the student production “Peter Pan and Wendy” in August will be held for the first time at the La Grange Performing Arts Center. “We’re looking forward to partnering with LGISD this summer,” said Barthelme. In November they will be back at TCHCC at the pavilion/round up hall for the classic play “The Great Gatsby.”

Throughout the year, FCCT has plans to hold open mic nights monthly every third Thursday beginning March 17,

and monthly workshops teaching stage make-up, costuming, public speaking and other art-related topics. They will also continue to participate in community events such as Summer Movie Nights, Trick-or-Treat on the Square, and Schmeckenfest.

“We are so glad to be able to participate in La Grange events from our own on-the-square location, and we are also looking to branch out more into the county and get involved in Fayetteville, Schulenburg, Flatonia and Round Top,” said Barthelme.

# Private Applicator Training Scheduled March 4

A private applicators license is required by the state, to purchase restricted use pesticides. To obtain a license, it is mandatory to attend a pesticide applicator training and past a 100-question test. This course will teach participants proper procedures for applying pesticides. This is the training only. Testing procedures will be explained during the training.

A pesticide applicator training has been scheduled for Friday, March 4. The training will be held at the Fayette County Agricultural Building, 255 Svoboda Ln. in La Grange. Registration will begin at 7:45 a.m. with the program beginning promptly at 8 a.m.


The cost of the program is \$50 per person, and you must pre-register at the Fayette County Extension Office by March 1. The registration fee will cover the study manual, handouts, and refreshments.

Please bring a pen and/or pencil and a simple calculator to aid with the training. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office at (979) 968-5831.

# Fayette Fire Calls

The Fayette County Fire-fighter’s Association reports the following calls for the week of Feb. 6-12:

- Grass Fires - 12
- Smoke Report - 1
- Medical - 3
- Accidents - 2
- Electrical Fire - 1
- Structure Fire - 1
- Gas Leak/Odor - 1
- Train Fire - 1



**TEXAS EXES**  
FAYETTE COUNTY

# TEXAS

## INDEPENDENCE DAY DINNER

**Wednesday, March 2nd**  
*Frisch Auf! Valley Country Club*

Fellowship, dinner and a talk by Dr. Jim Kearney, historian and faculty member of The University of Texas at Austin.

**Social: 5:30 p.m. • Dinner: 6:15 p.m.**  
**Silent Auction**  
**Tickets: \$50 per person**

All proceeds go to providing scholarships for Fayette County high school graduates planning to attend the University of Texas at Austin.

**For reservations call Don Jones, 713-962-8549, or email, [don@donjones.com](mailto:don@donjones.com)**  
**Tickets can be bought at the door.**

★

## MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE:

I am seeking the office of Fayette County Judge. I am serving as Justice of the Peace Pct. 4. I have held this position since I was first elected in 1994. I have been heard on KVLG KBUK in La Grange since 1977.

In this race for Fayette County Judge, one of my opponents has filed a complaint with the FCC which prohibits me from being on the radio.


Until the election is over, I will not be hosting the Old Music Program on Saturdays or Hymns of Hope on Sundays or any newscasts. After this campaign, win or lose, Lord willing, I will return to my regular radio schedule.

*Dan Mueller*  
**Dan Mueller**

★

Political ad paid for by Dan Mueller Campaign, Gene Kruppa - Treasurer, La Grange, Texas

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# Dubina’s Significance Underscored by Monday’s Designation

Continued from front

to anyone who comes to the shrine to pray on the Feast Day of Saints Cyril and Methodius (February 14) and partial indulgences to anyone coming into the shrine to pray on any other day of the year.

The new designation only heightens the importance of Dubina to the faithful who continue to come to it, and the three other Fayette County painted churches in droves. More than 400 bus tours came to the painted churches last year alone.

Situated in the far southeastern edge of Fayette County, Dubina is considered the first Czech settlement in Texas, after a group of immigrants found shelter under a group of large oak trees (Dubina is Czech for “oak grove”) and later built a community there.

The first church was built in Dubina in 1877. The present church was built in 1911, designed by San Antonio architect Leo Dielmann. Like several other Texas churches built by Central European immigrants, Sts. Cyril and Methodius is adorned with an array of deco-



Former Fayette County Judge Ed Janecka, instrumental in the church’s restoration, spoke at Monday’s dedication.

rative interior painting, but all of the church’s interior paintings were covered with white paint in 1952, but their existence was never forgotten and faint traces remained visible.

After over thirty years, the church’s parishioners decided to uncover and restore the paintings in 1983. Thus began a long and tedious restoration process, undertaken each Sunday after church services by the parishioners themselves. They carefully removed the white paint to reveal portions of the paintings. With the aid of historic photographs, the parishioners then re-



The outside of the Dubina church Monday.

painted all of the interior decorations in their original locations.

One of Dubina’s most striking features is its dramatic blue ceiling covered with hundreds of golden stars.

The church’s importance to Texas Czech Catholics was underscored Monday. The church was the first in Texas named after Sts, Cyril and Methodius, brothers, who were early missionaries sent to the Slavic regions of Moravia and the Czech lands. In his homily Monday, Cahill highlighted the importance of respect

for other cultures.

“They were bridges between the Eastern and Western traditions,” Cahill said. “We are called to be a bridge ... and the example we can look to is Sts. Cyril and Methodius.”

“With this designation comes a great deal of responsibility,” said Rev. Wayne Flagg, the pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius.

“Thank you for this honor Bishop, and we’ll try to live up to it,” said retired Fayette County Judge Ed Janecka, a Dubina resident who was instrumental in the restoration work at the church.

Brian Vanicek, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic to the State of Texas, read a letter from the Czech ambassador to the U.S., extending his congratulations on the new designation.

After the Mass, the designation was further celebrated at the adjacent church hall, which is shaded by some of the most impressive oak trees in the county.

Fittingly, the post-Mass meal was comprised of a Czech feast of sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes and kolaches.

# LG Council: Drainage Project is Proposed

Continued from front

City Council regularly attracted big crowds of supporters and opponents.

The City serves the neighborhood on Horton Street with City electric, water and sewer utilities, but residents pay higher rates since the neighborhood currently lies outside the city limits. If annexed, the residents would begin paying City property taxes. However, City Manager Shawn Raborn said most residents would see a net decrease in costs because their utility rates would go down to regular city rates.

Also at Monday’s meeting, Council authorized staff to develop and submit an application for a Hazard Mitigation Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Raborn said the new grant opportunity would

allow the City to undertake some much-needed drainage improvements. He said the grant amount could be in the \$1.5 to \$2 million range. The City would have to match 25 percent of the award amount.

He proposed a drainage project that would relieve flooding in the area around North Washington Street, which Raborn described as a “bowl” that collects water during heavy rains. The project would divert that water through a new drainage ditch around the old bowling alley.

The deadline for the grant application is April 29. Raborn said awards would not be announced until late this year or early next year. If awarded, he said project completion could take up to three years. Council voted unanimously begin the application process.

# Trial of Polasek Expected to Stretch into Next Week

Continued from front

the baby a bath the next morning. He used a water trough as a makeshift bathtub. While bathing the child, Polasek said he forgot the baby shampoo in another room. Polasek said he went to retrieve the shampoo and heard a “thump.” When he returned, the baby was unresponsive in the tub. The prosecution presented the jury with cell phone records showing frantic calls and text messages between Polasek and Lambert on the morning of July 4. Polasek rushed the baby to La Grange on SH 159. Barina said Polasek and Lambert briefly stopped somewhere along the way to meet and assess the situation. Lambert did not ride with Polasek but drove behind him in a separate vehicle. Barina testified that Lambert called 911 a few minutes after 11:10 a.m.

Moments later, Gulash pulled Polasek over in the Texas One Stop parking lot. Barina testified that Polasek had Atkins in his lap and was trying to breathe for the child via mouth-to-mouth resuscitation while he was driving. Barina said Polasek immediately handed the child over to Gulash, and Gulash attempted life-saving measures. Fayette County EMS arrived and rushed the baby to St. Mark’s, where he was pronounced dead.

Following Atkins’ death, the Sheriff’s Office taped off a crime scene at the Polasek property. Lorelei Carillo, who lives on property next to Polasek’s residence near Rutersville, testified on Tuesday that she saw a trash fire on the Polasek property after

investigators left the property on July 4. The prosecution said the fire may have been started to destroy evidence. Specifically, Barina testified about some missing bedding that possibly contained blood evidence.

The jury also watched a forensic interview of Logan’s older brother who was seven-years-old at the time of Logan’s death. The interview was conducted at the Children’s Advocacy Center in Bastrop a short time after Logan’s death. In it, the older brother makes several fantastical statements. He claimed to have a pet deer and a pet owl. He said he knew how to speak Spanish and that he lived in West Texas despite the fact that he lived in La Grange at the time. Furthermore, the boy said Logan died after he and Logan went down a slide into a swimming pool.

Later, the prosecution called Carol Jean “Jeannie” Bertsch, who is Nicole Lambert’s aunt. Bertsch testified that she lived at Colorado Landing RV Park in La Grange at the time of Atkins’ death. Around July 1, 2016, Bertsch said she invited Nicole Lambert, Lambert’s two children and Lambert’s mother to go swimming at the Colorado Landing pool with Bertsch’s grandchildren. Bertsch testified that at no time did Logan ever go down a slide (the Colorado Landing pool does not have a slide). Nor did Logan ever fall down or hit his head, Bertsch testified.

Bertsch said she was away from the pool for about five minutes at one point. However,

she said Lambert and Lambert’s mother were both with the children at that time.

Under cross-examination by the defense, Bertsch said she no longer has a close relationship with her niece Nicole Lambert. Defense attorney Addy Miro asked Bertsch why.

“I don’t approve of some of the things she has done,” Bertsch said, adding that Lambert stole from her and her mother.

Bertsch testified that Logan’s older brother no longer lives with Lambert.

Later, the prosecution called Family Nurse Practitioner Leslie Lindholm to the witness stand. Lindholm testified that she was Logan’s primary medical caregiver. Lindholm said Lambert took Logan to all of his scheduled well-child visits. Lindholm said she also saw Logan a few times for sick visits.

Lindholm testified she last saw Logan on June 6, 2016, for a routine six-month visit. The jury saw Lindholm’s medical report from that visit. In it, Lindholm described Logan as healthy, well-nourished and appropriately developing. Lindholm testified that she observed no signs of child abuse or any serious injuries during that visit.

On Wednesday, District Judge Jeff Steinhauer authorized the defense to call one of their witnesses out-of-order. Normally, the defense must wait until the prosecution rests before calling their witnesses. Steinhauer made an exception for one of the defense’s expert witnesses, Dr. Mark Shuman,

a forensic pathologist with the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, to accommodate Shuman’s travel and work schedule.

Shuman spent most of the day testifying about Atkins’ autopsy, which identified several injuries. Those injuries included numerous bruises to the head and a torn frenulum in his inside upper lip. Shuman said he personally examined several microscope slides of tissues taken from Logan’s body. Shuman said he is “very confident” the lip injury happened “a few days, at least,” before Logan’s death.

Furthermore, Shuman said one of the slides taken from skull tissue showed signs of healing. He said that indicated the bruises could have occurred hours or days before Logan died. However, Shuman couldn’t exclude the possibility that the skull injuries happened immediately before death. Shuman also testified about head injuries that can occur hours or days before death. He said a person suffering such an injury can experience a “period of lucidity” during that time. For example, he said it came take several days after an injury before the brain swells to a point that renders the patient unconscious.

Defense attorney Angelica Cogliano asked Shuman whether Atkins could have experienced a period of lucidity.

“Yes, but I don’t know if or how long he had one,” Shuman said. “It’s difficult to ascertain in an infant because they commonly get fussy, sleepy, lose their appetite or vomit, and those are all symptoms of a head injury.”

Shuman said he knew of another case in which a nine-month-old fell out of a bed and was lucid for three days before dying. The State will continue the prosecution later this week. The trial is expected to stretch into next week.

# Harbers Running for LGISD School Board

My name is Blake Harbers, and I am pleased to announce that I am running for Place 1 on the LGISD School Board.

I was part of the La Grange public school system from kindergarten through high school. After graduating in 2013, I attended Texas A&M University, earned a B.S. in Geology, and I’m currently employed as a hydrologist with LCRA.

La Grange is a community that means a great deal to me, I’m running for school board because I want to ensure that current students and future generations will have even more opportunities than I was blessed with. The current board would benefit from my optimism and experience from attending La Grange schools. In high school, I



Blake Harbers

was very active in athletics, UIL academics, and extra-curricular activities. I know firsthand how

valuable these programs are, and I will make sure they remain top priorities for our school board, along with good governance, and hometown values.

There are a growing number of my peers and fellow young adults becoming the next generation of parents.

Their children will attend LGISD, and I want to ensure that the school district has everything it needs to provide for them and enhance their environment to be as safe and as fun as possible.

I look forward to serving the community. I hope that you consider voting for me come election day. For more information, contact myself or my campaign treasurer Jenifer Boening, at [blakeharbersinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:blakeharbersinfo@yahoo.com).

• Municipal and school board elections take place on Saturday, May 7. The first day for candidates to file for a place on the ballot was Wednesday, Jan. 19. The filing period ends at 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 18. Write-in candidates have until Wednesday, Feb. 22 to file for a place on the ballot.

# About The Record’s Free Candidacy Announcements

A number of local offices will be up for election in 2022 in the May 7 municipal and school board elections (not to be confused with the county primaries March 1).

The Fayette County Record, as a service to readers, allows candidates

for public office to run one free campaign announcement, to let people know you are running, why you are running and a little about you.

Please keep these to about 350 words or less, and you may include a photo.

Please email these announcements to editor Jeff Wick at: [jeff@fayettecountyrecord.com](mailto:jeff@fayettecountyrecord.com)

We will accept these now through the end of March. Anything beyond this initial announcement must be a paid political ad.



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**\$54,070** SALE PRICE +T&L

STK#1883 - MSRP \$55,070 - Dealer Bonus Cash \$1,000

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## Fayetteville Only County Girls Hoops Team Left Standing

The Fayetteville girls basketball team was the only county hoops team to survive the first round of the playoffs.

On a night when three other Fayette County teams lost, the Lady Lions beat Prairie Lea Tuesday in Schulenburg 68-27.

Brooklyn Jaeger scored 32, Kayme Schley added 11 and Emma Jurecka nine as the Lady Lions improved to 25-7 overall.

Fayetteville now advances to face D'Hanis at 6 p.m. Friday in Goliad.

Feb. 15  
**Fayetteville girls 68, Prairie Lea 27**  
Prairie Lea 10 7 3 7 - 27  
Fayetteville 25 10 20 13 - 68  
**Fayetteville scoring:** Emma Jurecka 9, Jeslyn Morales 2, Kayme Schley 11, Brooklyn Jaeger 32, Mattie Konvicka 2, Rylie Dyer 8, Marissa Rohde 4.

## Lake Belton Ends LG Girls' Season

By JEFF WICK

The Fayette County Record

ROCKDALE – Lake Belton has really grown up.

Last year La Grange bounced Lake Belton (which was in its first year as a school) from the first round of the girls basketball playoffs, winning by 28 points.

But Tuesday in a postseason rematch, it was Lake Belton

(which is moving up to 5A next year) that got revenge, beating the Lady Leps 59-43.

“Youth played a big part in the game last year, they were just freshmen and sophomores,” La Grange head coach Heath Golan said. “I knew coming into this one that it was going to be tough. It was a match-up I was worried about.”

Lake Belton improves to 21-

10 and advances to face Pflugerville Conally.

The district champ La Grange girls end their season with a 28-8 record.

“I told the girls to be proud of what they accomplished – 28 wins with five new girls on the varsity,” Golan said. “Appreciate what you’ve done because it doesn’t come along very often.”

See *Lady Leps*, next page



La Grange's Aysia Grant, a four-year varsity player, played her final high school game Tuesday, scoring a team-high 20 in a playoff loss to Lake Belton in Rockdale.

