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McLeod & Bloomburg Homecomings
SEE **B-SECTION**



Over $50k stolen from Linden ATM

By Shawn Larson

The Linden Police Department reported that "on January 17, 2021, Sunday morning, at approximately 03:20 a.m., a burglary occurred at the Texar ATM located on US Hwy. 59 in Linden, TX."

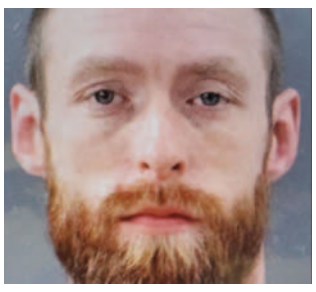
"Officers arrived on the scene and observed a Ford F350, white in color, in front of the ATM with a chain attached to the back of it, the chain was used to pull the vault door off of the ATM allowing the suspects access to the money boxes inside."

According to the Linden press release "The F350

See **ATM** page 8

Suspect in custody for church vandalism, theft

By Lacy Gross


JONATHAN HAMILTON

Jonathan Hamilton, 33, of Linden, was arrested Friday night by Hughes Springs police in connection with recent church vandalism incidents in Cass County.

Authorities in Cass county had been looking for two weeks for a man seen on security video burglarizing Hughes Springs Missionary Baptist church who is suspected of breaking into over a half dozen churches.

"Several churches here in Hughes Springs, Avinger, Linden, back toward Atlanta and the New Colony area," said Hughes Springs police chief Randy Kennedy.

A traffic-stop in Hughes Spring led to Hamilton's arrest where a flashlight and pry bar used were dis-

See **VANDALISM** page 5



Photo by Amy Anderson Photography
Ted Thompson, Green Bay Packers General Manager, August 9, 2010

FROM ATLANTA TO GREEN BAY

Thompson lives his dream

By Tim Emmons, Kate Stow, Gordon Pynes

It's rare when a human being overcomes a "one in a million chance".

For many, chasing a dream is just that…a dream.

Ted Thompson, however, ended his chase with his dream job and "one in a million chance" in hand.

A former standout athlete for the Atlanta Rabbits, he not only had dreams of playing professionally, but had a goal in mind to become the general manager for the Green Bay Packers or New York Yankees.

Although he wasn't drafted, Thompson did play professional football in the NFL and achieved truth to his prophecy some 30 years earlier when the Green Bay Packers hired him as their General Manager.

Thompson fulfilled his dreams on his journey through life.

His life-long journey ended Wednesday, Jan. 20, when he passed away just three days after his 68th birthday.

Looking back at his journey's beginning, Thompson was

See **THOMPSON** page 8

Hicks appraises new role as chief



By Lacy Gross

Most people would agree that receiving mail from the appraisal district isn't much cause for celebration. The envelopes are opened with bated breath and seldom is there a call made in response to convey approval for a job well done.

What typically follows for the Cass County Appraisal District is a rash of calls from aggravated property owners who are desperate to understand the numbers and dispute the assessments they see as unfair. Many of those same people would be intimidated to take a job where they are tasked to determine property values and bear the news to its owners, but not Lacy Hicks, Cass County Appraisal District's newest chief appraiser.

Formerly the deputy chief appraiser and veteran field appraiser for Cass County, Lacy acknowledges that the district doesn't hold much favor in the eyes of the public which is why she accepted the promotion from the district's board of directors earlier this month. She hopes to change that.

Reserved in her demeanor, Lacy modestly gives an account of her duties to a multitude of bodies, including the taxpayers of Cass County and stresses the importance of good working relationships with her staff--all of which is a delicate balancing act and not for the faint of heart.

"I have to do what is right by the taxpayer and the county, and right now my focus is making sure that this office is being operated correctly, to get things lined out to where they need to be", she said, "I am dedicated to being fiscally conservative while also ensuring this office has the resources it needs to function efficiently."

In order to be an effective appraiser and chief appraiser, according to Lacy, one must be receptive to a property owner's criticisms and willing to work with the owner for solutions.

"My door is always open to the citizens of Cass County", she said.

Born and raised in Linden, Lacy has worked for the appraisal district for more than 10 years and has a "vested interest" in the district. Moreover, she understands the accountability of her position.

"It is important to me for the county to know that I'm here, I'm an involved chief appraiser and that I will still be involved in all areas of the office."

When asked what inspired her to put in for the job, she said she felt the opening was a call to duty.

"I felt it was my obligation…to my employees, for them to have a leader and somebody who is going to work for them, for the district, for the entities, for the board and the taxpayers."

And she's not going anywhere. Lacy understands that the taxpayers of Cass County have an investment in her too. With turnover having been an issue in the past, she is working to invest in her current staff as well as prospective staff to keep them in Cass County.

"When someone leaves for an appraisal district in another county, they take that investment with them", she said.

Her current staff, a solid mix of seasoned professionals and those just

See **HICKS** page 5

McClure takes on new role
In 2011 Atlanta hired a new Athletic Director which knew the immense pride Rabbit athletes and fans display ...

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Obituaries
Ted Thompson
Danny Hurt
Richard Pyle
James Walker

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Kevin Rahm: This 'Mad Man' just wants to keep working

By Kate Stow

Kevin Rahm doesn't want to be a star; he just wants to be an actor with a steady gig.

"I'm lucky in the sense that I haven't become famous," he said, going on to explain that "being a star isn't a goal, but I love being an actor. I've consistently been working on TV shows – which is a pleasant problem to have – and there is nothing better for an actor than knowing you have a summer off when you know you have a good job waiting."

The 1989 Atlanta High School graduate ended up on the small screen, by way of a drama class at Brigham Young University. "I was studying pre-law, thinking I wanted to be a lawyer. Then I realized I just wanted to act on LA Law."

He changed his major to drama and in 1994 won the Irene Ryan Award for best college actor. In 1995 he won his first role in a USA Movie of the Week titled Out of Annie's Past. Then, in 1996, he decided to leave BYU for the Hollywood Hills and an acting career. Kevin auditioned and won several parts in both movies and TV series, but in 1999 the one that gave him a reason to quit waiting tables was the TV series, Everything's Relative.

"Before that I had played a Trill in Star Trek: Deep Space Nine - which was really cool - besides dozens of other characters in shows and movies" he said. Those other shows include Beverly Hills 90210, Touched By An Angel, Silk Stalkings, and many more.

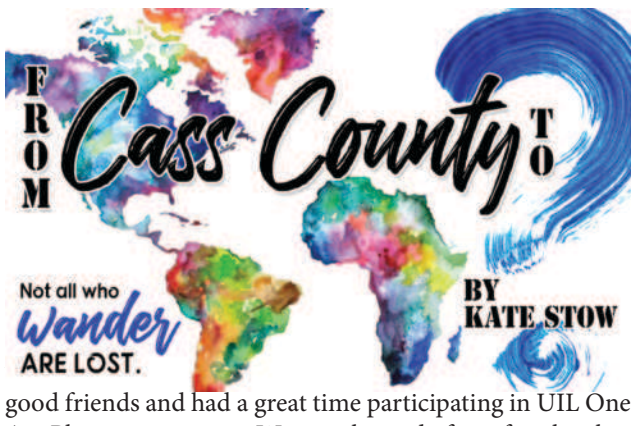
When his role in Everything's Relative ended after four episodes, he was given the role of Dr. Danny Kozak on Jesse, a TV series starring Christina Applegate. Since that show, Kevin has seamlessly rolled through parts in Judging Amy (Kyle McCarty), Desperate Housewives (Lee McDermott), Mad Men (Ted Chaough), Bates Motel (Bob Paris), Madame Secretary (Mike B) and Fox TV's Lethal Weapon (Captain Brooks Avery). Sprinkled throughout those recurring roles are guest-starring roles in Grey's Anatomy, CSI: NY, CSI: Miami, Friends, Scrubs, and The Mentalist, to name a few. His 20+ movie credits include Alfie, LA Blues, Nightcrawler, and Clinical.

Even though Kevin has been acting steady since 1995, not many people in Atlanta, Texas realized just who they were seeing on their screen. According to Atlan-









good friends and had a great time participating in UIL One Act Play competitions. We mostly made fun of each other and goofed around, but he was clearly more talented than the rest of us. I saw him perform on stage in LA about 20 years ago, and he was charmed. Obviously, Ted in Mad Men is my favorite character of his, but his theatre performances are special. My son is pursuing acting now. Kevin has been very kind in advising me on protocol of auditions and acting terms. I am so happy to have known him back then. He is a generous friend and accomplished actor."

Of all the characters he has had the opportunity to play, Kevin says his role as Lee McDermott on Desperate House-

See **RAHM** page 8





Courtesy Photos

Photo 1: Kevin Rahm hams it up on the red carpet. Photo 2: Kevin (far right) poses with other Atlanta High School graduates before the ceremony in 1989. Photo 3: Kevin poses with wife Amy and daughter Hunter in 2020 at the red carpet entrance to The Rahm Celebrity Fundraiser last year. Photo 4: Kevin (far left) plays Mike B. on Madame Secretary with Tea Leone (far right) and Tim Daly (center). And photo 5: Kevin (center) as Ted Chaough on Madmen, which can be seen on the AMC streaming channel.

Wesley House
ASSISTED LIVING

Here at Wesley House Atlanta
we have received our first round of vaccinations
which is a big step towards a safe environment for our residents.

Our next vaccine clinic is scheduled for
January 29th
and IF you move in prior to that date you can receive
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We are currently waiving our Community Fee
so that money can be used for movers etc.

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and YOU can choose
who those visitors are.



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Atlanta AD McClure takes on new role

By Tim Emmons
temmons@casscountynow.com

In 2011 Atlanta hired a new Athletic Director which knew the immense pride Rabbit athletes and fans display.

In a way Coach Matt McClure was coming home.

Last Thursday, Jan. 21, it was announced via KPYN radio that McClure was stepping aside from the AD position and accepting a new role within the Atlanta ISD administration.

The McClure family has been a staple in Atlanta for many years.

McClure attended elementary through high school as a Rabbit and graduated in 1986. In high school he was a multi-sport athlete who played both baseball and football.

After graduation he attended East Texas Baptist University (ETBU) where he played baseball all four years.

During his time at ETBU McClure made Academic All-Conference, earned All-Conference honors and graduated on the Dean's List with honors.

He graduated with a business degree and played semi-pro baseball in Nashville.

While on the business route in life McClure couldn't shake the desire to become a coach.

He was once quoted saying, "Although I was looking for a job in business I had a deep desire to coach. I was told to go into business because it would be more profitable. Looking back now coaching isn't the richest job but you reap the benefits of rich in other ways like being able to mold young minds and athletes."

McClure went back to school and acquired all he needed to become a coach.

After coaching at Pittsburg High School McClure moved onto Killeen High School where he coached under his high school coach Jerry Bomar.

After coaching at Grand Prairie High School McClure made his way back to northeast Texas as the defensive coordinator at Texas High.

The Tigers won a state championship in 2002.

McClure loved coaching and learning from mentors such as Bomar and Barry Norton but yearned to be an athletic director.

In 2011 the AD/HC job was open and McClure felt a draw to apply.

McClure got the job and went to work.

In his 10 years, the Rabbit football team made it to the fourth round of the state playoffs three times, made the playoffs seven years and made it to area five years.

McClure was named northeast Texas Coach of the Year in 2015, has overseen boys' and girls' state championships in track and oversaw the school's first powerlifting state champion Alvin Battle in 2015.

In his 10 years, 58 student-athletes signed to further their education in college.

The student-athletes have signed to several colleges ranging from Missouri to Houston, to Oklahoma State to Rice to Kentucky.



MATT MCCLURE



Name:
Mitzi Francis

Town:
Bloomburg

At the age of three, Mitzi Frances already knew she loved horses, and she even has the picture to prove it: a miniature version of herself in a red frilly dress is perched bareback atop her Grandpa's plow horse.

"I loved getting on Grandpa's horse after he plowed – I rode it all over the yard, all by myself," she recalls. "I don't know why I'm so dressed up, or how Momma got me into that dress, though!"

Born in McLeod in 1964, Mitzi and her twin brother Marty graduated from McLeod High School in 1983. She played on the girls basketball team, and proudly shows the photo of herself, #21, poised in midair with the ball headed for nothing but net.

Her athletic phase lasted until just a few years ago. Starting out in a local girls softball league, then moving into a co-ed league, Mitzi travelled to tournaments all over Texas and Arkansas, collecting trophies along the way.

"I started playing softball in a league here when I was 13 and I just kept on playing," she said. "I started out at third base, but when my arm started acting up I moved to second base; then first base, then hindcatcher. When I quit I was the pitcher."

These days Mitzi chases wayward animals rather than a softball but make no mistake that she is just as passionate about it. She has been known to take pets away from abusive owners, and she isn't afraid to tell you what she thinks.

As an employee of the Queen City Water Department, she works at the wastewater treatment plant and doubles as dogcatcher. The town of Bloomburg uses her as contract labor to keep their streets free of strays. On weekends, the Queen City calls roll over to the Atlanta Police Department dispatcher. Mitzi is in a state of perpetual on-call duty; the animals do take up a good portion of her time.

Mitzi lives alone in a farmhouse situated among many barns and sheds on a rural blacktop road just outside of Bloomburg. The land belongs to the James Brooks family, who has kept Mitzi continuously hired for many years as caretaker of the old horse farm.

The fences may no longer hold thoroughbreds, but the donkeys and miniature horses she has collected are no less deserving of the royal treatment Mitzi lavishes on them. Shorty, the 23-year old miniature donkey, has his own retirement suite – a roomy fenced-in grassy area with a hay-filled lean-to for shelter on rainy days.

In the pen next door to Shorty lives an unusual white donkey, along with another short donkey. Just across the dirt road a pair of miniature horses have a space large enough to race each other in laps around their shed.

A trio of dogs follows Mitzi everywhere she goes, leaning into her when she stops for even a second. The senior German Shepherd named Adolph has hip trouble that gives the allusion that he is sashaying away from you rather than trotting.

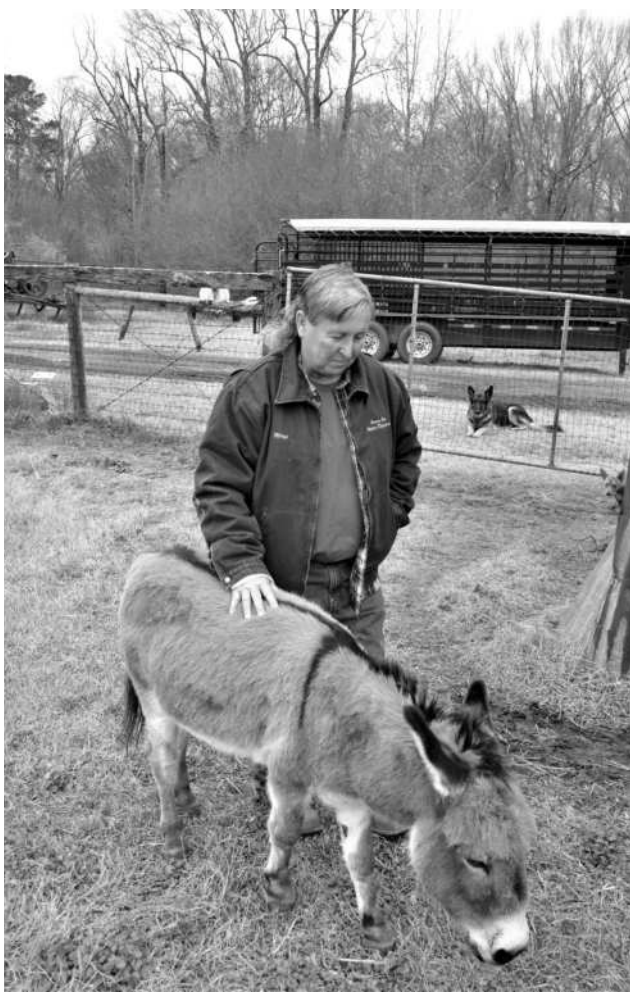
A brown and white medium-sized mixed female is Adolph's best friend but is currently occupied with babysitting a newcomer to the farm. Lulu, a young female Mitzi recently picked up, appears to be a pit mix with a beautiful coat of maple colored brindle, and sad puppy-dog eyes to match.

"If I don't find a home for her soon, I'm going to have to get her euthanized," Mitzi says sadly. "I can't keep every single one of them. But she's a good dog and she deserves a chance."

And that, in a nutshell, is why Mitzi is so passionate about the animals she before giving up on any of them. Sadly, she often has to be the bad guy when pet owners aren't responsible enough to spay and neuter their furbabies. There is surely no doubt that each of these animals know they were loved and cared for by at least one very compassionate human.







