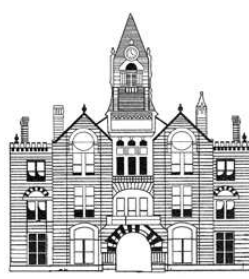


# THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

TEXAS' LARGEST AND BEST SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



La Grange, Texas 78945

Volume 101, Number 69

One Dollar per Copy

**INSIDE**



**Donations Aplenty**  
Second Chance makes more amazing donations. **D4**

**A Sizzling Summer: The Impact**

## Chief: 'She Said She Took Her Clothes Off Because it Was Hot'

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

Sometimes you have to shed a few layers to beat this heat.

Last Friday around 2:15 p.m., a motorist called La Grange Police about a woman wearing only underwear walking down the service road of SH 71 Bypass. La Grange Police Chief David Gilbreath responded and found the

woman on the service road near the intersection of Von Minden Rd.

"She was walking down the road in bikini underwear," Gilbreath said. "She had a pair of shorts around her neck."

Gilbreath said the woman was in her 30s and had an Austin address, but she was staying with a family member in La Grange.

"She said she took her

clothes off because it was hot," Gilbreath said.

The weather last Friday was actually cooler than it had been last week and the days since then – barely 90 degrees at the time, according to the thermometer at Fayette Regional Air Center.

Gilbreath gave the woman a courtesy ride to her family member's residence in La Grange.

## Some County Crews Starting at 5 a.m. to Avoid Afternoon Heat

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

At last Thursday's commissioner's court meeting, Pct. 4 Commissioner Drew Brossmann reported that his road and bridge department changed their work schedule to avoid the daytime heat.

"Since the heat is so extreme, you might see our guys working different hours," Brossmann said. "We're coming in way earlier in the morning to get the job done. We were doing some paving yesterday and today, so we're coming in around 5 a.m. If you see our guys around town at 1:30 or 2 p.m., they're off the clock."

Later in the meeting, Brossmann asked EMS Director Josh Vandever if he has seen an increase in heat-related calls.

"Not only for patients, but we've had some crews getting

pretty dehydrated on calls," Vandever said. "We had a couple of wrecks with extrications of the past weeks, and a couple of times members of our crews and firefighters have gone to the ambulance to cool down."

Vandever said the EMS Department has been purchasing water to keep on hand for firefighters and other personnel responding to emergencies.

"We're trying to keep everyone hydrated and safe," Vandever said.

"It's really nice that y'all come to all the house fires and structure fires," said Brossmann, who also serves as an assistant fire chief for the Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department. "It's really nice and comforting to know y'all are there in case something happens to us."

## FOR THE RECORD

**Extravaganza**

Join Bethlehem AME Church for a praise and worship musical extravaganza on Friday, **June 30** at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 2200 Bethlehem Rd. in La Grange. Special guest is Pastor/Minister Leo Vaughns Jr. The Mistress of Ceremony is Evangelist Lisa Wooden.

**Stars Stripes & Polka**

The Texas Polka News/*PolkaBeat.com* will host the annual Stars, Stripes, and Polka On! dance at the Schulenburg Hall on Saturday, **July 1**. Music by the Czechaholics Band from 7-11 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. and hamburgers will be available. Door prizes will be drawn. Kick off the July Fourth celebration week with your friends.

**Monument Hill**

Join Kreische Brewery and Monument Hill State Historic Sites on **July 1** and **July 2** from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and learn more about the German Texan celebrations of Independence Day on the Bluff. Activities will include themed tours, a make-your-own ice cream event on Saturday, and a craft-making station on Sunday. Regular admission fees apply. For more information, follow the sites' social media or call (979) 968-5658.

*There's more For the Record on Page A2*

## WEATHER WATCH

**This Week's Forecast**

	High	Low
<b>Friday:</b>	99	76
Partly cloudy		
<b>Saturday:</b>	98	76
Partly cloudy		
<b>Sunday:</b>	97	77
Partly cloudy		
<b>Monday:</b>	96	77
Partly cloudy		

**Burn Ban Is Lifted**

**INSIDE TODAY**

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## Too Mulch to Handle?



This is not some grand West Texas vista, but rather the growing county mulch pile, a service that is fast becoming too expensive and hard to manage, officials say.

*Photo by Andy Behlen*

### County's Mulch Grinding Service Getting Expensive, Unwieldy

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

Commissioners accepted and awarded a bid for grinding mulch at the recycling center. The project will cost \$77,140.70 this year.

The County provides a brush drop-off service for residents at the Fayette County Recycling Center. County road and bridge crews also dump brush at the site from

clearing roadways. Each year the County hires a contractor to grind the brush into mulch. The Recycling Center sells the mulch at a price of \$5 per pickup truck bed.

"The mulching is definitely a losing battle," said Recycling Center Manager Paul Zapalac. "Each year it grows larger and larger. We get more brush. People move in and get some property out in the coun-

try – 15 or 20 acres. Instead of burning it right there, they bring it to the County. It's only going to increase. The revenue is not there to continue it. So I don't know what we are going to do moving forward."

Burning the brush on site is out of the question. The Recycling Center's brush yard sits atop an old landfill. The County cannot burn there due

*See Too Mulch, Page A4*

## Iconic Schulenburg Building For Sale

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

The Von Minden Hotel in Schulenburg is up for sale.

Lockwood Realty Group of San Antonio is the listing agent for the 17,036 sq. ft. building. The price is listed as "subject to offer."

A group of local investors purchased the property in 2017 and began renovations. According to the listing, "The property has undergone partial renovations, including asbestos abatement, electrical and plumbing service, exterior and windows."

The Von Minden Hotel was built in 1927. Prior to its sale in 2017, the Pettit Family of Schulenburg owned and operated the hotel along with The Cozy Movie Theater, which

was located on the first floor.

"The property currently features 34 well-appointed guest rooms, as well as a large theater room, lobby and bar area making it an ideal loca-

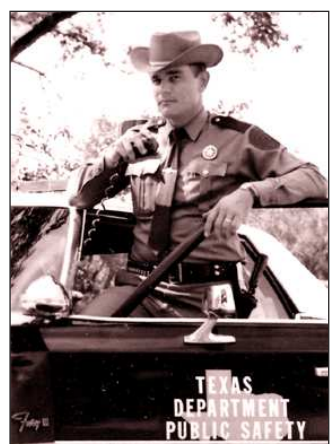
tion for events and gatherings," the listing says.

The Record reached out to a representative of the current owners, but they declined to comment.



Schulenburg's Von Minden Hotel. *Photo by Dave Oldham*

## Chicken Ranch Revisited: The Trooper Assigned to Keep Sheriff Out of Trouble



Claude Hart: "I was a very young Highway Patrolman ... sent to La Grange to ensure that the Sheriff didn't kill Marvin Zindler or kill himself."

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

In 1974, a year after The Chicken Ranch closed, Houston TV reporter Marvin Zindler returned to La Grange for a follow-up on his series that led to the brothel's shut down. Fayette County Sheriff T.J. "Jim" Flournoy was not a fan of the flamboyant newsman. Zindler's week-long series that aired on ABC 13 a year before caused a lot of embarrassment for "Big

Jim" and the La Grange community.

Flournoy accosted Zindler on the Square in La Grange that day, yanking him out of a car by his necktie. Flournoy snatched the toupee off Zindler's

head and stomped it in the street. Zindler suffered two broken ribs in the ordeal.

Zindler sued Flournoy, which resulted in the famous "I'm a friend of Sheriff Jim" bumper stickers that were

sold as part of the Sheriff's legal defense fund.

Sometime later, Zindler returned to La Grange again to record some footage for his news special. The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) found out about the trip. Worried that another confrontation could turn deadly, DPS assigned a state trooper to shadow Flournoy while Zindler was in town. That trooper was Claude Hart, who was based in Brenham at the time.

"I was a very young Highway Patrolman in Brenham when this all started," said

has had the opportunity to participate in various competitions aside from NGT, and perform at concerts all around Norway. She won the inspirational award in the Midgard Competition, a Norwegian classical instrument competition, and 1st place prize in the Norwegian Music Competition for Youth, among others.

Now, Isaksen has found her way to the United States. Her music teacher, Kolbjørn

*See Norway, Page A4*

**Festival Hill Features: Rebecca Isaksen**

## 'Norway's Got Talent' Star is Studying Here

By **MAKENZIE GIVAN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

It's not every day that you receive a golden buzzer during the semi-finals of Norway's Got Talent, especially after having already received it in the first round of televised auditions. In fact, in 2019, Rebecca Isaksen was the first in the world to receive a golden buzzer during the semi-finals of a 'Got Talent' show.

"A lot of small children told me after I played there (NGT), 'Oh I started playing violin because of you,'" said Isaksen. "I hope people see how much I enjoy playing the music, that I give something to them. For me, that's the most important thing."

Born and raised in Norway to parents who were musicians, Isaksen has never known a life without music. She began her music journey singing in the choir, but when she turned eight, something shifted.

"It wasn't until I saw this show called Eurovision where I saw this guy from Norway who played violin that I really wanted to start playing," said Isaksen. "...It was kind of love at first sight with the violin."

Isaksen recently finished her first year of undergraduate studies at the Norwegian Academy of Music, the largest and best music academy in the country. Isaksen had previously attended a talent program at the same namesake when she was 12 years old.

Over the years, Isaksen



Violinist Rebecca Isaksen is studying and performing at Festival Hill this summer.

Hart, who just celebrated

*See Hart, Page A4*

# FOR THE RECORD

## Free Gallery Talk Saturday, July 1

Join the Texas Quilt Museum this Saturday to welcome Mark Lambert, husband of the late Mary Ann Vaca-Lambert, as he gives a Gallery Talk on the exhibit "A Tribute to Mary Ann Vaca-Lambert." Mark is kind enough to make a return visit after inclement weather prevented some from attending his previous talk. The talk begins on Saturday, **July 1** at 3 p.m. Museum admission is free beginning at 2 p.m. The museum is located at 140 W. Colorado St. in La Grange.

## Muldoon Museum Open July 1

The Muldoon Museum will be open on Saturday, **July 1** from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

## Muldoon 4th of July Parade

Independence Day celebration at Muldoon Park will be held Saturday, **July 1**. The parade lineup begins at 8:30 a.m. at Muldoon Baptist Church. Parade begins at 9:30 a.m. Live and silent auctions start at 10:30 a.m. Hot dogs will be served after the auctions. Bottled water will be provided. Bring a side or dessert, preferably finger foods. The gun raffle drawing begins at 2 p.m. Auction items are needed. Bring a lawn chair. Any questions, contact Sheila Brunner at (361) 772-0246. Money raised supports improvements to the Muldoon Park.

## Shared Lutheran Ministry Joint Service

Come join the fun. Shared Lutheran Ministries will be having a joint worship on Sunday, **July 2** at 10 a.m. After worship there will be a friendly hamburger throwdown at 11:30 a.m. to see who has the best burger in Fayette County. There will be judges from Feed the Need to judge the best burger, the people will have an opportunity to vote with a people's choice. All proceeds will go towards Feed the Need.

## Carmine Trash Pickup Holiday Schedule

Carmine trash pickup will be on Monday, **July 3**, since July 4 falls on a Tuesday this year. Regular time will be observed.