Photo by Jeff Wick

## Megan Davis has a Week To Remember with 7 Goals



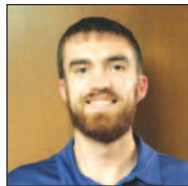
Megan Davis

La Grange senior soccer player Megan Davis has racked up the scoring for the Lady Leopards during their solid run to start the season. Davis recently netted two goals in a win vs Smithville, then booted five goals in an 11-3 win last Thursday against Rockdale. “It’s just a continuation of where she was last year,” said La Grange head girl’s soccer coach Chris Westall. “She’s definitely been able to convert her opportunities into goals. This week was the gold standard of that. Seven goals in one week is quite an accomplishment, so she’s getting the job done for us. We got to keep doing it. This week is going to be our toughest week with Giddings and Cameron on the schedule, but we’re putting our eggs in her basket to get those shots and then put them in.” An enormous stretch of games for Davis has earned her the nod for this edition’s Player of the Week.

**Question: What are your goals for soccer this season?**

## Fayette Co. Record's Athlete of the Week

A Weekly Feature by BRIAN PIERSON



### Recent FCR's Athlete of the Week

Dec. 3: Seth Brock, RTC basketball  
Dec. 10: Aysia Grant, La Grange basketball  
Dec. 17: Luke Law, Flatonia basketball  
Jan. 7: Jaxon Cooper, La Grange basketball  
Jan. 14: Phillip Arceneaux, La Grange soccer  
Jan. 21: Jessalyn Gipson, Schulenburg basketball  
Jan. 28: Duke Sodek, Flatonia basketball  
Feb. 4: Trey Cunningham, La Grange swimming  
Feb. 11: Marissa Rohde, Fayetteville basketball

\* Read about the new honorees in our Friday editions and then watch their interviews on our Facebook page a few days later.

**Answer:** “I would say perfecting my shot and bettering my ball control.”

**Question: Do you play any other sports besides soccer?**  
**Answer:** “No”

**Question: Where's your favorite place to play a match other than home field and why?**  
**Answer:** “Really anything, to be honest.”

**Question: What all would you say is expected of you on the soccer field?**  
**Answer:** “I would say being the fastest and being open for that last shot.”

**Question: If you could have your dream car, what would it be and why?**  
**Answer:** “I would say a 2018 Mustang. I’ve always wanted one.”

**Question: What do you like to do in your spare time?**  
**Answer:** “Play soccer with my family.”

**Question: Who's one person you know you can always count on and why?**  
**Answer:** “My mom. She’s always been there.”

**Question: “What sports team do you follow closely and why?”**  
**Answer:** “The Dallas Cowboys. I’ve always watched them growing up.”

**Question: What are you looking to change or improve on in the year 2022?**  
**Answer:** “Team chemistry.”

Davis’ passion for sports is only one of many attributes the star athlete possesses.



His La Grange teammates run towards Nate Scott, above, after his last-second shot to win the game for the Leps Tuesday in Giddings. Right, a view of that last shot.

Photos by Stephanie Steinhauser

## Great Scott!

### Leps Sink Giddings On Nate Scott's Buzzer-Beater

The La Grange boys basketball team has a lot of momentum as they head into the playoffs next week.

In a battle to decide third place in District 20-4A, La Grange beat the Buffaloes in Giddings Tuesday in the regular season finale thanks to a buzzer-beating jump shot by Nate Scott, which gave the Leps a 42-41 win.

Jaxon Cooper led the Leps in scoring with 19 points and Scott added 12 as La Grange improved to 16-14 overall and 8-4 in district.

The Leps now advance to play Salado (22-12) next Tuesday Feb. 22 in Cameron starting at 7 p.m. in the first round of the 4A boys playoffs.

Feb. 15  
**La Grange boys 42, Giddings 41**  
Giddings 8 5 9 19 - 41  
LG 11 9 13 9 - 42

**LG scoring:** Jaxon Cooper 19, Nate Scott 12, Dana Baker 4, Jacob Chovanetz 3, Eli Roberts 2, Jaren Woods 2.



### Liberty Matters - Believe Elect William Bernsen for County Judge

Mr. Hollas of Schulenburg says...



“I have thoroughly researched the four candidates. Only one is unapologetically aligned with my concerns. William Bernsen. **FAMILY-FIRST, PERSONAL FREEDOM** (no lockdowns), constitutionality, states’ rights, county rights and **LOCAL** control. If we have learned anything the past two years, it is that our greatest threats come from long time “Republicans” that align with liberals when battles need to be fought. He will **EMPOWER** the people of Fayette County. He will fight for our freedoms **NO MATTER WHAT** the **CAREER POLITICIANS** tell him.”

**Liberty Breeds Prosperity - www.WilliamForLiberty.com**

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# La Grange Swimmers Cap Strong Season at Regionals

The La Grange High School Swim Team competed at the Region V-5A Swimming and Diving Championships on Feb 7 and 8. There were 32 teams in attendance. On Monday the LHS swimmers competed in the prelims. The regional qualifiers were Morgan King, Celeine Fabre, Campbell Youens, Riley Youenhs, Isabella Strever, Avery Koehl, Trey Cunningham, Cole Stork, Ben Swisher, Will Bundick and Gage Mihatsch. The regional alternates were Made-line Willrich, Quinlynn Landis, Collin Landis, Dalton Landis and Hunter Sabo.

The results of the prelims were as follows.

Girls 200 Medley Relay swam a 2:19.10 which earned them 16th place

Boys 200 Medley Relay swam a 2:02.58 which earned the 18th place

Campbell Youens swam the 100 Fly in 1:11.46 which earned her 19th place

Trey Cunningham swam the 100 Free in 57.19 which earned him 23rd place

Girls 200 Free Relay swam a 1:59.08 which earned them 17th place

Boys 200 Free Relay swam a 1:46.27 which earned them 17th place

Girls 400 Free Relay swam a 4:35.03 which earned them 14th



The La Grange swim team at regionals.

place

Boys 400 Free Relay swam a 4:03.66 which earned them 16th place.

This season three relays placed high enough to be able to swim in the finals on Tuesday. The Girls 200 Medley relay consisting of Morgan King, Maddi Mach, Campbell Youens and Isabella Strever swam a 2:17.29 placing 16th overall.

The Girls 400 Free relay

consisting of Isabella Strever, Riley Youens, Celeine Fabre, and Campbell Youens swam a 4:32.82 placing 14th overall.

The Boys 400 Free relay consisting of Ben Swisher, Cole Stork, Will Bundick and Trey Cunningham swam a 4:00.50 placing 16th overall.

The LHS Swim Team ended their season setting nine new school records. Morgan King, Maddi Mach, Campbell Youens,

and Celeine Fabre in the 200 Medley relay with a time of 2:15.15 Isabella Strever in the 200 Freestyle with a time of 2:35.72. Campbell Youens in the 100 Fly with a time of 1:09.83. Celeine Fabre in the 100 Freestyle with a time of 1:07.71. Campbell Youens in the 500 Freestyle with a time of 7:39.02. Morgan King, Celeine Fabre, Isabella Strever, and Campbell Youens in the 200 Free Relay

with a time of 1:58.11. Celeine Fabre, Riley Youens, Isabella Strever, and Campbell Youens in the 400 Free Relay with a time of 4:32.27. Trey Cunningham in the 100 Freestyle with a time of 55.02. Ben Swisher in the 500 Freestyle with a time of 6:50.13.

The team is looking forward to next season in which for the first time ever the UIL has approved a 4A and under swimming classification.

# La Grange Soccer Update

## LG Boys Win 2-0 Over Caldwell

The La Grange boys soccer team beat Caldwell Tuesday 2-0 at home.

Goals were scored by Phillip Arceneaux and Xavier Ortiz.

The defense recorded its 3rd straight shutout.

The Leps' district record is now 5-1-0 and they are 10-5-2 overall.

La Grange is in second place halfway through district play and host Cameron Friday at 7:15 p.m.

## LG Girls Fall 5-3 to Giddings

The La Grange girls soccer team lost Monday at Giddings 5-3.

Megan Davis scored two goals and Kaelyn scored one.

Camila Martinez had two assists. Defensive player of the game was Ellee Sodolak.

The Lady Leps are now 9-3 overall and 2-1 in district and play at Cameron Friday.

# Lady Leps Lose in First Round of Playoffs

Continued from Page B1

But the Broncos were a little better, and got this win on the strength of their speed and athleticism.

"They had a really good defense and they were as fast as us, and we hadn't faced many teams that were as fast as us," said La Grange senior Aysia Grant, who scored 16 of her team-high 20 points in the first half, but was limited by a suffocating defensive effort by Lake Belton's Ella Wagenaar after halftime.

"They were just quicker and more aggressive," said La Grange junior Camille Gonzalez. "They seemed to have really done their homework and knew how we wanted to play."

With Grant leading the way for La Grange, the lead changed hands several times in the first half before Lake Belton took a 29-25 lead at halftime.

The Lady Leps rallied after the break to score six answered points to re-take the lead 31-29.

Lake Belton went on an 11-2 run to close the third quarter and never trailed again.

No player besides Grant scored in double figures for La Grange, while a trio of Lake Belton players did, led by Alannah Thompson, who scored 17.

Junior Keslyn Davis scored nine for La Grange.

Tuesday's loss ends the career of three La Grange seniors - Grant, Lyric Sampson and Makenna Mitchell.

"They are all going to be hard to replace," Golan said.

"They were all special in their own way," Davis said. "Makenna, she gives it her all, she'd dive after balls even if it

meant busting her head open like she did against Giddings. Lyric, when she would get hot, she could score so many points for us, and Aysia was just so athletic and really carried us at times. It's going to hurt losing all three of them next year."

Grant, in particular leaves a void after a varsity career that spanned all four years of high school. She departs among the program's all-time leaders in wins and points.

"She's going to have opportunities to continue to play (in college)," Golan said. "I know it's hard to think about that now, but her career is not over."

"My teammates, that's all I can think about, not the games that we won or lost," Grant said. "That's what I'll remember."

Feb. 15  
Lake Belton girls 59, La Grange 43  
La Grange 14 11 10 8 - 43



La Grange's Camille Gonzalez tries to fight through a double team.

Lake Belton 12 17 13 17 - 59  
LG scoring: Aysia Grant 20, Keslyn Davis 9, Tori Harold 4, Camille Gonzalez 4, Alicia Tisdell 2, Katelyn Allen 2, Lyric Sampson 2.  
Record: LG is 28-8. Lake Belton is 21-10.



Keslyn Davis puts up a shot Tuesday.

# Schulenburg Girls Fall to Thorndale

Another strong season for the Schulenburg girls basketball team ended Tuesday in a first round 52-33 playoff loss to Thorndale in La Grange.

The Lady Horns were led by Airyanna Rodriguez, who scored 16.

The Schulenburg girls end their season with a 22-14 record.

Thorndale girls 52, Schulenburg 33

Schulenburg 12 9 7 5 - 33  
Thorndale 17 11 13 11 - 52

Schulenburg scoring: Jordan Sommer 5, Tamara Otto 9, Kierny Adams 3, Airyanna Rodriguez 16.



Schulenburg's Hailey Goode makes a pass in Tuesday's playoff game.



Schulenburg's Jordan Sommer shoots the ball in Tuesday's playoff game in La Grange against Thorndale.

Photo by Audrey Kristynik

# Basketball Round-Up

The Flatonia girls basketball team lost 55-31 to Hearne Tuesday in Fayetteville as the Lady Bulldogs season ended in the 2A bidistrict round of the playoffs.

The Flatonia boys basketball team begins the playoffs Monday Feb. 21 versus Holland at 6:30 p.m. at Caldwell high School.

The Bulldogs have a 31-4 overall record and closed out their regular season Monday with a 75-53 victory over Ganado.

Feb. 15  
Bartlett boys 52, RTC boys 38  
RTC (H) 18 12 3 5 - 38  
Bartlett 20 5 7 20 - 52  
RTC scoring: Seth Brock 20, Hunter Schobel 8, Jacob Polasek 6, Kannyn Goehring 4.  
Record: RTC is 5-15 overall and 2-11 in district.

Feb. 11  
North Zulch 75, RTC boys 31  
RTC 11 2 10 8 - 31  
North Zulch (H) 15 26 21 13 - 75  
RTC scoring: Kannyn Goehring 20, Jacob Polasek 5, Evan Blazek 4, Hunter Schobel 2.  
Record: RTC is 5-14 overall and 2-10 in district.



Dayton Cliffe puts up a collection of three point shots for The Flatonia Bulldogs in Monday night's district win over Ganado.

Photo by Stephanie Steinhauser

# Flatonia 7th and 8th Graders Both Go Undeclared This Basketball Season



The Flatonia 8th grade girls basketball team went 15-0 this season. Front Row: Summer Sodek, Mariana Rosas, Lili Rosas, Bri Luckey; Back Row: Kalen Scott, Dallynn Bishop, Giselle Crayton, Dani Vincklarek. Junior High Coaches are: Chris Sodek, Sue Smith and Chris Gillum



The Flatonia 7th grade girls basketball team went 9-0 this season. Front Row: Adeline Cherry, Brealey Nieto, Emma Kosler, Arianna Courville; Back Row: Delaney Hughes, Jalee Trussell, Katelin Sullivan, Nashawn Willis. Junior High Coaches are: Chris Sodek, Sue Smith and Chris Gillum



# Sample Ballots

The Republican and Democratic primary elections take place on Tuesday, March 1.

Early voting began this week:

Early voting for the primaries takes place at the Fayette County Elections Office at 275 Ellinger Road in La Grange. The early voting days include the following:

- Monday, Feb. 14, through Friday, Feb. 18, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
- Saturday, Feb. 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 pm.;
- Tuesday, Feb. 22, through Friday, Feb. 25, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

On Election Day, March 1, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 12 precinct locations throughout the county, listed below:

ELECTION DAY VOTING LOCATIONS FOR MARCH 1, 2022 DEMOCRAT AND REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION (On Election Day, voters must vote in their precinct where registered to vote. <i>El Día de Elección, los votantes deberán votar en su precinto donde están inscritos para votar.</i> )		
POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 7AM TO 7PM		
Election Precinct	Voting Location	Voting Location Address
<b>101N La Grange</b> (formerly known as 01 North La Grange)	<b>101N La Grange</b> La Grange City Hall Council Chambers	155 E. Colorado St. La Grange, TX 78945
<b>110 Warda</b> (formerly known as 10 Warda and 11 Winchester)	<b>110 Warda</b> Holy Cross Lutheran Church	600 FM 1482 Warda, TX 78960
<b>112 Plum</b> (formerly known as 12 Plum and 13 West Point)	<b>112 Plum</b> St. Peter & Paul Parish Church Hall	136 Plum Church Rd. Plum, TX 78563
<b>201E La Grange</b> (formerly known as 01 East La Grange and 02 Ruttersville)	<b>201E La Grange</b> La Grange Church of Christ	646 E Hwy 71 Business La Grange, TX 78945
<b>204 Fayetteville</b> (formerly known as 03 Ellinger, 04 Fayetteville, and 05 Willow Springs)	<b>204 Fayetteville</b> Fayetteville Community Center	202 West Main Fayetteville, TX 78940
<b>207 Round Top</b> (formerly known as 06 Warrenton, 07 Round Top, 08 Carmine, and 09 Nechanitz)	<b>207 Round Top</b> Round Top Town Hall	302 Main St. Round Top, TX 78954
<b>301W La Grange</b> (formerly known 01W La Grange and 20 Hoston)	<b>301W La Grange</b> St Paul Lutheran Church Ed. Bldg.	427 S. Washington La Grange, Texas 78945
<b>315 Cistern</b> (formerly known as 14 Muldoon and 15 Cistern)	<b>315 Cistern</b> St. Cyril & Methodius Parish Hall	113 Manchester Cistern, TX 78941
<b>316 Flatonia</b> (formerly known as 16 Flatonia and 17 Praha)	<b>316 Flatonia</b> Flatonia Civic Center	208 E. North Main Flatonia, TX 78941
<b>422 Ammannsville</b> (formerly known as 21 Swiss Alp and 22 Ammannsville)	<b>422 Ammannsville</b> Ammannsville KJT Hall	7904 Mensik Road Schulenburg, TX 78956
<b>423 Holman</b> (formerly known as 23 Holman and 26 Mullins Prairie)	<b>423 Holman</b> Holman Parish Hall	9937 FM 155 La Grange, TX 78945
<b>425 Schulenburg</b> (formerly known as 24 Dubina and 25 Schulenburg)	<b>425 Schulenburg</b> County Building #1	312 Paulus Street Schulenburg, TX 78956

**Republican Party Primary Election (Elección Primaria del Partido Republicano)**  
**Fayette County, Texas (Condado de Fayette, Texas)**  
**March 1, 2022 (1 de marzo de 2022)**  
**Official Ballot (Boleta Oficial)**

**Instruction Note:** Vote for the candidate of your choice in each race by darkening in the oval (●) provided to the left of the name of that candidate.  
**(Nota de Instrucción:** Vote por el candidato de su preferencia en cada carrera llenando completamente el espacio ovalado (●) a la izquierda del nombre del candidato.)