NOTICE

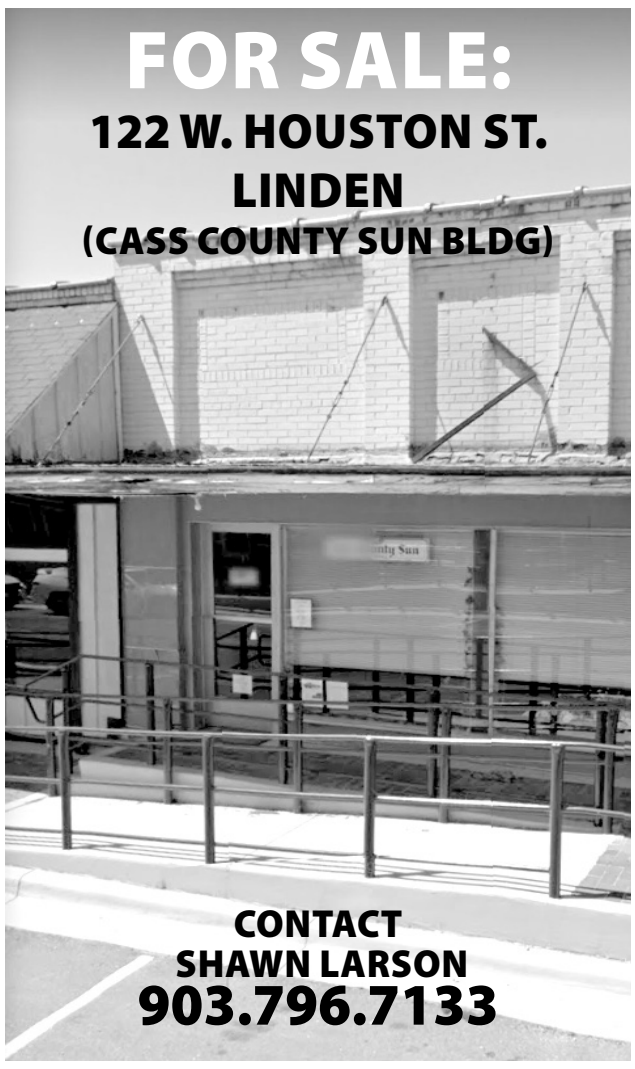
As an "essential service industry" during the COVID-19, we provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, essential activities, and essential businesses. With that being stated, we would like to continue to at least treat the outside of your structures to continue pest control boundaries.

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Linden is doing great, we just got word that we have been awarded a $500,000 Downtown Revitalization through Texas Department of Agriculture. It will extend and connect existing sidewalks and repair roads where sidewalk work is being done.

$500,000 sounds like a lot of money but with the design and grant requirements it will not go as far as people imagine. The plan is in the works right now and there have already been public meetings on the Grant areas. The City will be required to have a $75,000 match to this Grant. As with all Grants it will be about a year before the work begins. Linden and our momentum in upgrading our system is still being recognized by the State.

Our General Land Office grant that will be replacing major culverts near the park and stopping the erosion and flash flooding going on is now awaiting a change to be approved. We will start work as soon as the change is approved, and the construction should take about six months.

This summer we will bid and start our water upgrade we right now are going through the finance phase. We will get $1.4M in a Grant and apply for $2.8M in a bond secured through our water sales.

This project will take a year and a half to complete and we will get both a new large well and new water tower. The renovation of the distribution system will both cut leaks drastically and eliminate most of the iron pipes from our system that allow iron rust and taste in our system. We will also be able to better regulate our pressure even in the higher areas of town.

I will be retiring from the City Administrator position the end of January. The City Council is currently looking for a replacement. I will continue to ensure the City functions continue until a replacement is found.

I am not going anywhere, Brenda and I love living in Linden. We are going to get going on finishing our ranch and some other projects I have put on hold while I was taking this five-year detour in my retirement plan. Brenda and I are just ready for more time together at home. Thank you so much for your support and assistance over the last five years.



Bessie Coleman had said as a child that she wanted to make something of herself. For an African-American at the turn of the century, there were few opportunities for that to happen. With the invention of airplanes, she found a magnificent new calling as the first African-American woman to become a pilot. As a famous stunt pilot in the 1920s, she toured the country, and all eyes looked skyward to see her perform.

Coleman was born outside Atlanta, in deep East Texas, in January 1892 in a one-room cabin. She was the twelfth of thirteen children in a family of sharecroppers. Her father was part black and part Cherokee and her mother was a former slave. At the age of two, the family moved to Waxahachie, where she would attend school. She would walk four miles to the one-room school where she developed a talent for math. Her father, however, left for Oklahoma when she was seven for work and never returned.

She later took her life savings and enrolled at what was then called Oklahoma Colored Normal and Agricultural School (present-day Langston University). She had to quit after her first semester. In 1916, she moved to Chicago with a couple of her brothers. She picked up a job as a manicurist. As World War I progressed, she was mesmerized by the daring tales of World War I fighter pilots that were told by returning veterans. She also began hearing about women getting their own pilots licenses in France and began dreaming of her own career as a pilot. Coleman took up a second job and started saving her money.

Harriet Quimby of Michigan became the first American woman pilot in 1911. Dozens more women had become pilots since that time. But there were no opportunities for minority women to even enter flight schools. She talked to some local businessmen who suggested she take flight lessons in France. After getting extra funds from local benefactors, she left for France in 1920. In June 1921, she gained her pilots license, the first African-American or Native American woman ever to receive a license. The news was met with considerable acclaim in the United States. She spent the next year working on further pilot training.

The airplanes at the time were primitive, often single-propeller biplanes with wood frames overlaid with cloth bodies. The open-air cockpits had room for only one or two people. The engines were underpowered and stalled often. The dangers were obvious, but the risk made it all the more tempting for those early pilots willing to defy gravity and sail among the clouds. The plane Coleman used most often was the JN-4 "Jenny" biplane.

There were few occupations for pilots at the time, especially for women. The Army Air Corps and Naval Air Corps were

See **TEXAS** page 5

Lawmakers start $7 billion away from target



Texas House and Senate leaders appear to agree on their proposed budgets. Next, they just have to figure out how to cut $7.2 billion.

Senate Finance Chair Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, worked with Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick to propose a state budget of $119.7 billion in general funds. House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, proposed the same budget figure, indicating a collaborative spirit at the start of the 87th session.

That spirit will be tested as legislators try to meet Comptroller Glen Hegar's budgeted revenue forecast of $112.5 billion.

"We have many tools available to balance this budget, which will require us to re-establish our priorities, stretch every dollar and find more efficient ways to deliver services," Nelson said in a statement.

Among the priorities she set:

• Maintaining the education funding increases and teacher pay raises established in 2019, including $3.1 billion to fund enrollment growth for public education and $1 billion in additional state aid related to property tax compression in the 2022-23 biennium.

• $5 billion for payroll growth and continued reforms to the Teacher Retirement System passed last session.

• $8.1 billion to fund higher education institution formulas.

• Combined projected funding of $8 billion for mental health across 24 state agencies, including an increase of $19.5 million to maintain operations for the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium; more than $1 million in new funding to create a peer-to-peer counseling network and increase access to licensed mental health providers for Texas Law Enforcement Officers; and $145 million to continue community mental health grant programs.

• $352.6 million for women's health programs, including the continuation of the Healthy Texas Women program's enhanced postpartum care services implemented by the Legislature last session.

• $57.6 million to continue fighting human trafficking through prevention, detection, victim services and the justice system.

• $1.3 million to perform necessary maintenance on the Texas Election Administration Management System, which manages voter registration in Texas.

• $39.1 million in new appropriations to fortify security at the Texas Capitol, including additional troopers and enhanced safety measures.

• $30.4 billion to the Texas Department of Transportation to address the state's transportation needs, including $26.4 billion dedicated for highway planning, design, construction and maintenance.

Phelan's statement indicated the same support for public education and also included an appropriation of $74.2 billion for the Texas Medicaid program, including $27.4 billion in general revenue.The House version includes an additional $920 million to address projected caseload growth.

"The decisions we make during the 87th legislative session will have lasting effects on the future of our state, which is why the House will work to improve our business climate, foster economic prosperity, and do what's right for our students," Phelan said.

Strawberry fields forever

You don't find many strawberry fields in Texas, but that could change if a seed planted by the Texas Department of Agriculture takes root.

The department has awarded a second grant to the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service to research and test how the state's farmers can make more money growing strawberries.

Leading the project is AgriLife extension's Russ Wallace, a horticulturist in Lubbock. You might call him the John Lennon of Texas strawberries.

"We're extremely excited about what we've learned thus far to successfully grow strawberries in Texas and increase profitability," Wallace said in an AgriLife news release. "This is the next step in our ongoing research where we'll be doing more work with shading trials, fine-tuning fertilization and additional work with herbicides."

Strawberries have some juicy potential as a specialty crop because consumers have shown an increasing hunger for locally grown produce, ag experts say, although they don't often use bad puns.

One of the research sites is Atascosa County's Poteet, the self-proclaimed strawberry capital of Texas. Poteet Strawberry Festival organizers recently announced the event will go on April 9-11.

Some readers of the festival's Facebook page criticized the move as having the potential to spread COVID-19 faster than jam on toast.

Festival organizers responded that "we've been working and hoping for a blessing that we can continue, within allowable restrictions or capabilities, but still continuing as possible. We hope all goes well."

With your permission, gentle readers, we'll close here with this Beatles' opening stanza and try to leave you with a song in your heart:

Let me take you down
'Cause I'm going to Strawberry Fields
Nothing is real
And nothing to get hung about
Strawberry Fields forever

Chris Cobler is a board member and past president of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas. He welcomes email at ccobler@texaspress.com. Veteran journalist Gary Borders will be taking over the "Capital Highlights" column starting next week as Cobler embarks on a new challenge.

Paddie's legislative update

By Chris Paddie
State Representative District 9

Last week, we started the 87th Legislature. Like many things this past year, the swearing-in ceremony was far different than past years and saw the legislative session open with less pageantry. Regardless of the circumstances, I am always honored to represent East Texas in the Legislature and will continue to work hard to bring our East Texas values to Austin.

The first act of the House of Representatives was to unanimously elect Rep. Dade Phelan of Beaumont as Speaker of the House. I am proud to support and work with Speaker Phelan as he leads the House as we address the many pressing issues facing Texas.

We also had the final meeting of the Sunset Advisory Commission where we voted on several recommendations to reform and streamline state agencies, reduce entire licenses and reduce requirements for continuing licenses. The Sunset process works to ensure the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of our state agencies.

As we move through the 140-day legislative session, I look forward to updating you about the goings-on in Austin and about the legislation that I am authoring to help make our government operate more efficiently and to better serve you, the citizens.

I want to encourage you to reach out to me about issues that concern you or ideas for legislation that would help make Texas an even better place to live. I can be reached at 512-463-0556 or district9.paddie@house.state.tx.us.

In addition, my district director, Joe Buck Crisp, will be spending time each month in every county to meet with you about legislative concerns and to help with issues you may be having with the state government.

Please contact our Marshall office at 903-935-1141 to find out when he will be in your town.

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ATLANTA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber Chat with Miranda

Transitions can be scary, exciting, hard, seamless, lengthy, quick and so many other possible scenarios. We are in a time of transition at our office; though there are many words that describe how the changes have felt at different moments - overall spirits are high and great things are taking place.

As the chapter of 2020 neared its conclusion, another chapter was coming to an end for several of our long time Board Members including Robin Betts, Randal Wilson and Clay Collins. The chapter of working as a Chamber staff member was also ending for our Office Manager, Kali Rushing (in October), and shortly after, our Communications Manager, Kendell Wolfe (in December.)

Not only would we be looking for two new Chamber employees, but also, a total of five new members on our Board of Directors - almost half the board. We saw the turnover as an opportunity to really evaluate our strengths and weaknesses and be strategic moving forward into 2021.



JILL CROCKER

In 2020, Jill Crocker was serving the final year of her term on our Chamber Board of Directors. Even before Jill was appointed to the Chamber Board, she had attended many of our events through her former positions at Woodforest Bank, Century 21, and TEXAR. From ribbon cuttings and business-after-hours events to putting on her dancing shoes at the Steven Smith Memorial Cruise Night, Jill's smiling face and warm personality have been an established part of our chamber scene for several years.

The morning Kali announced to our Board of Directors that she would be resigning as office manager, I remember looking across the room at Jill's face and thinking how lucky we would be to hire her. I knew that at the time she was working as a personal trainer and the owner of her business, Yoga with Jill Nicole, but I thought she might be interested in our office manager position since it was a part time schedule. I knew Jill to be a people-person and with her banking background, probably familiar with office manager responsibilities. After reaching out to her, we set an interview with our chairman and vice chair. Jill was interested, and to be honest, it seemed meant to be. She started the next week.

Fast forward to present day, and things are going well! Jill is settled in as office manager and will actually be working five days per week now instead of just three. Because of Jill's background in marketing and even broadcasting roles, she will be expanding her duties beyond the "tag desk" (vehicle registration renewals) and getting more involved with our chamber members and promoting our events. Jill is diligent, enthusiastic, and positive; we know she will be up to task.

Our 2021 Chamber Board Chairperson, Dr. Adam Cox of Family Eye Care Clinic, is filling big shoes. Robin Betts was sitting Chairman for several years and always served the chamber well, but Adam is also a tenured director with experience from past events and great ideas for future ones. He will be a strong leader for the chamber.

Terre Gaston is our Vice-Chair, and she is another director we have relied on many times in the past for advice, hands-on help, connections and support. We truly have a strong team with great energy. I am proud on our board. Stay tuned for big things from the chamber this year.

Our quote of the week is, *"You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in you."* Isaiah 26:3

Hicks FROM PAGE 1

starting out, have transitioned with ease.

"They've always kind of seen me as their boss…I'm going to delegate, but I'm not going to delegate everything. I'm going to do what I can and pull as much weight as possible so that I'm not just a body in this chair. There's too much work in this county for that."

Upon entering the appraisal district's office, the first face one sees belongs to Brittney Hearn.

A customer service representative who came aboard in 2019, Brittney says she enjoys meeting with customers face to face and aspires to have the work ethic of her new boss. Her confidence in Lacy's ability to lead is endearing.

"[Lacy] knows Cass County like the back of her hand…she is a workhorse but also human and is a devoted mom and wife. Even before she was elected as the chief, we all went to her with problems or questions.

When she doesn't know the answer to a question (which is not often) then she will find the correct answer" Brittney said. "She also knows what needs to be taken care of and is formulating us plans to get whipped back in shape. I believe that the board made the best decision in hiring her for the position as she well deserved it."

Lacy Hicks, Cass County Appraisal District's new chief appraiser, is a fiscal conservative who values total transparency and strong leadership.

Her knowledge and tenacity are on display at 502 North Main Street in Linden where she routinely guides the public, her staff and pesky reporters to understanding how all of it works.

Vandalism FROM PAGE 1

covered. He was also still wearing the same identifiable clothing.

"What really caught the officers' attention was that Hamilton was still wearing a muscle shirt, the same shirt in the video," Kennedy said.

Police say Hamilton was seen wearing a hockey mask in the security video as he ransacked the churches, something he later discarded.

"He got rid of the hockey mask as soon as he found out that we put it on Facebook and Channel 7 News," said Kennedy, "We were able to identify some tattoos on his chest area and neck area."

According to investigators, Hamilton admitted targeting churches because no one would be there to identify him.

Security video shows a suspect apparently vandalizing the inside of the 'Missionary Baptist Church' in Hughes Springs.

"When I got down there, I found that it was more than just a break in, the offices there and several other rooms had been trashed. We're not sure what the motivation is," said Hughes Springs police chief Randy Kennedy.

Church members found that there was more than vandalism, there was an upsetting theft.

"The most disturbing thing was that not only were all the offices trashed, but the individual took money that was set aside or designated for, someone's funeral," said Missionary Baptist pastor Michael Stewart.

Kennedy said this incident brought other break-ins to light. Investigators believe the same suspect did the same thing at Turkey Creek Baptist Church.

"Apparently this has been going on for a week now because there are several churches here in Cass County that have had the same damage done to them," Kennedy says.

The suspect hid his face by wearing an old-style hockey goalies mask, possibly helpful in identifying him.

The suspect destroyed a security camera then broke through a back door. According to the churches video time stamp, he was there for almost six hours, ransacking offices and breaking into a vending machine.

We think that there was an accomplice because we don't think he was there alone," Kennedy said.