## St. John July 4th Patriotism

Fayette County Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Paul Zapalac will deliver a patriotic message for the 10 a.m. flag program on **July 4** at St. John Parish Picnic. Zapalac serves as Grand Knight of the Schulenburg K of C Council. Come share Independence Day with us.

## Holiday Garbage Schedule

La Grange city offices will be closed on Tuesday, **July 4**, in observance of Independence Day. Waste Management will not have a holiday and will run their normal garbage schedule.

## The Remnant Church's 4th of July Party

You're invited to join The Remnant Church for their annual 4th of July party for some fun for the entire family and community on Tuesday, **July 4** from 6 p.m. until dark. Free hot dogs and watermelon (while supplies last) and water. Enjoy a waterslide, splash pad, dunking booth and games for children and adults. Fireworks show at dark (weather permitting and if there is not a burn ban). Bring your own lawn chairs, family and friends, snacks and drinks (no alcoholic beverages allowed). Please note, childcare is not available at this event. Parents will need to accompany and supervise their children at this event.

## Hermann Sons Life Meeting

Hermann Sons Life Rutersville will have their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, **July 5** at 7 p.m. Members are asked to bring sandwiches, sides or desserts. Homemade ice cream will be provided.

## Family Reunion July 8

All relatives and descendants of Andreas Kappler, Agnes Groeschel Kappler, John Ernst Berger and Anna Wukasch Berger are invited to attend a family reunion at the Holy Cross Church Hall in Warda on Saturday, **July 8** beginning at 10 a.m. A meal will be served at 12:30 p.m. Please bring enough food for your family. Paper goods, tea, and coffee will be provided by the reunion. Bring your own soft drinks and beer. Donation for beer provided will be taken. There is a playground for the children. Please notify all relatives and bring any addresses, pictures, family documents and information to share with each other. In the Giddings area, you may contact Wayne Kappler at (979) 702-9814 or Golda Berger at (979) 542-5650. For any additional information, contact Harry Schoppe at (409) 926-2942 or by email at [hisnet@gt.rr.com](mailto:hisnet@gt.rr.com).

## Schulenburg Chamber Wine-O Bingo

The Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce will host Wine-O Bingo on Saturday, **July 15** at Svetlik Farm, 2616 FM 2672 in Schulenburg. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Individual tickets are \$25 and a reserved table for 8 is \$175. Only 250 tickets will be sold. Enjoy 20 games (or more), plus a blackout (big prize for this one). Prizes include wine, liquor, unique beers and lots of door prizes. BYOB, coolers and snacks are welcome. Join the table decorating contest. Decorating begins at 4:30 p.m. You must be 21 years of age or older to play. Tickets are available by calling the chamber office at (979) 743-4514.

## Bockhorn-Rodenbeck Family Reunion

The 84th Bockhorn-Rodenbeck Family Reunion will be held on Sunday, **July 16** at the American Legion Hall, 903 North Park Street, Brenham. Members should look for an upcoming email from [bockhornrodenbeckfamily@gmail.com](mailto:bockhornrodenbeckfamily@gmail.com) with information regarding reservations, meal prices and activities planned for the day. Future emails from this account will provide additional information prior to the reunion.

## Winchester to Hold Farmer's Market

Zilss Hall, located at the corner of Memorial Hall Road and FM 153 in Winchester, will be the site of the monthly Winchester Farmer's Market this Saturday beginning at 8:30 a.m. Vendors will be selling crafts, homemade food items, plants, eggs, and locally grown produce until noon. If you would like to be a vendor, the cost is \$10 for a space and you must bring your own table and chairs. You may register on site. For more information, contact Shanti Odom at (512) 913-9110.

## LHS Students Inducted Into Math Honor Society



Nineteen students from La Grange High School were recently inducted into the Blinn College chapter of the Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics Honor Society. Mu Alpha Theta is a National High School and Junior College mathematics club for honor students that is co-sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the Mathematical Association of America. Pictured (back, from left) are Bennett Barber, Alivia Eindorf, Alyssa Liccioni, Westin Smith, Owen Westall, John Gray; middle row: Peyton James, Tori Harold, Kylie Zbrank, Jill Newton, Landon von Minden, Lyndie Edson, Jillian Hightower, (front) Haylie Cooper, Sarah Kay, Maddy Kates, Genesis Parada, Ella Pineda and Jena Jobb.

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**Lukas Bakery**  
 will be closed  
**July 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th.**  
 We will be back open **July 7th** at our regular scheduled hours: 5 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
**HAPPY JULY 4TH!**  
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 135 N. Main • La Grange

## Fayetteville Courthouse to be Painted

An important reminder from the City: Fireworks are prohibited within the city limits of Fayetteville.

Several items of importance took place at the most recent City Council meeting:

- Justice of the Peace (JP) Jamie Moreau was appointed Fayetteville Municipal Court Judge at the most recent City Council meeting. Moreau will continue to serve in her position as JP and will enforce city ordinances as necessary.
- Councilman Neal Doty has been re-elected Mayor Pro Tem and will serve until his council term is up.
- Approval was provided for the Fayetteville courthouse and gazebo to be painted. If citizens wish to make donations to the Courthouse Fund, there is additional work to be performed. Contact the City.
- The Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department and the City have renewed their contract. The agreement is for 20 years.
- Updates and revisions to HOT (Hotel Occupancy Tax) reimbursement forms were approved.
- The city council accepted a gift of local property. Information will be forthcoming.

### Athletic Honors

Congratulations to Fayetteville ISD students Lawson Fritsch and Jack Schley for earning their position on the THSCA 1A Boys Track & Field Super Elite Team.

### Park Prairie

Park Prairie at Lake Fayette will delay their opening hours June 26 through June 30 and July 10 through July 14 for conservation practices. Park and boat ramp will open at 11 a.m. each day.

### VBS

June 30 is the deadline to register for the Wilderness Adventure "Through the Sacraments" Cat Chat Vacation Bible School at St. John Catholic Church. The school will be held July 17-21 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the recreation hall. Online registration only at [www.stjohnfayetteville.com](http://www.stjohnfayetteville.com). Contact Theresa Keilers at (979) 966-2861 or [kamcat@msn.com](mailto:kamcat@msn.com) for more information.

### City-Wide Garage Sale

The Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) of St. John and St. Mary will participate in the City-Wide Garage Sale on July 8. Please bring your donations (no clothes or TVs, please) to the parish hall on July 2, from 1-3 p.m., and July 3-7, from 5-7 p.m. Make sure that all donated electronics and appliances are in working order. Fayetteville KJT Lodge No. 9 will have a raffle during the sale. Matching funds are being provided by the KJT Home office. Proceeds will go to a grant for the CYM and for repairs to the interior of the KJT hall. We appreciate their support.

The Fayetteville Lions Club is accepting gently used home decor, furniture, tools, toys, games and clothing at the old fire house the week leading up to the City-Wide

## FAYETTEVILLE News



By **CINDY STEPHENS**  
 Fayetteville News Correspondent

garage sale. Lucky attendees get the chance to make early purchases at a preview party held on Friday night, July 7, from 6 until 8 p.m. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be served, and everyone is invited. A freewill offering of \$20 per person is requested (under 21-free). Call Sandra Borne at (512) 971-3901 to arrange for donations or for more information.

### Flower Class

This Saturday, an Independence Day Patriotic Flower Class is being held at Bloom & Co. in the square. Choose to make a grapevine wreath, flower centerpiece or sun hat. All flowers (farm fresh & dried) will be supplied. Select one session: Session 1: 2-3:30 p.m. or Session 2: 4-5:30 p.m. One \$40 ticket will include: one straw hat, grapevine wreath or vintage flower vessel; farm fresh and faux flowers in red, white and blue; all tools and supplies, including ribbons and vintage indigo

For more details, check out Jennifer Bellantonio Zerger on Facebook. Visit [shebloom.com](http://shebloom.com).

### Recommendations

For a sweeter summer for all, keep those recommendations for shows and books coming in. Send to [newsinfayetteville@gmail.com](mailto:newsinfayetteville@gmail.com). Check out Acorn TV. Lots of shows revolve around food (Aftertaste) or wine (Under the Vines), or both, like Recipes for Love and Murder with Maria Conan Doyle of the Outlander series.

"The Beer Drinkers Guide to God" by William B. Miller (aka Fr. Miller) "...is highly enjoyable and spiritually didactic as well—both being great traits for a summer read. It tells the life and travels of our Fr. Miller as well." Recommended by Martin Payne. William "Father Bill" Miller resides over St. Cecilia's in Round Top.

### Celebrations

Happy Birthday wishes are extended to: James Korenek, Roy Kovar and Wayne Fruge-30; Gracie Dyer and Justin Pietsch-July 2; Dan Stepan and Morgan Krebs-July 5.

### 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, text (713) 261-0786 or email [newsinfayetteville@gmail.com](mailto:newsinfayetteville@gmail.com).

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**SHELBY VFD** THANK YOU  
 The members of Shelby Volunteer Fire Department wish to extend a heartfelt Thank You to everyone who supported our 2023 Feast and Fundraiser. There are not enough words to express the gratitude to those who purchased meals, raffle tickets and auction items. A special thank you to those who donated raffle items, auction items and desserts. Thank you also to members and non-members alike who made this day a success, without our volunteers this day would not have been possible.  
**We Look Forward To Seeing You Again Next Year!**

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**9:00 AM** MASS AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
**10:00 AM** FLAG RAISING CEREMONY  
 \*All Veterans Are Encouraged to Attend\*  
**10:30 AM** START SERVING LUNCH  
 STEW, FRIED CHICKEN, AND ALL THE TRIMMINGS  
 DINE-IN OR TAKE HOME \* \$12.00  
**10:30 AM** MUSIC BEGINS: \*FREE DANCE UNDER THE PAVILION\*  
 The Shiner Hobo Band \* The Dujka Brothers  
 Red Ravens \* Nathan Colt Young  
**12:30 PM** AUCTION BEGINS  
**8:00 PM** RAFFLE DRAWING **9:30 PM** FIREWORKS  
 Beer \* Soda Water \* Snow Cones \* Hamburgers and more \* Country Store \*  
 Cake Walk \* Ball Throw \* Ring Toss \* Lil Diggers Sandpile and more Entertainment  
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 visit [www.stjohnpicnic.com](http://www.stjohnpicnic.com) & like us on Facebook - St. John 4th of July Picnic

## NEED HELP WITH YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN?

If you have questions about your pension, 401(k) or profit sharing plan, call the South Central Pension Rights Project at (800) 443-2528 to get free legal advice. Funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging, SCPRP staff provides free legal assistance to anyone with a question about their retirement plan.

**CALL US TODAY 1.800.443.2528**

# Sheriff Keith Korenek Reports on May Activity

Fayette County Sheriff Keith Korenek reports on the following activities of Fayette County Sheriff Deputies for the month of May. Detective Marc Bennett is currently working 10 different cases along with CPS involving neglect and abuse of a child.

Sgt. Ron Naumann took a report of three stray horses in the West Point area. The owner of the horses was quickly located and the horses were returned. Naumann also took a report of a theft involving fuel from a local gas station. The case remains under investigation at this time.

Sgt. Ryan Meagher was dispatched to a domestic disturbance at a residence in the Plum area. After further investigation, a male subject was arrested for Interference with Public Duties. Meagher and Deputy Holly Smith responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle. Deputies responded and located the vehicle. After further investigation, two subjects were found to be in possession of a large amount of stolen mail. Both subjects were arrested on felony mail theft charges.