"I am a Republican and understand that I am ineligible to vote or participate in another political party's primary election or convention during this voting year."  
 ("Yo soy Republicano y comprendo que soy inelegible para votar o participar en la elección primaria o la convención de otro partido político durante este año electoral.")

Federal (Federal)	State (Estado)	State (Estado)
<b>United States Representative, District 10</b> (Representante de los Estados Unidos, Distrito Núm. 10) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Michael McCaul	<b>Commissioner of Agriculture</b> (Comisionado de Agricultura) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Carey A. Council <input type="radio"/> Gary White <input type="radio"/> Sid Miller	<b>State Senator, District 18</b> (Senador Estatal, Distrito Núm. 18) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Luke W. Kohnert
<b>State (Estado)</b> <b>Governor</b> (Gobernador) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Kandy Kaye Horn <input type="radio"/> Danny Harrison <input type="radio"/> Greg Abbott <input type="radio"/> Don Huffines <input type="radio"/> Rick Perry <input type="radio"/> Paul Belew <input type="radio"/> Chad Prather <input type="radio"/> Allen B. West	<b>Railroad Commissioner</b> (Comisionado de Ferrocarriles) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Wayne Christian <input type="radio"/> Marvin "Sarge" Summers <input type="radio"/> Dawayne Tipton <input type="radio"/> Tom Stomum Jr. <input type="radio"/> Sarah Stogner	<b>State Representative, District 85</b> (Representante Estatal, Distrito Núm. 85) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Stan Kitzman <input type="radio"/> Fred Roberts <input type="radio"/> Artemio "Art" Hernandez <input type="radio"/> Phil W. Stephenson
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b> (Gobernador Teniente) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Daniel Miller <input type="radio"/> Dan Patrick <input type="radio"/> Aaron Sorrells <input type="radio"/> Zach Vance <input type="radio"/> Todd M. Bullis <input type="radio"/> Trayce Bradford	<input type="radio"/> Debra Lehmann <b>Justice, Supreme Court, Place 3</b> (Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 3) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Rebecca Huddle	<b>Justice, 3rd Court of Appeals District, Place 4</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 3, Lugar Núm. 4) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Leslie R. Fitzpatrick
	<b>Justice, Supreme Court, Place 5</b> (Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 5) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> David J. Schenck <input type="radio"/> Evan Young	<b>District Judge, 155th Judicial District</b> (Juez del Distrito, Distrito Judicial Núm. 155) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Jeff R. Steinhauer
<b>Attorney General</b> (Procurador General) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Eva Guzman <input type="radio"/> Louie Gohmert <input type="radio"/> George P. Bush <input type="radio"/> Ken Paxton	<b>Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 2) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Mary Lou Kael	<b>County</b> (Condado) <b>County Judge</b> (Juez del Condado) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> William P. Barmen <input type="radio"/> Dan Mueller <input type="radio"/> Craig Moreau <input type="radio"/> Lori Berger
<b>Comptroller of Public Accounts</b> (Contralor de Cuentas Públicas) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Glenn Hegar <input type="radio"/> Mark V. Goloby	<b>Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 5) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Clint Morgan <input type="radio"/> Scott Walker	<b>District Clerk</b> (Secretario del Distrito) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Linda Svrcek
<b>Commissioner of the General Land Office</b> (Comisionado de la Oficina General de Tierras) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Rufus Lopez <input type="radio"/> Weston Martinez <input type="radio"/> Ben Armenta <input type="radio"/> Victor Avila <input type="radio"/> Tim Westley <input type="radio"/> Dawn Buckingham <input type="radio"/> Don W. Minton <input type="radio"/> Jon Spiers	<b>Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 6) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Jesse F. McClure, III <b>Member, State Board of Education, District 10</b> (Miembro de la Junta Estatal de Educación Pública, Distrito Núm. 10) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Tom Maynard	<b>County Clerk</b> (Secretario del Condado) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Brenda Kallus Fietz
		<b>County Tax Assessor-Collector, Unexpired Term</b> (Asesor-Collector de Impuestos del Condado, Duración Restante del Cargo) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Sylvia Mendoza
		<b>County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2</b> (Comisionado del Condado Precincto Núm. 2) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Luke Sternadel
		<b>Vote Both Sides</b> (Vote ambos lados)

2011E La Grange, 204 Fayetteville, 207 Round Top

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**Democratic Party Primary Election (Elección Primaria del Partido Democrático)**  
**Fayette County, Texas (Condado de Fayette, Texas)**  
**March 1, 2022 (1 de marzo de 2022)**  
**Official Ballot (Boleta Oficial)**

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<b>State</b> (Estado) <b>Governor</b> (Gobernador) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Michael Cooper <input type="radio"/> Joy Diaz <input type="radio"/> Inocencio (Inno) Barrientz <input type="radio"/> Rich Wakeland <input type="radio"/> Beto O'Rourke	<b>Justice, Supreme Court, Place 1</b> (Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 1) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> John Newell
	<b>Justice, Supreme Court, Place 5</b> (Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 5) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Amanda Reichel
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b> (Gobernador Teniente) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Michelle Beckley <input type="radio"/> Carla Bralley <input type="radio"/> Mike Collier	<b>Justice, Supreme Court, Place 9</b> (Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 9) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Julia Maldonado
	<b>Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 5) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Dana Huffman
<b>Attorney General</b> (Procurador General) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Mike Fields <input type="radio"/> S. "TBONE" Raynor <input type="radio"/> Lee Merritt <input type="radio"/> Joe Jaworski <input type="radio"/> Rochelle Mercedes Garza	<b>Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 6) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Robert Johnson
	<b>State Senator, District 18</b> (Senador Estatal, Distrito Núm. 18) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Josh Tutt
<b>Comptroller of Public Accounts</b> (Controlador de Cuentas Públicas) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Angel Luis Vega <input type="radio"/> Janet T. Dudding <input type="radio"/> Tim Mahoney	<b>State Representative, District 85</b> (Representante Estatal, Distrito Núm. 85) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Larry E Baggett
<b>Commissioner of the General Land Office</b> (Comisionado de la Oficina General de Tierras) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Jinny Suh <input type="radio"/> Michael Lange <input type="radio"/> Sandragrace Martinez <input type="radio"/> Jay Kleberg	<b>Justice, 3rd Court of Appeals District, Place 4</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 3, Lugar Núm. 4) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Beth Payán <input type="radio"/> Paula Knippa <input type="radio"/> Rcsa Lopez Theofanis
<b>Commissioner of Agriculture</b> (Comisionado de Agricultura) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Susan Hays <input type="radio"/> Ed Ireson	<b>County</b> (Condado) <b>County Chair</b> (Presidente del Condado) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> David McCall

101 N. La Grange, 110 Ward, 112 Ham, 201 E. La Grange, 204 Fayetteville, 207 Round Top  
 301 W. La Grange, 315 Clifton, 316 Flatonia, 422 Ammanville, 423 Holman, 425 Schulenburg

101N La Grange  
 Typ:02 Seq:001 Sp:01

**Republican Party Primary Election (Elección Primaria del Partido Republicano)**  
**Fayette County, Texas (Condado de Fayette, Texas)**  
**March 1, 2022 (1 de marzo de 2022)**  
**Official Ballot (Boleta Oficial)**

**Instruction Note:** Vote for the candidate of your choice in each race by darkening in the oval (●) provided to the left of the name of that candidate.  
**(Nota de Instrucción:** Vote por el candidato de su preferencia en cada carrera llenando completamente el espacio ovalado (●) a la izquierda del nombre del candidato.)

"I am a Republican and understand that I am ineligible to vote or participate in another political party's primary election or convention during this voting year."  
 ("Yo soy Republicano y comprendo que soy inelegible para votar o participar en la elección primaria o la convención de otro partido político durante este año electoral.")

Federal (Federal)	State (Estado)	State (Estado)
<b>United States Representative, District 10</b> (Representante de los Estados Unidos, Distrito Núm. 10) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Michael McCaul	<b>Commissioner of Agriculture</b> (Comisionado de Agricultura) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Carey A. Council <input type="radio"/> James White <input type="radio"/> Sid Miller	<b>State Senator, District 18</b> (Senador Estatal, Distrito Núm. 18) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Les W. Kohn
<b>Governor</b> (Gobernador) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Kandy Kaye Horn <input type="radio"/> Danny Harrison <input type="radio"/> Greg Abbott <input type="radio"/> Don Huffines <input type="radio"/> Rick Perry <input type="radio"/> Paul Belew <input type="radio"/> Chad Prather <input type="radio"/> Allen B. West	<b>Railroad Commissioner</b> (Comisionado de Ferrocarriles) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Wayne Christian <input type="radio"/> Marvin "Sarge" Summers <input type="radio"/> Dawayne Tipton <input type="radio"/> Tom Stocum Jr. <input type="radio"/> Sarah Stogner	<b>State Representative, District 85</b> (Representante Estatal, Distrito Núm. 85) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Stan Kitzman <input type="radio"/> Fred Roberts <input type="radio"/> Artemio "Art" Hernandez <input type="radio"/> Phil W. Stephenson
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b> (Gobernador Teniente) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Daniel Miller <input type="radio"/> Dan Patrick <input type="radio"/> Aaron Sorrells <input type="radio"/> Zach Vance <input type="radio"/> Todd M. Bullis <input type="radio"/> Trayce Bradford	<input type="radio"/> Debra Lehmann <b>Justice, Supreme Court, Place 5</b> (Juez, Corte Suprema, Lugar Núm. 5) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Rebeca Huddle	<b>Justice, 3rd Court of Appeals District, Place 4</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones, Distrito Núm. 3, Lugar Núm. 4) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Leslie R. Fitzpatrick
<b>Attorney General</b> (Procurador General) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Eva Guzman <input type="radio"/> Louie Gohmert <input type="radio"/> George P. Bush <input type="radio"/> Ken Paxton	<input type="radio"/> David J. Schenck <input type="radio"/> Evan Young <b>Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 2) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Mary Lou Keel	<b>County Judge</b> (Juez del Condado) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> William P. Bernsen <input type="radio"/> Dan Mueller <input type="radio"/> Craig Moreau <input type="radio"/> Lori Berger
<b>Comptroller of Public Accounts</b> (Controlador de Cuentas Públicas) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Glenn Hegar <input type="radio"/> Mark V. Goloby	<input type="radio"/> Clint Morgan <input type="radio"/> Scott Walker <b>Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5</b> (Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 5) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno)	<b>District Clerk</b> (Secretario del Distrito) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Linda Svrcek
<b>Commissioner of the General Land Office</b> (Comisionado de la Oficina General de Tierras) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Rufus Lopez <input type="radio"/> Weston Martinez <input type="radio"/> Ben Armenta <input type="radio"/> Victor Avila <input type="radio"/> Tim Westley <input type="radio"/> Dawn Buckingham <input type="radio"/> Don W. Minton <input type="radio"/> Jon Spillers	<input type="radio"/> Jesse F. McClure, III <b>Member, State Board of Education, District 10</b> (Miembro de la Junta Estatal de Educación Pública, Distrito Núm. 10) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Tom Maynard	<b>County Clerk</b> (Secretario del Condado) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Brenda Kallus Fietsam
		<b>County Tax Assessor-Collector, Unexpired Term</b> (Asesor-Collector de Impuestos del Condado, Duración Restante del Cargo) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Sylvia Mendoza
		<b>County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2</b> (Comisionado del Condado, Precincto Núm. 2) Vote for None or One (Vote por Ninguno o Uno) <input type="radio"/> Luke Sternadel
		<b>Vote Both Sides</b> (Vote ambos lados)

201E La Grange, 201 Fayetteville, 207 Round Top

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# Commissioners, Judge Issue Burn Ban for Fayette County

*This news release is being announced by Fayette County Judge's Office for a Burn Ban For Fayette County, effective Feb. 15 at 1 p.m.:*

At an Emergency Commissioners Court meeting an Order was signed by County Judge Joe Weber restricting outdoor burning. Residents are warned to refrain from burning anything, including kitchen trash and brush piles. Dry vegetation serves as ready, highly volatile fuel for wildfires. Burning trash or brush can provide an ignition source for wildfires, which can spread quickly, destroy homes, and worst of all, endanger lives.

Bans on outdoor burning have proven to be an excellent fire prevention tool. Keeping a fire from ever starting is the key to preventing wildfires. The burn ban in Fayette County will remain in effect until conditions improve and fire danger has diminished. Fire departments will be called to extinguish all fires and violators can be subject to a fine.

Carelessness with other activities can also result in dangerous wildfires. Residents can help themselves and their local fire departments by taking extra precaution to insure that their actions don't spark wild-

fires.

Use extreme care when using spark-producing equipment around dry grass.

Electricity-energized fences should be kept clear of all grass.

Lubricate farm equipment frequently to reduce the possibility of producing sparks.

Be careful when towing. Loose chains can cause sparks when dragged on the roadway. Be aware of flat tires as rims can also cause sparks which can ignite grass fires.

Do not litter. Trash adds to the fuel load, and glass lying in direct sunlight can start a fire.

Smokers are advised to dispose of smoking materials properly. Use ashtrays. Many wildfires are started by carelessly discarded cigarette butts and matches.

Motorists are advised not to drive in or park in tall, dry grass. Catalytic converters can

be a source of ignition.

Hikers and campers are asked to use burn pits or grill in designated area where, and if, such fire are permitted.

Dispose of hot coals from barbecue pits by smothering completely with sand or water, and never leave smoldering

coals unattended.

Use extreme caution when using fireworks during a burn ban.

Citizens are also asked to use caution when traveling outside Fayette County as our neighbors are experiencing similar fire hazard conditions.

## Sheriff Reports on January Activity

Fayette County Sheriff Keith Korenek reports activities of Fayette County Sheriff Deputies for the month of January.

Sgt. Ben Wilson responded to a residence in the West Point area in reference to a suspicious death. After further investigation, it was determined the death was a suicide.

Sgt. Ron Naumann took a report of property damage that occurred at a residence in the Round Top area. Naumann also handled a call in which a horse trailer was sold without permission. After further investigation, the issue was deemed to be civil and no crime had occurred.

Sgt. Angela Lala took a report of a scam which occurred on Facebook Messenger. The scam involved the application CashApp. The victim was promised a large sum of money if they put up a smaller amount of money upfront.

Sgt. Ryan Meagher stopped out with a stranded motorist in the Engle Area on Hwy. 90. A check of the vehicle's license plate showed the car to be stolen out of San Antonio. Meagher attempted to place the subject in custody at which point the subject resisted. After a brief struggle, Meagher was able to place the subject into custody. Meagher also located methamphetamine in the possession of the subject. The subject was arrested.

Deputy Terry Guentert responded to a structure fire in the Muldoon area. The cause of the fire is believed to be a heat lamp that the homeowner was using to keep her dog warm. Guentert also responded to the Flatonia area in reference to a UTV accident.