Detectives in Cass County are investigating numerous cases of vandalism and thefts at several churches. Churches in Linden, Hughes Springs and Avinger have all been vandalized earlier this month.

Hamilton remains in the Cass County jail charged with possession of a controlled substance and burglary.

Anyone with any information on the vandalism that occurred at the Hughes Springs Missionary Baptist Church is urged to call the Hughes Springs Police Department at (903) 639-2621.

Texas FROM PAGE 4

still very small and would not admit women. The U. S. Postal Service had its air mail program in effect before World War I, but it would not hire women pilots. Passenger air service was still in its infancy, and the major airlines would not be formed for several more years. Most air travel in the 1920s, in fact, was by Zeppelin airship rather than airplanes.

The best option, and the most visible, was the air show. Airplanes were not yet two decades old, and millions were fascinated by the new invention and the sight of death-defying aerial acrobatics that air shows offered. At air shows, pilots would perform complicated maneuvers, stuntmen would walk on the wings, and some would even parachute out of planes.

Coleman toured the country with air shows, billed as "Brave Bessie" or "Queen Bessie." She appeared in a silent short film in 1922. In 1923, she bought her first plane, but she was seriously injured in an air show when it crashed a few days later. She saved up to buy another plane the next year. In the meantime, she continued to tour across the country.

"In the air is the only place free from prejudice," Coleman often said. In the air, pilots can only rely on their training, instincts, and determination, qualities that that do not know skin color or gender. She gave presentations at African-American churches and schools, urging other African-American men and women to get involved in aviation. She openly talked about one day opening a flight school for African-Americans.

By 1926, Coleman was still performing air shows and was preparing for a performance in Florida. Coleman was unable to get a plane for the next air show, where she planned a spectacular parachute jump from the plane, and had her publicist and mechanic, William Wills, fly in her plane from Dallas. Wills had to land several times for repairs, but managed to deliver the JN-4. On April 30, she and Wills took off on a test flight. Unknown to either one, a wrench had been left inside the engine assembly. During the flight, the wrench came loose, damaging the internal controls. The plane suddenly went into an uncontrolled spin, plummeting to the ground. Coleman was thrown out of the plane, falling to her death. Wills desperately fought the controls to no avail. He died when the plane crashed moments later.

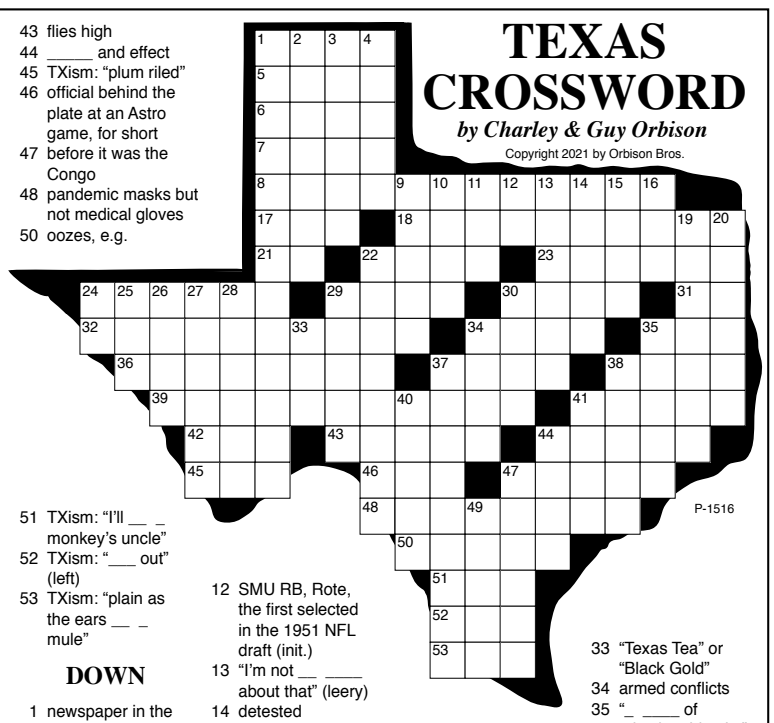
The 34-year-old aviation pioneer was buried in Chicago. The city and aviators alike came to honor her memory in the years afterward. The city named a library, a park, and a street near O'Hare International Airport for her. Several other cities named streets for her near their airports in the coming decades. The Aerospace Education Foundation in New York offers the Bess Coleman Scholarship for students interested in aviation careers. In 1995, the U. S. Postal Service issued a stamp in her honor. The Cedar Hill Independent School District opened Bessie Coleman Middle School in 2006.

Perhaps the most fitting tribute came decades after her death. In 1992, Dr. Mae Jemison, the first African-American woman in space, carried a small picture of Coleman with her on her mission aboard the space shuttle Endeavour. A great moment in exploration became possible by one person opening the door for others to follow. All eyes had turned to the skies once again for Bessie Coleman.

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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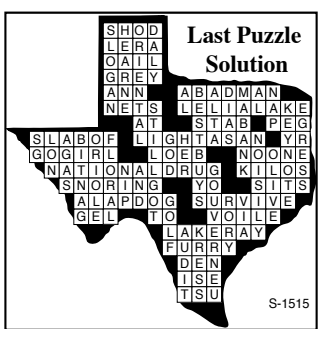
ACROSS

1 in Castro County on highway 194
5 TXism: "beats anything I ____ saw"
6 in Starr County on the Rio Grande
7 course abbr. located in a business school
8 big Fort Worth event was first called the "Texas ___ _____ ____"
17 TX Robby Benson 1976 film: "___ to Billy Joe"
18 TX Ginger 1949 film: "The Barkleys __ _____"
21 "Crying" Roy (init.)
22 moving trucks
23 beer mugs
24 extinguished the campfire (var.)
29 TXism: "got as much __ __ as a hibernating bear"
30 membership fees
31 Astros leag.
32 TXism for "vicinity"
34 Seth ____, TX
35 gobbled up vittles
36 tirade, harangue
37 Black Friday event
38 at Alamo, Bowie had to be carried across Travis' line on _ ___
39 Texicans were denied this right under Mexican rule (3 wds.)
41 Gia in 1958 film "Ride a Crooked Trail" with TX Audie Murphy
42 "Fanthorp ___ State Historic Site"
43 flies high
44 _____ and effect
45 TXism: "plum riled"
46 official behind the plate at an Astro game, for short
47 before it was the Congo
48 pandemic masks but not medical gloves
50 oozes, e.g.
51 TXism: "I'll __ _ monkey's uncle"
52 TXism: "___ out" (left)
53 TXism: "plain as the ears __ _ mule"

DOWN

1 newspaper in the seat of Deaf Smith County (2 wds.)
2 guacamole fruit
3 TV controller
4 "_____-Pecos" is the area of Texas west of the River
9 TXism: "horny _____" (lizards)
10 "point __ __ return" (no turning back)
11 TX Dan Rather was anchorman of this TV network
12 SMU RB, Rote, the first selected in the 1951 NFL draft (init.)
13 "I'm not __ ____ about that" (leery)
14 detested
15 praiseful poems
16 the "Great War"
19 "Hilton _____" is on Stemmons, north of downtown Dallas
20 this is the oldest mission in Texas
22 "Your ____. ____ Voice."
24 he hits instead of the pitcher in 31-across (abbr.)
25 principal historical dict. of Eng. lang.
26 ____ of habeas corpus
27 "___ ___ State Park," on the Gulf
28 TXism: "brave enough to ___ __ _ boomtown cafe"
29 this Jerry was an early Cowboy linebacker and then an assistant coach
30 Tim of 1996 "The Associate" with UT grad Eli Wallach
33 "Texas Tea" or "Black Gold"
34 armed conflicts
35 "_ ____ of mistaken identity"
37 "Ysleta del ___ _____" of El Paso (tribal entity)
38 as yet, there's not _ ____ for COVID-19
40 gunslinger Jesse
41 travel by water
44 taxis
47 a city on the Rio Grande, on U.S. 83
49 TXism: "he shoots _____' eye bullets" (good shot)

Last Puzzle Solution



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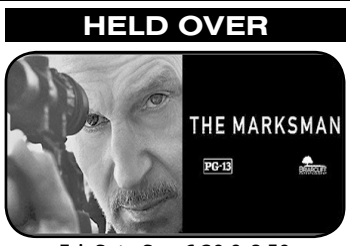
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COVID-19 Update

Staff Report

According to the Texas Health and Human Services, "the state of Texas will receive 332,750 first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from the federal government next week. The Texas Department of State Health Services has instructed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ship those doses to 212 providers across Texas.

That includes 82 hub providers that will focus on larger community vaccination efforts and 130 additional providers as Texas continues to vaccinate health care workers, residents of long-term care facilities, people 65 and older, and those with medical conditions that put them at greater risk of hospitalization and death from COVID-19."

Even the rollout has started, many community health clinics around the state have not seen the vaccine according to Chief Operating Officer Keith Creel. Mr. Creel explained that they were diligently trying to get the vaccines as quickly as possible to our community.

That he is in constant communication with state agencies to help ensure people in our area have the availability of the vaccine soon.

In addition to the first doses mentioned above, "the state is ordering 216,350 doses intended as the second dose for people first vaccinated a few weeks ago. DSHS automatically allocates second doses to providers based on the number of first doses they received, so people should be able to return to the same provider to receive their second dose," reports Texas Health and Human Services (THHS).

The same article from THHS says that "Texas providers have administered more than 1.6 million doses of vaccine. 1.37 million people have received at least one dose, and more than 228,000 have been fully vaccinated. The added hub locations for next week are in Burnet, Dallas, Gregg, Montgomery, and Navarro counties.

Providers in seven new counties will receive the vaccine, bringing the total number of counties where the vaccine has been distributed to 233. People are not required to be vaccinated in their county of residence, and the vaccine has been administered to residents of all 254 counties."

As mentioned above in comments from Mr. Creel it has still been a challenge to receive the Vaccine. THHS says that it still "remains limited based on the capacity of the manufacturers to produce it, so it will take time for Texas to receive enough vaccine for all the people in the priority populations who want to be vaccinated.

Currently, there is not enough vaccine to supply every provider with vaccine every week. The amount of vaccine provided to Texas is expected to remain steady for the next few weeks. Additional vaccines are in clinical trials, and Johnson & Johnson could request authorization for its vaccine from the Food and Drug Administration as early as next month."

Are nursing home facilities and some health care professionals have already received it in accordance with CDC guidelines, noting that "healthcare personnel and residents of long-term care facilities should be offered the first doses of COVID-19 vaccines."

Among them, Linden Focused Care and Wesley House have reported to the *Journal-Sun* they have received vaccines to distribute to residents and staff.

People can find more information on the COVID-19 vaccine at dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx.



Info for animal owners is available

By Kate Stow

When veterinarian Dr. Jim Kunkel died of COVID last fall, he left a void in our area, in regard to animal welfare in Cass County. Not only did Dr. Kunkel take care of domestic pets, but he also made house calls for large farm animals and had extensive experience with exotics.

Two women at opposite sides of the county are attempting to help fill that void with the new Facebook page "Cass County Animal Info." Animal Control Officer Mitzi Francis handles issues in Bloomburg and Queen City. Jessie Rymel is the Cass County Extension Agent in Linden, and a horse trainer.

The page is designed to be an information outlet where anyone may post animal related questions or offer advice. Posts listing lost or found pets are welcome, as well as cute or interesting pet photos.

While the page is not intended to be a marketplace, the announcement of livestock sales are acceptable as long as transactions are negotiated off the page, in private.

Owners looking for breeder sources, grooming and feeding tips, disease or illness information, feral hog or invasive species eradication sources, and snake identification are all examples of the type of information that can be posted. Farm and animal equipment may be offered for trade or sale, also.

For more information, go to the Facebook page and either post your inquiry or send a message to Mitzi and Jessie.

Updated Property Tax Information Now Available for Texas Taxpayers

New and updated property tax information has just been compiled by Cass County Appraisal District and is available now to assist taxpayers. This property tax information is current and covers a wide range of topics, such as taxpayer remedies, exemptions and appraisals, and has information for select groups, such as disabled veterans and persons age 65 or older.

"Whether you are a homeowner, business owner, disabled veteran or taxpayer, it's important you know your rights concerning the property tax laws," said Lacy Hicks, Chief Appraiser of the Cass County Appraisal District. "You can contact us about any property tax issues with full confidence that we will provide to you the most complete, accurate, and up-to-date available information to assist you."

This includes information about the following programs:

• **Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans** — The law provides partial exemptions for any property owned by disabled veterans or surviving spouses and surviving children of deceased disabled veterans. Another partial exemption is for homesteads donated to disabled veterans by charitable organizations at no cost or not more than 50 percent of the good faith estimate of the homestead's market value to the disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. The exemption amount is determined according to percentage of service-connected disability. The law also provides a 100 percent homestead exemption for 100 percent disabled veterans and their surviving spouses and surviving spouses of U. S. armed service members killed in action.

• **Property Tax Exemptions** - Non-profit organizations that meet statutory requirements may seek property tax exemptions and must apply to their county appraisal district by a specific date. Businesses that receive tax abatements granted by taxing units; ship inventory out of Texas that may be eligible for the freeport exemption; store certain goods in transit in warehouses that are moved within 175 days; construct, install, or acquire pollution control property; own and operate energy storage systems; convert landfill-generated gas; or store offshore drilling equipment while not in use may also be eligible for statutory exemptions.

• **Rendering Taxable Property** — If a business owns tangible personal property that is used to produce income, the business must file a rendition withits local county appraisal district by a specified date. Personal property includes inventory and equipment used by a business. Owners do not have to render exempt property such as church property or an agriculture producer's equipment used for farming.

• **Appraisal Notices** — Normally, taxpayers receive a notice of appraised value from the appropriate local county appraisal district. The city, county, school districts and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set property taxes for the coming year.

• **Property Taxpayer Remedies** —This Comptroller publication explains in detail how to protest a property appraisal, what issues the county appraisal review board (ARB) can consider, and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the options of taking a taxpayer's case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or binding arbitration if the taxpayer is dissatisfied with the outcome of the ARB hearing.

• **Homestead Exemption**s — A homestead is generally defined as the home and land used as the owner's principal residence on January 1 of the tax year. A homestead exemption reduces the appraised value of the home and, as a result, lowers property taxes. Applications are submitted to the appropriate local county appraisal district.

• **Productivity Appraisal** — Property owners who use land for timberland production, agricultural purposes, or wildlife management can be granted property tax relief on their land. They may apply to their local county appraisal district for an agricultural appraisal which may result in a lower appraisal of the land based on production, versus market value.

• **Residence Homestead Tax Deferral** — Texas homeowners may postpone paying the currently delinquent property taxes due on the appreciating value of their homes by filing a tax deferral affidavit at their local county appraisal district. This tax relief allows homeowners to pay the property taxes on 105 percent of the preceding year's appraisal value of their homestead, plus the taxes on any new improvements to the homestead. The remaining taxes are postponed, but not cancelled, with interest accruing at 8 percent per year.

• **Property Tax Deferral for Persons Age 65 or Older or Disabled or Disabled Veteran Homeowners** — Texans who are age 65 or older or disabled, as defined by law, or who qualify for a disabled veteran exemption may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit. Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred, but not cancelled, as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Interest continues to accrue at 5 percent per year on the unpaid taxes. You may obtain a deferral affidavit at the appraisal district office.

• **Notice of Availability of Electronic Communication** — In appraisal districts located in counties with a population of more than 200,000 or that have authorized electronic communications, and that have implemented a system that allows such communications, chief appraisers and ARBs may communicate electronically through email or other media with property owners or their designated representatives. Written agreements are required for notices and 'other documents to be delivered electronically instead of mailing.

• **Protesting Property Appraisal Values** — Property owners who disagree with the appraisal district's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's ARB.

For more information about these programs, contact Cass County Appraisal District by calling 903-756-7545 or at the appraisal district office located at 502 N. Main St., Linden, TX. Information is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

86% of adults 18+ read community newspapers weekly!

The local community newspaper is the primary source of information about the local community for 60% of respondents: that's four times greater than the second and third most popular sources of local news (TV = 14% and friends and relatives = 13.4%). Readers are 10 times more likely to get their news from their community newspaper than from the Internet (5.8%). Less than 5% say their primary local news source is radio.

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Naturalization's in Cass County District Court

Twelve individuals were granted citizenship (naturalized) in Cass County District Court from 1850 until 1939. They were from seven different countries. They are listed below along with the District Minutes volume and page number and some information stated in their decoration for citizenship. This at times includes date of birth and when they entered the country. All state their country of origin. Each has been researched for persona! information and when ft was found this has been added.