Deputy Herman Olvera responded to Interstate 10 in reference to shots being fired from a vehicle. Olvera lo-

## Sheriff's Report



By **KEITH KORENEK**  
Fayette County Sheriff

cated the suspects vehicle and through further investigation, the driver admitted to firing the shots. The driver who was also a convicted felon was not supposed to be in possession of a firearm. The driver was arrested on several charges including felon in possession of firearm, deadly conduct, endangering a child and possession of marijuana.

Deputy Austin Moore stopped a vehicle in the La Grange area. After further investigation, the driver was arrested for possession of methamphetamine. Once at the jail, it was discovered the driver was found to be in possession of more narcotics and he received additional felony charges. Moore made contact with a pedestrian walking along the roadway, the male subject was found to have an active felony warrant out of

Fayette County. He was arrested and transported to the jail without incident.

Deputy James Ulbig responded to a disturbance involving a male being hit by a vehicle. After further investigation, a female subject was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Deputy Duane Meagher responded to an address near Waelder in reference to an unattended death. There was no foul play suspected and the death is believed to be a result of natural causes.

Deputy Joe Gonzales responded to a call of a male subject being attacked by a swarm of bees. Gonzales administered his fire extinguisher in attempt to stop the bees from attacking the man. The male was flown via helicopter to a hospital and was able to make a full recovery. Gonzales also responded to a hospice inquest in the Ledbetter area.

Deputy Holly Smith responded to an assault that occurred at a bar near La Grange. An investigation was conducted and charges are pending at this time. Smith also took a report of an assault that previously occurred. Information was gathered and a report was completed.

Deputy Jared Michalec

was dispatched to a residence near Flatonia, in reference to a disturbance. After further investigation, it was determined one subject pulled a knife and tried to stab his father. The male was arrested and transported to jail without incident.

Deputy Seth Nagel attempted to stop a vehicle on US 290 at Round Top Rd. The vehicle failed to yield and a pursuit ensued. The vehicle came to a stop inside of the Giddings city limits. The driver and sole occupant was arrested and charged with evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.

Deputy Wesley Arrison took a report of a theft of a utility trailer. The stolen property was recovered in Caldwell County. Arrison also assisted in an investigation at a local school in which a student was charged with invasive video recording.

Jail Administrator Ed Sawyer reports that Fayette County Correction Officers booked in 66 individuals for the month of May. Sawyer reports that the jail staff transported 8 individuals to Texas Department of Criminal Justice Facilities throughout the State to begin serving their sentences for crimes committed in Fayette County.

## FAYETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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## ROUND TOP MUSIC FESTIVAL

Week 4 - Saturday, July 1

1:30 pm in the Festival Concert Hall

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(979) 249-3129  FestivalHill.org

# RT Independence Day Spectacular Saturday Benefits VFD

Saturday, July 1, the Compound will host their 7th Annual Round Top Independence Day Spectacular. Beginning at 6 p.m., come out for live music by the Black Cat Choir, food from Merritt Meat Market and a bar by Prost on Block 29 and Ellis Motel. Admission is \$25 per vehicle and proceeds benefit the Round Top-Warrenton Volunteer Fire Department. Fireworks by Mr. B begin at 9:15 p.m.

### Local Events

Also on Saturday, July 1, Harmonie Hall is hosting the annual Fourth of July dance celebrating America. Doors open at 7 p.m., and music is 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Bar and kitchen will be open. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Tuesday, July 4, is the big show-stopper – the longest running Fourth of July celebration west of the Mississippi. The parade route starts at the Round Top Rifle Hall, heads down Highway 237 towards Round Top, turns down Main Street, takes a left on Main Street, right on Bauer Rummel (Round Top Road), then right on White Street, right on Gretchen's Way and back to the Rifle Hall.

All festivities begin at 10 a.m., the parade starts after the firing of the cannon at 10:30 a.m., and afterwards head to the Round Top Rifle Hall for music, food, and more! Barbeque will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m. and the fun continues until 4 p.m., when the band will set up for live music and a dance. Come out for a fun-filled, old fashioned Fourth of July celebration.

### Live Music

Friday, June 30, catch Michael Player live at Busted Oak Cellars from 6 to 9 p.m., April Hall on Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m., and Danielle Reich Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. Bingo Night is Thursday, July 6 from 6 to 8 p.m.

### Round Top Rifle Hall

Monday Night Hamburger Social takes place the first, second and third Mondays each month starting at 5:30 p.m. 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).

### Town of Round Top

The next Round Top Town Council will meet Monday, July 10 at 6 p.m. Meetings are held at the Town Hall located at 100 Main Street unless otherwise posted. Citizens are encouraged and welcome

## ROUND TOP News



By **KYLA GOEBEL**  
Round Top News Correspondent

to attend. Agendas are posted on the website at [www.townofroundtop.org](http://www.townofroundtop.org) at least 72 hours prior to the meeting time.

### Round Top Family Library

Yoga in the library every Monday at 5 p.m., Preschool story time Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m., Chess Club Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Family Game Day is Saturday, July 8 at 2 p.m. Bring your family and friends for a day of classic and new games. A light snack will be served.

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

### Sons of Hermann Round Top

The Round Top Hermann Sons Life Lodge 151 held the regular monthly meeting on June 22 at the American Legion Hall at 6:30 p.m. Congratulations was extended to McKinley Jasinski, scholarship member, who received her check. She will be attending Blinn College in the fall with plans for a degree in agriculture. Linda Mattocks, president, called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. The lodge's donations for the Round Top – Warrenton and Carmine Fire Departments were approved. Correspondence included a letter from the American Legion requesting that the full rental be paid at the beginning of each year of ensure the meeting date reservation. Treasurer Mary Rauch will comply. The membership picnic is Aug. 5 in Comfort. Linda read a message from Betty Porter, who underwent surgery recently. Jocie Braun will have her second cataract surgery next week. Happy birthday was sung to Max Baranowski, and McKinley and Kennedy Jasinski.

Happy anniversary wishes were extended to Ted and Margie Stardig for 63 years, and Leonard and Myrt Meinkowsky for 59 years. Attendance prizes were won by Jeanette Hancock, Margie Stardig, LaVerne Albers, Linda Mattocks, and Jocie Braun. Door prize was won by Becky Jasinski.

A big thank you to the outgoing serving committee of Ted and Margie Stardig, Barton and Lila Garlin, Pearl and Wayne Wagner, and LaVerne Albers. The serving committee for the next three months will be Mary, Melanie and Sophie Rauch, Bob and Betty Porter, Jeff and Cathy Gau, Dwight Nittsche, and Randy Wied. The next meeting will be July 27.

### Festival Hill

Sunday, July 2 is the Patriotic Concert from 3 to 4:30 p.m. featuring Conductor, Charles Oliveri-Munroe leading a plethora of songs including Star Spangled Banner, Armed Forces Salute, and several more.

Each day during the week, a new musician is featured and performs at the Edythe Bates Old Chapel at 1:30 p.m. This week's musicians are as follows: Dmitry Kouzov on cello Monday, July 3, Chavdar Parashkevov on violin Tuesday, Gretchen Pusch on flute Wednesday, Brett Deubner on viola Thursday, and Chen Zhao on violin Friday. The Young Artists Chamber Music Groups perform Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Festival Concert Hall. Saturday, enjoy Piano Galore at 1:30 p.m., Chamber music Concert is at 3:30 p.m., and Orchestra Concert is at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available online or by calling the office at (979) 249-3129. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For more information on these events, or for a look at the summer shows, visit [festival-hill.org](http://festival-hill.org).

### Church News

St. Martin's Catholic Church in Warrenton holds a monthly service at 8 a.m. for the intentions left on the altar. The next monthly mass is Tuesday, July 11 at 8 a.m. View the bulletin online at [stjohnfayetteville.com](http://stjohnfayetteville.com) for

more information.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church holds services with Pastor John David Nedbalek Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school is the first Sunday at 8:30 a.m. Ruth Circle is the first Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Sewing Circle is the second Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Shelby holds worship service at 8 a.m., followed by fellowship, coffee and Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Game Day is held the first and third Wednesday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. Bring a snack, board game, dominoes, etc. Quilting meets the third Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. Noisy offering is the third Sunday of each month.

St. Cecilia's Round Top Episcopal Church holds services with Father Bill Miller Sundays at 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. in the historic Haw Creek Chapel in Henkel Square. The Saint Cecilia's Sisterhood Study Group meets from 10 to 11:15 a.m. For more information please visit the website at [www.StCecilians.org](http://www.StCecilians.org)

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

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

### Birthdays

Happy birthday wishes go out Kevin Weyand and Lad Goebel (turning five!) on June 30, Megan Krause on July 2, and Shirley Neumann on July 5.

### Have news?

Send any news or notices you wish to have announced two weeks in advance to [Kyla@roundtopprealestate.com](mailto:Kyla@roundtopprealestate.com).



Round Top Hermann Sons Life Lodge 151 President, Linda Mattocks, presenting a check to 2023 scholarship recipient, McKinley Jasinski.

# WINE-O BINGO

Saturday, July 15, 2023

Doors open at 5:30pm  
Bingo starts at 6:30pm



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# \$90,000 in Equipment Stolen from New La Grange RV Park

By ANDY BEHLEN  
The Fayette County Record

Thieves got away with nearly \$90,000 worth of equipment from the new LG-RV Resort in La Grange last week.

La Grange Police Chief David Gilbreath said the resort owner reported the missing equipment to La Grange Police around 11 a.m. last

Thursday, June 22. The owner told police someone stole a 2019 Bobcat skid steer and a black 2018 Big Tex dump trailer from the site, located at 2395 W. SH 71 Business.

Officer Mitchell Maxwell responded to investigate. The owner reported the value of the skid steer at \$67,003.08 and the trailer at about \$22,000. The owner

contacted the Bobcat dealership where he bought the skid steer. The dealership was able to track the skid steer using a global positioning system (GPS). The skid steer's GPS last "ping" was at 1:27 a.m. that day at a location on the side of Sam Houston Parkway in North Houston. The dealership did not record any subsequent pings, Gilbreath

said. Gilbreath said the GPS device only reports its location when the machine is running. He speculated that the thieves found a way to remove the GPS device once they were in Houston.

Maxwell obtained video surveillance from a business near LG-RV which showed a black Ford F-350 and a white

Ford F-250 entering the resort around 11 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21. The two pickups travel out of view of the camera. Then around 11:21 p.m., the video shows the black F-350 pulling the trailer with the Bobcat loaded inside. The pickup leaves the parking lot and turns east on SH 71 Business with the white F-250 following behind about a minute

later. Gilbreath said Maxwell was unable to read the license plates of the vehicles due to the image quality of the video. Maxwell entered information about the stolen equipment into the National Crime Information Center database.

If anyone has information about this crime, please contact La Grange Police at (979) 968-5806.

## Norway Violinist, Now in Round Top, Inspired Others to Take Up Instrument After Television Appearance

Continued from front

Holthe, had a colleague suggest that his students apply to Festival Hill in Round Top, and she ended up being selected from the large pool of Festival Hill hopefuls.

"It's gone beyond what I expected," said Isaksen. "The level of musicianship is really high here, the teachers are really good and the place is so beautiful."

Her instrument, which is on loan from Dextra Musica while she works through her undergraduate studies, was made by a New York native, Paul Crowley, in 2015. So, she's excited to have finally "brought it home" and perform on it at a renowned music festival.