Deputy A.J. Gonzales conducted a traffic stop on I-10 near mile marker 668. One passenger in the vehicle was found to be in possession of a felony amount of marijuana. Another passenger was to be in possession of identifying information. Both subjects were arrested. Gonzales also conducted a traffic stop on I-10 near the 667 mile marker. The driver, who was found to be in possession of marijuana and fentanyl, was arrested.

Deputy Herman Olvera was dispatched to a residence near Schulenburg in reference to a verbal disturbance. After investigation, assault charges were filed on both subjects.

Deputy Austin Moore stopped a vehicle on FM 609 near Flatonia. The driver was found to be in possession of cocaine, hydrocodone and a firearm. The driver was arrested. Moore also stopped another vehicle on FM 609 near Flatonia. The vehicle had fictitious license plates and through further investigation, it was discovered the vehicle was stolen out of Odessa. The driver was arrested.

Deputy James Ulbig responded to a grass fire in the Round Top area. Approximately 60 round bales were burned. A property owner was notified of the damages. The cause of the fire is unknown. Deputy Michael Krennek responded to a vehicle fire in the La Grange area. A report was taken and the cause of the fire was determined accidental. Krennek also took a report of illegal dumping that occurred in the Smithville area. A large amount of tires were dumped on the side of the roadway. Case is under investi-



By **KEITH KORENEK**  
Fayette County Sheriff

gation.

Deputy Jared Michalec conducted a traffic stop in the parking lot of a convenience store in La Grange. The driver was found to be in possession of marijuana, THC and promet-hazine and arrested. Michalec also stopped a vehicle on Hwy. 71 near the West Point area. The driver was found to be in possession of marijuana and was charged.

Deputy Seth Nagel conducted a traffic stop on Hwy. 71 near Ellinger. A probable cause search of the vehicle was conducted. The driver was found to be in possession of methamphetamine and was arrested. The driver also had two outstanding warrants.

Deputy Orlando Buitron conducted a traffic stop on Hwy. 71 near Ellinger. The driver was found to be in possession of cocaine and was arrested. Buitron also responded to an assault that involved a motor vehicle accident which occurred in the Round Top area. Responding deputies were given a vehicle description of the suspect's vehicle. While en-route, Sgt. Meagher located a vehicle matching the description provided by the victim. Meagher stopped the vehicle and detained both occupants. Buitron met with the victim and obtained sworn

statements detailing an assault. Both occupants of the vehicle Meagher stopped were arrested. The driver was wanted for a probation violation out of a neighboring county and the passenger was arrested for family violence from the assault that just occurred.

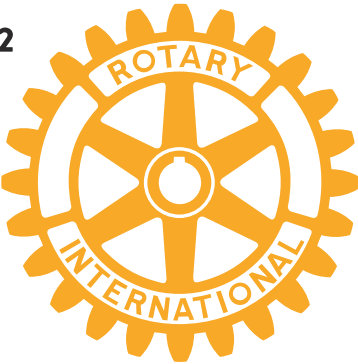
Deputy Lee Phillips was dispatched to a vehicle fire on Hwy. 90 near Engle. There were no injuries and the vehicle was a total loss. A report was made. Phillips was also dispatched to a residence near Fayetteville in reference to a death. The death was ruled to be that of natural causes due to terminal illness.

Deputy Dustin Kieschnick conducted a traffic stop on FM 955 close to Hwy. 71. During the stop the driver exited the vehicle and would not comply with orders. Kieschnick attempted to detain the subject and an altercation ensued. Kieschnick deployed his taser on the subject and was able to subdue him until backup arrived. A search of the vehicle yielded a handgun, rifle and approximately two kilos of methamphetamine. The driver was arrested. Kieschnick also stopped a vehicle on Hwy. 71 near La Grange. A probable cause search of the vehicle was conducted. Kieschnick located a handgun that was reported stolen out of Midland County, Texas. Kieschnick also located approximately one kilo of methamphetamine in the bed of the truck. The driver was arrested.

Jail Administrator Ed Sawyer reports that Fayette County Correction Officers booked in 38 individuals for the month of January and transported five individuals to the Texas Department of Corrections Facilities to begin serving time for crimes committed in Fayette County.

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Colorado Valley Communications – Kelly Allison (R)

Fayetteville Bank – Brian Minzenmeyer (R)

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FAYETTE COUNTY JUDGE

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The endorsement is NOT paid. Paid political ad by the Dan Mueller Campaign.





Some Thoughts on Native Grasses

By ANDY BEHLEN  
The Fayette County Record

“Ten acres of St. Augustine doesn’t make very good wildlife habitat.”

That’s what a local landowner told me recently while we discussed the issue of land fragmentation in Fayette County. I wrote about this topic two weeks ago after it came up at a meeting between the Fayette County Commissioners Court and the local Agrilife agents.

At that meeting, the Commissioners discussed the increasing risk of wildfire as more and more landowners move their property from ag production into wildlife management. As large farms and ranches get split into multiple small tracts, new landowners find it much easier to obtain breaks on their property taxes for wildlife management rather than raising cattle or cutting hay.

They plant native grasses that grow tall without any cattle grazing. This creates a big wildfire risk, especially this time of year when the weather freezes and those grasses become dormant and dry.

I didn’t intend to disparage anyone who does this with their property. Landowners attempting to restore the great prairie that once covered this area are doing a great service to wildlife, especially the monarch butterflies that migrate through Fayette County every year. I’m not trying to tell anyone what to do with their property. But I’d much rather see the prairie return than 10-acre blocks of St. Augustine everywhere.

This landowner I spoke with last week turned me onto the Fayette Prairie Chapter of the Native Prairies Association of Texas. This group dedicates itself to the conservation, restoration, and appreciation of native prairies, savannas, and other grasslands in Texas. The Fayette Prairie Chapter formed in 2020.

Local writer Gary Kocurek wrote about this organization in the January 2022 issue of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department newsletter “Oaks and Prairie Wildlifer.”

“We know from early historical accounts that the area consisted of tall grass prairies with clusters of oaks, with a greater diversity and spatial density of trees along the Brazos, Colorado, Navidad, Lavaca and Guadalupe rivers and their tributaries,” Kocurek wrote. “These were ‘disturbance-dependent’ prairies, maintained by prairie fires and the buffalo herds that followed, seeking the green regrowth. A resilient prairie requires disturbances from fire and grazing to maintain the plant heterogeneity that makes this ecosystem an ideal habitat for a variety of grazing mammals, birds and pollinating insects.”

Kocurek says nearly all of this ecosystem was lost with European settlement and the intensive agriculture that followed.

“Farmland for cotton, corn and other crops yielded over the decades to rangeland, and after WWII cattle grazing and hayfields dominated,” Kocurek wrote. “With the introduction of varieties of Bermudagrass, forage production changed dramatically and permanently away from native perennial grasses.”

It didn’t just affect grasslands. The woods changed, too.

“Woody encroachment by low-quality trees such as red cedar, and brush such as yaupon increased as the frequency of fire decreased,” he wrote.

Kocurek poses the following questions: “Are the Fayette Prairie and Post Oak Savanna destined to become 10-acre tracts, essentially gentrified big yards? Will favorite sports such as hunting and fishing become impractical because the area has become just too fragmented?”

Folks like Kocurek believe it doesn’t have to be that way if landowners team together to restore the prairie.

Native grasses benefit from



By ANDY BEHLEN  
The Fayette County Record

occasional grazing or fire. Lots of folks shy away from prescribed burns. I can certainly understand why after that scary fire in Bastrop last month. But fire can be a great way to manage native grasses. I admit, I’m scared to do it myself, but I have seen it done safely and effectively. One local group, the South Central Texas Prescribed Burn Association, helps members conduct prescribed burns on their properties. (Find out more about them at <https://sctpba.org>.)

You can also get many of the benefits of fire without the dan-

ger by grazing cattle or cutting hay.

At that Commissioners Court meeting two weeks ago, Agrilife Agent Scott Willey offered a simple suggestion for small tract owners: install a gate in the fence and ask the neighbor to graze his cattle on your property.

Kocurek agrees: “Cattle grazing and haying are definitely part of prairie management, and these traditional practices can be carried out so that they are actually beneficial to the prairie ecology,” he wrote. “Sustainable grazing and wildlife habitats go hand-in-hand in rangeland management.”

I think landowners practicing wildlife management should consider occasional grazing or offering their neighbors a cut of hay. If you’re not leasing the property, you can always kick the cattle off before they begin to overgraze your grass.

Read Kocurek’s story and more about wildlife management in the January 2022 issue of the Oaks and Prairie Wild-

lifer, available online at <https://bit.ly/3sSPoGS>.

If you read the newsletter, it includes an article about treating sedge grass (genus *Cyperaceae*, sometimes known as nutgrass) with glyphosate, the toxic chemical in the popular herbicide RoundUp.

I think that’s terrible advise. Glyphosate is toxic to you, your children and especially your pets. Please, don’t use it.

I admit, though, sedge grass is very difficult to control.

Howard Garrett, one of the premier experts on organic gardening in Texas, says molasses is the best way to control sedge grass. Garrett recommends drenching with a mixture of ¼ to ½ cup of liquid molasses per gallon of water. Use one gallon of the mixture to drench every nine to ten square feet. He says two to three applications may be required to knock out sedge. Garrett says sedges prefer poor soil. Molasses boosts the microbial levels in soil and the nutgrass “fades away,” Garrett says.

Wine and Breeze at La Grange Uncorked

The ninth annual La Grange Uncorked wine festival was another success even if Mother Nature didn’t always cooperate.

Gusty winds, rain and cold temperatures greeted early arriving guests Saturday but as the afternoon wore on, the sun came out and made for better conditions.

“We braved the elements, what a crazy Saturday,” said Stacey Norris, Director of Community Development & Tourism. “It was just shy of a sell-out at a little less than 500 tickets sold.”



Above and below, photos of attendees at Saturday’s La Grange Uncorked. Photos by Stacey Norris



Record Timecapsule From 10 Years Ago

Tuesday the second edition of our Timecapsule series was send out to our e-edition subscribers. If you missed it, a decade ago, we were covering:

- Schulenburg NFL star Willis Adams returned to campus for a visit.
- EMT honored for heroic action
- 120 firefighters converge on LG for training program
- Plus if you look really closely you’ll find a 7th grade basketball pic of future NFL star J.K. Dobbins!

To subscribe to the e-edition and timecapsule feature (free for print subscribers) go to [www.fayettecountyrecord.com](http://www.fayettecountyrecord.com)



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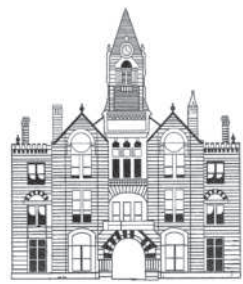
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Friday paper - Tuesday at 10 a.m.  
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**FAX: (979) 968-6767**  
**EMAIL: jackie@fayettecountyrecord.com**

**Classified Word Rates:**  
15 words or less \$9.00 for the first run,  
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RENTAL 930 E. UPPERLINE, La Grange - Newly remodeled. Two bedroom, one bath - \$1,400.00 per month. Gardener included. First, last and deposit. Contact: Larry (805) 944-8259 (29-5c)

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RV SPACES for rent between Schulenburg & Engle, \$350/mo + electric, please visit sncamping.com or call/text (361)596-3513 for more details. (31-8c)

**GARAGE APARTMENT FOR RENT**

La Grange historic neighborhood near downtown. Attractive homelike setting, beautiful landscaping, fully furnished, single twin bed, motel amenities, safe, private. Utilities included, \$725 per month, \$350 security deposit, monthly lease, no pets, no smoking. COVID Vaccine Required (979)716-7150

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**La Grange, TX 78945**

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**\$895,000**

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**Ruth Ann Streiff**  
**832.630.3724**  
ruhlann@roundtoprealestate.com

<p><b>Farm and Ranch</b></p> <p><b>BRENHAM</b></p> <p>4239 Clover Rd   30.05 Acres   3/2.5   \$1,295,000</p> <p>5340 Deer Lane   1 Acre   4/3.5   \$599,000</p> <p>2575 Old Mill Creek   40.09 Acres   5/3.5   \$3,500,000</p> <p><b>BURTON</b></p> <p>000 Gerland Wagner Rd   6 Acres   \$999,000</p> <p>000 S Railroad St   8.1 Acres   \$995,000</p> <p><b>CARMINE</b></p> <p>1061 E Fuchs Rd   30 Acres   \$775,000</p> <p>4205 Lomax Harmel   3.38 Acres   2/1   \$325,000</p> <p><b>FAYETTEVILLE</b></p> <p>000 FM 955   20 Acres   \$399,000</p> <p>8275 FM 1291   29.5965 Acres   \$1,035,878</p> <p><b>GIDDINGS</b></p> <p>1111 CR 230   6.493 Acres   3/3   \$495,000</p> <p><b>LEDBETTER</b></p> <p>2231 Greens Creek Rd   50.491 Acres   \$800,000</p> <p>8654 FM 2145   6.5 Acres   2/2   \$750,000</p>	<p>8390 Schuster Rd   3 Acres   2/2.5   \$650,000</p> <p><b>NEW ULM</b></p> <p>000 Eckermann Rd   71.85 Acres   \$2,299,000</p> <p>1077 Old New Ulm   29.059 Acres   3/2   \$1,300,000</p> <p>000 San Felipe Rd   44.95 Acres   \$838,000</p> <p><b>PAIGE</b></p> <p>000 Lincoln Lake Rd   11.8 Acres   \$259,600</p> <p><b>ROUND TOP</b></p> <p>383 Florida Chapel Rd   6.15 Acres   \$799,000</p> <p>5900 Neumann Rd   50.19 Acres   4/3   \$2,950,000</p> <p>3789 Noak Rd   2.5 Acres   3/2.5   \$1,595,000</p> <p><b>SCHULENBURG</b></p> <p>FM 2672 &amp; Seidel Rd   179.87 Acres   \$4,500,000</p> <p><b>WASHINGTON</b></p> <p>000 Schwartz &amp; Lonestar   20 Acres   \$500,000</p> <p><b>Residential</b></p> <p><b>LA GRANGE</b></p> <p>239 Clear Lake Dr   .5 Acres   4/2   \$350,000</p>	<p>681 S College St   1.2 Acres   5/2.5   \$895,000</p> <p>104 Delores Ave   4201 Acres   3/2.5   \$995,000</p> <p>114 Hollaway St   5/3   \$249,000</p> <p><b>ROUND TOP</b></p> <p>400 E Mill St   2 Acres   \$1,578,000</p> <p><b>Commercial</b></p> <p><b>BRENHAM</b></p> <p>304 W Main St   17.487 sqft   \$895,000/\$8,500mo</p> <p><b>GIDDINGS</b></p> <p>1990 FM 448   4.89 Acres   \$499,000</p> <p><b>ROUND TOP</b></p> <p>1036 Hwy 237-Lot 2   2.3 Acres   2 Pad Sites   \$649,000</p> <p>1036 Hwy 237-Lot 3   3.06 Acres   2 Pad Site   \$849,000</p> <p>2336 Hwy 237   3.853 Acres   3/2   \$1,600,000</p> <p>4217&amp;4223 Hwy 237   Zapp Hall   \$2,499,000</p> <p>453 N Washington   3.523 Acres   Several Bldgs   \$2,900,000</p> <p><b>WARDA</b></p> <p>5606 US 77   4.51 Acres   Restaurant   \$449,000</p>
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The Old Park Lodge is just outside the park entrance to beautiful Lake Fayette. Includes 1920s residence 3 beds, 3 baths, 2106 sqft. A bait shop/ice house/restaurant. 25 boat storage units. 1.28 Acres. Live your dream to have a lovely home/business near the lake.