ALFRED R. LANDER: March 21,1850; Vol. B, page 31; England; born May 27,1816. No further information.

JOHN S. O'HARA: Sept. 26,1855; Vol. C, page 235; Ireland. No further information. JAMES O'NEILL: October 7, 1856; Vol. D, page 118; Ireland, No further information.

G. ANDREW ARNEMAN: October 1, 1858; Vol. D, page 11 7; Bremen, Germanic Confederacy. No further information.

JOHN C. KOLSTER: October 7, 1858; Vol. D, page 118; Bremen. Germanic Confederacy: John Kolster was born in 1823 and settled in Jefferson as a hardware dealer. He died in 1876 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery there along with his wife, Christine who died in 1880 and these children; John, Jr. (1858-1873) and Christiana. There were two other children in the family listed on the 1870 census for Ward 4 in Jefferson: Rosa born 1863 and Charles born 1868.

JOHN HOLLINGSWORTH: February 22, 1868; Vol. D, page 603. In His declaration he stated that he had dark complexion, eyes and hair. He had been a subject of Lincolnshire in Great Britain and had arrived in Jefferson in 1849. John Hollingsworth was born October 19,1830 and died July 2,1898. He is buried at Friendship Cemetery north of Hughes Springs. His family included wife, Nancy (1828-1901) and children, John N., Harriet, William H. and Alice. Cass County descendants include CCGS member Mary Ann Cook of Avinger.

WILLIAM HOLLINGSWORTH: August 1 1871; Vol. E, page 274; England. In his declaration for citizenship Mr. Hollingsworth stated he had fair complexion and dark eyes and hair. He had been a subject of reigning Queen Victoria of Great Britain and that he was born in Leicester and had come to the US on April 15,1849. Mr. Hollingsworth was a fanner and lived in the Friendship Community north of Hughes Springs. He was born in 1805 and died in 1872. His family included his wife, Sarah Elizabeth COY (1806-1852).

LOUIS MAJORA. April 7, 1891; Case file 4441^490; Italy. In his declaration Mr. Majora stated that he was man of fair complexion, brown eyes and hair. He also stated that he was 41 years of age and was born in Milan and arrived in Texas in 1882. He stated that he intended to live in Texas, but he appears on no subsequent census record.

SAMUEL (SAM) KALESKI: September 12, 1894; File case 4069; Russia in his sworn statement before District Judge John L Sheppard. Mr. Kaleski stated that he was residing in Atlanta, State of Texas and was born in Kown (now Poland) Russia. He had settled in Jefferson in 1886 and removed to Atlanta in 1887. He was 31 years of age and a merchant with a wife and children. Future research has revealed that Sam Kaleski married Anna MOSS (1862-1933) and were parents of Harry Michael (1888-1970), Aaron Jay (1890-1970) and Josephine (1892-1895). The Kaleski's lived at 155 West Grand (now West Street) in Atlanta and stated on the census that they were 'Dry Goods Merchants'. The sons were employed as salesmen. After Sam died April 16,1913 at age 52, Anna continued to operate the business with her brother, Jacob Moss as bookkeeper. When she died in 1933, the sons moved the business to Texarkana and located at 309 East Broad where it was known as A J. KALESKI Department Store. The two sons died one month apart. All the family is buried at Mt. Sinai Cemetery in Jefferson.

JOHN CEPHUS (CEPHAS): February 19, 1904; Case file 5468; Turkey. Mr. Cephus in his declaration stated that he was a natural subject of Turkey, born in Assyria and was 24 years of age at this time. He had arrived at the Port of New York the 15th day of November 1897. He wished to renounce any allegiance to any prince, potentate or King of Turkey. Nothing further is known of Mr. Cephus

L P. BRAMM: September 21, 1911; Vol. M., page 149; Russia. In his declaration Mr. Bramm stated that it was his bonafide intention to become a citizen of the United States and renounced any allegiance to any foreign prince or sovereign and in particular the Czar of Russia. Further research reveals that L (Louis or Lewis) P. Bramm was born June 20,1863 and died April 12,1937. He was a photographer in Atlanta and many early Cass County photographs bear his distinctive logo. His wife was Yelva Gertrude (June 24,1875-August 21, 1955. Their daughter, Emily (October 26,1899-July 5,1993) married Odie Will McDonald. All are buried in Pine Crest Cemetery, Atlanta.

GEORGE A. HOOD: February 7,1939; Vol. EC, Page 274; Case file 11901-11960; Scotland. In his declaration for citizenship Mr. Hood stated that he was born in Selby, Yorkshire, Scotland in the British Empire on July 23,1862 and was not more than 75 years of age. He had immigrated to the United States from the Kingdom alone on February 21,1882 and landed at the Port of New York. He further represented to the Court that he had married May Ella MICHIE, a native born American at Mt. Pleasant, Titus County, July 4,1888 and that he was the father of eight children. George A. (Arundel) HOOD is a lateral ancestor of CCGS member Richard Taylor in Derby, England who submitted the following information. George Hood moved his family to Cass County in about 1907 to join the New Hope Seventh Day Adventist Church near Marietta.

He purchased 4.3 acres of land from O.T. & E. J. Hancock. His family included his wife, Mary Ellen (May Ella) born February 10,1868; Susan who married Henry H. HOPKINS; Bernard; Sally who married Joe R. HOPKINS: Gertrude Ester who married Richard E. HAYES: Georgia who married Curtis CULPEPPER; Louetta who married W.A. BROWN, Willard YOKLEY and JAJRRELL; Jimmie Lee who married Sidney CULPEPPER and C. L who married Cecil COPE. The Hoods eventually removed to the Berea Seventh Day Adventist Community near Jefferson, Marion County. George Hood died there March 4,1943 and Mary Ellen on, April 2, 1952 Many other members of the family are buried there also.

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Notebook

MONDAY

J. E. MANNING AMERICAN LEGION POST 258 meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month. The building is located at 320 N. Louise St. in Atlanta. For more info, call 903-796-3081.

CASS COUNTY PATRIOTS meet at 6 p.m. the first Monday of every month at Amigo Juan Mexican Café on Loop 59 in Atlanta. For more info, call 903-796-6610.

THE ATLANTA AREA WOMEN'S CLUB meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the Queen City United Methodist Church fellowship hall. The church is located at 304 Marietta St. in Queen City.

THE QUEEN CITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION meets at 6 p.m. the first Monday of every month at Catfish King. For more info. call 903-796-6108.

LINDEN:
LINDEN CITY COUNCIL meets at 6 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the Mary Daughety Senior Citizen Center, 507 S. Kaufman. Public is invited to participate in open forum.

SENIOR EXERCISE PROGRAM classes meet from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. every Monday at the Mary Daughety Senior Center, 507 S. Kaufman in Linden. Classes are free. For info, call 903-756-5193 or 903-756-8880.

TUESDAY

903 ARTISANS meets the first Tuesday of every month @ 6:00 pm. We meet at the Abundant Life Church , 610 South Louise, Atlanta.

ECCSRA meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Queen City United Methodist Church fellowship hall located at 304 Marietta St.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY meets at 3 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the Atlanta Library.

BIVINS COMMUNITY CENTER hosts a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month. The center is located off Hwy 43 on FM 1841 in Bivins. For more info, call 903-796-9906.

THE CASS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the fellowship hall of First United Methodist Church in Queen City.6:30 p.m. A light meal and beverages are always served. The church is located on the corner of Marietta and Fourth Streets in Queen City. For more info, call 903-796-3081.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP meets at 1 p.m. every third Tuesday in the Conference Center inside the Medical Plaza Building at CHRISTUS St. Michael Hospital-Atlanta. The hospital is located at 1007 S. William St. in Atlanta; the Medical Plaza may be accessed via Pinecrest Drive. For more info, call 903-799-3004.

OAK GROVE QUILTING CLUB meets from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. every Tuesday The venue is on CR 2328, 1 mile from Hwy 43 South of Atlanta. For more info, call 903-846-5192.

HOUR OF PRAYER is offered every Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. at a new location, the Atlanta Church of God, located at 19730 FM 1841. Everyone is invited to come and go freely and to pray for our city, county, state, nation and our leaders. For more info, call the church at 903-796-7807.

NIMBLE THIMBLE QUILT CLUB meets from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday at the Atlanta Public Library, which is located at the corner of N. West and Hiram Streets in Atlanta. For more info, call 903-799-7870.

LINDEN:
LINDEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE meets every FIRST Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Garden Club.

LEDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS meets every third Tuesday of the month at noon at the LEDC offices located at 201 N. Main in Linden. The public is invited to attend.

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT meets at 8:30 a.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Justice of the Peace Courtroom in the Law Enforcement and Justice Center on Hwy. 8 in Linden.

CASS COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION meets at 2 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Mary Daughety Senior Citizen Center, 507 S. Kaufman in Linden.

MARY DAUGHETY SENIOR CENTER hosts a 42 Tournament the third and fourth Tuesday of each month. Registration starts at 1 p.m. The venue is located at 507 S. Kaufman in Linden. For info, call 903-490-1774 or 903-756-5000.

CADDO WILDFLOWER CHAPTER OF THE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Mary Daughety Senior Citizen Center at 507 S. Kaufman in Linden. For info, call 903-835-5532.

WEDNESDAY

ATLANTA LIONS CLUB meets at noon weekly at Luigi's Italian Restaurant at 210 N. East St. in Atlanta.

KILDARE GARDEN GROUP meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Kildare Community Center, located on County Road 1779 in Kildare.

THURSDAY

ATLANTA AREA ROTARY CLUB meets at noon weekly at Luigi's Italian Restaurant, located at 210 N. East St. in Atlanta.

CASS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS meet at 6:30 p.m. the first Thursday of each month in the Conference Room at CHRISTUS St. Michael Hospital-Atlanta, which is located at 1102 S. William Street.

NUTRITION AND WELLNESS GROUP meets from 1 to 2 p.m. every second Thursday at the Atlanta Public Library. Bring a lunch. The library is located at the corner of N. West and Hiram Streets in Atlanta. For info, call 903-796-7027.

VFW POST 5870 meets at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month. The venue is located one-and-a-half miles past Atlanta High School on FM 251. For more info, call 903-799-6828.

LINDEN:
THE LINDEN LIONS CLUB meets every Thursday at noon at the County Seat Café, at 109 N. Main in Linden. For more info, call 903-814-1482.

MARY DAUGHETY SENIOR CENTER hosts a 42 Tournament the second Thursday of each month. Registration starts at 1 p.m. The venue is located at 507 S. Kaufman in Linden. For more info, call 903-799-8621.

THE LINDEN GARDEN CLUB meets every third Thursday of the month at the Linden Garden Club building at 300 East Houston st Linden at 11:30. All are welcome.

FRIDAY

ATLANTA PUBLIC LIBRARY offers knitting classes from 10 a.m. to noon weekly. The library is located at 101 W. Hiram in Atlanta. For more info, call 903-796-2112.

HUFFINES COMMUNITY CENTER hosts a community singing at 6 p.m. the last Friday of the month at the Huffines Community Center, which is located south of Atlanta on FM 251. For info call 903-796-9440.

LINDEN:
SENIOR EXERCISE PROGRAM classes meet from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. every Friday at the Mary Daughety Senior Center, 507 S. Kaufman in Linden. Classes are free. For info, call 903-756-5193 or 903-756-5000.

SATURDAY

CENTER GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH will host a gospel singing at 6 p.m. the first Saturday of each month with dinner and program at 7 p.m. The church is located on CR 1123 off Hwy 8 in Linden. For more info, call 903-556-4117.

RADIO AMATEURS OF CASS COUNTY meet at 8:30 a.m. every third Saturday at the Hall-Miller Airport Lounge in Atlanta for a pancake breakfast. For info, call 903-796-2192.

LINDEN:
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LINDEN offers a recovery support group at 4 p.m. weekly. The discussion balances Biblical teaching and a 12-step philosophy in a program that addresses drug and alcohol addiction. The church is located at 105 W. Graham in Linden. Call 903-756-5517.
Events may be submitted to production@casscountynow.com. Notices are not guaranteed to run, according to space available. Please send at least one week ahead of the event. Deadline is 3 p.m. Thursday.

Events may be submitted to production@casscountynow.com. Notices are not guaranteed to run, according to space available. Please send at least one week ahead of the event. Deadline is 3 p.m. Thursday.



LINDEN-KILDARE CISD

FIRST NINE WEEKS
A Honor Roll

First Grade: Reva Adhikari, Sydney Blaylock, Tyzer Champion, Kaylee Cooper, Aleecia Duncan, Nora Fleming, Jaxson Gardner, Jorge Gomez, Khiry Hall, Sadie Hampton, Ashton Lloyd, Creedon Long, Damarion Love, Kewone Marshall, Chase Mason, Robert McCorkle, Luna McDaniel, Jordon Montoya, Ethan Mosley, Kinsler Pate, Lindslee Price, Buck Rain, Waylon Woodruff

Second Grade: Hadlee Fant, Thomas Hansche, Lawson Hays, Adeleigh Labay, Kyndal Neal

Third Grade: Kayla Almeida, Kenlee Arnold, Lauren Bond, Greyson Charleston, Wyatt Combs, Gavin Johnson, Kamryn Lee, Janie Roberts, Renata Ugalde, Nash Winters, Jocelyne Withers

Fourth Grade: Jazmin Ramirez

Fifth Grade: Wyatt Weaver

A/B Honor Roll

First Grade: Evan Bobo, Beau Boyd, Jordyn Hopkins

Second Grade: Ethan Abernathy, Braylon Adcock, Dallas Baxter, Justice Cooper, Roxie Dean, Michael Graham, Sadie Hart, Elijah Linwood, Diego Pena, Austyn Self, Gentry Shields, Antoniya Tyson, Gunner Valeu, Dayton White

Third Grade: Jake Dooley, Addison Duncan, Langston Hooten, Matthew Horner, Isabella Laster, Reighann Lockett, Skylar Moulton, Ella Phillips, Jacobi Smith, Adilynn Smoak, Claire Strange-Russell, Jaden Trotter, Jorden Trotter

Fourth Grade: Sadie Arterburn, Kevin Chavez, Colt Churchman, Emerlynn Combs, Stephanie Fenley, Kaitlin George, Cruz Gomez-Stites, Brady Grandmaison, Cadence Hamblen, Jordan Hayes, Ainsley Hays, Chase Henderson, Isabella Horner, Makenna Johnson, Jeffrey Knopp, Tariah Linwood, Jayda Mosley, Alliyah Powell, Gracie Price, Jeremy Richardson, Colt Smith, Katelynn Snelgrove, Calyssa Stiger, Taryn Thomas, Preston White, Angelika Wilson

Fifth Grade: Andrew Bobbitt, Brooklyn Bynum, Haven Champion, Kaden Childress, Jessica Higgins, Ja'koryn Love, Emily Mitchell, Autumn Montoya, Judson Pate, Easton Smallwood, Colton Spencer, Cadence Stiger, Zoey Valeu, Kynnison Whorton

SECOND NINE WEEKS
A Honor Roll

First Grade: Reva Adhikari, Sydney Blaylock, Evan Bobo, Tyzer Champion, Kaylee Cooper, Aleecia Duncan, Emma Ford, Khiry Hall, Ashton Lloyd, Damarion Love, Chase Mason, Luna McDaniel, Jordan Montoya, Ethan Mosley, Kinsler Pate, Lindslee Price, Buck Rain

Second Grade: Hadlee Fant, Thomas Hansche, Sadie Hart, Lawson Hays, Adeleigh Labay, Kyndal Neal

Third Grade: Kayla Almeida, Greyson Charleston, Wyatt Combs, Langston Hooten, Kamryn Lee, Skylar Moulton, Janie Roberts, Jacobi Smith, Claire Strange-Russell, Nash Winters

Fourth Grade: Sadie Arterburn, Brady Grandmaison, Jazmin Ramirez

Fifth Grade: Wyatt Weaver

A/B Honor Roll

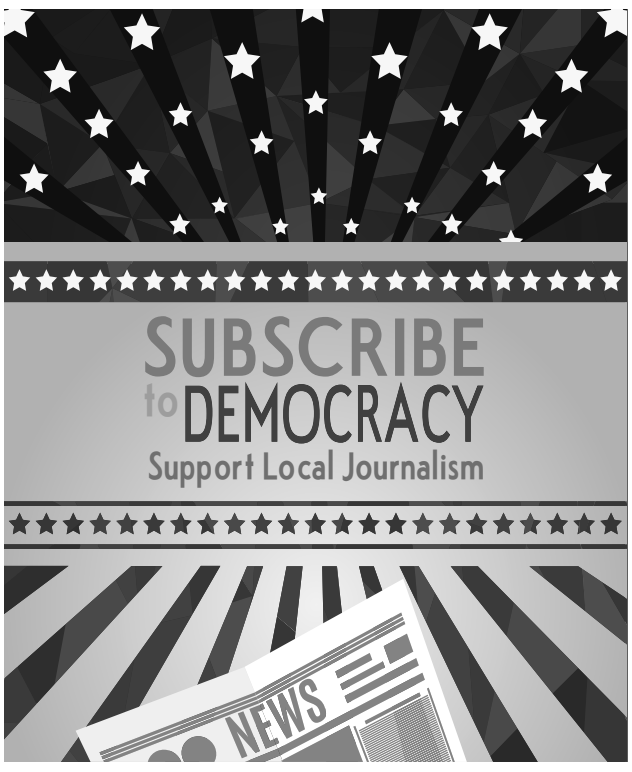
First Grade: Beau Boyd, Halen Duggar, Jaxson Gardner, Jorge Gomez, Sadie Hampton, Nevaeh McWaters

Second Grade: Ethan Abernathy, Braylon Adcock, Dallas Baxter, Justice Cooper, Roxie Dean, Elijah Linwood, Riley Patterson, Gentry Shields, Antoniya Tyson, Michael Uribe Segundo, Gunner Valeu

Third Grade: Kenlee Arnold, Lauren Bond, Addison Duncan, Matthew Horner, Gavin Johnson, Isabella Laster, Reighann Lockett, Jacob Lyda, Jayden Moore, Kassidy Moore, Matthew Morse, Adilynn Smoak, Jaden Trotter, Jorden Trotter, Renata Ugalde, Jocelyne Withers

Fourth Grade: Kevin Chavez, Emerlynn Combs, Stephanie Fenley, Kaitlin George, Cadence Hamblen, Ainsley Hays, Isabella Horner, Makenna Johnson, Jeffrey Knopp, Tariah Lynwood, Jayda Mosley, Allitah Powell, Jeremy Richardson, Colt Smith, Katelynn Snelgrove, Calyssa Stiger, Taryn Thomas, Preston White, Angelika Wilson

Fifth Grade: Brooklyn Bynum, Haven Champion, Jessica Higgens, Ja'koryn Love, Colton Spencer, Dailan Turner, Kynnison Whorton



Thompson FROM PAGE 1

born on Jan. 17, 1953 right here in Atlanta to Jimmy and Elta Thompson. Aside from Ted, the couple had three other children — Frank, Debbie and Jim.