Isaksen even had the opportunity to be concertmaster, or the lead violinist, during the second week of concerts at Festival Hill.

In the future, the young musician looks forward to traveling around the United States, and hopes to continue inspiring children for the rest of her career.

## Mulch Service Becoming a Problem

Continued from front

to concerns about methane gas, Zapalac said.

"There are companies who will mulch brush on your property, and I wish more people would use that service if they could," said Pct. 3 Commissioner Harvey Berckenhoff. "Then it goes back into their property and fertilizes the soil. I guess that gets expensive."

Plum resident William Bensen asked whether the County could increase the fee for dumping at the site.

"We have," Zapalac said. "We increased the fee from \$35 to \$150, and still people come in," Zapalac said.

Pct. 4 Commissioner Drew Brossmann said rural develop-

ment and the splitting of large properties into smaller tracts will likely make the problem worse in the future. He said people with small tracts will be less likely to burn brush near their homes.

"For people who have been here for a long time, they know how important it is to keep the taxes down," Brossmann said. "So when trees fall down on their road, they tell us to go throw it in their pasture on a pile. If I'm all the way out in Dubina, and I don't have anybody in that area who allows me to dump there, then I have to go all the way to Schulenburg or all the way to La Grange. Look at all those man-hours and fuel and all that. I

even tell them that if you allow us to pile it up, my crew will come by on a good day and burn it for you. It saves us a ton of money, not only on the man-hours, but also the grinding."

"It would be nice if we could have one of the local gravel pits, somewhere that was close, so that we could push (brush) in there and have one of the local fire departments come and burn what we have there," Berckenhoff said. "We would have to find a place to do that, a nice deep hole."

Zapalac anticipates the grinding cost to rise even higher next year. He said he plans to allot \$100,000 for the project in next year's budget.

## Upheaval in Weimar and Eagle Lake Governments

Gonzales Inquirer

A pre-trial hearing was set last week in Gonzales for the ongoing embezzlement case involving two former directors of the Gonzales County EMS directors James Edward Russell and Carla Jean Russell. They are being charged with theft of a public servant of more than \$30,000 after being accused of using EMS funds for personal use.

Burleson County Tribune

Caldwell Police Officer Coleman Decker was shot June 17 while responding to a report of several burglaries. After a pursuit and a physical struggle, Decker was shot, returned fire and killed one person, who has been identified as 15-year-old Isaiah Martin. Decker has since been released from the hospital.

A 12-year-old boy, Ke'Shun Anthony Johnson died on June 12 as the result of an ATV accident in rural Burleson County.

Bellville Times

A former Bellville High School sports standout, Colton Kaase, 19, died June 5 in Fort Collins, Colorado, where he was a student track athlete at Colorado State University. He died of a sudden pulmonary embolism.

Yoakum Herald-Times

Joy Kroger, 74 of Bellville, died from injuries suffered on

## What the Neighbors Are Talking About

A look at what's making news just over the county line.

a two-vehicle accident June 8 in Yoakum after her vehicle was hit by a dump truck.

Giddings Times and News

Plans for a proposed chicken plant that could have processed as many as 200,000 birds a day in Giddings' Business Park has been scrapped because the city's wastewater capacity could not handle the additional strain on its system that the plant would cause.

Weimar Mercury

Weimar city manager Mike Barrow and police chief Todd Jacobs have both resigned. At the June city council meeting several citizens voiced concerns about the leadership of both individuals. Barrow had been city manager for nearly eight years. Jacobs had been police chief roughly that same amount of time.

Colorado County Citizen

Eagle Lake Police Chief Kris Abbott was terminated by the city manager June 14 after numerous policy violations were uncovered.

## Rotary Provides Camp Shakespeare Scholarship



The La Grange Rotary Club is providing a full scholarship for a youth at Camp Shakespeare this summer, one of the many ways it supports young people. Pictured are Club treasurer Larry Jackson presenting a \$1,700 check to Julia Barecky, one of the campers; Robin Grace Soto, camp director; JoAnn Ayres and Dr. James Ayres, founder of Shakespeare at Winedale; and camper Rex Lehmann. This year's productions are The Winter's Tale and Romeo and Juliet. The latter will be at the La Grange ISD Performing Arts Center on July 15 and the Winedale Theater Barn July 16.

## Hart Assigned to Keep Flournoy From Another Confrontation With Zindler

Continued from front

his 80th birthday, explained why his superiors picked him for the job.

"I was six feet, two inches tall, and I weighed about 240 at the time," Hart said. "I was the biggest one in the sergeant's area. La Grange was under the Brenham sergeant. I was probably the dumbest one because the sergeant picked me. I was probably the most expendable."

On a more serious note, Hart said his selection might have been due to his combat experience in Vietnam.

"I think (the sergeant) thought I may be more up to it than the ones who hadn't been in combat," Hart said.

Hart was also an experienced boxer. Later, during the 1980s, he trained DPS troopers in boxing techniques.

Hart estimated that Flournoy stood about six feet seven inches and weighed close to 300 lbs. at that time.

"When I walked into his office, he gave me the most baleful stare," Hart said. "It more or less chilled my you-know-what."

The Sheriff had an office inside the Fayette County Courthouse in those days.

"I was sitting in his office and he came over and put his hand on my shoulder and said, 'Young man, I know exactly why you're here. Don't you worry. I'm not going to do anything,'" Hart recalled. "I said, 'Well, I'm not particularly worried about you, Sheriff. But they sent me here to make sure nothing happens.'"

About that time, Hart said, Marvin Zindler and his camera crew pulled up to the courthouse.

"Sheriff Flournoy walked over to the window and uttered something that I didn't

quite understand," Hart said. "I think it had something to do with an S.O.B. or something like that. Sheriff Flournoy had a deep, gruff voice. He called me over to the window and showed me Zindler directing his camera crew to get the shots they wanted."

Hart said his superiors ordered him to stay at Flournoy's side the whole time Zindler was in town.

"I had to follow him to lunch and back and made sure nothing happened," Hart said. "I followed him to the courthouse. He kind of warmed up to me eventually. He thought it was kind of funny that I was tailing him so closely."

Hart described the assignment as the biggest test of his career at that point.

"Nothing happened, and I'm very much thankful for that," Hart said. "When Zindler left town, I was free to go."

It wasn't the only time Hart crossed paths with The Chicken Ranch. One day, while working traffic radar on US 290 east of Brenham, he pulled over a woman for speeding.

"Back then, they had a place on the traffic citation for the driver's occupation," Hart said. "So I asked her, 'What is your occupation?' She said, 'I'm a prostitute at The Chicken Ranch in La Grange.' My sergeant was riding with me. I said, 'Sarge, how do I put this down?' She says she's a prostitute at The Chicken Ranch.' He said, 'Just write housewife.' I thought all the housewives would be tickled with that."

After his career in the DPS, Hart went on to serve as executive director of the Texas State Troopers Association. He is now retired and lives near Luling.

# Fixpatrick's Garage

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Erica Otto in her volleyball uniform, left, and softball uniform, right, as a two-sport college athlete at Southwestern University.

## Erica Otto Piling Up the Accolades as Two-Sport Athlete at Southwestern University

Erica Otto of Schulenburg was named to the Southwestern University Spring 2023 Dean's List, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Student-Athlete Academic Honor Roll, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Honorable Mention Outfielder and College Sports Communicators Academic All-District. She was inducted into Alpha Chi National College Honor Society and received the Tri Delta Theta Epsilon New Member Academic Award.

Otto is a sophomore dual

student-athlete majoring in kinesiology / pre-med.

To be eligible for the Southwestern Dean's Honor Roll, a full-time undergraduate student must complete a semester schedule of at least 12 academic hours and achieve a grade point average of at least 3.60.

To qualify for the SCAC Academic Honor Roll, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.25 for the term and be a regular member of a varsity athletic team in a sport sponsored by the conference

The Tri Delta Theta Epsilon New Member Academic Award is awarded to the member with the highest GPA.

Otto is a 2021 Salutatorian graduate of Schulenburg High School.

She is the daughter of Keith and Stacy Otto of Schulenburg, and granddaughter of Harvey and Gloria Oeding of La Grange, the late Nolan L. Bruns Jr. of Schulenburg, Barbara Otto of Shiner, and the late Kenneth R. Otto of Shiner.

## Supak Excelling in Double-A

Former La Grange High School standout pitcher Trey Supak is pitching very well for the Oakland A's Double-A minor league affiliate, the Midland Rockhounds.

Supak has a 4-0 record with a 4.58 ERA in 21 games with Midland this season, all as a reliever. He has thrown 37.1 innings with 36 strikeouts and just 13 walks.

Supak, now 27, was a key

player on the 2013 state title La Grange baseball team. He was drafted out of high school by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the second round in the 2014 draft. He was traded to Milwaukee and briefly spent time with the Brewers major league team in 2020 but did not get in a game in the majors. He's been with the Athletics organization since 2021.



Trey Supak

## Wick to Pitch for UT-Tyler

Wyatt Wick, a 2021 La Grange High School graduate has accepted a scholarship offer to pitch for University of Texas-Tyler, a NCAA Division II school. Wick was a standout hurler for the Leps before pitching the last two seasons at Galveston College, where he pitched a combined 103 innings, striking out 80 for the Whitecaps. He was selected to play in the Texas/New Mexico National Junior College Athletic All-Star Game after his freshman year. This summer he is pitching in Bryan for the Brazos Valley Bombers in the Texas Summer Collegiate League.



Wyatt Wick

## La Grange Girls Basketball and Volleyball Camp

The La Grange middle school gym was a busy place earlier this month as Lady Leps basketball and volleyball camps were held. Here are some images from the action.

Photos by MaKenzie Givan



## Compton to Coach at New Waverly

La Grange assistant baseball coach Aaron Compton has accepted the head baseball coaching job at New Waverly. "I really enjoyed my time in La Grange but am super excited to start my head baseball career."

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# County to Pay Full Cost of Health Insurance Increases for Employees – Again

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
The Fayette County Record

Fayette County Commissioners voted last Thursday to absorb the cost of health insurance increases for County employees.

Commissioners learned two weeks ago that health insurance premiums for employees would rise by 8.7 percent next year. If all County

employees stay with the same insurance plan, the cost will amount to about \$100,000, according to the Fayette County Auditor's Office.

"We played with the numbers and added a small increase to the premiums to where the employees share that increase, and it only saved the County about \$20,000 without substantially raising

their premiums," said Paula Vogel of the Fayette County Auditor's Office. "That's also something to think about when we talk about raises."

This month Commissioners began planning for next year's budget. They have not yet made any decisions involving raises for County employees.

"I hope department heads

will sit down with employees and explain this to them," said Pct. 3 Commissioner Harvey Berckenhoff. "Everybody comes to us when it comes to raise time. There's a lot of factors that go into it than just saying, 'Here's a five or ten percent raise.' Insurance is part of that."

The County absorbed the full cost of health insurance

increases last year as well, Vogel said.

"I agree with Commissioner Berckenhoff," said County Judge Dan Mueller. "The employees should be made aware that, in essence, this is kind of like a raise."

"There's no way the County can compete with the pay that other people are paying their employees," said

Pct. 4 Commissioner Drew Brossmann. "This is one way we try to supplement what we offer. Your retirement and your insurance are a big part of it."

"You don't think that much about it when you're young and healthy. But when you get to a certain age, you look back and say, 'This is a really, really good deal.'"