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3 Acres Hwy 77, La Grange - List \$375,000  
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143 E. Pearl St, La Grange - \$249,900  
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443 N. Washington St, La Grange - \$135,000 374, 372,  
368 Riverside Drive, Bastrop - 0.72 acres - \$98,000

  
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**848 E St Hwy 71 (Ellinger Rd) • \$359,000**  
Big price drop for this beautiful brick home on more than on ONE ACRE in town situated high on a hill above the street with lots of trees for added privacy. 3 beds, 2 baths, 1674 sqft.

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Apply in person

NOW HIRING

Kemlon Products in Schulenburg is accepting applications for individuals with machining experience. Manuel engine lathe, turrett lathe and milling machine skills required. Experience in molds and mold modifications helpful. Also CNC Machinist, may consider training.

Must pass drug testing/physical.

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Apply between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm  
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EOE

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(17-16p)

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The primary function of this job is to be the **Floor Hand** on a workover rig.  
Workovers are operations targeted to increase production flow in wells that have begun to produce less oil.  
**Requirements:**  
Previous oil & gas experience preferred.  
Must be able to work over 40 hours in a week.  
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SMALL BUSINESS Networking Consultant - (832)387-1153 - jrlaw@control-sys.com

(27-7p)

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(31-8c)

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(10-wc)

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(31-3p)

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(60-wc)(37-wc)

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(31-2p)

FOR SALE: New Mexico Alfalfa Hay 2021, 4th cutting. Barn stored. Sold by the bundle (14 square bales, 2 strand) \$220 per bundle. Buyer pick up. Located near Fayetteville, TX  
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(17-5wc)(26-8c)

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(11-tfc)

Subscribe Today!

FOR SALE

GOOD WOOD Pallets for sale - \$2 each. You pick them out. (979) 966-8995.

(57-tfnc)

AUCTIONS

Farm, Ranch and Construction Equipment Auction  
Saturday February 19 at 9 am  
1036 S. FM 331, Sealy, TX  
BID NOW ONLINE  
VIEW ONLINE PHOTOS AND VIDEOS  
20,000 gal. Water Pressure Tank from City of Waller,  
2007 Freightliner M2 Truck W/SS 5 Ton Spreader  
Tractors, Trucks, Trailers, Implements, Livestock Equip.,  
Construction Equip, Hay Equipment, Freestanding Panels, more  
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Switzer Land & Auction 10% BP on items \$2,500 & less. TXS#7342

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

AIR COMPRESSORS in stock - Ingersol-Rand. Also, Victor torches & Miller welders & supplies. See @ Electric Motor Service. 840 N. Jefferson, La Grange.

(97-tfc)

REMOTE CONTROLLED adjustable bed frame. Fits queen or standard mattress. approx. 2 years old. Like New. (512)241-9941, Kathy, Smithville - \$300.00

(30-3p)

2006 JOHN DEERE HPX Gator - Recently serviced. New Engine Module and fuel pump, fairly new shocks, reworked carburetor, two new front tires. Gator is equipped with towing package front and rear bumpers and canopy. Asking \$7,500 OBO. Call Allan at (281) 650-8597

(30-2p)

GARAGE SALES

MOVING SALE  
CONTINUES everyday until the end of the month.  
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10am to 4pm,  
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CASH ONLY!  
979-702-1486,  
979-702-9063.

The Round Top Historical Society will have their annual Garage Sale fundraiser, Sat., Feb. 19, 9-5 & Sun., Feb. 20, 10-4  
Household goods, furniture, antiques, decorative items, glassware.  
At our campus behind the Round Top Post Office at 397 E. Mill St. RT.  
For more information: contact Rose Diers at 713-376-9454 or 281-610-8274

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- PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD -

AUCTIONS

FOR SALE

PUBLIC NOTICES

Protecting Your Right to Know

FC Habitat for Humanity Seeks Construction Bids

Public Notice:

Invitation for sealed bids for construction office trailer.

Fayette County Habitat announces that we will accept sealed bids for a 28x8 construction office trailer. Sealed bids must be received no later than 4pm on Thursday, March 10th, 2022.

Bids will be opened and read aloud at a public meeting of the Fayette County Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors on Monday, March 14th, 2022. Bid will be awarded to the highest bidder.

Trailer may be inspected by

appointment by calling 210-816-0942 or can be seen at 805 Mode Ln. in La Grange. There is a reserve price of \$500 on the trailer. Bid is for trailer only, no contents.

Photos can be seen at www.FayetteCountyHabitat.org

Bill of Sale only. Trailer must be removed within 30 days of award at buyers expense.

Bids may be mailed to PO Box 1127, La Grange, TX 78945 or hand delivered by appointment. To a schedule a viewing or bid delivery appointment contact info@FayetteCountyHabitat.org

(30-2c)

William Dennis Simonson Estate Claims Sought

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the ESTATE OF WILLIAM DENNIS SIMONSON, JR., DECEASED, were approved by the Court on January 27, 2022 and were issued on January 31, 2022, , in Docket No. 12744, pending in the County Court of Fayette County, Texas, to Mr. William Chiraphan Simonson, 1077 Choctaw Ridge, Prattville, A: 36067, Independent Independent Administrator of the Estate of William Dennis Simonson, Jr., with Registered Agent for the Estate of William Dennis Simonson, Jr., being Mary W. Gunn, 107 W. Crockett, Suite A, La Grange, Texas 78945.

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered,

Dated the 15th day of February, 2022.

GIESE & GUNN LLP  
107 West Crockett,  
Suite A  
La Grange, Texas 78945  
Telephone:  
979.968.6365  
Telecopier:  
979.968.6842  
By: Mary W. Gunn  
SBN: 24062757  
Attorney for  
William Chiraphan  
Simonson

(31-1c)

Texas Petroleum Group Applies for TABC Permit

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE THAT, TEXAS PETROLEUM GROUP, LLC HAS FILED AN APPLICATION FOR A WINE AND MALT BEVERAGE RETAILER'S OFF-PREMISE PERMIT TO BE ISSUED TO

TIMEWISE FOOD STORE #160, LOCATED AT 709 N LA GRANGE ST., FLATONIA, FAYETTE COUNTY TEXAS 78941

KEVIN AUTIN – CEO  
JUSTINE BOTTOMS – CFO  
JEREMIE SCHLEIS – VP OF SALES  
JOSE ENDARA – VP OF TAX

(31-2p)

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TexSCAN Week of Feb. 20-26, 2022

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GRAND OPENING LAND SALE! March 5 & 6. 2 acres only \$47,900. 2 acres & barndo shell just \$99,900\*. SAVE THOUSANDS! High-speed internet, 40 minutes – Gainesville. Excellent land financing. Call 877-333-8815, x.114 or BlackJackMeadowsRanch.com \*800SF, to-be built.

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127 S Washington Street , La Grange  
1st door on the right



# Film Crew Shoots in Front of Cottonwood Inn



A film crew filmed extra shots of vintage cars driving on Business 71 in front of the Cottonwood Inn for the upcoming HBO Max TV Series "Love and Death" on Tuesday, Feb. 15. Police directed traffic to keep the road clear during filming. The main shots were filmed on Monday.

Staff photos by Amanda Gifford



## Ellinger Sewer & Water Supply Meets, Discusses Growing Pains

The Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, Feb. 14 at the Ellinger Fire Station. Roy Moore, vice president, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Moore and Mike Schlabach were in attendance, but Bradley Dunk and Paula Urban were present via a conference call, so a quorum was met.

Jeffrey James was appointed to fill a temporary vacancy on the board. He replaces Walter Reynolds until the annual meeting.

The board held a special meeting on Jan. 19 with Hunger, Moore, Schlabach, Dunk, Reynolds, and Paula Urban in attendance. Special guest was Paul King, Circuit Rider/Technical Assistance Department Texas Rural Water Association (TRWA). They discussed election procedures; the annual meeting has been moved to April 28 and will be held at the Ellinger Community Center/Dining Hall at 7 p.m. Three Board positions are on the ballot for three year terms.

Next the Board reviewed the 2022 Budget. It was noted that the budget should be included on the October or November agenda so it gets approved before the new year.

Several corporation members as well as board members had concerns about the billing system. Customers are not getting invoices until the middle of the month and payment is due in a few days. The board is looking into the matter and will not charge any late fees again this month since bills were received on Feb. 14, and due Feb. 18. Members are urged to call customer service for information about the billing system or their personal bill. Customers will be receiving information about new payment portal options. It seems bill pay is shifting to online payment, "Instapay," pay by phone, or bank draft due to postal delivery delays.

Inframark operated the Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation facilities, performed maintenance, coordinated with contractors, and provided regulatory compliance services for January 2022. Operation expenses accrued by the firm totaled \$3,948.05. Wells produced 635,000 gallons of

### ELLINGER News

By CAROLYN BARTOSH  
Ellinger News Correspondent

water in December, and water accountability was at 92%. One water main leak was repaired on Jan. 22 and four loads of sludge was hauled from the WWTP.

James Weishuhn presented the Engineer's Report. He noted that bids for the storage tank project cannot move forward until the technical review is complete. All paperwork has been submitted to the TWDB for final approval. Closing on the loan is tentatively set for March 2022. He did inform the board that a pilot test for the multi-media filtration system will move forward. He advised the board to include a copy of the Water Conservation Plan on its website. According to the Emergency Preparedness Plan ESW needs to install a generator at the water well site so that there is power for the water plant during power outages. Board members will meet to discuss best type of generator/ propane vs diesel and how to fund the system. Schlabach noted that leftover USDA funds could not be used for this project, and the City's CDBG grant funds fell through.

Weishuhn also reported that it seems that Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply would have an adequate water supply for the 18 unit apartment complex and the new Hruska Store, but this would not be the case for the sewer system. Estimated water usage for the new convenience store alone would increase from 3,600 gallons daily to 18,000 gallons daily. The increase in volume for the sewer system would rise to 95%; this is more than Ellinger's current permit allows and planning for a new sewer plant or expansion would need to go into effect. Needless to say the corporation is feeling growing pains. The board refused to commit to a written service agreement with Terri and

Jeffrey James of Hruska's at this time. More studies are needed as well as data to narrow down water and sewer usage.

The treasurer's report was presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Schlabach and Dunk to pay bills and approve the report. A spread sheet of a proposed budget for 2022 was presented but no action was taken since so many board members were absent. The board will be working to complete a five-year plan/Capital Improvement Plan. Additionally Moore noted that all board members are required to complete mandatory Open Meetings Act Training (can be done online), and also complete a three hour Financial Budgeting Zoom training session.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 14 at 7 p.m. at the Ellinger Fire Station.

#### Lenten Calendar

The Shared Lutheran Ministry Worship and Music Team have set the Lenten calendar. The congregations will gather for worship on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (no soup suppers.) Pastors from the Conference will have a pulpit exchange. That means a different local Lutheran pastor will lead worship and bring the message.

Ash Wednesday is March 2 and St. John Lutheran in Ellinger will host worship at noon; St. Paul Fayetteville at 6:30 p.m.; and the 6:30 p.m. service will be livestream on Facebook.

Midweek services will rotate among the four churches of the SLM as follows: March 9-Warrenton at 6:30 p.m.; March 16-Ruterville at 6:30 p.m.; March 23-Fayetteville at 6:30 p.m.; March 30-Ellinger at 6:30 p.m.; April 6-Warrenton at 6:30 p.m.; Maundy Thursday-April 14 in Ruterville at 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday worship will be as follows: April 15-Ellinger at noon; and Fayetteville at 6:30 p.m.

Easter services will be at all four churches at their regular times.

#### Fayetteville Brethren Church

Fayetteville Brethren Church has services the second, third, and fourth Saturdays of each month at 10 a.m. Other services are at Industry Brethren on the second, third and fourth Satur-

days at 5 p.m., Wesley Brethren on Sundays at 9 a.m. and Nelsonville Brethren on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. Rev. Mike Grose-close leads all the services. The Nelsonville service is live streamed on Nelsonville Brethren's Facebook page.

#### Ellinger Hermann Sons Life

The Ellinger Hermann Sons Life Lodge will meet on Monday, Feb. 21 at the Ellinger Fire Station at 6 p.m. For more information, contact Diane Marusik.

#### Ellinger City Council

The Ellinger City Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 24.

#### Student Holiday

Students from the La Grange ISD will have not have school on Friday, Feb. 18 or Monday, Feb. 21. Enjoy your four day weekend.

#### Board Elections

Members of the Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation have been notified of forthcoming elections for Board of Directors. Members interested in applying for a position should print out an application at <http://ellingerswc.myruralwater.com/home> or contact Michael Schlabach at (979) 966-9853. Applications should be mailed to Tom Kubena, Independent Election Auditor, C/O ESWC, P.O. 130, Ellinger, TX 78938, or by putting your application in the drop box at the Ellinger City Hall, 101 W. Schumacher. The deadline to submit applications is March 9, 2022. Three Board of Director positions will be coming vacant in 2022.

#### Birthdays

Happy Birthday wishes to the following February celebrants: Hannah Nigh-Feb. 18; Kevin Kramr-19; John C. Divin, Jr., Morgan Latham, and Kathleen Kramr-20; Raina Michalsky-21; Gary Hoelscher-22; Patric Martin and Larry Hatfield-23; Wayne Kocian-24; Harley Bell-25; Cory Schneider-26; and Jeanette Michalsky and Donna Wessels-28.

#### Have News?

If you have news for the correspondent you may email her at [bartoshcarolyn@gmail.com](mailto:bartoshcarolyn@gmail.com) or call (979) 966-3275. You may also drop off news at her residence; mailbox on the front porch. Please get her your information by noon on Mondays.

## Schulenburg Police Officers Continue Issuing Speeding Citations In School Zones

Schulenburg Police Chief Troy Brenek reports on the following incidents his department responded to during the week of Feb. 6-12:

#### Agency Assist

On Feb. 7, Sgt. Tobey McFadden assisted Deputy Ryan Meagher on a pursuit, which ended in Colorado County.

On Feb. 9, McFadden assisted family members with getting into a home to assist with getting door open. The property owner kicked in the front door.

#### Animal Complaint

On Feb. 11, Officer Frank Parkinson responded to the 700 block of Kallus where complainant informed officer that a dog had chased her and it is not the first time. Officer spoke with the dog owner and advised they need to keep their dog on a leash whenever they have him in the yard. Officer advised if called out, a citation would be issued.

#### Burglary of Vehicle

On Feb. 9, Officer Chris Kalina investigated three vehicle burglaries.

#### Civil Matter

On Feb. 10, Kalina responded to the 1500 block of Kellett for an unruly tenant.

#### Disturbance

On Feb. 9, Kalina responded to the 1000 block of Paulus for an argument.

#### Suspicious Person

On Feb. 8, McFadden responded to the 200 block of Klesel for a suspicious person. Officer observed a subject and spoke with him but did not have enough evidence at this time.

On Feb. 8, Parkinson responded to the area of Kellet and August for a suspicious person roaming the neighborhood.

#### Traffic Stop

On Feb. 6, Officer Juan Castilleja stopped a vehicle in the 1500 block of Kessler for a vehicle that had a defective headlamp. A warning was issued.

On Feb. 6, Castilleja stopped a vehicle in the 10 block of Kessler for driving without headlights when required. A warning was issued.

On Feb. 7, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for driving 34 mph in a 25 mph school zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 7, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for going 40 in a 25 mph school zone and for no insurance and expired registration. Citations were issued.

On Feb. 7, Parkinson stopped a vehicle at Hwy. 77 and Hummingbird for causing a crash. Citations were issued.

On Feb. 7, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for a vehicle going 34 in a 25 mph school zone.