Thompson was unique in terms of his sports longevity. Beginning as a middle school football player in the late 1960's he compiled an amazing career for the next 50-plus years.

Thompson played both running back and linebacker for the Rabbs which earned him a chance to play college ball after he graduated.

He was outstanding in tackling and running over people while carrying the pigskin. As a team captain he compiled numerous honors for the Rabbs.

His exploits on the field and off cover highlights from Atlanta's old Bivins-Trice Stadium through the Cotton Bowl, Astrodome and Green Bay's Lambeau Field in addition to time at the Seattle Seahawks' facilities.

With a motto of "hard work pays off" Thompson excelled as an Atlanta Rabbit in four sports: football, basketball, golf and track.

Thompson was also a top notch baseball player but he missed out on playing in high school because Atlanta High had no baseball team in the early 1970's.

After high school, Thompson attended SMU where he exceled in both football (three-year starter at the linebacker position) and baseball (lettered senior year).

After graduating college, Thompson enjoyed a 10-year NFL playing career with the Houston Oilers (1975-84).

Following his pro-football playing career he worked in the financial world but was lured back to the NFL in 1992 when the Green Bay Packers hired him as a scout.

He stayed in that capacity until 1999 when the Seattle Seahawks signed him as their Vice President of Football Operations.

While Thompson served as a Packer scout, Green Bay made the playoffs six times, participated in two Super Bowls and won Super Bowl XXXI.

Following his departure in 2005 Seattle reached the Super Bowl. Many of the team's players had been acquired under Thompson's direction.

A dream came true for Thompson in 2005 when he became the General Manager of the Green Bay Packers.

There is quite a story to go along with this achievement.

Thompson's former Rabbit football and track teammate, Danny Harp, related this amazing story.

"The track coach told the team to take a break and gather around. Then he began asking each Atlanta athlete what they wanted to do in their adult life. When Ted had his turn to speak he said, 'I'm going to be the General Manager of the Green Bay Packers or New York Yankees.'"

His Rabbit mates laughed but according to Harp, Thompson looked at his friends as if to say "I'm not kidding." Seems he wasn't, as he assumed the Green Bay job more than 30 years later.

Thompson got right to work and in his first player draft made a superb first round pick, quarterback Aaron Rodgers, who later replaced Packer great Brett Favre and is currently Green Bay's offensive leader.

Thompson felt the team could best be built through the draft and he maintained that philosophy.

The Packers went 13-3 in 2007 and Thompson was named by the Sporting News as the NFL Executive of the Year.

Prior to the 2008 season he faced a most difficult decision.

He and Favre agreed on a trade deal and the future NFL Hall of Fame quarterback was sent to the New York Jets.

Thompson had decided to put the Packers' offense on the shoulders of Aaron Rodgers. That decision continues to be rewarding for the team.

The Packers continued to get better and won Super Bowl XLV after the 2010 season. This success prompted Green Bay to resign Thompson to a multi-year contract extension.

The following season the Pack went 15-1 but lost in the first round of the playoffs to the eventual Super Bowl Champion New York Giants.

In Jan. of 2018 Thompson decided to step down from his General Manager role but would stay on as senior advisor to football operations.

That same year he was inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame.

In May of 2019 Thompson officially retired from the Packers' organization. He revealed he had been suffering from an autonomic disorder.

He was also inducted into the East Texas Coaches Association (ETCA) Hall of Honor and the Atlanta Athletics Hall of Fame in 2020.

This season, the Packers had four players voted as First-Team All-Pro selections by The Associated Press: Rodgers, wide receiver Davante Adams, left tackle David Bakhtiari and center Corey Linsley.

All four players have one thing in common: They were all Thompson draft picks.

Perhaps former Houston Oiler Coach Bum Phillips said it best when speaking of Thompson.

"A lot of guys don't use what God gave them. Ted used it all. He had a lot of toughness."

Phillips also added, "He has the best judgement in football. He can tell if a kid has talent, but it takes a real sharp guy to tell if that kid has discipline and can get along with his teammates."

Thompson knew the value of unearthing overlooked players. "I have an appreciation for guys that come up the hard way," Thompson said.

Thompson has come full cycle and amassed a storied sports career from Atlanta's sandlots to the Super Bowl.

It would be hard to find a former Rabbit athletic great who can match the span and success Thompson achieved.

Never to be forgotten is the man Thompson was and impact he made as a Rabbit, an Oiler, a Seahawk and the General Manager of the Green Bay Packers.

ATM FROM PAGE 1

was stolen from a resident of Atlanta, Texas who was unaware that the vehicle had been stolen at the time of the offense."

"The suspects stole the truck, used to commit the offense, and left the truck at the scene of the crime as the suspects fled in another vehicle."

The vehicle was stolen from the 900 block of Mockingbird in Atlanta, according to the Atlanta Police Department.

Linden Police Department Chief of Police Eric Lee reported that "surveillance footage from the ATM leads law enforcement officials to believe that four suspects were involved in this burglary. Suspects were able to steal a sum of money greater than $50,000 in a very short time frame."

As of January 26, The Linden Police Department is continuing their investigation with area police departments and asks for assistance from the public, with the hope of receiving any information that leads to the apprehension of those responsible for this crime.

This is being investigated by Investigators of the Linden Police Department with the assistance of the Texas Rangers. The theft of the vehicle used in the crime is being investigated by the Atlanta Police Department.

Rahm FROM PAGE 2

wives was his very favorite. "I loved being able to play a silly role," he explained, "and it was a great ensemble full of great actors."

Kevin brings a comedic delivery to most of the roles he plays, adding a light touch to even the heaviest of roles. "All of those guys are in me," he says. "It's just a balance of what they [the writers] have written versus who I am. Lee and Mike B. were the easiest to play."

While Kevin has worked with many well-known actors, there are a few that have left impressions on him. "Elizabeth Moss [Mad Men] and Vera Farmiga [Bates Motel] are just so good they actually took me out of the scene for a moment," Kevin explained. "I had to work to hold it together."

"Jon Hamm and Tea Leone are two actors that are similar in that they make everyone around them better," he said, describing the stars of Mad Men and Madame Secretary. "They are really good at elevating others around them, and understand that the better everyone else is, the better they look."

If Kevin had a chance, he says The Walking Dead would be a show he would "love to have a role on." The one actor he would love to work with, he said, would be Jeff Bridges. "He brings so much to everything he is in – he's like the rug in a room – he just brings it all together."

As far as watching movies, rather than acting in them, he favors anything directed by Stanley Kubrick and anything about Vietnam. "As a young guy raised by women, I guess that's my connection to masculinity," Kevin reflected.

But it was more than just a connection to masculinity. It was a connection to his father, Captain Arnold John Rahm – a helicopter pilot with the 1st Airborne Stingers – who was shot down in the Spring of 1972 over the Michelin tire factory at Binh Duong, during his second tour. Captain Rahm was 22 years old when he died, and Kevin was only 16 months old at the time.

As a young actor at the age of 22, Kevin played the role of a Vietnam Prisoner of War in the Hanoi Hotel, and the irony wasn't lost on him. "I was playing a Vietnam soldier, but my dad lived it," he said. "My whole life has been colored by that."

Soon after his father's death, his mother, Sue, moved him from his birth place on the base at Mineral Wells, Texas, back to their families' hometown of Shreveport, LA, where both of Kevin's grandfathers had been stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base. There, Kevin attended Loyola Prep High School, then an all-boys Catholic school.

Even though he attended a Catholic school, his mother was raising Kevin as a Mormon, and member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints – which there were not a lot of in Shreveport at the time.

"I had met a lot of Mormon teenagers in the Atlanta, Texas, area through church events, and I saw that they were able to be popular in school and still keep their Mormon values," Kevin recalled.

"I was being a typical boy and getting into some mischief, so I thought if I moved to Atlanta I could be a better Mormon. So, my mom moved and enrolled me in Atlanta High School my junior year."

Even though he strived to be a good Mormon, went on his two-year mission, and attended Brigham Young University, he didn't feel completely satisfied. "My father had converted to Mormonism just for my mother, so I always felt like I was taking up his cause, if you will," Kevin stated. "But the time came when I just didn't feel like I had to do that anymore."

These days, when not in front of the camera, you can find Kevin in his Sacramento, CA home spending time with his six-year old daughter, Hunter, and wife, Amy – a cardio-thoracic surgeon. Kevin and Amy wed on a Hollywood soundstage in 2012, and she can be seen with Kevin on the red carpet during the award season. It was because of her career they moved from Los Angeles to Sacramento.

In early 2019 he founded "The Rahm Celebrity Golf Tournament" to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Last year the event was virtual, but he still managed to raise $700,000 for his favorite charity.

While Kevin hasn't made it back home in a few years, his half-brother brother, Tim Marrs, still lives in the area; and half-sister Kelly Gruel lives in Georgia. "Tim is four years younger, and Kelly is eight years younger than me," he said, "so we were really spaced wide apart growing up."

Currently, Kevin is in pre-production work for an HBO Max series he has been cast in with the working title of "Vegas High." The show is a 1990s-set coming-of-age story about Laura, a girl who's caught between two worlds: The fast-paced lifestyle of Las Vegas and her strong Mormon faith and community – a conundrum Kevin knows something about. And for now, that's enough to keep this actor working steady – and that's all he really wants.

Cass County Marketplace

AD DEADLINE IS NOON 306 W. Main St., Atlanta, Texas 75551 • 903-796-7133

Legal ads must be submitted via email as a Word document to production@casscountynow.com

LEGALS

NO. P11227

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE § IN THE COUNTY COURT
§
§ OF
§ OF
§
§
HOMER JERRY GOLDEN, deceased § CASS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of HOMER JERRY GOLDEN, Deceased, were issued on December 7, 2020, in Docket No. P11227 pending in the County Court of Cass County, Texas, to NELDA FAY WORKMAN GOLDEN.

The address of record for the Independent Executrix is:
Nelda Fay Workman Golden, Independent Executrix
c/o Jonathan W. Beck, Attorney
Morgan, Cook & Beck, LLP
3512 Texas Boulevard
Texarkana, Texas 75503

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 19th day of January 2021.

MORGAN, COOK & BECK, LLP
3512 Texas Boulevard
Texarkana, Texas 75503-0716
Telephone: 903-793-5651
Telecopier: 903-794-5651
Direct Email: jwbeck@mcblawfirm.com

BY: /s/ Jon Beck
JONATHAN W. BECK
TX Bar No.:24071965
Attorney for the Independent Executrix of the Estate of HOMER JERRY GOLDEN, Deceased
1TJ27

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Wine and Beer Retailer's Off-Premise Permit by GPM Southeast, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, d/b/a E-Z Mart # 4461 located at 901 US Highway 59 S, Queen City, TX 75572; Cass County. Said LLC is Member Managed by GPM Investments LLC. Officers of said LLC are Arie Kotler, CEO; Eyal Nuchamovitz, EVP; and Donald Bassell, CFO. Managers of the sole member of said LLC are Arie Kotler and Eyal Nuchamovitz.
2TJ27,F3

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Females sell immediately following

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If unable to attend the sale in person, cattle sale viewing and bidding can be done on "Cattle In Motion" (cattleinmotion.com)

LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Linden, Texas (the "City"), will meet in the Linden Senior Citizens Center, 507 South Kaufman, Linden, TX 75563 at 6:00 p.m. on the 8th day of March, 2021, to adopt an Ordinance and take such other action as may be deemed necessary to authorize the issuance of the City of Linden, Texas Certificates of Obligation, payable from City ad valorem taxes and net revenues of the waterworks and sewer system of the City, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of $2,855,000, bearing interest at any rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum interest rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined within the discretion of the City Council, and maturing over a period of years not to exceed forty (40) years from the date thereof, for the purpose of evidencing the indebtedness of the City for all or any part of the cost of renovation and replacement of City water distribution lines, water meters and fire hydrants; a new City water well; and new ground water storage tank and elevated water storage tank; and the cost of professional services incurred in connection therewith.

The public is further hereby notified as follows:

(a) As of the date of this notice the current principal balance of all outstanding debt obligations of the City is $745,000.

(b) As of the date of this notice the combined principal and interest required to pay all outstanding debt obligations of the City on time and in full (which is based on the City's expectations related to the interest due on any variable rate debt of the City) is $780,637.

(c) The maximum principal amount of Certificates of Obligation to be issued is $2,855,000.

(d) The estimated combined principal and interest required to pay the Certificates of Obligation to be authorized on time and in full is $4,637,800.

(e) The estimated interest rate for the Certificates of Obligation to be issued is 2.625% per annum. Such interest rate may vary based on market conditions but will not exceed the maximum legal interest rate.

(f) The maximum maturity date of the Certificates of Obligation to be authorized is December 31, 2061.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, TEXAS, this 11th day of January, 2021.