## Texas Monthly Includes Our Local Senator on Worst Legislator List

Texas Monthly magazine has come out with its regular end-of-session list of best and worst state politicians, and Fayette County's state senator Lois Kolkhorst was included in the list of Worst Legislators of 2023.

Here's what the magazine said about her:

### Sen. Lois Kolkhorst R-Brenham

Ambitious Republican senators have to work hard to get out of Dan Patrick's shadow. Kolkhorst skillfully built up her profile this year by crusading against three of the session's biggest scapegoats: foreign nationals, vaccines, and renewable energy. She is likely "your next lieutenant governor," one lobbyist said,

"the most craven person in the building but also probably the smartest."

Kolkhorst's most high-profile bill this session would have prohibited folks from certain countries—China, Iran, North Korea, and Russia—from purchasing real estate in Texas. The bill would have punished innocent people: dual citizens and legal residents who have no connection to the totalitarian governments in the countries of their birth.

A Capitol insider said that "she didn't know what [her bill] did." Mid-session, in what seemed like nothing more than a publicity stunt, Kolkhorst invited a group mostly made up of Uyghur Muslims, a persecuted minority group

in China, to her committee to give testimony on Chinese tyranny. The irony was that Kolkhorst's bill, as originally written, would have banned Uyghur refugees from buying a home in Arlington.

As chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, she tried to weaken vaccine mandates, using her committee to air scare-mongering testimony about the dangers of getting immunized. And she offered some of the session's most punitive bills against renewable power providers, subjecting them to fines and regulation other power producers don't face, warning that Texas didn't know "the environmental impacts, long-term," of wind and solar generation.

## LG Police Looking for Suspect In Tobacco World Break-In

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
The Fayette County Record

La Grange Police are looking for a suspect who broke into the Angel Tobacco World store in La Grange last Wednesday, June 21, and made away with hundreds of dollars in merchandise.

According to La Grange Police Chief David Gilbreath, a City worker called police just before 8 a.m. to report a broken window at Angel World Tobacco, located at 811 E. Travis St. Officer Jeff Archerd responded and found the front door glass window broken. Archerd entered the store and found a hammer laying on a table. Archerd also discovered that the door to a display case was open with some boxes for disposable vape devices scat-

tered on the ground.

Archerd contacted the owner of the business and notified him that the store had been burglarized. The owner arrived and determined that several items of merchandise were missing, including a glass pipe valued at \$189, another glass pipe valued at \$59.99, 10 vape devices valued at \$35.99 each and 12 Swisher Sweet cigarillos valued at \$0.99 each.

The owner produced surveillance video which showed the break-in occurring at 12:35 a.m. that morning. The video showed a subject wearing a black hoodie, black pants, black shoes, white gloves and black framed glasses. The suspect pulled out a hammer and struck the front door three

times, breaking out the glass. Video from inside the store showed the suspect taking the merchandise. The suspect exited the store heading north around 12:37 a.m.

Gilbreath said police have not been able to identify the suspect so far. If anyone has information about this crime, please contact La Grange Police at (979) 968-5806.

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# Camp Lone Star Annual BBQ And Auction Fundraiser Slated July 30

Camp Lone Star will have their annual picnic on Sunday July 30.

The day will include the new dining hall dedication at 9:45 a.m., music starting at 10:30 a.m., an outdoor worship service at 11 a.m. led by Rev. John Karlee (Lead Missionary and Campus Pastor at University Lutheran Chapel in College Station.)

A barbecue meal will be held at noon, and the benefit auction will be from 1-3 p.m. The swimming pool will also be open from 1-2:30 p.m. for those wanting to enjoy the cool water.

Each year, Camp Lone Star serves over 11,000 individuals through their retreats, outdoor education and, of course, their summer camp ministry.

This annual event is a great opportunity to show support for Camp Lone Star and help it to continue the ministry into the future.

### Condolences

Sympathy to the family and friends of Jim Duke who passed away on June 19. His funeral was held June 26 in Warda.

### 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.holycrosswarda.com](http://www.holycrosswarda.com).

## WARDA News

By LISA GAY  
Warda News Correspondent



Pastor Beck is leading a new midweek Bible study on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Cross in the family room. In this study you will learn how to read your Bible – how to really read it. What do we believe about the Bible? How can we understand it? All are welcome to be a part of this conversation.

The Ladies Stamp Program at Holy Cross in Warda is coming to an end and they ask that anyone having stamps to turn in would do so by Oct. 1, so they can get them sent in to the Texas District Stamp Program. They can be brought to the church office, dropped off in the designated box in the hallway, or mail to Lisa Gay, P.O. BOX 141 Warda, TX. 78960.

**Faith Lutheran High School**  
Summer office hours for June and July are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is underway. If you would like to become part of the Falcon family, call (979) 242-2889 or visit [www.flhstx.org](http://www.flhstx.org) for registration information.

Faith Lutheran High School Summer Youth Camps are almost over. FLHS offered a variety of camps for youth this summer. Ages are for grades NEXT school year.

July 31-Aug. 1: Archery-Grade 4-8. \$20 (one spot remaining in p.m.).

Visit [www.flhstx.org](http://www.flhstx.org) to register. Space is limited.

**Prayer Requests**  
Willie Wagner, Lauren Huenefeld, Al Jurk, Carolyn Jurk.

Prayers for rain and relief from the heat.

**Anniversaries**  
Anniversary Wishes are extended to the following couples: Ryan and Tiffany Noack-July 1, Zane and Frances Gray-6.

**Birthdays**  
Birthday wishes are extended to the following celebrants: Jack Burgess, II-July 2, Leslie Hobrathschk-3, Allene Schramm, Gary Becker-4, Sophie Becker-5, Kinlee Kays-6.

**Have News?**  
If you have news to share with readers of the Warda news, contact Lisa Gay at [Wardanews78960@gmail.com](mailto:Wardanews78960@gmail.com).

# Free Talk at Quilt Museum Saturday



Mark Lambert will be doing an encore Gallery Talk about his late wife, Mary Ann Vaca Lambert's work, on Saturday, July 1 - "The Legacy of Mary Ann Vaca-Lambert". Most of Mary Ann's art quilts were inspired by nature ... some are actually 3-D. Free admission at 2 p.m., talk at 3 p.m. Come early to reserve a seat.

## Pioneer Unit Herb Society Recently Met In Brenham

The June meeting of the Pioneer Unit of the Herb Society of America was held at the Brenham Presbyterian Church.

Linda Rowlett, a member of the Unit, presented a program titled "Emily Dickinson: The Poet as Gardener and Cook." The Unit members enjoyed gingerbread, black cake, and chocolate caramels made from Emily Dickinson's recipes. Linda showed many photographs of pages from Dickinson's herbarium and discussed plants that Dickinson grew in her garden and in the conservatory at her home in Amherst, Massachusetts.

In addition, Linda had photographs taken at the Dickinson home and garden where restoration is on-going. The Pioneer Unit's next meeting is July 13, at 9:30 a.m. at the Brenham Presbyterian Church, with the presentation "Bee a Friend to Our Pollinators" to begin at 10 a.m. Kari Cottrell will be the speaker for this program, which will be followed by a potluck luncheon featuring summer vegetables. All are invited to attend. Learn more about the Pioneer Unit and about our upcoming meetings at [www.herbsocietypioneer.org](http://www.herbsocietypioneer.org) or by following the Pioneer Unit on Facebook.

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# Schulenburg Class of 1958 Reunites

The Schulenburg High School class of 1958 celebrated its 65th year reunion on Saturday, June 24.

Classmates and guests gathered at Robert's Steakhouse in Flatonia with registration beginning at 2 p.m. The time before dinner was spent enjoying refreshments, hors d'oeuvres and reminiscing the past. A short business meeting was conducted by Dan Schroeder, the class president. Carolyn Graeter Tobola and LaDell Ohnheiser Freudenberger read notes from classmates who could not attend this reunion. Dan led in recalling old times and remembering the past. Dan led the prayer before the group enjoyed a very delicious dinner.

Classmates deceased from the class of 1958 are: Helen Balcar; Myrna Loy Baumgarten Fleeger; Doris Berckenhoff Berger; James Bromsmann; Eileen Cox Smith; Dorothy Beck Doehring; Consilia Christ Ramey; Harvey Florianic; Patrick Fritsch; Elton Kaase; Elroy Kahane; Edward Knocke, Jr; Mary Ann Korenek Schroeder; Eugene Matura, Sr.; Gertrude Miksch; Max Paul Money; Jimmy Pavlik; Ruby Speckels Cuble; Benjamin Ulrich;



Pictured front from left: Thomas Kainer, LaVerne Friedrich Schneider, Arline Dieringer Ulrich, LaDell Ohnheiser Freudenberger, Bonita Boehm Sales, Jeanette Jurica Chudej, and Bert Warnken; back row from left: Elmer Meyer, Rosalie Ulrich Fryer, Gene Vogt, Dan Schroeder, Carolyn Graeter Tobola and Edwina McFarlin Hutsell.

Harlan Wagner; Alvin Winkler, Jr.

It was a very special evening, one not soon to be forgotten. A total of 25 guests attended. Thirteen classmates and guests were able to join in the celebration, as follows: Elgia Florianic of Houston, LaVerne (Friedrich) Schneider and husband Gale of Yoakum, Missouri, Gene Vogt and Eileen, Rob, John and Caroline Vogt of San Anonio, Bonita (Boehm) Sales and husband Frank of George West, and Patsy and David Wagner.

Members of the class unable to attend were: Anita

(Anders) Peters, Nelson Antosh, Barbara Bayer, Charlene (Bruns) Meinen, David Heinich, Bernice (Herzik) Ermis, Delores (Kainer) Fritsch, Erwin Kainer, Esther (Zweschper) Kelley, Frank Merrem, Robert Muras, Rennie (Rikard) Kahanek, Dorothy (Roeder) Ulrich, Allen Seifert, Delores (Svetlik) Wick, Mary (Vaculik) Barcak, Evelyn (Matura) Meyer, Barbara (Severa) Hamontree and Dorothy (Lacina) Kainer.

It was decided by classmates to have another reunion in two or three years.



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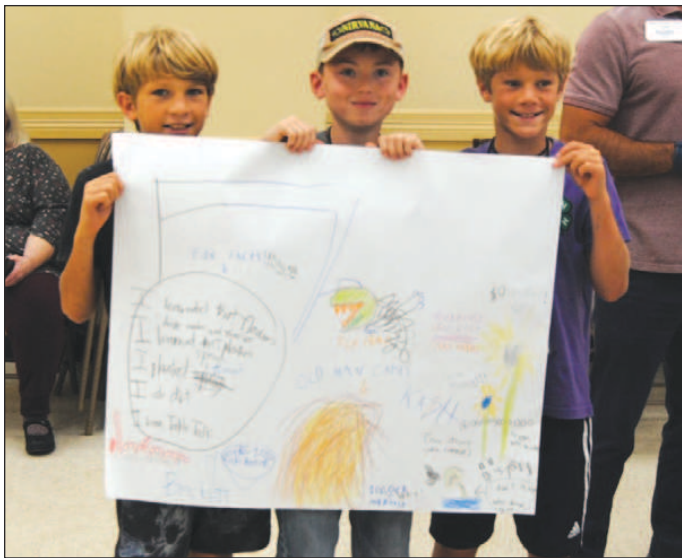
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2023 Kids Kamp Fayette County graduates pictured front from left: Kash Alberthal, Cory McHargue, Madeline McHargue, Gage Smrkovsky, (back) Beckett Samples, Daniel Walker, Isaac Jackson, Brynlee Berger and Lennox Samples.