On Feb. 8, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for a vehicle going 39 in a 25 mph school zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 9, Kalina attempted to stop a vehicle in the 500 block of Paulus for running a stop sign and no turn signal. Officer caught up with the vehicle and it had turned into its driveway. Officer activated his light and the driver got out of the vehicle and saw my lights and me and went into his house. Officer waited for back

### Police Report

By TROY BRENEK  
Schulenburg Police Chief

up and them knocked on the door and placed the individual in handcuffs. Citations were issued and vehicle was towed for no drivers' license not having insurance.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for going 40 in a 25 mph school zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for going 60 mph in a 25 mph school zone. Issued a citation.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle for driving 40 in a 25 mph school zone. Driver also admitted to have been in the state for some time. A warning was issued for failing to report a change of address and a citation for speeding.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for driving 35 in a 25 mph school zone. Citation was issued for the violation.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for driving 41 mph in a 25 mph school zone. A citation was issued for the violation.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for driving 39 in a 25 mph school zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for driving 40 in a 25 mph school zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 300 block of Kessler for driving 39 in a 25 mph school zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 800 block of Kessler for driving 52 in a 30 mph. Drivers registration was also expired and citations were issued.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 800 block of Kessler for driving 48 in a 30 mph zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 11, Parkinson stopped a vehicle in the 800 block of Kessler for driving 49 mph in a 30 mph zone. A citation was issued.

On Feb. 12, Parkinson stopped a vehicle at Anderson and Upton for driver rolling through the stop sign and for failing to yield right of way.

#### Miscellaneous

On Feb. 11, Parkinson identified a subject in the 1100 block of Baumgarten and was told to stop all work and get a permit from the city.

On Feb. 12, Officer Duane Meagher stopped by the 1100 block of Bohlmann and observed individual walking through Wolters Park after closing hours. Individual was intoxicated and was released to his sister.

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March 4-5-6

**Ford Park**

Beaumont Texas





A home near Ammannsville burned to the ground Sunday morning, Feb. 13. No one was injured.  
Photo courtesy of Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department

# Fire Burns Home in Ammannsville

By ANDY BEHLEN  
The Fayette County Record

A home on FM 1383 near Ammannsville burned to the ground Sunday morning, Feb. 13.

Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department received the call around 1:30 a.m. The home was fully engulfed when firefighters arrived.

Two occupants made it out of the home without injury.

They lost all of their belongings, however.

Schulenburg Assistant Fire Chief Drew Brossmann said the occupants reported that the fire possibly started from a candle that got knocked over by their pet during the night.

Schulenburg VFD responded with five fire trucks and 15 personnel. They requested assistance from La Grange VFD, which sent a tanker and five ad-

ditional personnel.

"I want to give a big thank you to La Grange," Brossmann said. "It was really cold that morning, and we appreciate the help."

Brossmann said the Schulenburg firefighters brought the occupants to a hotel in Schulenburg and provided them with a room for the day.

"They lost everything," Brossmann said.

## Faith Lutheran High School Holding Raffle During National Lutheran Schools Week

Tickets are now available for The Faith Lutheran High School Spring Raffle. Tickets are available and the drawing will be held the week of March 7-11, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items include a flounder gigging trip for four on the Texas Coast, three nights at a Port Aransas beach condo for eight people, picnic table with an ice chest complete with rib-eye/spices and \$100 HEB gift card, Ruger LPC II .380, one week Summer camp session at Camp Lone Star with a \$250 Visa gift card, custom cedar carousel and a \$100 Visa gift card, handmade (queen size) quilt and a \$100 VISA gift card, dessert of the month for a year, casserole of the month for a year. There are only a limited number of tickets available. Please contact any FLHS delegate, student or staff or call (979) 242-2889 to get your tickets.

### FLHS News

Faith Lutheran High School archery athletes recently competed for the State qualifier. Seven of the archers qualified and will compete at the State competition on March 22 in Belton. Congratulations to Will, Thomas, Erik, Ben, Dylan, Nichole and Layna.

Faith Lutheran High School will host the Third Annual Texas Lutheran Writers Round Up on Friday, Feb. 25 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Featured authors in attendance will be Sarah Baughman, Christina Hergenrader, Susan Maluschka, Ruth Meyer, and Bryan Wolfmueller. Special guest vendor will be Jeremy Clifton. Activities include live broadcasts, author meet and greet time, author presentations including question and answer time and afternoon workshops with the authors. All of the authors will have their books available for purchase. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information contact FLHS at (979) 242-2889.

Track practice will begin soon.

Faith Lutheran High School will have part time openings on its faculty for the 2022-2023 academic year. Interested individuals, who teach any subject are encouraged to apply, but science, social studies, English or electives are sought after skills. Applicants may submit resumes to Faith Lutheran High School P.O. Box 138, Warda, TX. 78960, call (979) 242-2889 or email to [kueckn@flhstx.org](mailto:kueckn@flhstx.org). If you have the time and talents, consider applying and sharing your gifts with our students.

Faith Lutheran High School is waiving the registration fees for 2022-2023 school year for any student that registers by March 11. Register early to take advantage of this savings. Call (979) 242-2889 or visit [www.flhstx.org](http://www.flhstx.org) to receive registration materials.

Everyone is invited to join FLHS each Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. for Chapel.

### Easter Egg Hunt

Camp Lost Pines in Warda will be the site of an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April

## WARDA News

By LISA GAY  
Warda News Correspondent



16. This is being organized by author Elizabeth Dettling Moreno, who is a new to the Warda area, donations and any help would be greatly appreciated. You can contact Moreno at (979) 533-0216 or email her at [praise77488@sbcglobal.net](mailto:praise77488@sbcglobal.net)

### Condolences

Our sympathy to the family and friends of William Jurk who passed away on Feb. 9. His funeral was held at Holy Cross on March 12.

### Rabbs Creek Wildlife Association

Rabbs Creek Wildlife Association is scheduled to meet on Sunday, Feb. 20 at the picnic grounds. Social time will begin at 4 p.m. and the meeting will start at 5 p.m. If you have deer that need to be measured, please do so prior to the day of the meeting by contacting Mike Tabbert at (979) 966-9053.

### BBQ Chicken Fundraiser

The South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department will have BBQ chickens on Sunday Feb. 27. Pick up from 10 a.m.-noon at the Serbin picnic grounds. Chickens are \$10 each, sauce is \$2 and 16 oz. cups of potato salad, pinto beans and noodles are \$3 each. Orders can be placed with the Holy Cross church office at (979) 242-3333 or the Serbin church office at (979) 366-9650 by Monday, Feb. 21.

### Women's Renewal Retreat

Camp Lone Star Women's Renewal Retreat is Feb. 25-27. Invite your friends for this retreat, as it is a time set aside to reflect on Christ and His word, be in fellowship with other sisters in Christ, and spend time in His creation. For more information or to register visit [www.camplovestar.org](http://www.camplovestar.org)

### Chili Super and Live Auction

St. Paul Serbin School will be having their PTLs Chili Super and Live Auction on Sunday March 6 at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. There will be a silent auction from 4-5:30 p.m., live auction at 5:30 p.m. and chili/hot dog supper from 5-7 p.m. Chili is \$7, two hot dogs are \$5. All school and ECC children are selling tickets or you can purchase tickets by calling the school office at (979) 366-2218. New this year is the 1st Annual Chili Cookoff. Proceeds benefit the Sports Program and other projects in the school and ECC. If you would like to make a donation to the meat and condiments, please contact the school office.

### Hamburger Fundraiser

Trail Life Troop 143 will hold their annual drive-thru hamburger fundraiser on Monday March 7 at the K.C. Hall

in Giddings. Tickets are \$10 each and include a hamburger with all the fixings, chips, drink and home-made dessert. Tickets can be purchased from Benjamin Kueck, Dylan, Hank or Weston Beck, Eric Schulze or from Christine in the church office. Proceeds go to the boys accounts to help them pay for camps, camping equipment, uniforms etc. Pre-sale only; purchase tickets by Feb. 28.

### Holy Cross Ladies Group

The sewing and quilting group at Holy Cross meets each Thursday, Jan. 6 from 9 a.m. until noon, in the old parish hall. Everyone is welcome to join them for a morning of sewing, cutting, laughter, fellowship and of course yummy goodies. You do not need to be a member of Holy Cross to join this fun group.

The ladies still collect all cancelled postage stamps, these are trimmed from their envelopes and sold to collectors. These can be dropped off at the church office, or in the designated box in the hallway.

### Bible Study

The Bible Study Group at Holy Cross is currently doing a study on Sermon on the Mount. They meet each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to join the group, please contact Cyndy Zoch at [cyndy.zoch@gmail.com](mailto:cyndy.zoch@gmail.com) or (979) 966-3166 so she can order a study guide for you. The cost of the study guide will be \$15-18.

### Holy Cross Services

Services at Holy Cross Lutheran are Sunday at 9 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday school follows the morning service.

Sermon links/streaming videos and additional information is on the website at: [www.holy-crosswarda.com](http://www.holy-crosswarda.com)

### Prayer Requests

Those on the prayer list include: Gerald Sledge, Carol Jurk, Al Jurk, Layne Schramm, Sandra Behrens, Robert Vanek, Michael Williams, Carol Phillips, Wesley Cervenka, Doris Swearingen, Dee Tegtmeier, Grace Walker.

Special prayers for those serving in the military: Ingrid Devin-Kayne, Ryan Zoch, Clayton Knight, Kirk Peschke-Navy, Coy Hunt-Army.

### Birthday

Birthday wishes are extended to the following celebrants: Shannon Kasper, Brandy Lehmann, Mary Schramm-Feb. 19, Patricia Lehmann, Charlotte Sadler-20, Delbert Zoch, Victoria Hopson, Sebastian Wagner-22, Linda Lehmann, Reba Sadler-23, Natalie Canada, Britany Weishuhn-24.

Special Birthday wishes to Lori Green who celebrates turning 85 on Feb. 19.

Special Birthday wishes to Wally Lehmann who celebrates turning 83 on Feb. 24.

### Have news to share?

If you have news items to share with readers of the Warda news including visits from your friends and family, contact Lisa Gay at (979) 218-6000 or [Wardanews78960@gmail.com](mailto:Wardanews78960@gmail.com).



In the Junior Division, Tori Newton placed first in the Healthy Dessert Category.

## Tori Newton Named Overall Grand Champion at Junior Food Challenge

Numerous Fayette County 4-H members competed in the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo Food Challenge Contest on Thursday, Feb. 10.

In the Junior Division, Tori Newton placed first in the Healthy Dessert Category and Tatum Fritsch placed second in the Side Dish Category. Tori competed in the Final Challenge and was the Overall Grand Champion Junior Food Challenge Contestant.

Logan Poncik and Taylyn Newton also competed in the Junior Division.

Mackenzie Poncik competed in the Senior Division.

Food Challenge participants receive a list of ingredients and have 40 minutes to create a dish. They present their dish to judges are scored on preparation, serving size, food safety concerns, nutritional value and cost.



Tatum Fritsch placed second in the Side Dish Category.

## Coastal Bend Multi-County Child Care Conference Held in La Grange

On Feb. 5, 188 child care providers from more than 17 surrounding cities registered to attend the Multi-County Child Care Conference sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. The event was held at the Randolph Recreation Center in La Grange, and was hosted by Austin, Fayette, and Washington Counties.

This yearly event equips child care providers and directors with the necessary tools to provide high-quality child care assistance which will ultimately develop productive and successful young people. The child care providers and directors who attend provide services and care for more than 2,415 children en-

rolled in more than 51 childcare centers or family day homes.

A host of agents, specialists, and technical subject matter presenters provided educational information throughout the day. Topics addressed this year were: Implementing Healthy Food Policies in ECE Centers (Jenna Anding, Ph.D. - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Program Specialist); Understanding Family Diversity & Cultural Dynamics in Early Childhood Education (Flora Harmon)

Texas A&M University Ph.D. student in ECE); Supporting Social Skills Through Science Activities, Building Connections Through Purposeful Play, Center-Based Classrooms: Let's

Get it Setup (Katie Myers, Jennifer Russell, Maryteresa Tracy - Region 13 Education Service Center Educational Specialists) and Active Play: Creating Inclusive and Age-Appropriate Physical Activity Opportunities for All Children (Mike Lopez -Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Program Specialist).

A total of 1,190 clock hours of training (seven hours per participant) were provided to childcare professionals seeking to meet state-mandated training requirements established by the state of Texas. The event was a phenomenal success, and the committee looks forward to serving even more provider in 2023.



The Randolph Rec. Center in La Grange hosted 188 child care providers on Feb. 5 during the Coastal Bend Multi-County Child Care Conference.

## St. Rose Students Watch Play in Houston



On Friday, Feb. 11, the 6th and 7th graders from St. Rose of Lima Catholic School from Schulenburg went to see the play "The Watsons Go To Birmingham, 1963" at the Main Street Theater in Houston. After reading the novel in class, it was amazing to see it come to life on stage. Pictured are the students along with 7th grade reading teacher Lindsey Schiffli and 6th grade reading teacher Wendy Becka.





## A Merry Heart Required for Motherhood

As I write this on a frigid day in late January, the stock market is in the tank, the new strain of COVID is at an all-time high and the confidence in our government is lower than it was a year ago. OH ME! Yet, while reading my Bible at breakfast I happened on this verse from Proverbs 17:22. “A merry heart doeth good like medicine...” So I plan to share a dose of happy medicine with you today.

Miles of Memories

By BRENDA MILES



As you might guess, I love to laugh. It's been one of the strongest fibers in the lifeline God used to pull me from a variety of heartbreaking pits—my husband's untimely death from an incurable disease, the deaths of each member of my immediate family, and other family members going through divorce. If I hadn't been able to find some laughter after these ordeals, I'd surely be making potholders in a mental institution or bouncing around in a padded cell somewhere.

One great source of laughter comes from daily phone calls from my daughter, Melissa, in Houston. Like her mother, she is now also a teacher, though her “children” are on the college level instead of the high school level as mine were. She has constant stories that amaze me in this new decade of “virtual learning” because of Covid and other stories from cultures of her international students.

Indeed, there is an evolution to becoming a mother that is an ever-ongoing thing. On some days, she is calling to tell me a funny story about her students. On other days, she is telling me something funny that has happened at her home. More recently, however, she and I have changed roles as she attempts to be my mother and I, her child, as she gives me advice.

As I like to say, once you become a mother it's like getting a life sentence in prison with no hope of parole! And no matter how old we get, we mothers watch our kids—even when they are in their mid-50's—for signs of improvement. We're always hoping that something we instilled in them MIGHT show up, even when we've started to think it's too late.

After her father died, Melissa began “working” on me to move back to Houston so she could take care of me in my advanced age. I was 76 at the time! Now, I had I noted in the past how often she cleaned her hamster's cage and her kitty's litter box. So now she was planning to take care of ME? Also, I refuse to return to the hectic pace of eight-lane freeways and tension that is now greater than it was when her father and I escaped the frantic pace of that city in 1996. “No way!” I told her. I am just fine here; I feel safe; and I am capable of caring for myself, thank you very much!

Then, after a year had gone by, she began to tell me stories of how much success some people she knew had found in on-line dating sites. “Wouldn't it be fun to have a pen pal and messages to look forward to each day?” I answered with, “What if my new pen pal turned out to be a Ted Bundy?” This statement quieted her latest tactic.

My sister-in-law happened to call in the midst of my writing this piece and I “interviewed” her for the subject since she is a mother of three. The following is some of the remembrances of new-motherhood she shared which provided the two of us to come up with even more laughter. We collaborated on this subject and I hope the result of our silly conversation provides you with some giggles as well.