Clarence Burns; Mayor, City of Linden, Texas

ATLANTA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT — EXHIBIT C-3
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2020

Data Control Codes		10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	REVENUES:				
5700	Total Local and Intermediate Sources	$ 6,128,713	$ 697,802	$ 527,795	$ 7,354,310
5800	State Program Revenues	12,290,560	107,389	239,100	12,637,049
5900	Federal Program Revenues	188,485	-	4,521,622	4,710,107
5020	Total Revenues	18,607,758	805,191	5,288,517	24,701,466
	EXPENDITURES:				
	Current:				
0011	Instruction	8,491,579	-	2,553,809	11,045,388
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services	274,728	-	-	274,728
0013	Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	75,775	-	45,688	121,463
0021	Instructional Leadership	21,198	-	348,430	369,628
0023	School Leadership	1,079,240	-	319,840	1,399,080
0031	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	433,781	-	459,766	893,547
0033	Health Services	237,258	-	-	237,258
0034	Student (Pupil) Transportation	808,619	-	99,122	907,741
0035	Food Services	29,131	-	1,067,267	1,096,398
0036	Extracurricular Activities	1,285,020	-	27,925	1,312,945
0041	General Administration	727,577	-	147,373	874,950
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	2,064,520	-	7,258	2,071,778
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	98,119	-	30,281	128,400
0053	Data Processing Services	327,519	-	-	327,519
0061	Community Services	-	-	51,494	51,494
	Debt Service:				
0071	Principal on Long-Term Debt	-	295,000	-	295,000
0072	Interest on Long-Term Debt	-	265,528	-	265,528
0073	Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	78,261	-	78,261
	Capital Outlay:				
0081	Facilities Acquisition and Construction	102,411	-	886,367	988,778
	Intergovernmental:				
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	173,104	-	232,517	405,621
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges	145,001	-	-	145,001
6030	Total Expenditures	16,374,580	638,789	6,277,137	23,290,506
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	2,233,178	166,402	(988,620)	1,410,960
	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7901	Refunding Bonds Issued	-	4,835,000	-	4,835,000
7912	Sale of Real and Personal Property	27,647	-	-	27,647
7915	Transfers In	-	409,591	239,078	648,669
7916	Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	-	733,871	-	733,871
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(545,163)	-	(103,506)	(648,669)
8940	Payment to Bond Refunding Agent (Use)	-	(5,486,502)	-	(5,486,502)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(517,516)	491,960	135,572	110,016
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances	1,715,662	658,362	(853,048)	1,520,976
0100	Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	5,261,562	3,616,102	1,476,715	10,354,379
3000	Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	$ 6,977,224	$ 4,274,464	$ 623,667	$ 11,875,355

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LEGALS

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
(PERSONAL PROPERTY)

BY VIRTUE OF A WRIT TYPE issued out of the County Court At Law Court of Bowie County, State of Texas, in a certain cause numbered 20C0129-CCL on a judgment rendered in said court on the 11 day of December A.D. 2020 and directed and delivered to me as James Rachel Deputy of Cass County, Texas. I have on the 7th day of January A.D. 2021 levied upon and will offer for sale on the 02 day of February A.D. 2021 between the hours prescribed by law (at approximately 10AM) at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash in hand at 122 E. Hiram St Atlanta, Texas 75551, Cass County, Texas, all the right, title and interest, if any of The Rabbitt Patch LLC and to the following personal property to wit:

Goods And Chattels Of The said The Rabbitt Patch LLC

The above property is levied on as the property of The Rabbitt Patch LLC and will be sold to satisfy a judgment in the County Court At Law Court of Bowie County rendered on the 11th day of December A.D. 2020 in favor of Buckeye Cleaners Inc. dba CRDN of the Ark-la-tex and against the said The Rabbitt Patch LLC.

FOR THE PRINCIPAL, INTEREST AND ALL COSTS ACCRUING BY VIRTUE OF SAID SUIT THE TOTAL SUM OF $20,998.48 DOLLARS.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND on this 07 day of January A.D. 2021.

Sheriff Larry Rowe
Cass County, Texas
By _____
Corporal James Rachel

3TJ13-27

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Dorothy Mae Smith, Deceased, were issued on January 7, 2021, in Cause No. P11269, pending in the County Court of Cass County, Texas, to: Ronald Yates, Executor.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be addressed to the Estate's representative as follows:

Estate of Dorothy Mae Smith, Deceased, c/o: Casey Cook, My Texas Estate Plan, PLLC, 7925 S. Broadway Ave, Ste 800, TYLER, TX 75703.

DATED the 19th day of January, 2021.

Casey Cook
Attorney for Ronald Yates
State Bar No.: 24094599
7925 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 800
TYLER, TX 75703
Telephone: (903) 308-4974
Facsimile: (903) 218-8990
E-mail: info@mytxestateplan.com

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AUCTIONS

36th Annual DeWitt County All Breeds Bull & Female Sale Sat., Jan. 30, Cuero Livestock Commission Co. Bulls sell at 11 a.m., females sell immediately following. Approx. 30 bulls and 250 females. Sponsored by the DeWitt County Purebred Breeders Assoc. and the DeWitt County Beef and Forage Committee. For more information: Anthony Netardus, 115 N. Gonzales, Suite E, Cuero, TX 77954, 361-275-0816. If unable to attend the sale in person, cattle sale viewing and bidding can be done on Cattle In Motion, cattleinmotion.com.

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Kids Corner

Meet Captain the Kangaroo!



The 18-month old kanagroo that resides at Antioch Ranch.

Captain is incredibly sweet, gentle and loving. All he wants in life is to be friends with everyone he meets!

He is currently roommates with two miniature horses and three goats. He is also neighbors with six rescue pigs. The miniature horses want nothing to do with Captain, but he has not given up hope and continues to try to be friends with them. He realized very quickly that his hopping startled the horses, so now he crawls slowly when approaching them.

Since Captain didn't grow up with other animals, he resonates with people. He loves to sunbathe and for his humans to sit with him and pet him. He has the softest fur, is incredibly affectionate and loves to give kisses.

He also uses his front legs like hands and likes to put them on my hand or legs. We found out about Captain from a friend of ours who knew his owner wanted to find him another home.

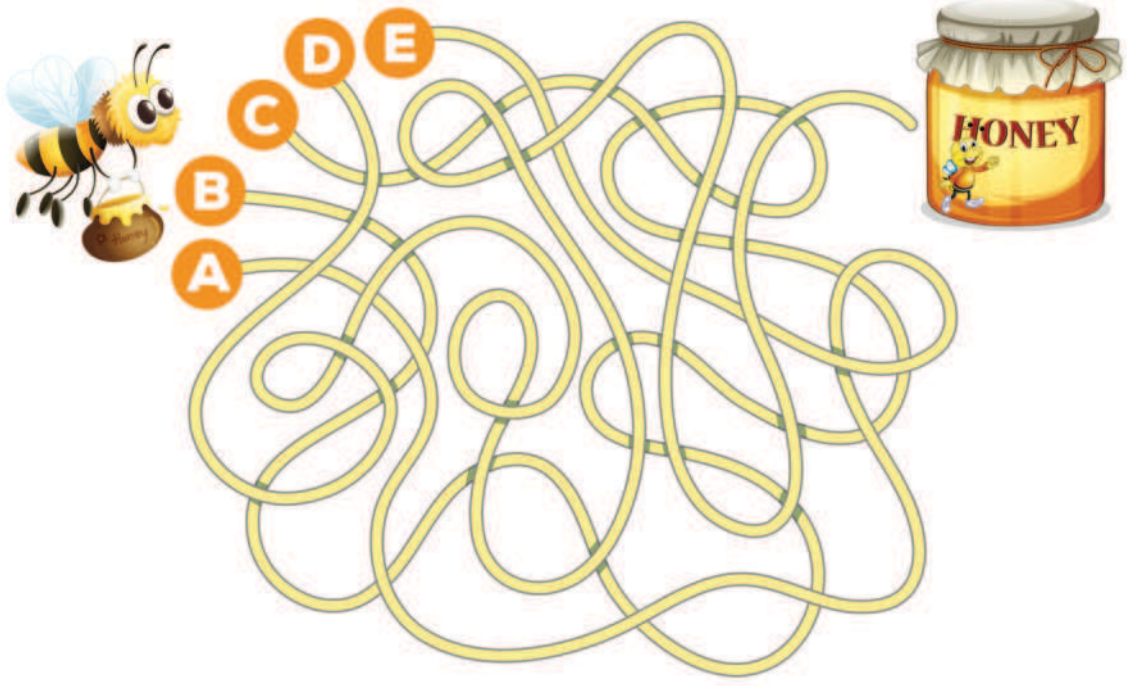
We never want to turn an animal away, but we were a bit hesitant to take him in because we knew NOTHING about kangaroos. After a little research and some prayer, we decided to go for it! We figured that he would be better off with us than someone else who might not prioritize him like we would.



KANGAROO FACTS:

- Kangaroos are marsupials and are indigenous to Australia and New Guinea.
- Kangaroos belong to the animal family Macropus, literally "big foot."
- Female kangaroos give birth to joeys at 31 days and live in their mothers pouch (called a marsupium) for nine months to complete their development.
- Joeys are fed by their mother until they reach 18 months old.
- A large male can grow to be 6'7" tall and weigh as much as 200 pounds
- They are herbivores and eat grass, flowers, leaves, ferns, moss and even insects. Captain also gets a daily supplement of two cups of Mazuri's exotic animal nutrition.
- Kangaroos regurgitate their food and re-chew it before it is ready to be totally digested, just like cows.
- Kangaroos possess powerful hind legs, a long, strong tail, and small front legs. Thanks to their large feet, kangaroos can leap some 30 feet in a single bound, and travel more than 30 miles per hour.
- Kangaroos are the only large animals to use hopping as a means of locomotion.

Thanks for reading! Stay tuned for next week! Follow along on Instagram @ Antioch_Ranch



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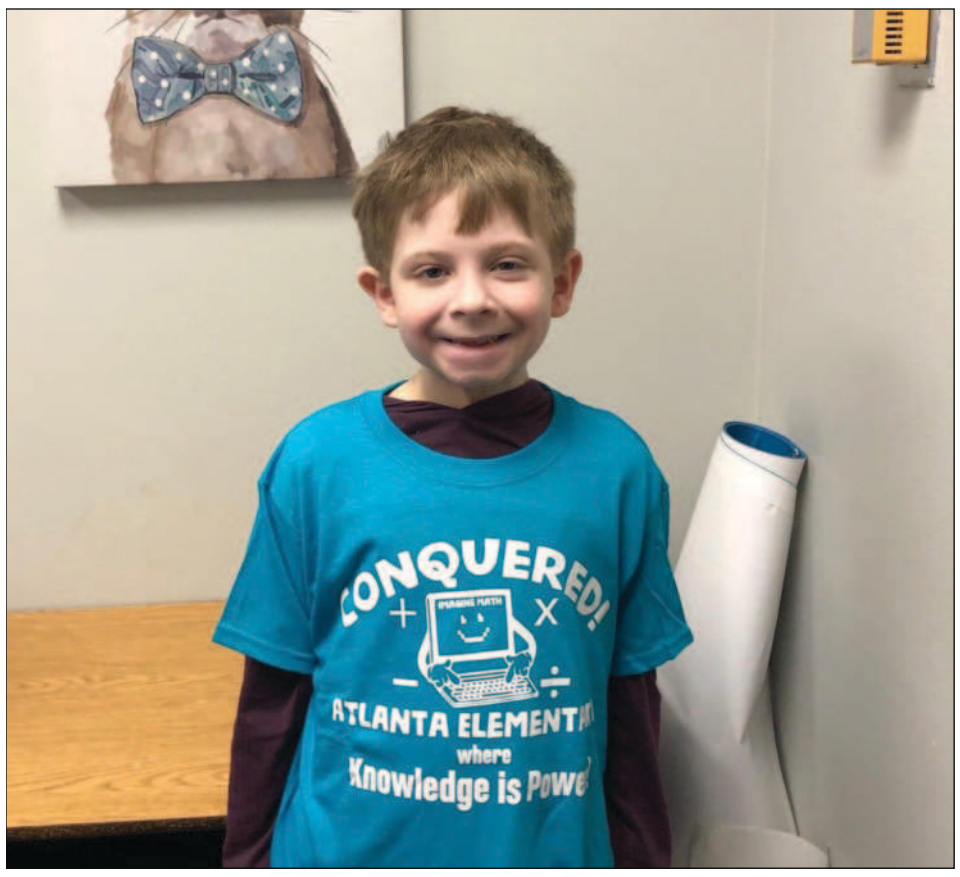
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Courtesy Photo

Atlanta Elementary School says Congratulations to Grayson Nash for conquering our computer program Imagine Math with over 100 lessons passed.

'Be Safe. Drive Smart.' campaign offers safety tips

TxDOT is reminding all drivers to take extra precautions when driving around trucks.

Thousands of large trucks and tractor-trailers travel busy Texas highways every day. Weighing 20 times more than an average car, "big rigs" require more time to accelerate and decelerate and have large blind spots that other motorists need to be aware of to help avoid a potentially deadly crash.

An 80,000-pound, loaded tractor-trailer going 65 mph can take as much as the length of a football field to come to a complete stop, which is why motorists should avoid driving too closely or swerving in front of a large truck.

Tractor-trailers and large trucks also have more and larger blind spots than passenger vehicles do. It's important to try to stay out of these blind spots around the front, back and sides of trucks. A good rule of thumb for motorists to remember is that if they can't see the truck driver in the truck's side mirror, that truck driver can't see them or their vehicle either.

To help keep everyone safe on the road, TxDOT asks motorists to give trucks plenty of room and observe the following safety tips when driving around large trucks:

Pass trucks safely by waiting until you can see both truck headlights in your rearview mirror before moving back into your lane. Pass a truck only when it's legal and safe.

Stay away from a truck's "No Zones," blind spot areas in which crashes are more likely to occur. No Zones include the blind spots along each side, the space up to 20 feet in front of the cab, and the area up to 200 feet behind the trailer.

Maintain a safe following distance. Be sure you can see the driver in the truck's side mirror.

Never cross behind a truck that is backing up.

Don't squeeze between a truck and the curb. Trucks make wide right turns, and the driver may not see you.

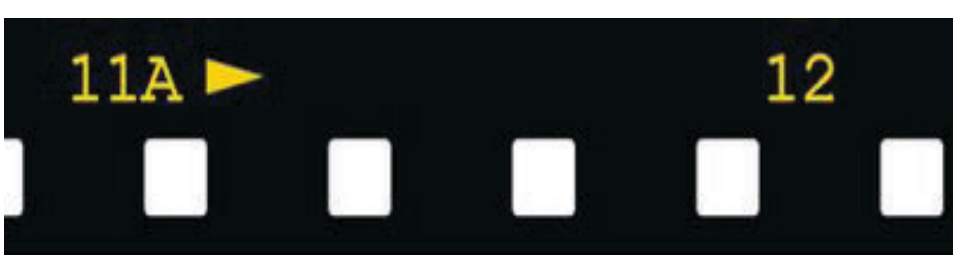
"Be Safe. Drive Smart." is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel such as wearing a seat belt, driving the speed limit, never texting and driving and never driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Nov. 7, 2000 was the last deathless day on Texas roadways. #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to driving safely to help end the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.



If you live in Cass County, you are eligible to submit your photos, along with description, to: kate.stow@casscountynow.com for a chance to have your photo printed in the newspaper! Photos must be at least 1 MB in size and in focus. No nudity or lewd images will be accepted. Winning photo will be judged on content, concept, lighting and clarity.



This week's photo received 70 votes. Photographer Charlene Denison gave no other information.





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***** Birthday? A gift subscription to the Journal-Sun... Call us! *****



Former Green Bay Packers general manager Ted Thompson dies at 68

****Sports Editor's Note: The writers of this article graciously allowed me to run it in its entirety here.****

By Tom Silverstein, Ryan Wood, Richard Ryman
Packers News

Ted Thompson, longtime general manager of the Green Bay Packers who built the team that won Super Bowl XLV, died Wednesday at age 68, two sources said.

Thompson drafted future Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Aaron Rodgers with his first pick as a general manager. That set the stage for the succession of Hall of Fame quarterback Brett Favre and the building of a team that won the Super Bowl in 2011. His teams in one stretch won 19 consecutive games and made the playoffs eight consecutive years.

"He's a humble, intelligent guy that always put the team first. He always kept a steady hand, never panicked," said longtime friend Mike Reinfeldt in 2019, when Thompson was inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame. Reinfeldt roomed with Thompson when they played for the Houston Oilers and worked with him in Green Bay and Seattle.

Four days after his Hall of Fame induction on May 4, 2019, Thompson revealed that he had been diagnosed with an autonomic disorder. According to the U.S. National Library of Medicine, the autonomic nervous system is "the part of your nervous system that controls involuntary actions, such as the beating of your heart and the widening or narrowing of your blood vessels. When something goes wrong in this system, it can cause serious problems, including blood pressure and heart problems and trouble breathing and swallowing."

"I feel that it's important to mention that based on the test results and opinions of medical specialists, they feel that I do not fit the profile of someone suffering from chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE)," Thompson said in a statement.

Thompson's health had been a subject of rumors, especially during his final year as general manager. Thompson did not say whether a specific disease or illness caused the disorder or whether the many tests he underwent revealed a cause.

"His impact is still felt today," Packers head coach Matt LaFleur said. "I think it's felt all around the league. There's a lot of heavy hearts here today."

Thompson was notable in Green Bay for his reticence. He seldom talked to the media unless he had to, and at annual shareholder meetings, where he did have to speak, he never revealed anything about his football team.

"He was more comfortable when he wasn't in the public eye," said former Packers Chairman Bob Harlan. "He told me he wasn't comfortable behind the microphone. I told him don't worry about it. That's not why we hired you."

Mike Renfro, another longtime friend who played with Thompson in Houston, said Thompson was always reserved.

"He was a man of few words," Renfro said at the induction banquet. "But a few words meant a lot. Some people babble a lot."