## 2023 Kids Kamp Held in Fayette County

The Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association held its 2023 Kids Kamp in Fayette County during the week of June 20-22. Campers enjoyed topics of Plant Evolution & Adaptation, Terrariums, and Butterflies.



Beckett Samples, Kash Alberthal and Lennox Samples display their art work.



Campers view butterflies through microscopes.



Campers view live butterflies with Master Gardener and butterfly expert Nancy Galloway.



Brynlee Berger with butterfly craft.



Daniel Walker takes home a Venus Fly Trap plant.



Isaac Jackson makes a hydroponic planter.



Master Gardener Nancy Galloway with monarch butterfly caterpillar.

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# Oh Deer! Bambi's Wrecking My Garden

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

Deer found my garden this week.

Monday morning, I noticed they decided to snack on some sunflowers I planted at the edge of the garden about a month ago that were just starting to explode with growth.

Then on Tuesday, they ate about six inches off the tops of my okra plants and browsed on a row of green beans. I need to address the situation.

The only sure way to keep deer out of a garden is to build a tall fence – at least eight feet tall. You can also build two shorter fences that run parallel with each other, about four feet apart. The parallel fences can be as short as four feet in height. Deer need a running start to jump a fence. If they jump the first one, they'll get stuck and work their tail off trying to get out. Deer will quickly learn to avoid the area. Some people run chickens or small livestock in the area between the two fences to keep the grass down.

But building one fence is more work than I feel like doing, much less two.

So how else can we keep deer away from our gardens? I'm going to start with a few tricks that have worked for



By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

me in the past.

Deer get spooky around people. We are a predator in their eyes, or rather noses. Deer often smell us way before they ever see us. Deer have a very wide field of vision, but they have poor depth perception. That's why whenever you're downwind from a deer and it thinks it sees you, it will often bob its head. It's trying to slightly change its perspective to detect movement. But if you're upwind from a deer, it will almost certainly smell you before you see it.

We can use this to our advantage in the garden. One of the strongest human scents is our urine. If you're lucky enough to live in the country like me, just pee all around your garden. It really helps to keep the deer away. I noticed that the spot where the deer

are coming into my garden is in an area where I don't normally walk. I started giving that spot some more attention this week.

For you city-dwellers, this might not be an option. Hot peppers and garlic seem to repel deer. You can make a tea by adding a half head of garlic

and three or four tablespoons of cayenne pepper to a gallon of water. Crush the garlic well and heat the mixture to barely a simmer. Then let it cool and strain it into a pump-up sprayer. Spray the mixture on the plants after any dew or rain has fully dried from the leaves. Garlic-pepper tea can

also prevent many diseases and repels some insect pests.

This week I learned about a similar deer repellent that I might try. Make the tea just as I described above but don't heat it. Then add three eggs and three tablespoons of milk or yogurt. Puree the mixture

with a blender. Strain it, put it in a jug and let it sit for a day to "ripen." It will be quite stinky. Then spray liberally on all your plants when the leaves are dry. You will probably want to thoroughly wash any produce you pick after applying this mixture.



Deer ate the tops off a row of sunflowers I planted about a month ago.



The deer in Cozy Corner seem to have a taste for okra. Strangely, they didn't even touch the patch of sweet corn growing just a few feet away.

## Fake Bills Circulating Locally Police Chief Says

By **ANDY BEHLEN**  
*The Fayette County Record*

La Grange Police Chief David Gilbreath warns local merchants to watch for fake

currency that's been circulating around town.

Gilbreath said officers took several calls from local businesses that were paid

in fake \$20 and \$100 bills. Those businesses didn't discover the fake money until they tried depositing it at the bank. These bills look like real money at first glance. But they are obviously fake upon closer inspection. They feature the words "Motion Picture Use" and "Motion Picture Copy Money" printed prominently on the bills.

Gilbreath said anyone can purchase these fake bills online. They are intended to be used as props in the film industry. Gilbreath said the businesses that took the fake bills have not been able to identify who passed them.

If anyone else comes across these fake bills, please report it to La Grange Police by calling (979) 968-5806.



The fake bills pictured above were passed at several local businesses. These bills look like real money at first glance. But they are obviously fake upon closer inspection. They feature the words "Motion Picture Use" and "Motion Picture Copy Money" printed prominently on the bills. Photo by Andy Behlen

## Stay Safe This 4th of July

From the Office of  
County Judge Dan Mueller

Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades and fireworks – and with the Fourth of July just around the corner, it's a good time to check out some fireworks safety tips.

"Fayette County has an amazing schedule of events for the Fourth. There really is something for everyone. We just wanted to remind county residents and visitors of a few things, such as where fireworks can, and can't be used, and how to keep kids and pets safe," said Angela Hahn, Fayette County emergency management coordinator and grant specialist. "We'd like everyone to enjoy fireworks at public displays conducted by professionals, and not to use any fireworks at home."

Discharging fireworks is banned in all of the incorporated cities of Fayette County and county officials urge safety using them in the unincorporated areas of the County.

"The incorporated cities within the county ban the use of fireworks. It's also unlawful to shoot fireworks from any public roadways. The best bet is to watch one of the fireworks shows that are going to be held around the County. They are run by professionals and the fire departments are always present," said Precinct 4 Commissioner Drew Brossmann, who also serves as assistant chief of the Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department.

"That being said, we know people are going to want to shoot off fireworks, so we ask that you use common sense. Even those sparklers can be dangerous in the hands of children," he said.

Brossmann added some tips if fireworks are going to be used:

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
- Never use fireworks

while impaired by drugs or alcohol

• Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear

• Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands

• Never light them indoors

• Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material

• Never point or throw fireworks at another person

• Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting

• Never ignite devices in a container

• Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks

• Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding

• Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire

"In the event that you or someone you know is burned, immediately run cool water over the affected area for at least 20 minutes or until trained medical help arrives. Burns are life threatening emergencies and should be taken very seriously, including calling 911 or seeking emergency care at the closest appropriate hospital," said Fayette County EMS Director Josh Vandever.

"Remember, fireworks can be extremely frightening for pets and other animals. Make sure yours are safe and secure. If you're not going to be home, make sure your pets are in a safe, escape-proof room or crate and keep horses and livestock in safely fenced areas and as far from the excitement and noise as possible," Hahn said.

"We want this to be a great Independence Day for everyone in the County. We live in the best county, in the best state, in the best nation. Let's celebrate our freedoms and honor the brave that keep us free safely," said County Judge Dan Mueller.

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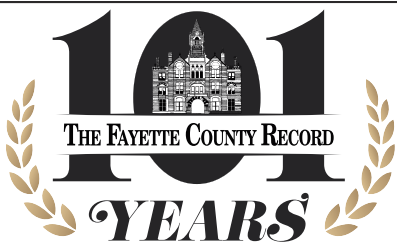
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IMMEDIATELY AFTER  
BULL RIDING TILL  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

**Classified Deadlines:**  
 Tuesday paper - Friday at 10 a.m.  
 Friday paper - Tuesday at 10 a.m.  
**Call To Place An Advertisement**

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**Classified Word Rates:**  
 15 words or less \$9.75 for the first run,  
 each additional word is 65¢.  
**Regular Display rates: 1x2-\$24, 1x3-\$36, 2x2-\$48**

## RENTALS

LA GRANGE - 2BD/1.5BA Townhome; 3BD/2BA/1GA & 2BD/1BA/1GA Duplexes. (979) 399-5012. (66-8c)

PREMIUM OFFICE space for rent on the square-La Grange. (512) 773-5163. (74-tfc)

2BD/1BA, 2BD/2.5BA APARTMENTS AVAILABLE for rent, 750 E. Upperline. Please call (979) 968-5166 for more info. (63-tfc)

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FOR RENT: 2BR/1BA/Bonus RM-Garage Apt. Large deck/pond, approx. 5 miles South of La Grange. 1 year lease required, no pets. \$1,300/mo., \$1,300 deposit. Call (979) 249-4465 or text (979) 702-0220. (65-wc)

## REAL ESTATE

FSBO: 1880's Victorian 4 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath, 3 Car Garage, 2 Barns, 1.25 acres. \$625K. Beautiful restoration. 1 Bednar Lane, La Grange. (409) 457-6667. (57-tfc)

FOR SALE: 2 acre unrestricted lots near Fayette Lake. Water/electric nearby. Broker/Owner. (979) 966-3911. (69-11c)



**ROUND TOP Real Estate**  
 est. 1988  
 EMILY KAHANEK SHAW  
 REALTOR® Associate  
 979.966.8130  
 emily@roundtoprealestate.com



8910 Mueller Road | LA GRANGE  
 Mere minutes to Round Top and nestled amongst mature Live Oak trees, this cozy modern farmhouse will be your retreat. This gorgeous home welcomes you into the living room kitchen combo with fabulous champagne gold light fixtures and Carrera marble countertops that sparkle under the cabinet lighting. Around the corner you'll discover the beautifully designed primary bath with its no lip, tiled shower and 100+ year old barnwood mirror frames. The 2 guest bedrooms have ample space and locking closets. The double sink bathroom gives much space to guests. Out the back door into nature, the screen-in ready back porch is equipped with propane hook ups ready for your cookouts.  
**Property Details**  
 • 3.38 Acres  
 • 3 Bedroom  
 • 2 Bathroom  
 • Built in 2022  
 • Back Porch  
 HAR #52960111 | TXLS #140584  
 Priced at \$750,000  
 RoundTopRealEstate.com | 979.249.5732

## EMPLOYMENT

**JOB POSTING**  
 The City of La Grange is accepting applications for a full time Community and Economic Development Manager.  
 This position provides a creative approach in promoting and developing economic programs for the City of La Grange to enhance business retention, expansion and attraction in both commercial and industrial development.  
 For more details or to apply, please contact the City Manager of La Grange at 979-968-5805 or visit our website at www.cityoflg.com for a complete job description. Salary based on experience and qualifications.  
 Benefits include vacation, sick leave, holiday pay, insurance, and retirement options. Position open until filled. The City of La Grange is an equal opportunity employer.

**BIG CREEK CONSTRUCTION LTD.**  
 Big Creek Construction is currently looking to hire:  
**Laborers/Equipment Operators**  
 Positions will be in the La Grange/Giddings area  
 Must pass a Pre-employment "Fit For Work" Physical and Drug/Alcohol Test  
 If interested apply online at www.bigcreekconstruction.com and click on Position #29  
 EOE Women, Veterans and Minorities are encouraged to apply.