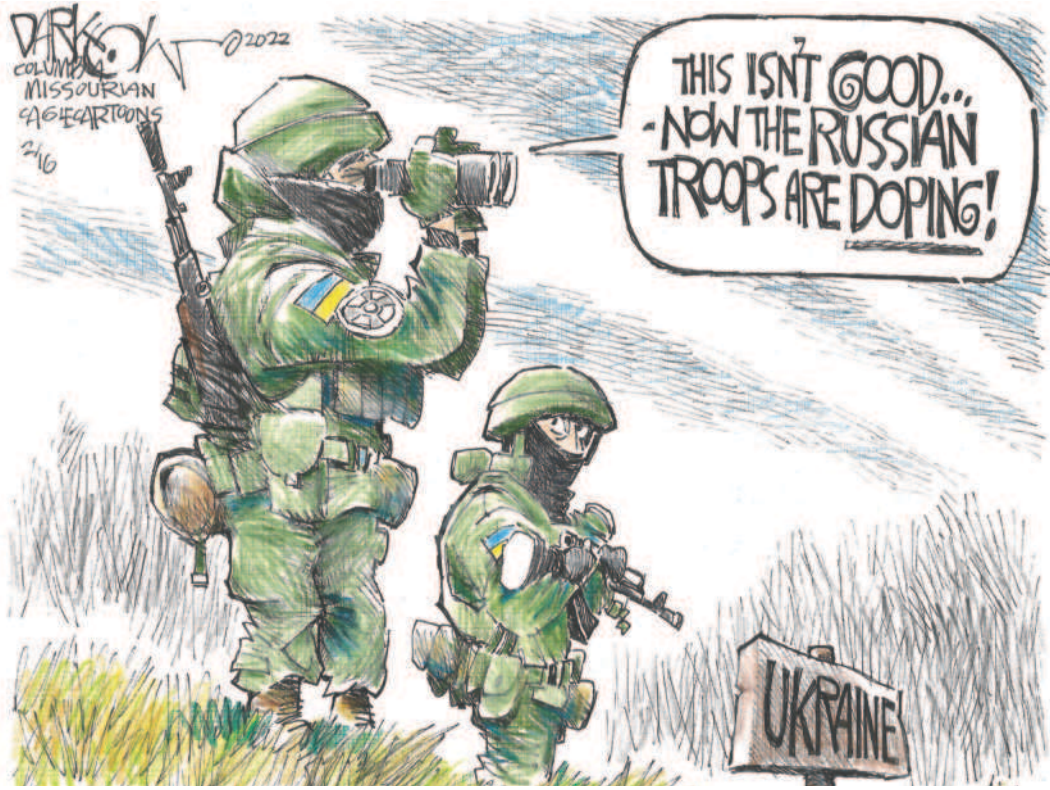
According to Bettie, as soon as you learn the first baby is on the way, you rush out to buy maternity clothes—with her, she said, it was the old fashioned loose blouse over elasticized front panel pants. With the second baby, you squeeze into your regular clothes as long as possible. With the third baby, your maternity clothes ARE your regular clothes. A new baby can cause overwhelming fatigue, so parents adapt different stress-coping strategies with each child. With the first baby, you worry so much about the baby's crying that you never put the infant down. When the second baby cries, you pick him up only when his hysterics threaten to wake up the firstborn. With the third baby, you teach the first two where to look for the pacifier and how to rewind the baby swing.

Baby-sitter concerns also change with each new baby. With the first child, you conduct a two hour session with the sitter before leaving and then call home four times while you run to the post office. With the second baby, before you walk out the door, you remember to leave an emergency number—your neighbor's. With the third baby, you tell the sitter to call only if someone needs stitches, splints, or an ambulance.

While we laugh now at silly evolutions of baby to adult, I do remember that a baby can be fabulous—and lots of fun—even at age 56. A child is a member of the family who can make the love stronger; the days shorter; the nights longer; and the bankroll smaller. Over the years of being a parent, the past is forgotten and the present is lived through while waiting for the future. I understand that grandparenting is even better—I've just never had the chance. Now...look at your child/grandchild and show a merry heart!

Regarding my January column on “misspeaking and embarrassing yourself,” I received so many stories back from you that I plan to do a follow-up column in the future.

Brenda Miles is an award-winning columnist and author living in Hot Springs Village. She responds to e-mail comments sent to [brenstar@att.net](mailto:brenstar@att.net)



## Mail-In Ballot Applications Rejected at High Rate

Mail-in ballot applications for the March 1 primary are being rejected by almost 40% — largely because of a missing ID number, which is now required after a new voting bill passed the Legislature last year.

The Houston Chronicle reported that nearly four in 10 Harris County mail ballot applications had been rejected as of last week. Early voting began Feb. 14, and the deadline for mail ballot requests is Feb. 18.

Other counties across Texas also reported high rejection rates, including Travis, Williamson, Hays and Bastrop counties, the Austin American-Statesman reported. Those seeking to vote by mail must include a driver's license number, a state ID number, or in some cases the last four digits of their Social Security number. If what the applicant provides doesn't match the applicant's individual voter registration information, the application must be rejected.

Texas has one of the strictest vote-by-mail requirements in the country. Registered voters are

eligible to vote by mail if they are 65 years or older; sick or disabled; out of the county on election day and during the early voting period; expected to give birth within three weeks before or after election day; or confined in jail but otherwise eligible.

Early voting continues through Feb. 25.

### Drought Conditions Improve

The latest drought map for the state shows a slight improvement as of Feb. 1, with 84% of the state experiencing some level of drought, down three percentage points from the previous month. Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board, said there were some improvements in the last month, mainly in East Texas. Additional rainfall in early February, mainly in East Texas and Central Texas, should improve conditions by the next report in March.

Wide swaths of the Panhandle and the Great Plains are experiencing the worst drought conditions.

### CAPITAL Highlights



By GARY BORDERS  
Texas Press Association

## Cal Farley Saved Boys at Bottom of Barrel

Cal Farley's huge heart suddenly gave out on Feb. 19, 1967, while the founder of Boys Ranch attended chapel with his “cow-boys.”

The homespun humanitarian knew all about broken homes. Cal was just a boy himself, when his father walked out on his wife and six children. He had no choice but to quit school after the eighth grade to help with the chores on the family farm in Minnesota.

Cal's ticket out was his aptitude for athletics. Jumping at the chance to play semi-pro baseball for \$15 a week, the teenager left his unhappy home and never looked back.

Six years later, Cal joined the doughboy crusade to make the Old World “safe for democracy.” He passed the time after the armistice by winning the welterweight wrestling championship of the American Expeditionary Forces and the Inter-Allied crown in a match against the Australian titleholder.

Cal rolled into Amarillo in 1923 as the second baseman for the local minor-league team. To pick up a few extra bucks between games, he wrestled any-

### TEXAS History



By BARTEE HAILE  
This Week in Texas History

body rash enough to accept his advertised challenge “to stand the biggest man in town on his ear.”

With a wife and a daughter, named after close friend Gene Tunney, to support, Cal retired from the diamond and the ring. By the early 1930's, he had become a successful businessman and popular radio personality with his own daily show.

Meanwhile, the deepening Depression was tearing many families apart and turning unsupervised youngsters loose on society. Cal's answer to the juvenile crime wave gripping Amarillo was a sports program to keep the kids off the street and out of trouble.

With the help of like-minded

merchants and a building donated by rancher Julian Bivins, Cal opened the Maverick Club in January 1934. The response was overwhelming with 1,400 active participants in the first 12 months.

The privately funded program was not all fun and games. Needy members were given free clothes, shoes, haircuts and medical attention. When it came to taking care of his boys, Cal could talk the birds out of the trees.

The Maverick Club took an immediate and meaningful bite out of underaged crime. The number of adolescent offenders shipped from Amarillo to the state reformatory dropped from 18 in 1933 to only two in '34.

Rather than rest on his laurels, Cal turned his attention to the one boy in ten who needed much more than the Maverick Club could provide. “We can't reach those boys at the bottom of the barrel unless we can provide a home for them,” he told rancher Bivins. “Not just some place to spend their afternoons, but somewhere where they will get 24-hour care and discipline, where they can get the ‘raising’ they missed in their own homes.”

Julian Bivins had just the place -- the wide-open spaces at the Old Tascosa townsite 40 miles outside of Amarillo. Cal accepted the generous offer, convinced the caretaker and his wife to stick around until permanent staff could be hired and started looking for his initial batch of boarders.

The Maverick Club referred Cal to a 12 year old truant whose infrequent attendance invariably ended in a fight. Cal had to bite his tongue as the mother rambled on about how stupid, vicious and out of control her son was. When the woman finally paused for breath, he asked, “Will you turn him over to us to raise?”

“Sure,” she flippantly replied. “I'm leaving town myself.”

“When?” Cal inquired drily implying that it could not be soon enough.

“There's a bus at two this afternoon.”

“I wish you'd get out of here right now,” he snapped, “and leave me this boy.”

That neglected child and four others moved to the ranch in March 1939. Nine more, along

Turn to *History*, Page D2



By JEFF WICK  
The Fayette County Record

## February Thoughts

Some random thoughts while thinking about voting for the first candidate that outlaws political signs. I'm ready for wildflowers to be the most colorful things on our roadsides ...

- I was saddened to hear do the death of longtime La Grange elementary teacher Sandra Ellison this week. She was a teacher for two of our kids, and she was a great one. She was also a Boy Scout leader when one of our boys was in scouts and we shared fun trips together to campouts at Space Center Houston and the Battleship Lexington. She had such great energy and enthusiasm about life. I know she guided so many local kids on so many great adventures all over the country through scouting. She was also really active in the Camp Invention program at LGISD, and an important mentor to younger teachers at the school. She leaves behind a tremendous legacy of education in so many forms.

- Robert Svrcek is still keeping people fed.

The longtime La Grange HEB store director has been retired from the store for years, but still volunteers at the AMEN food pantry. Recently he brought me some homemade dried deer and pork sausage he made, that had hung in his smokehouse for three weeks. It was amazing.

He was my old boss at HEB here when I worked there in high school and junior college. He was the best kind of boss — demanding but fair. And what an eye for detail! Whether I was spot mopping the floor or straightening the cans on the shelves, he'd notice when you did the job right — or not.

- Loved the Super Bowl and the halftime show. But so many commercials about crypto-currency and electric cars — two things I don't know much about, but I suppose to need to familiarize myself with.

Last two different wagers betting on the Bengals in the game (one, a soda, to a co-worker, and one to my son that cancelled out his still-outstanding IOU to wash my truck dating back to the col-

Turn to *Wick*, Page D2



## THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

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# Letters to the Editor

## COVID Confusion

### To the Editor:

An interesting feature of amateur hour with COVID-19 is the frequency with which statements strike suddenly missing scientific substantiation.

On the pages of the Record, parties on opposite sides of the vaccine “debate” agree on an “incontrovertible” statement that “People who have had COVID have more natural immunity than the vaccines provide and do not benefit from vaccination” and neither party asserts a source for this misinformation. Such statements cause people to take avoidable risks, and that is not nice.

The CDC states “Emerging evidence shows that getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection to your immune system. One study showed that, for people who already had COVID-19, those who do not get vaccinated after their recovery are more than two times as likely to get COVID-19 again than those who get fully vaccinated after their recovery.”

“Multiple studies in different settings have consistently shown that infection with SARS-CoV-2 and vaccination each result in a low risk of subsequent infection with antigenically similar variants for at least six months. Numerous immunologic studies and a grow-

ing number of epidemiologic studies have shown that vaccinating previously infected individuals significantly enhances their immune response and effectively reduces the risk of subsequent infection, including in the setting of increased circulation of more infectious variants.”

The CDC advises to get vaccinated whether or not you have had COVID-19. And so you should.

This brings up the question of leadership. We need leaders capable of understanding public health issues, providing competent advice to our community and implementing effective public health programs and regulations. Whether a candidate for public office has followed the medical evidence for COVID-19 and is vaccinated as recommended by the CDC tells us much about their fitness for public office. People who arbitrarily discount medical evidence and believe in charlatan potions for irrational political purposes are poor choices, and we have some here in Fayette County on our ballot.

*Non nobis solum nati sumas  
– Cicero  
(Not for ourselves alone are we born)*

Edward R. Dykes  
La Grange

## Interesting Contrast

### To The Editor:

Friday’s paper began with a front-page feature about Arnold Romberg, a prominent citizen well-known for his conservative politics. Mr. Romberg has held leadership positions in the county Republican Party and has held local public office. Regardless of one’s views on politics, Mr. Romberg’s service to the community is obvious to all, even a staunch liberal like me. The article emphasized Mr. Romberg’s education, work-ethic, and “cold logic ... tempered with gentle, empathetic intuition.” I appreciated this article and learned some new things about a man with whom I have enjoyed conversations over the years.

Imagine my surprise when I turned to the letters page and found, not one, but two letters excoriating this same fine citizen. One letter was from the current chairwoman of the Fayette County Republican Party. The other

was a paid placement from a current candidate for public office. It would seem these two took exception to Mr. Romberg’s cold logic and empathy, not to mention his commitment to service.

But the best part of the whole paper is found in the top right corner of the letters page, where a frequent letter-writer opined that Joe Biden and the Democratic Party have “done nothing but sow more distrust, disdain, and division.” This letter is found on the same page where two prominent local Republicans are criticizing a third prominent local Republican for encouraging citizens literally to roll up their sleeves and save American lives. But it is the Democrats sowing division. Spare me.

Thank you for a highly entertaining edition of the newspaper. I can hardly wait for the next one.

David Deluca  
La Grange

## Texas History: Cal Farley

*Continued from Page D1*

with a superintendent and a cook, arrived in time to celebrate the first Christmas.

Cal sold his business in 1947 and devoted his last 20 years to Boys Ranch. His Panhandle pardners could not have had a better or more effective spokesman.

When a reporter from the Saturday Evening Post toured the unique spread in 1962, 300 boys from 32 states lived 36 to a dorm under the watchful eyes of a live-in couple. Fourteen hundred had come and gone in nearly a quarter century, and fewer than 50 had washed out.

Cal Farley gladly shared the secret of the Boys Ranch success with the visiting journalist. “In

the first place, we give these kids some affection, make them feel they have a place in the world and are wanted. We can be tough when we have to be, but I won’t stand for brutality.

“Second, the steady boys at the ranch help us show the wild ones how to conduct themselves. The older ones who have earned it are appointed junior leaders, and I never cease to be amazed at how much they can help in turning an undisciplined animal around in his tracks and making a decent kid out of him.”

*“Murder Most Texan” is a must read for fans of true crime and Texas history. Order your copy for \$24.00 by mailing a check to Barteel Haile, P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.*

### To The Editor:

Hey John, (in regards to your letter last week) guess who’s the Dark Money leader this past couple of election cycles? Hint: it’s not the Republicans / GOP whom you wasted FCR’s ink on blaming 16 times in your most recent ideology diatribe.

You seem even more divisive in your thinking than Biden-Pelosi-Schumer combined. Did give me a chuckle though regarding your quote “Democrats genuinely seeking to eliminate corporate money in politics.”

Instead, how about we rally as citizens to rise up as you say (like Canadian truckers for example) and demand that all politicians denounce Dark Money. Far too much money in electioneering. Heck, some party operatives even use that money to buy fake dossiers to try and ruin and impeach their opposition. Elections have

been bought and sold for far too long. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if issues and results decided elections instead of money.

While we’re at it, let’s get all politicians to eliminate computerized gerrymandering and elections (Dominion) and require photo ID as proof of eligibility to ensure election integrity. Further too, let’s require all politicians to pass an amendment limiting terms for congress. The return of Statesmanship. Hooray.

Only together can we break the cycle of politicians using We the People as ping pong balls to slap back and forth and pit against each other to distract from their misdeeds and keep focus on their results not their rhetoric.

God bless and save America.

Mike Kuhn  
Schulenburg

## Radiogate Interesting Read

### To The Editor:

The “Radiogate” article by Andy Behlen in the Feb. 4 edition of the FCR was an interesting read.

The candidate for Fayette County Judge interviewed for that article commented, “I can’t help but think that if the shoe were on the other foot, I would not do this to an opponent of mine.”

It appears “radio guy” was feeling sorry for himself. He’s been in politics a long time and he’s been a radio guy a long time. Among the four candidates for Fayette County Judge, he should be the most knowledgeable re-

garding the FCC rules and abide by them. Then there would be neither the need nor an opportunity for another candidate to raise the issue.

Rather than feeling sorry for himself, Radio guy could have taken the high road and used the interview to apologize to the other candidates for his oversight. Instead, Radio guy’s actions in this instance were more akin to politicians who pass mask mandates and then get caught disregarding their own mandates.

Stephen Muras  
Hostyn

## What Big Lie?

### To The Editor:

I would like to ask Ms. Reid what is ‘the big lie’ she refers to in her recent letter?