If Thompson had something to say, he said it.

"I sat with him every Sunday in the press box," Harlan said. "He would sit through a whole game and hardly say a word. That's how much he focused on the game. He was very business-like."

Randy Brice, treasurer of Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame Inc., said when former Packers president Emil Fischer, who died in 1958, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2013, Thompson made an unscheduled visit backstage to meet Fischer's family.

"Ted went around to every member of the family, shook their hand, told them who he was, how proud he was to be part of the Packers organization and how thankful he was that Fischer led Packers through some tough times," Brice said.

Thompson, who was Packers general manager for 13 years, joined Pro Football Hall of Famer Ron Wolf as only the second person inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame exclusively as a general manager. Vince Lombardi was inducted as a head coach and general manager.

"Ted lived a life of true Christian humility in a world where it's more common to proclaim one's



THOMPSON

own greatness," said Packers President and CEO Mark Murphy. "Those who knew him well admired his brilliance as a scout and his extraordinary ability to find players of good character. He was slyly funny and a loyal and true friend. We will all miss him very much and we send our deepest sympathy to his family who loved and supported him throughout his life."

Thompson famously drafted quarterback Rodgers with his first pick as general manager in the first round of the 2005 NFL draft. The decision was controversial at the time, with Favre established as the starting quarterback. Thompson never wavered in his commitment to Rodgers and the Packers' future, even during Favre's tumultuous exit from the Packers in 2008.

"I just think when you look back five years from now," Thompson said on the eve of the draft, "you'll say, 'This was a hell of a pick.'"

Those words proved prescient when Rodgers led the Packers to a Super Bowl XLV victory in his sixth NFL season, his third as a starter. Rodgers wasn't supposed to be available at the 24th overall pick, and history has painted Thompson's decision as an obvious call, but it was far from certain at the time, and not just because 36-year-old Favre figured to have more quality football left on his odometer.

Harlan said Thompson called him into the hallway before picking Rodgers, who was initially expected to go high in the draft.

"He said if Rodgers is there, I'm going to take him. It's not going to be popular," Harlan said. "I told him if that's what he wanted to do, it was his team. I got phone calls and letters. People were very critical. Ted was well aware he was going to catch heat, but he did what he thought was the best thing."

Harlan said the NFL is a quarterback's league and Ron Wolf and Ted Thompson made controversial choices, with Brett Favre and Rodgers that set up the organization for 30 years.

The Packers were led by head coach Mike Sherman, who'd just lost his general managership and desperately needed to win the following season. Thompson, as the new guy in Green Bay, could have placated his head coach by drafting a player who would have more immediate impact. With Favre, it was clear Rodgers' chances of playing early in his career were slim.

Instead, Thompson took the long view.

"I think we tried to put the interests of the Green Bay Packers first," Thompson said after drafting Rodgers. "It wasn't necessarily that comfortable taking that position maybe as some other things we'd like to have done, but you make draft choices and draft-day decisions based on the long-term best interests of your organization. I think that's what we did today."

A native of Atlanta, Texas, Thompson was a five-sport star, a student council president and class officer, an usher for senior activities and actor in a school play. He was remembered as someone who never smoked or drank, who led by example.

A high school classmate, Danny Harp, said a group of track team members one time were talking about what they wanted to do when they grew up. "When it came to Ted, he said, 'When I grow up I'm going to be the general manager of the Green Bay Packers or the New York Yankees.' That's exactly what he said.

• **See THOMPSON** Page 4

Local Sports

By Tim Emmons
temmons@casscountynow.com

L-K Powerlifting

Linden-Kildare's powerlifting program traveled to Maud and competed very well Jan. 14. Michael Lane finished in second place in the 132-pound weight class with a 740-pound total. Brent White took first in the 165's with a total of 985 pounds. Landon Liles took first place in the 275-pound weight class with a finishing total of 1,315.

L-K 51, Clarksville 40

Linden-Kildare's boys' basketball squad battled Clarksville Jan. 15, and rolled to a, 51-40, win.

The Cass County Tigers looked to rebound from a loss to McLeod the prior contest and set the pace early as L-K raced out to a, 10-0, first quarter lead. L-K would took a, 19-9, lead into the halftime break.

The second half heated up as Clarksville pulled within three points with L-K up, 27-24. L-K went on a 5-0 run to boost the score to, 32-24. In the final frame, L-K extended its lead to as much as 15 points and went on to win by 11. Chase Bynum scorched the nets for 22 points, Mason Johnson added 15 and Puff Peters had nine. L-K also received huge reserve contributions from Critter Palmer and Russel Nance.

The win completed a season sweep of Clarksville. L-K pushed its season record to (13-4, 5-2).

No. 6 McLeod 53, Maud 48

McLeod battled Maud Jan. 19, in district play and came out with a, 53-48, win over the Cardinals.

The game was closer than the 'Horns (14-4, 8-0) wanted it to be as the lead was only, 30-22, at the break.

Casey Smith tossed in 16 points, Keldyn Schubert posted a double-double with 12 points and 10 assists, Nos Gryder had 11 points and seven boards, Nathan parker added six points and Silas Murdock five.

The Longhorns, winners of eight straight, have not lost since Dec. 21, when they played a team out of Arkansas.

The JV boys won, 38-14, with Henry Teer tossing in 14 points and Kannon Dempsey scoring seven.



Photo by KELSEY MAY
McLeod's Silas Murdock shoots the ball over two Maud defenders.

No. 22 McLeod 52, Maud 16

The Lady Longhorns run its district record to (9-0) after a thorough beatdown of Maud by a score of, 52-16, Jan. 19.

McLeod was up, 15-0, after the first quarter and had a commanding, 35-2, lead at the break.

Cary May led the Lady Longhorns with 15 points, Kaitlyn Cross added 11, Gracie Lance had nine, Ella Lambeth six, Stormy Johnson four and Sibbie Comer three.

• **See SPORTS** Page 4

Bloomburg Homecoming 2021

VALARIE CORNETT

SENIOR



Valarie Cornett is the daughter of Joy and Rick Cornett of Atlanta and is the granddaughter of Donna and Steven Lummus of Doddridge. Valarie has six siblings, Morgan, Laken, Jayden, Sophia, Kodee, and Noah. This is Valarie's first time on Homecoming Court. Valarie has been in the NHS for one year, STUCO for two years, and Leadership for two years. Valarie plans to go to TSTC and later have a family. Valarie loves sewing, painting, and cosplay.

SHAYLA KEMP

SENIOR



Shayla Kemp is the daughter of LaVonda Kemp of Atlanta, and is the granddaughter of Kenneth and Barbra Kemp of Summerfield, LA, and Jack and Carol Morris of Argyle, TX. Shayla has one sibling, Kandace Goff. This is Shayla's first time on Homecoming Court. Shayla has been involved in varsity Softball for two years, Track for one year, Cross Country for one year, band for three years, and NHS for four years, Trinity Christian School Worship Leader for one year. Shayla is a member of Faith Assembly of God in Texarkana, AR where she is on the worship team, assistant for Royal Ranger classes, and a part of Chosen Youth group. Shayla can be found spending most of her time at Amigo Juans, where she is employed. After graduation Shayla plans to attend Texarkana College, and later try to get into a Speech Language Pathology program. Shayla enjoys playing the piano, singing, hanging out with friends and family, random Taco Bell runs with Jolie, Gavin and Colby, and binge watching Netflix.

BRAYLEE ASHLYNN HARRIST

SENIOR



Braylee Ashlynn Harrist is the daughter of Rebecca and Daniel Jackson of Bloomburg, and Jared Harrist of Bloomburg. Braylee is the granddaughter of Billy and Mary Bray of Bloomburg, Bobby Harrist of Queen City, the late Maty Harrist, the late Nita Jackson, Sherry Sullivan of Doddridge, and the late Louis Sullivan. Braylee has five siblings, Kellar and Kase Jackson, Dylan Harrist. This is Braylee's fourth time on Homecoming Court. Braylee is the Senior class representative. Braylee has been on the varsity basketball team for four years, varsity softball for three years, FFA for three years, leadership for two years, and is a member of McLeod Tabernacle Church. After graduation Braylee plans on attending Shreveport Dental Assistant School to become a dental assistant, then further her education to become a Dental Hygienist. In Braylee's free time she enjoys spending time with her boyfriend Isaac, and hanging out with her friends.

JOLIE GREER

JUNIOR



Jolie Greer is the daughter of Michele and Rickey Compton of Queen City and Jeff Greer of Smithland. Jolie is the granddaughter of Joseph and Donna Castagnetta of Monroe, LA and Barry and Canlee Greer of Katy, TX. Jolie has three siblings, Haleigh Greer, Carley, Castagnetta, and RJ Greer. This is Jolie's first time on Homecoming Court. Jolie has been Student Council secretary one year, and class representative for two years. Jolie has been on the varsity golf team for one year and is the co-captain, softball one year, track two years, OAP three years, student mentor one year, and the varsity basketball manager for one year. Jolie plans to go to college and major in either physical therapy, or sports medicine. Jolie enjoys sleeping, playing golf, having girls' weekends with Emalee, Haylee, and Katie, going on random Taco Bell runs with Shayla, hanging out with "the boys", going to church, spending time with family, and watching Hallmark movies with Nona.

DAIJA NIKOLE MALDONADO

JUNIOR



Daija Maldonado is the daughter of Juan and Jandi Maldonado and is the granddaughter of Juan Maldonado of Mexico, James and Pam Clayton of Atlanta and the late Brenda Blaydes, and Angelina Maldonado. Daija has three siblings, Angelina Kerby, Diego Maldonado, and Lamiyah Baker. This is Daija's first time on Homecoming Court. Daija is a Student Council Historian. Daija has been on the high school Student Council for three years, Varsity Cheer for three years, Varsity Tennis for two years, varsity basketball team for two years, FFA for three years, Yearbook for one year, OAP for two years. I attend Lighthouse Assembly of God. After graduation, Daija plans on attending Texas State Technical College in Marshall to get her certification in welding. Then she plans to move to South Texas to pursue her career in welding at SpaceX. In Daija's spare time she enjoys welding, enjoys spending time with family, hanging out with her boyfriend, Kain Wieczorek, listening to music with friends, playing drums, riding skateboard, drawing and painting.

CARLEY JO CASTAGNETTA

SOPHOMORE



Carley Jo Castagnetta is the daughter of Michele and Rickey Compton of Queen City, and is the great-granddaughter of Raymond and Ramona Bastrop, and the granddaughter of Joseph and Donna Castagnetta of Monroe, LA and Sonya of Hot Springs, AR and the late Todd Westbrook. Carley is a Student Council Representative. Carley has two siblings, Haleigh Greer, and Jolie Greer. This is Carley's first time on Homecoming Court. Carley has been on Varsity Basketball for two years, Softball for two years, Varsity Cross Country for two years, Varsity Track for two years, Varsity Cheer for two years, and OAP for one year. After graduation Carley plans on going to college and becoming a lawyer. In Carley's spare time she enjoys watching TV, playing sports, running, hanging out with friends, going to church, spending time with her family and making Tik Toks.

KARLI FAITH SHEFFIELD

SOPHOMORE



Karli Faith Sheffield is the daughter of Melanie and Chad Sheffield, and is the granddaughter of David and Becky Sheffield of Atlanta and the late Bobby and Ernestine Stout of Cass. This is Karli's second time on Homecoming Court. Karli is the co-captain for the BHS golf team, she played basketball for the BHS Lady Wildcats her freshman year. She is currently a member of the BHS student council and has been serving on it for the past two years. Karli plans to attend Baylor University and earn a bachelor's degree in pre-med. After getting her undergraduate degree, she plans to attend medical school and become a hematologist. Along with her career, Karli would like to get married one day and start a family. In Karli's spare time she enjoys hanging out with friends, going shopping and spending playing with her dog Beau. She is a member of Glad Tidings church in Atlanta.

KENZIE LYNN LADUKE

FRESHMAN



Kenzie Lynn LaDuke is the daughter of Emily and Will LaDuke of Bloomburg, and is the granddaughter of LaDonna and Donald Tyson of Bloomburg. Kenzie has one sister, Lexie LaDuke. This is Kenzie's first time on Homecoming Court. Kenzie has been on the varsity basketball, varsity track, and varsity cheer for one year. Kenzie plans to go to college and get a degree in physical therapy. Kenzie enjoys working with her dad, playing sports, riding four wheelers, hanging out with friends, family, and her boyfriend, and playing with her animals.

CASSIE JO GLASGOW

FRESHMAN



Cassie Jo Glasgow is the daughter of Danny and Kristie Glasgow of Bloomburg, and is the granddaughter of Lee and Sharon Cross of Bloomburg. Cassie has two siblings, Jacee and Kaleigh Glasgow. This is Cassie's first time on Homecoming Court. Cassie has been on the varsity basketball team for one year, varsity Cross Country for one year, and varsity Track for one year. After graduation, Cassie plans on attending college to play college basketball, and become a coach. In Cassie's free time she enjoys playing basketball, working at Danny's Steak and Seafood, hanging out with friends and family, and playing with her dogs.



Bloomburg's 2021 Homecoming Court includes, front row from left: Valarie Cornett, Daija Maldonado, Jolie Greer, Shayla Kemp, Carley Castagnetta and Kenzie LaDuke. Back row, from left: Karli Sheffield, Cassie Glasgow, and Braylee Harrist.

McLeod Homecoming 2021

AMANDA CLAIRE BERTRAND



Amanda Claire Bertrand is the daughter of Denise and Gerry Norris and Brian Bertrand, and the granddaughter of Cynthia Sepulvado, Jim Bertrand, and Terry and Jean Norris. Amanda's activities at school include NHS president, cheer captain, secretary of the senior class and yearbook editor.

When not at school, you can find Amanda working at Chicken Express or hanging out with family and friends. After graduation Amanda plans to major in Biology and then go to Pharmacy school at the University of Texas at Tyler.

CARSON BURDEN



Carson Burden is the son of Terri and Clay Burden and the grandson of Carolyn Dollar and George and Sue Graham. Carson's activities at school include playing baseball. When not at school, you can find Carson riding bulls, hanging out with Casey and Silas playing basketball, hunting, fishing and annoying his sister. After graduation, Carson plans to work in Denison and ride bulls.

BREANNA DAVIS



Breanna Davis is the daughter of Chris Davis and Regina and Adam Morgan and the granddaughter of Don and Debra Davis, Mary and Jack Hawks. Breanna's activities at school include being a member of NHS and the president of Spanish club. She is also on the Principal's advisory cabinet. When not at school, you can find Breanna at Starbucks, shopping, or hanging out with her boyfriend, Kobe. Breanna also enjoys baking and working in the nursery at Cass County Fitness. After graduation, Breanna plans to go to college to become a nurse and continue baking on the side.

CASEY SMITH



Casey Smith is the son of David Smith and Glenda Craft and the grandson of Gwen and Nancy Smith, Maria Craft and the late Rapheal Craft. Casey's activities at school include basketball, baseball, track, getting kicked out of prom and being the best guitar picker Coach Venable has ever seen. When not at school, you can find Casey hunting, fishing, hanging out with friends and trading villagers. After graduation, Casey plans to attend TSTC to become a lineman.

MCKENZIE BISHOP



McKenzie Bishop is the daughter of Jason and Michelle Bishop and the granddaughter of Jean Bishop and Lottie Henderson. McKenzie's activities at school include One-Act Play, Varsity Cheerleading, NHS, Student Council, and Spanish Club. When not at school, you can find McKenzie spending time with her family, hanging out with friends, and napping. After graduation, McKenzie plans to attend the University of Central Arkansas where she will major in Kinesiology to become a Physical Therapist.

ETHAN ARMSTRONG



Ethan Armstrong is the son of Sandy and James Armstrong and the grandson of Stan Lummus and the late Sandra Lummus, Judy Armstrong and the late Tommy Armstrong. Ethan's activities at school include varsity basketball, varsity baseball, and learning to play the guitar. When not at school, you can find Ethan serenading his friends around the campfire, playing golf with Brandon, playing pick-up games with the boys, and creating quality content for social media. After graduation, Ethan would like to pursue his dream of becoming a musician and tour the world going from gig to gig.

KAITLYN CROSS



Kaitlyn Cross is the daughter of Brian and Britnie Cross and the granddaughter of Rusty and Kathy Cross, Kevin and Andrea Alexander. Kaitlyn's activities at school include basketball, softball, track, and the Spanish club. When not at school, you can find Kaitlyn shopping with friends, watching Netflix, hanging out with her boyfriend, and spending time with family. After graduation, Kaitlyn would like to attend Texarkana College and pursue a nursing degree.