**KatySweet Confectioners**  
 Now Hiring Warehouse - Kitchen Worker  
 Duties will include miscellaneous tasks in our warehouse as well as running the sanitizing and washing area for candy cooking equipment.  
 M-F 8 am - 4:30 pm  
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## REAL ESTATE

## EMPLOYMENT

## EMPLOYMENT

**SOLAR PANEL LABORER**   
**WE ARE LOOKING TO HIRE A SOLAR PANEL LABORER FOR AN EXCITING PROJECT IN FLATONIA, TX.**  
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 Please attend our **HIRING EVENT** on **JULY 17TH** from **11 A.M. - 2 P.M.** at the **FLATONIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CIVIC CENTER**  
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**LEGAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY POSITION**  
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 • **Work Week:** M-F 8-12; 1-5  
 • **Requirements:** High School diploma or GED; working knowledge of MS Word, Outlook and Excel; previous office manager experience required; previous legal secretary or legal assistant experience preferred; familiarity with E-Filing system preferred; familiarity with E-bility Time and Billing software preferred; familiarity with Thomson Reuters Document Builder preferred; Spanish speaking preferred; must know (or be capable of learning) how to use a typewriter  
 • **Duties Include:** Typing, Filing, Maintaining law office files; Preparing/Editing Legal Documents, Drafting correspondence; Answering Telephone; Picking up and delivering mail from/to post office and/or La Grange City Hall; greeting clients  
 • **Pay:** Commensurate with experience; minimum hourly pay \$16.00  
 • **Employer:** Maria Angela Flores Beck, Attorney at Law, P. O. Box 10, La Grange, Texas 78945 (979) 968-8491

**Prime Products, Inc.**  
 is looking to fill the following position:  
**Customer Service Assistant**  
 Seeking qualified and multi-task applicant with experience in general office including but not limited to sales order processing, invoicing and good customer relation abilities.  
 • Excellent computer skills, internet skills and phone skills a must.  
 • Must be self-motivated, have good organizational skills and be able to work well with numbers.  
**Requirements: Excel, MS Word in General Office Skills**  
**Weekly Pay • Paid Holidays • Vacation Health Insurance • Bonuses & More**  
 Please send resume to: [admin@primeproductsinc.net](mailto:admin@primeproductsinc.net) or visit us at 601 S. Main St., Schulenburg, TX 78956 979-743-6555

## EMPLOYMENT

**NOW HIRING**  
**Lee County Ace Hardware**  
 1120 CR 208 - Giddings  
**SEPTIC PUMPING DRIVER**  
 (MINIMUM CLASS B CDL REQUIRED)  
 Call 979-542-6806 for Info.

HELP WANTED: Full-time STIHL MECHANIC. Must have reliable transportation with a good driving record. Benefits include, friendly work environment, paid holidays, sick days & vacation, health insurance and 401K. Apply in person at M-G Farm Service Center, 201 E. Post Office St., Weimar, Texas 78962 or send a resume to edwinl@m-ginc.com. (87-wc)

HELP WANTED - Electric Motor Service, licensed electricians and electrician's helpers. Must have clean driving record with reliable transportation. Please apply in person at 840 N. Jefferson, La Grange. (22-tfc)

OILFIELD HELP WANTED - FIELD SUPERVISOR-experience preferred. Salary starts at \$46,200-\$50,400/ YR DOE. ROUSTABOUT/SHOP HAND salary starts at \$16/HR DOE. MUST PASS DRUG TEST & DRIVER CHECK. Contact Jennifer for application (979) 242-5349 or jennifer@mcguireindustries.com. (93-tfc)

NEED TO HIRE someone part time that can operate farm equipment and a skid steer. Please call (979) 224-9003 or (979) 224-9189. (67-4c)

HELP WANTED at Arlan's Market: Receiving, Manager, Cashiers, Meat Market, Wrapper. Apply Online. Contact arlans24mgr@gmail.com or come inside and ask for Shelli. (63-7c)

POST OAK BAR and Grill is Now Hiring Night Cook, \$15 per hour. Call Hollie at (979) 530-3174. (69-tfc)

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**  
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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1316 S. WEYAND ROAD | ROUND TOP  
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 WEST POINT | 353 Spanish Canyon Trl - 14.84 Acres, 3 Bed / 2 Bath / 3,712 SqFt - \$1,599,000  
 LA GRANGE | 1012 KONETZKE LANE - 4.3 ACRES, 3 BED / 3 BATH / 2,105 SqFt - \$765,000  
 BELLVILLE | 540 Hickory Creek Road - 1.15 Acres, 3 Bed / 2.1 Bath / 2,250 SqFt - \$745,500  
 101 Main Street, Round Top | 103 N Main Street, La Grange  
 979.249.5732 | www.roundtoprealestate.com

## REAL ESTATE

## REAL ESTATE

## REAL ESTATE

**HART LAND REAL ESTATE**  
 Homes • Country Properties • Commercial  
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 (979) 968-3892  
[HartLandRealEstate.com](http://HartLandRealEstate.com)  
 Lisa H. Corker & Michael Corker  
 Broker/Owners

**New Listing**  
  
 6700 W. St. Loop 220 - La Grange • \$295,000  
 2006 Modular home with Hickory and Oak flooring throughout on 0.88 acres just minutes to La Grange in the Plum area. Covered front and side porches. 3 beds, 2 baths, 2048 sqft.

293 S. College Street - La Grange • \$300,000  
 This solid home, situated on almost an acre, is prime for a make-over! It has plenty of road frontage on both streets, which could potentially permit subdividing. 2 beds, 2 baths, 1220 sqft.

**New Price**  
  
 440 E. Lower Line - La Grange • \$329,000  
 Large home, situated on a third-of-an-acre lot close to shopping and schools. Original oak floors, updates include 8-year-old roof. 2/1 home PLUS 1/1 attached studio apartment. 2160 sqft.

360 E. Live Oak Street - La Grange • \$325,000  
 Well maintained home with formals and great room, eat-in kitchen. Split floor plan with large primary with walk in closet, 3 beds, 2 baths, 1882 sqft.







Letters to the Editor

Houses Are Gone, But Not the Weeds

To the Editor: Better late than never. After being submerged in Hurricane Harvey's flood waters in August 2017, all but two of the ruined houses on Country Club Drive are now gone. It took almost six years, but at least these eyesores and rodent havens are finally down. We've had three different county judges during this

period, trying to get the Texas General Land Office off the dime. Let's give Judge Dan Mueller and the commissioners court credit for staying with it. Thanks, guys. Now about those high weeds on these vacant lots you now own...

Larry Jackson La Grange

Hospital Land Deal

To the Editor: Regarding the hospital land deal reported last week: Just over \$9,000 an acre for property minutes from the bypass in La Grange and on a major thoroughfare. This deal reeks! There's not many other

properties in Fayette County in that price range (if any) and assuredly none close to La Grange on a major thoroughfare. This deal reeks!

Eric Green La Grange

The Truth About Appraisal Values

To the Editor: There are a lot of people who are very upset with the appraised value of their property. And they should be. Please don't blame the local appraisal district for the increase in your appraised value. They really have very little discretion because they must appraise at market value.

Every two years the state does a property value study which is kind of like a report card for the appraisal district. If your local appraisal district's values are not what the state determines they should be, there could be negative consequences for the local school district. If property values are not set at market value, the school district could lose state funding. Last year the value of properties in four out of five school districts in the county were below what the state determined that the property in that district should be. If these school districts are not in compliance one more time they could lose state funding. How did it get this way?

The answer seems relatively simple. We are blessed to live in a wonderful county with many amenities, great people, and some of the most beautiful property on the planet earth. We have been discovered. Many people have moved into our county. Some of those people have large amounts of money to spend. Price for these people is not a concern. Also, several years ago, we had a governor who went to California and said, "Come on down." Well, they have come and continue to come.

Someone in California can sell a house for a million dollars and buy the same type of house in Fayette County for half a million dollars. Let me tell you how this property evaluation works. Let's say that there are three houses, all worth \$400,000. And you own the middle house. Your neighbor on the right decides to sell his house but he will say, "What the hell, I will ask \$600,000." And within several days the house will be sold. Sometimes, without the prospective buyer ever even

visiting the house. Your other neighbor decides to sell his house also. Except now he is asking \$750,000. And within several days his house is also sold. Suddenly, the house you own you thought was worth \$400,000 is now appraised for \$750,000. Whenever a piece of property is split up in Fayette County, the land prices go up. People have said, "Why doesn't the Commissioners Court do something about it?" The simple answer is that the state has not given the county much authority over the land in its own county.

I am always amused when the governor gets all out of shape when the federal government mandates that the state do something. Then the state turns right around and tells the counties and cities what they can and cannot do. We are blessed to have local elected officials that are honest and fiscally conservative. After all, the best government is the one that is closest to the people. I encourage people to keep in touch with what is going on in Austin as well as your local government. The state is always proud about how few taxes the people of Texas pay. According to Wallet Hub, Texas ranks 7th out of 50 states in the amount of property tax we pay. The average Texan pays \$3,746 compared to \$1,113 in California. Keep in mind this is property taxes.

The Texas legislature is currently in the process of deciding what to do with the billions of excess dollars they have. The house has one plan which the governor has endorsed and the senate has another. After looking at both plans, I feel that the senate plan is the one that would give more relief to homeowners. Call or write your elected officials. Tell them how you feel about issues. After all, you pay their salaries and they work for you.

Ed Janecka Dubina

Pain Relief and The Side Effects

I recently heard that 80 percent of pain medications produced in the world are consumed by Americans. Apparently we are a nation that hates pain and will seek all types of remedies in order to eliminate or alleviate those dreadful uncomfortable feelings.

Having just lost a battle with an earache I admit I'm one of those 80 percenters who doesn't want to wait on Mother Nature to work her magic. Instead, give me pills, the sooner the better. I do not want to languish in misery, reassuring myself that this too shall pass. No, give me the American way of immediate help... drugs.

But even I draw a line. When the pain medication causes more discomfort than the original ailment, it is time to reconnoiter, as my granddad was known to say.

I can be very critical of anyone who wants immediate gratification: wanting what they want when they want it. However, that criticism is cut short when it comes to my comfort. It's one thing to want a new television and think I need it NOW. It is something entirely different if I hurt. Old folks and children best get out of my way if they are between me and a pain pill. I become an NFL rusher heading to the goal line, and it would be wise to give me a clear field.

What do people in other countries do about pain? Do they suffer patiently, waiting for the discomfort to run its course? Do they have special herbal remedies that work, but may take longer? Do they accept that life has its bumps and bruises, and it is unnecessary to give those bumps and bruises immediate attention?

There are those who say every ailment is tied to some emotional trigger, i.e. my earache has something to do with me not wanting to hear something. Or if I hurt my leg, I am resisting a movement forward. I can see that, but, (there is always a but) about the only thing I can think of that I don't want to hear are any more political ads, and they ended two months ago. Maybe my ears are having a delayed reaction to all that auditory clutter.

I decided that if I'm trying to block out some sounds, the best way to do it would be to remove my hearing aids. So, if you see me and I don't answer your greeting, know that I'm walking around avoiding sound in order to alleviate my earache.

Is rudeness better than a pain pill?

That Little Voice

By MARGO JOHNSON



July 4: Freedom Matters

To the Editor: July 4th is a very special holiday to American patriots.

The Declaration of Independence remains a great historical landmark. It contained the first formal assertion by a whole people of their right to a government of their own choice.

The Declaration of Independence was approved by the unanimous vote of Continental Congress (the first governing body of what would become the United States). 13 British colonies sent representatives to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from Sept. 5 to Oct. 26, 1774 in response to the British enactment of the Coercive Acts (also known as the Intolerable Acts) and the British Navy blockade of Boston Harbor.

The declaration explained why the colonies had resolved, "these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be Free and Independent States."

The second paragraph is especially significant and I quote, "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these rights are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

Americans throughout the 13 colonies united in opposition to a system of imperial taxation initiated by the British government in 1765. The colonies petitions for redress of several oppressive actions by the King of Great Britain were answered by repeated injury.