I have gotten confused by the ‘Steele dossier’, the ‘Russian collusion’ fiasco, and all the other false accusations and lies created by and promoted by Democrats in the past four years to block Trump’s agenda and get him out of the White House. The fact that they succeeded is only a testimony to their divisiveness.

As early as March 2021, it was evident by the published list of Biden’s Executive Orders, Memorandums, and Actions (all 69 of them), Biden has no intention of delivering on his promise to unify.

President Joe Biden called for unity and respect on day one in office. However, “he hasn’t delivered. Biden and the Democratic Party have done nothing but sow more distrust, disdain, and division—because that’s the inevitable result of their anti-American “woke” worldview—the woke worldview can only divide America because it denies the principles at our country’s core.

I wonder if JFK would recognize today’s Democrat Party? It is evident to me that the current President has neglected his responsibility to uphold the Constitution of the United States on several fronts: by telling Congress to “enact Major restrictions on Constitutionally protected second amendment rights;” by asking Congress to grant legal status to 11 million illegal migrants; by creating a commission to change the Supreme Court; by proposing

a jobs plan that “contains \$2.25 trillion in new spending, \$400 billion in tax credits, and \$2.27 trillion in tax increases with a radical ideology that rejects free enterprise and basic economics, gambling that that the government is a primary driver of growth;” by allowing physicians and health care workers to be threatened with loss of their jobs and licensure if they refuse to comply with vaccine mandates; by allowing demonization of proven COVID-19 therapies; by redirecting funds allocated by Congress to the protection of American land and citizens against invasion of foreign nationals, and the list goes on.

I would remind Ms. Reid that compliance with mandated activity, such as getting a vaccine, might result in sameness but it does not unify. Sameness and unity are very different concepts.

Cindy Rodibaugh  
Flatonia

## My COVID Thoughts

### To The Editor:

It is a reality that COVID-19, and/or the government’s response to the virus, have been devastating to life and liberty as we know it. We are experiencing the biggest push for mandatory experimental injections ever known in the United States and to western democracies. Why has the debate on this important issue been shut down on the main street media and social media? Why are commentators, doctors, and scientist being “cancelled” for discussing alternative views?

I am not an anti-vaxxer, as I have had many different vaccines in my life. However, I am confused by the conflicting information released by the federal government. In particular, I refer to the mixed messages and misinformation disseminated by Dr. Anthony Fauci, the Surgeon General, the CDC, and the National Institutes of Health (not to mention the World Health Organization). How many examples of contradictory information can you remember: travel restrictions, two weeks to slow the curve, herd immunity, risks to adolescents, vaccine efficacy...?

Did you know that the CDC recalled authorization for thousands and thousands of COVID-19 PCR test kits in 2021? It was discovered that the tests could not distinguish the COVID-19 virus from the influenza virus and other corona viruses. This resulted in every positive test (even the false positives) being labeled as COVID-19. In fact, according to the CDC website data, influenza all but disappeared in 2020. Reported flu deaths dropped 97 percent that year. At the same time, reported COVID-19 deaths had a rapid increase (even with the questionable data collection methods.) That’s amazing. Really?

I am certainly not detracting from anyone’s pain and suffering from the maladies caused by this mysterious virus that originated in China. Yet, the media has been stoking fear and panic with headlines declaring that hospitals are at or near full capacity. Reading further down the story, we learn that there are numerous empty beds in the hospitals, but the hospitals lack the staff and nurses to

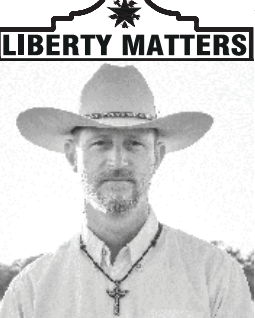
attend the beds. At the same time, the medical facilities are firing employees that refuse the vaccine. So what is the real status of hospital capacity, and what is the real cause of limited capacity? What do the doctors and nurses refusing the vaccine at the peril of losing their jobs know that we do not know?

The political elite issue mandates to lock us down physically, psychologically, and economically. They require us to wear masks indoors and out, and limit the number of people that may congregate for weddings, funerals, and life celebrations. Vaccine passports resemble tyrannical history from the past: “Show me your papers!”

Meanwhile, the political elite ignore their own mandates and travel about unfettered. They flaunt their privilege as they visit restaurants and salons, and attend large galas and festivals. They do so mask-less and without social distancing. The elites’ “rules for thee, but not for me” undermines equal justice for all. “Qu’ils mangent de la brioche” (let the peasants eat bread). Those words did not end well in 18th century France. Today, we see tyranny being opposed worldwide. Rallies are growing in strength in the U.S., Canada, England, France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Italy and many other countries. If the “COVID” decrees and mandates are so critical for public safety, then why do they not apply to the politico?

It is an inalienable right that individuals are allowed to evaluate their own risks, and make their own decision regarding their health and medical treatment. Millions worldwide have accepted the vaccination with little or no side effects. Others have suffered harm ranging from temporary maladies to death. The CDC has changed the definition of “vaccine” and “vaccination” three times to include the evolving mRNA injection. An informed decision involves more than listening to corrupt politicians and pharmaceutical companies, and colluding media. Open debate should be encouraged. So why is it being censored?

Steven Cain  
Fayetteville



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## Wick: Svrcek, Mattress Mac, Olympics

*Continued from Page D1*

lege national title game). But I’m not out nearly as much at Houston’s Mattress Mac, who bet, and lost, \$9.5 million when Cincinnati lost the game. My family and I actually saw Mattress Mac just a few weeks ago. We were in Houston on a Saturday and decided to stroll around the Gallery Furniture on I-45 – the site where we picked out the best couch we ever purchased about 17 years ago.

Mac was at the front desk of the entrance, saying “hi” to people and answering the phone.

When my wife walked by later she said he looked like he was intently organizing a bunch of pens. That guy is truly an original.

• If you are not watching the

Winter Olympics you really are missing out – snowboard cross and curling have replaced the alpine skiing events as my new favorites to watch.

• If you haven’t voted early yet, don’t go to the courthouse. The elections office has moved to the Meadows Building at 275 Ellinger Rd. They moved because they needed more space, but that move bothers me.

My mom tells stories of how people used to bring chairs and blankets and sit on the courthouse lawn of election nights of old and wait to hear vote totals during heated races. The Fayette County courthouse is one of the most beautiful and historic places in the county.

But going to vote early is one of the only reasons most people go to the courthouse. The other reason is to get your vehicle registration renewed. And soon that office is going to move to the under renovation Pioneer Bank building. Plus three of the four entrances to the courthouse are still closed – not sure if that was security-related or COVID-related. I wonder if that will ever change. I remember as a kid walking into the courthouse for one reason or another with my folks and marveling at the way the stone of the doorway was worn into a concave shape by the footsteps of so many people for so many years.

But it’s not the public place it used to be, I guess.

And that’s a shame.

**ACROSS**  
1 Rising \_\_\_\_, TX  
5 honorary Texas Ranger:  
Stanley Gardner  
6 former MLB pitcher from Texas, David  
7 transport for Dallas-based Greyhound (2 wds.)  
8 TX-born Steve Martin song: “King \_\_\_\_”  
9 flightless Australian bird  
12 TXism: “\_\_ \_\_\_\_ of” (lots)  
17 puzzling things  
19 “Ma,” the first governor of Texas  
21 “\_\_\_\_ up” (getting ready)  
22 TXism: “she could talk a wagon out of \_\_\_\_” (talks a lot)  
23 \_\_\_\_ Blanca, TX  
28 dork, dweeb  
29 gas \_\_\_\_ led to a school disaster in New London (1937)  
30 reveal an art work  
31 WBAP’s business album: “I Got \_\_\_\_”  
35 TX Janis Joplin album: “I Got \_\_\_\_”  
36 site where Missouri City, TX slaves learned they were free in 1860 (2 wds.)  
42 TXism: “mean as a \_\_\_\_”  
44 cut into two parts  
46 airport buildings

**DOWN**  
1 it’s located on the 3rd floor of the TX Capitol (2 wds.)  
2 “Jackson County Herald-\_\_\_\_”  
3 Alaska’s islands  
4 TX Drew Stubbs played for the Cincinnati \_\_\_\_  
9 Muslim ruler  
10 Louise and Irene to Barbara (2 wds.)  
11 this Ulysses first saw combat at the “Battle of Palo Alto” in TX (init.)  
12 a TX doc is current pres. of this assn.  
48 slain  
49 this Ron was “Tarzan” on NBC (1966-68)  
50 a church building recess  
51 more mentally healthy  
52 TXism: “he’s ugly as homemade \_\_\_\_”  
53 TXism: “fits like ugly \_\_\_\_ ape”  
54 “Lexington” at Corpus Christi is an \_\_\_\_-class aircraft carrier  
56 TXism: “worn \_\_\_\_ frazzle” (tired)  
57 hospital trauma rooms (abbr.)  
58 Tex Ritter sang “\_\_\_\_ Whiskey”  
13 in Ellis County on U.S. 67 & 287  
14 a Great Lake  
15 TXism: “\_\_\_\_ spell” (rest)  
16 TXism: “tow \_\_\_\_” (burlap bag)  
18 graduate sch. test  
20 this Holley wrote first English history of Texas (init.)  
23 “mi casa es \_\_\_\_ casa” (neighborly)  
24 TX Marcus Johnson is a WR in this state  
25 TXism: “beats anything I \_\_\_\_ saw”  
26 TV controller

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
*by Charley & Guy Orbison*  
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36 TX Sessions was dir. of this agcy.  
37 TXism: “he could out \_\_\_\_ six-legged bobcat” (fast)  
38 time goes by  
39 TX singer English of Lawrence Welk  
40 J.R. Ewing’s wife: “Sue \_\_\_\_”  
41 at any time  
43 17th gov. Roberts (first two init.)  
45 \_\_\_\_ “Too Tall” Jones  
47 “S” of “ESP”  
48 Raymondville AM  
55 “\_\_\_\_ of use”

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Puzzle solution will appear in the Classified Pages of Tuesday’s newspaper.







# Fayette County Soil and Water Conservation Award Winners

Each year, the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts sponsor the Texas Conservation Awards Program to recognize and honor those who dedicate themselves and their talents to the conservation and wise use of renewable natural resources.

Conservation Districts are local units of government responsible for conservation work within their boundaries. The district's role is to increase voluntary conservation among land users. The district and the Natural Resource Conservation Service work together in order to reach the district's goal of conservation applications. The NRCS is vital to the success of all the Fayette SWCD's conservation objectives. The conservation awards program provides competition and incentives to expand and improve conservation efforts, resource development, and increase the wise utilization of renewable natural resources.

The directors of the Fayette County Soil and Water Conservation District are: Rick Schilling, Lee Fritsch, Howard Frick, Carol Friedrich and C.R. "Bob" Devine. District employees are Nancy Pietsch and Carissa Ka-

risch. NRCS employees Robert Bankston, Glen Minzenmeyer and Marcus Rose.

The Fayette County Soil and Water Conservation District No. 341 held its annual Conservation Awards Banquet on Feb. 4. Winners for this year include the following:

**Coloring Contest**

Nayeli Llanas, La Grange Elementary  
Andres Aguillon, Flatonia Elementary

**Poster Contest**

Morgan Williams, Round Top-Carmine Elementary  
Annabelle Zoch, Sacred Heart School

**Essay Contest**

13 & Under Division:  
Reagan Williams, Round Top-Carmine Elementary  
Morgan Williams, Round Top-Carmine Elementary

**Essay Contest**

14-18 Division:  
Eryn Kutchka, La Grange Middle School  
Nathan Barron, La Grange Middle School

**Conservation Rancher**

Frank & Patricia Cunningham



Coloring contest winner Andres Aguillon, Flatonia Elementary, is pictured with presenters Danny Jurk and Dan Mueller of Colorado Valley Communications. Not pictured is Nayeli Llanas, La Grange Elementary.



Poster contest winner Morgan Williams, Round Top-Carmine Elementary, is pictured with presenter Forrest Stewart of Capital Farm Credit.



Essay contest winners, 13 and under division, Morgan Williams, Round Top-Carmine Elementary and Reagan Williams, Round Top-Carmine Elementary, pictured with presenter Amanda Castaneda of Flatonia National Bank.



Essay contest winners, 14-18 division, Nathan Barron, La Grange Middle School and Eryn Kutchka, La Grange Middle School, with presenters Michele Stokes and Sherry Pfluger of Round Top State Bank.



Frank and Patricia Cunningham were awarded the Conservation Rancher award by Tracy Denton of Fayette Electric Cooperative.

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#adoptingsaveslives  
#spayandneuter  
#barncats

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- Call the Gardenia E. Janssen Animal Shelter at 966-0021

HOURS:

- Visit the shelter at 240 Svoboda Lane and adopt animals on Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shelter is closed on Monday. The animal shelter will not accept surrendered animals on Saturdays.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Check the web site at [www.janssenanimalshelter.org](http://www.janssenanimalshelter.org)
- Email: [info@janssenanimalshelter.org](mailto:info@janssenanimalshelter.org)
- Wendie Dillard, Tech - [wendie@janssenanimalshelter.org](mailto:wendie@janssenanimalshelter.org)

The animal shelter is in need of puppy chow, kitten chow, dog and cat food, paper towels, candles, Pine Sol, and Lysol.

All animals for adoption can be viewed online at [petango.com](http://petango.com).

## Animal Shelter Status Update

As of Feb. 11, the Gardenia E. Janssen Animal Shelter closed the week with 99 animals in care: 41 cats/58 dogs. This number includes animals in the facility, in foster care for medical, space, or awaiting transport to rescue partner.

The following are the statistics for the week of Feb. 5-11:

Intake: 27

Adoptions: 20  
Transferred to Rescue: 0  
Return to Owner: 3  
Humane Euthanasia: 0

Every day we strive to provide the care and love all our animals deserve and need. We build our practices, protocols, and daily routines based on the gold-standard in animal welfare.

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2 Vote 4 Liberty!

## St. Rose Fayette Soil & Water Conservation Winners

St. Rose of Lima Catholic School announced its Fayette Soil and Water Conservation District winners. Coloring contest, 5K - 1st: Lane Schiffl, 2nd: Chandler Bubela, 3rd: Addison Johnson; 1st Grade - 1st: Rowan Heinrich, 2nd: Emma McCourt, 3rd: Tatum Bujnoch; 2nd Grade - 1st: Cate Hooper, 2nd: Hudson Ohnheiser; Poster contest, 3rd Grade - 1st: Luke Goedrich, 2nd: Levi Johnson, 3rd: Briley Hartensteiner; 5th Grade - 1st: Holden Holub; 6th Grade - 1st: Miranda Bonner, 2nd: Brenley Bujnoch; Essay Contest, 4th Grade - 1st: Abraham McBride, and 2nd: Bryson Ohnheiser.

## Get Moving, Join Fayette County's Walk Across Texas Series in March

Create healthy habits, lower your risk of disease, meet new friends, and achieve your 2022 health goals. Join Fayette County's upcoming, eight-week Walk Across Texas! program which starts March 13.

Walking is one of the least expensive and easiest ways to get fit says Sally Garrett, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent-Family & Community Health. Physical activity helps reduce your risk of cancer, diabetes, heart disease and stroke. Increase your chances for success by creating

a team of eight and joining your teammates as they walk towards a healthier lifestyle. Walk Across Texas! is...life changing. By completing the eight-week program, you will feel better, lower your stress level, and get all the additional benefits of regular physical activity, not to mention creating long-standing, healthy habits of physical activity.

A weekly newsletter with health/nutritional information will be sent out to all WAT members states Garrett. There is no cost for this exercise program,

and you can sign up online. Challenge your friends, family members, and/or co-workers to sign up. Other forms of physical activity can also count on your weekly activity log. At the end of the 8-week cycle, prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the Fayette County Extension Office at (979) 968-5831.

Get Moving! All you need is 30 minutes a day to realize the benefits of a healthier life. Sign up a team today.

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