As I reread the "long train

of abuses," ("facts submitted to a candid world") regarding the King's tyrannical authority over the colonies, many "injuries" seemed familiar to current times.

Every citizen has an obligation to themselves and their country to preserve their unalienable rights. How? By exercising obedience to the Constitution of the U.S. and choosing responsible, qualified representatives for government service when given the opportunity. To neglect awareness of who is running for any office that represents your district or make excuses for not knowing who to vote for or refusing to vote demonstrates ignorance for preserving freedom that many honorable citizens have died for.

This July 4th I encourage you to read the Declaration of Independence, consider the values of our Constitution, consider the many men and women who have put their lives on the line for policies that promote freedom here and abroad, and consider the blessings we have being citizens of the U.S.

Freedom isn't free. Don't be distracted or manipulated by fear tactics or lies.

Freedom requires a committed mindset to values of life, respecting volition, marriage, and family as they were designed: respecting equal opportunity to fail and/or succeed, obedience to law, self-discipline, self-control, and faith.

To remain free America requires diligence of citizens to objectively participate in fulfilling their civic responsibilities while the opportunity exists.

Cindy Rodibaugh Flatonia

History: Eddie Southern

Continued from Page D1

specialties, Eddie picked an event in which he thought he had a better chance. In spite of the fact that he had competed in the 400-meter hurdles on fewer than half a dozen occasions, Eddie cruised through the qualifying heats on his way to the finals. The top three finishers would go to Melbourne, and everyone else would go home.

The Texan got off to a jack-rabbit start, leaving the startled favorite, Glenn Davis of Ohio State, in the dust. But the more experienced hurdler gradually closed the gap and caught Eddie at the tenth and last obstacle.

Davis won the short sprint to the tape with Eddie breathing down his neck. Both broke the world record for the 400-meter hurdles.

Eddie Southern was on the U.S. Olympic team and at age 18 its youngest member. Seeking some sort of mystical insight, a reporter asked what motivated him to run so fast. "I was just a scared Texan," answered Eddie. "I was afraid I wouldn't make the team."

In Melbourne Eddie dispelled any nagging doubts by winning his semifinal heat in Olympic record time. In the race for the gold, he again surged ahead and stayed in front until the seventh hurdle where Davis passed him. Eddie had to settle for the silver medal, but he looked forward to a second chance at Rome in 1960.

Their paths often crossed in the four-year interim between the Summer Games, but the outcome was invariably the same whether it was the 400 hurdles or the 400 flat. Good as Eddie was, his arch-rival was always a step or two better.

That changed at the Kansas Relays in June 1959. Davis mounted his usual charge in the 440 no-hurdles, but Eddie persevered with a strong finishing kick. For the happy Texan, who confessed to hoping for rain so the race would be cancelled, it was a badly needed confidence boost.

As the Olympic Trials approached in 1960, Eddie finally returned to the hurdles for the first time since Melbourne. He blew away the field at the

Texas Relays and prepared for the inevitable rematch with his nemesis.

Davis dominated the all-or-nothing finals of the 400-meter hurdles, but Eddie was not far behind as they entered the home stretch. "Southern cleared the last hurdle in second place," read the article in Sports Illustrated, "but landed off balance and broke stride."

In the blink of an eye, two runners swept past him and onto the plane bound for Rome. Fourth-place Eddie's Olympic dream was over.

On the eve of his induction into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in December 1969, his old college coach made it clear that Eddie Southern was no loser. "He was just one of the great all around track men, to the point of being unbelievable," Clyde Littlefield said with tremendous pride and obvious emotion.

"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 Barte Haile, P.O. Box 130011, Spring, TX 77393.

Wilson: A Look at The Hospital Mortgage

Continued from front

were part of the original mortgage, including 19,960 acres of land carved out to secure the note. Lancaster Pollard has since been acquired by Orix Real Estate Capital, LLC, presumably the current mortgage holder.

Based on these parameters, the mortgage payment through the end of 2019 would have been approximately \$136,600 monthly, excluding mortgage insurance. However, according to recorded documents, in 2020 the mortgage was amended with Orix Real Estate Capital to a three-year

interest only loan from January of 2020, through January 2023. The interest only rate was 3.03% and will continue for the balance of the mortgage until the unpaid balance is paid. A pretty good rate in today's banking climate. The interest only payments for the period were estimated at \$35,958 per month, and starting January of 2023 increased to \$160,423 per month for approximately 10 years.

In the next part we'll look at some of the hospital land and professional building details.

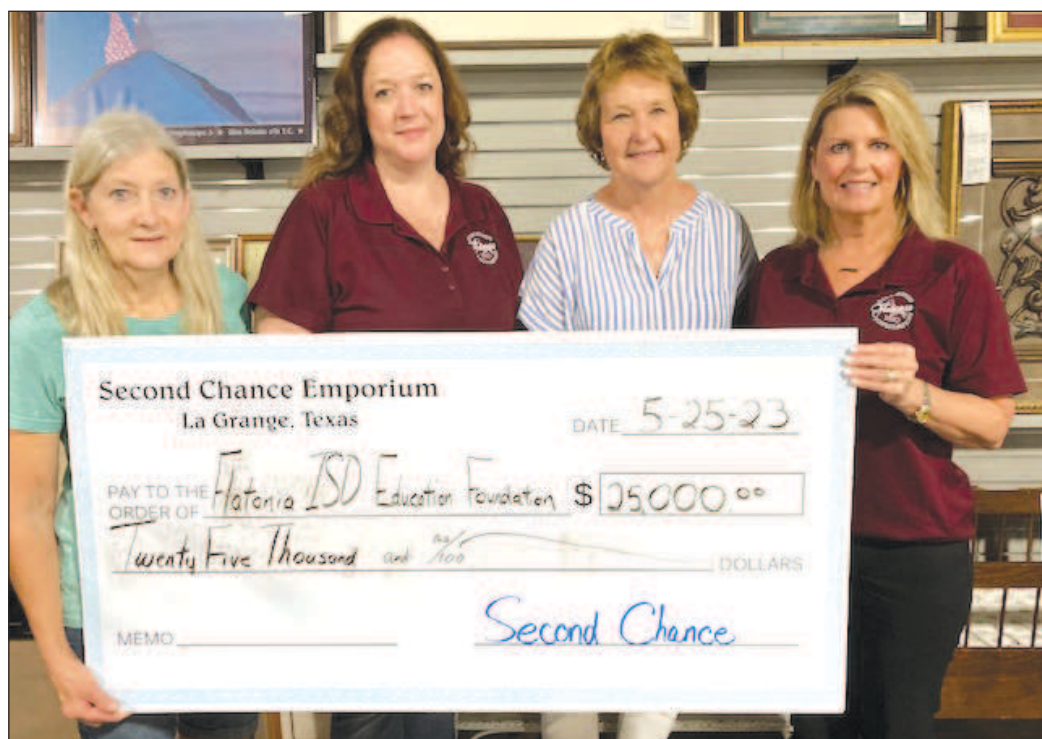
TEXAS CROSSWORD by Charley & Guy Orbison. Includes crossword puzzle grid, word list (ACROSS, DOWN), and College Place Assisted Living advertisement.



# Second Chance Makes Donations to Local Non-Profits



Second Chance Emporium (SCE) recently donated \$1,300 to the Schulenburg American Legion Post No. 143. Monies donated will be used as part of the Memorial Day fund to provide flags for over 1,100 graves at various cemeteries in the Schulenburg area. The American Legion Post No. 143 supports veterans and their families in many ways, which includes funeral honors and placing flags on veteran's graves. Pictured from left to right: Gayle Schielack, SCE Store Director; Ed Semler, Post No. 143 1st Vice Commander; Bob Heinrich, Post No. 143 Commander; and Willy Schmidt, Post No. 143 Finance Officer.



Second Chance Emporium (SCE) recently donated \$25,000 to the Flatonia ISD Education Foundation. Monies donated will fund Flatonia ISD teacher grants for the purchase of products and programs outside of the annual school budget. The Flatonia ISD Education Foundation provides resources that support innovative teaching and learning opportunities for students. Pictured from left to right: Gayle Schielack, SCE Store Director; Amber Carruthers, Foundation President; Gayla Ehler, Foundation Board Member; and Val Butcher, Foundation Board Member.



Second Chance Emporium (SCE) recently donated \$6,000 to the Fayette Community Foundation for the Alliance for College and Career Student Success (ACCSS) program at Blinn College. Monies donated will be used for the ACCSS dual credit scholarship program for Fayette County students in need. The mission of the organization is to collaborate as a partnership with rural public-school districts and institutions of higher education to provide academic and career resources, guidance and support necessary for students to complete a post-secondary or workforce career credential. Pictured from left to right: Gayle Schielack, SCE Store Director and Susie Shank, ACCSS Director.



Second Chance Emporium (SCE) recently donated \$4,590 to the Stanzel Family Foundation, Inc. for Parents as Teachers (PAT). Monies donated will support training and certification costs for personnel to service twenty-five additional families in Fayette County. The grant will also be used to purchase two Ages & Stages screening totes. Parents as Teachers provide information and support for parents to help children develop optimally during their early years. Pictured from left to right: Josue Rivas, Schulenburg-Weimar Area PAT Development Director; Gayle Schielack, SCE Store Director; Sherise Davis, Schulenburg-Weimar Area PAT Parent Educator.



Second Chance Emporium (SCE) recently donated \$1,000 to the La Grange Chapter of War on Drugs - Projection Graduation. Monies donated helped to fund an overnight bus trip for La Grange High School graduating seniors to a state university's recreational facility. This trip included a drug-free graduation celebration in a safe environment for those who attended. Prizes and food were included throughout this fun night of celebration. Pictured from left to right: Gayle Schielack, SCE Store Director, and John Pineda, La Grange High School Principal.

173<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL

# ROUND TOP

# 4<sup>th</sup> of July

# PARADE

**TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2023**

Activities begin at Round Top Town Square at 10 a.m. Cannon goes off at 10:30 a.m. to signal the start of the parade.

Following the parade, the Round Top Rifle Association will be having BBQ Chicken and Sausage Plates with potatoes and coleslaw for dine-in, to-go or drive thru. BBQ Brisket, Pork, Chicken and Sausage sold at the pit by pre-order.

Entertainment includes Cool Freddie E and the Crew starting at 11:30, along with the Round Top Brass Band throughout the afternoon until 3:00.

For more info visit [www.roundtoprifle.com](http://www.roundtoprifle.com) and on Facebook!

© The Fayette County Record

## Alyssa Otto Graduates from A&M



Alyssa Jade Otto of Schulenburg graduated Magna Cum Laude with Department Honors from Texas A&M University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in College Station on May 11. Her bachelor of science degree is in animal science. While at Texas A&M she was a member of Texas Aggie Cattlewomen and Saddle & Siroin Club. Alyssa completed internships at P Bar Whitetails in Bullard in the summer of 2021 and at Deseret Cattle & Timber in Wewahitchka, Fla. in the fall of 2022. She will matriculate into the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine this fall to pursue her DVM. Otto is a 2019 valedictorian graduate from Schulenburg High School. She is the daughter of Keith and Stacy Otto of Schulenburg, granddaughter of Harvey and Gloria Oeding of La Grange, the late Nolan L. Bruns Jr. of Schulenburg, Barbara Otto of Shiner, and the late Kenneth R. Otto of Shiner.

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