NOS GRYDER



Nos Gryder is the son of Charles and Jennifer Gryder and Julie Rowe and the grandson of Kenneth Rowe and Louis Gryder. Nos's activities at school include basketball, track, cross country, and most importantly tennis. When not at school, you can find Nos hanging out with his friends, family, and girlfriend Ella. You can also find him aggravating his sister and eating at Whataburger in the middle of the night with Casey. After graduation, Nos would like to attend TSTC in Marshall to become a lineman.

JILLIAN PARKER



Jillian Parker is the daughter of Demetria Arledge and David Parker and the granddaughter of Donna and Zach Dial and Mike Parker. Jillian's activities at school include NHS and Spanish Club. When not at school, you can find her at competition cheer practice and hanging out with family and friends. After graduation, Jillian plans to attend Louisiana Tech or LSUS to pursue a degree in Business Administration to become a financial advisor.

SILAS MCCALL MURDOCK



Silas McCall Murdock is the son of Paul and Brandi Murdock and the grandson of Jim and Kathy Murdock, Martha Murdock, Jan Nix and the late Don Nix. Silas's activities at school include varsity basketball, baseball, and cross country. When not at school, you can find Silas at the roping pen, hanging out with Casey, Carson, Miles, Jacob, and Howard, spending time with his church youth group, or going to church. After graduation, Silas plans to spend the summer working at Sky Ranch in Colorado and then attend Texas A&M or Blinn College to pursue a degree in Business.

MCLEOD



HOMECOMING

2021

Thompson FROM PAGE 1

We all laughed, and he looked at us like, 'I'm not kidding,'" Harp recalled.

Thompson played football for Southern Methodist University, where he was a starting linebacker and team captain. He was not chosen in the NFL draft and signed as a free agent with the Houston Oilers, where he played 10 years, from 1975-1984. He started only nine times during his career but played in 146 of 147 games. In one game he kicked four extra points as an emergency kicker.

"Ted played 10 years in the league, which is a testament to anybody," Reinfeldt said. "Ted knew assignments of all 22 guys on the field, better than some of the guys playing the positions."

Ron Wolf hired Thompson as a Packers scout in 1992. He moved to Seattle, where he was vice president of football operations from 2000 to 2004. Packers President and CEO Bob Harlan named Thompson general manager of the Packers on Jan. 14, 2005.

With him at the helm, the Packers advanced to a franchise-record eight consecutive playoffs. They played in four NFC championship games, losing three. Two were especially painful defeats: the 2007 overtime home loss to the New York Giants, and the 2014 collapse in Seattle.

The Packers had a 125-82-1 record in Thompson's tenure, a .600 win percentage that ranked fourth in the NFL. Only the New England Patriots (.774), Pittsburgh Steelers (.649) and Indianapolis Colts (.605) had a better win percentage in that time.

Rodgers, a two-time MVP, was the biggest factor in getting the Packers their fourth Super Bowl title. But from 2005 to 2010, Thompson executed a series of championship-building draft choices. Six offensive starters and six defensive starters on the Super Bowl team, along with kicker Mason Crosby, were either drafted by Thompson or acquired as an undrafted rookie. Thompson also signed key defensive back Charles Woodson in free agency.

In his first six years, Thompson drafted nine players who would make at least one Pro Bowl roster. Five would be selected to at least one first- or second-team All-Pro list, including Thompson's second-ever pick as Packers general manager, safety Nick Collins.

When Mike Holmgren left Green Bay for the Seattle Seahawks, Thompson was the first person he hired from the Packers organization.

"He went to Seattle and they won a Super Bowl. The man knew how to build an organization," Harlan said.

"Stellar," was how Pro Football Hall of Fame general manager Bill Polian once described Thompson's ability to identify talent in the draft. "He's outstanding, and he's outstanding not only in terms of judging talent, but of managing the draft."

Analyzing talent was Thompson's favorite task as general manager. He was self-deprecating about his other skills in that job during his Hall of Fame induction.

"You look at all the great players who've come through here, they are idols. I'm not one of those people. I'm just a scout," he said.

Thompson's extreme draft-and-develop philosophy helped ensure the Packers were never in cap trouble, despite having a franchise quarterback's salary on their books. His reluctance to dip into free agency also drew the ire of fans — as well as coaches and front-office executives — who interpreted his approach as too passive.

Starting in 2012, Thompson went five years without signing an unrestricted free agent. His only meaningful free-agent signing during that period was tight end Jared Cook, a "street" free agent who didn't count against the Packers' compensatory draft formula because he was released by the Los Angeles Rams. When Thompson finally broke that drought with the signing of tight end Martellus Bennett, the decisions backfired. Bennett was released midway through his first season.

"I think people have been tough on him," Reinfeldt, himself a former general manager, said at the time of Thompson's induction. "I think history will be kind to Ted Thompson."

Thompson's inactivity in the free-agent market was compounded by poor drafting in the second half of his tenure. From 2011 on, just six of Thompson's draftees made a Pro Bowl roster while playing for the Packers. Only two received an All-Pro selection.

There were mid-round gems, such as left tackle David Bakhtiari (fourth round), defensive tackle Mike Daniels (fourth), defensive back Micah Hyde (fifth) and center Corey Linsley (fifth), but the Packers got little production from their first-round picks in his last years as general manager. Of the five eligible players Thompson drafted since 2011, only Nick Perry received a second contract from the team — and he was released midway through that deal.

Thompson also whiffed completely on his 2015 draft class. None of the eight players drafted that year received a second contract.

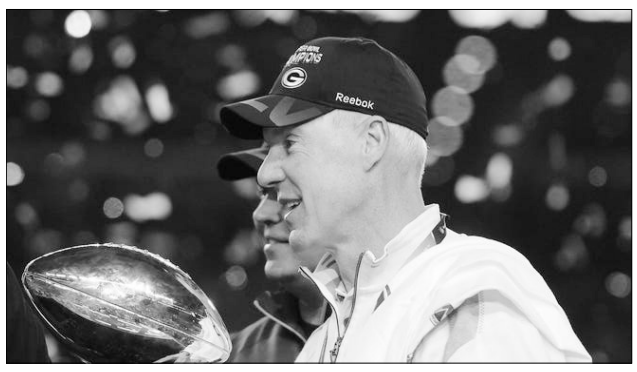
Thompson was eventually reassigned to a senior advisor position to his replacement, Brian Gutekunst. Thompson's legacy is strong, however. Before him, the only men to guide Green Bay to a Super Bowl title were named Lombardi and Wolf.

Many teams see their fortunes plummet immediately after a Hall of Fame quarterback retires. Because of Thompson, the Packers remained annual Super Bowl contenders.

"He's had an awful lot of success," Wolf once said. "He's very good. I think all you have to do is see the career he's had. He left here and went to Seattle to build a team that went to the Super Bowl. He comes back here, and he's had a team that's won the Super Bowl.

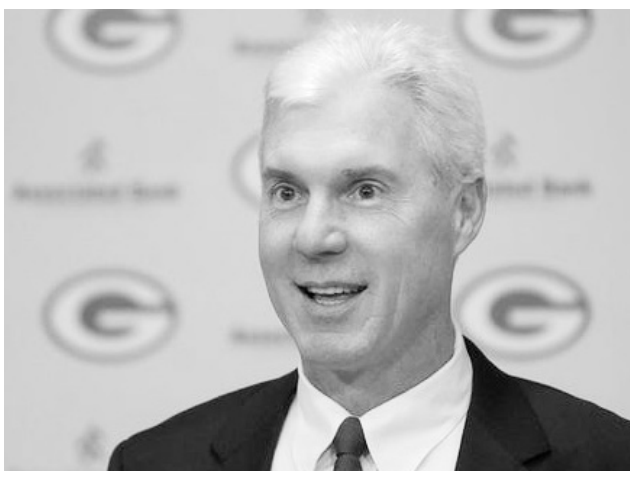
"If you just look at what he did the last 10 years, I'd say he's exceptional."

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USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

Green Bay Packers general manager Ted Thompson holds the Lombardi Trophy after Super Bowl XLV on Feb. 6, 2011, at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas.



USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

Ted Thompson, smiles as he addresses the media at Lambeau Field in January 2005.



USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

Aaron Rodgers, the Green Bay Packers' first-round pick is introduced by GM Ted Thompson on April 24, 2005.

Atlanta Boys Baseball Assoc.

Atlanta Boys Baseball Association is now accepting bids for mowing and field maintenance. Sealed bids must be received by February, 19, either to P.O. Box 871 Atlanta, TX 75551 or to a board member by 4 p.m. Please contact Ryan Boatman at 903-824-5711 to obtain a bid sheet or additional information.

Sports FROM PAGE 1

The JV girls won, 28-23, with Cadence Spence pouring in eight points.



Photo by KELSEY MAY

McLeod's Gracie Lance applies defensive pressure as a Maud player tries to get into the lane.

Atlanta 44, Redwater 41

The Lady Rabbs' varsity basketball team edged out Redwater, 44-41, Jan. 19. Kym Sheppard poured in 19 points, Jennifer Easter added eight and Tianna Lawson had eight.



Photo by KIM SHEPPARD

Atlanta's Kym Sheppard stretches for a layup.

Atlanta 54, Redwater 41

Atlanta's varsity boys' basketball team topped Redwater, 54-41, Jan. 19. Daimion Collins had 24 points, Keyshawn Easter nine, Alex Boston seven, Caleb Hamilton seven, Terunte Neal five and Kameron Dickerson two.

MUMS

The Morris Upchurch Middle School girls' basketball program battled Paul Pewitt Jan. 21. The seventh grade team won, 27-17, with Kerian Thomas leading the way with 17 points, and the eighth grade team won, 32-13, with Brenna Turbeville leading the way with nine points.

Sports Calendar

Atlanta High School
Jan. 28 – Texarkana College (Tennis) – 8 a.m.
Jan. 29 – VB, VG, JVB vs. Hooks – 5 p.m.
Jan. 29 – Texarkana College (Tennis) – 8 a.m.
Feb 1 – Redwater Meet (Powerlifting)
Feb. 2 – at North Lamar (Soccer) – 6 p.m.
Feb. 5 - VB, VG, JVB at Pewitt – 5 p.m.
Feb. 5 – vs. Liberty-Eylau (Soccer) – 6 p.m.
Feb. 9 – VB, JVB at DeKalb – 5 p.m.
Feb. 12 - VB, JVB vs. Redwater – 5 p.m

Atlanta Middle School
Jan. 28 – Boys 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B vs. Hooks – 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 28 – Girls 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B at Hooks – 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 4 - Boys 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B vs. New Boston – 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 11 - Boys 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B at Pewitt – 4:30 p.m.

Bloomburg High School
an. 29 – VG, VB vs. Avinger – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 5 – VG, VB at Yantis – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 9 – VB vs. Sulphur Bluff – 6 p.m.
Feb. 12 – VB at Union Hill – 6 p.m.

Bloomburg Junior High
Feb. 4 – JHG, JHB vs. Union Hill – 5 p.m.

Linden-Kildare High School
Jan. 29 - VB, VG, JVB at Detroit – 5 p.m.
Feb. 2 – VB, JVB at Maud – 5 p.m.
Feb. 2 – at Redwater (Softball) – 6 p.m.
Feb. 3 – at Pewitt (Tennis)
Feb. 5 – VB, JVB vs. McLeod – 5 p.m.

Linden-Kildare Junior High
Jan. 28 – 7g, 8g at James Bowie – 5 p.m.
Jan. 28 – 7b, 8b vs. James Bowie – 5 p.m.
Feb. 4 – 8g, 8b at McLeod – 5 p.m.
Feb. 8 – 7g, 8g vs. Maud – 5 p.m.

McLeod High School
Jan. 29 - VB, VG, JVB, JVG vs. Rivercrest – 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 2 – VB, JVB vs. James Bowie – 5 p.m.
Feb. 5 – VB, JVB at L-K – 5 p.m.

McLeod Junior High
Jan. 28 - JHB, JHG vs. Maud – 5 p.m.
Feb. 4 – JHB, JHG vs. L-K – 5 p.m.
Feb. 8 – JHB, JHG at James Bowie – 5 p.m.

Queen City High School
Jan. 29 – VB, VG, JVB at Paul Pewitt – 5 p.m.
Jan. 30 – at Mt. Pleasant (Softball) – 11:45 a.m.
Jan. 30 – at Mt. Pleasant (Softball) – 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 1 – at Elysian Fields (Softball) – 5 p.m.
Feb. 2 – VB, VG, JVG vs. DeKalb – 5 p.m.
Feb. 5 – VB, VG, JVB at Redwater – 5 p.m.
Feb. 5 – at Pleasant Grove (Softball) – 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 9 – VB at New Boston – 5 p.m.

Queen City Junior High (MUMS)
Jan. 28 – Boys 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B at Red Lick – 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 28 – Girls 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B vs. Red Lick – 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 4 - Boys 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B vs. Hooks – 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 4 - Girls 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B at Hooks – 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 11 – Boys 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B at DeKalb – 4:30 p.m.

Schedules are apt to change at any time. Check school websites or Facebook pages on game day for any changes or cancellations that may occur.

Local Houses of Worship

ADVENTIST
Seventh Day Adventist
307 W. Taylor • Atlanta • 796-9128

APOSTOLIC
Apostolic Lighthouse Church
CR 4114 at Hwy 59S • Atlanta
701-8221

Life Tabernacle Apostolic Church
402 High School Lane • Atlanta
796-7353

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Cornerstone Assembly of God
105 W. Main • Atlanta • 796-7543

Glad Tidings Assembly of God
607 Holly • Atlanta • 796-3183

Queen City Assembly of God
1105 Hwy 59 • Queen City • 796-9092

Sand Hill Assembly of God
Doddridge, Ark. • sandhillag.org

BAPTIST
Alamance Baptist Church
Alamance Road • Atlanta • 796-3455

Antioch Baptist Church
FM 96 at FM 2791 • 796-2789

Beulah Land Baptist
Hwy 96 West • Queen City • 796-3511

Bethel Cass Baptist Church
Off FM 995 • Linden

Bethsaida "Y" Baptist Church
Bivins • 796-3062

Cass Baptist Church
Bloomburg • 728-5493

Cass County Cowboy Church
7701 Hwy 59S • Atlanta • 824-1566

Courtland Independent Baptist Church
FM 96, Two miles west of Queen City

Cross Creek Cowboy Church
5575 Hwy 77E • Atlanta • 559-0823

Douglassville Baptist Church
Douglassville

Enon First Baptist Church
510 Howe St. • Atlanta • 796-7905

First Baptist Church
E. Hiram at Mill St. • Atlanta • 796-7925

First Baptist Church
Allday at Johns St. • Atlanta • 796-5300

First Baptist Church - Bloomburg
Bloomburg • 728-5252

First Baptist Church - Queen City
Marietta at 2nd St. • Queen City • 796-7934

Golden Gate Baptist Church
CR 2480 • Atlanta • 903-796-6686

Good Exchange Baptist Church
314 CR 4567 • McLeod • 796-3963

Faith Independent Baptist Church
Hwy. 59S • Atlanta

Honey Grove Baptist Church
2637 FM 2791 • Atlanta •796-9063

Huffines Baptist Church
FM 251 • Bivins • 796-5775

Lake Country Baptist
Hwy 59N • Domino • 824-6740

New Hope Baptist Church
Bloomburg • 728-5394

Newness of Life Victory and Praise Church
CR 4556 • Bivins • 650-1102

Oak Grove Baptist Church
604 2nd St • Queen City • 796-5021

Open Door Baptist Church
Hwy 59N • Queen City • 796-1164

St. John Divine Baptist Church
309 CR 1886 • Kildare • 796-8651

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
2792 CR 4342 • Bivins • 796-1768

Salem Baptist Church
301 Davis St. • Atlanta • 733-2653

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
1146 CR 1111 • Atlanta

Smyrna Baptist Church
4621 Hwy 77E • Smyrna • 796-6795

Tanglewood Missionary
FM 1841 • Atlanta • 796-5257

Thomas Street Baptist Church
502 E. Thomas St. • Atlanta • 796-5205

Unity Baptist Church
Hwy 77S • Atlanta • 796-3613

Victory Baptist Church
1302 Anti Rd. • Atlanta • 796-3263

West Side Baptist Church
712 W. Main • Atlanta • 796-3279

Zion Hill Baptist Church
3267 CR 1245 • Linden • 756-3165

CATHOLIC
St. Catherine of Siena
309 N. Louise • Atlanta • 796-4494

CHRISTIAN
First Christian Church
S. Louise • Atlanta • 796-3862

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Church of Christ
Hwy 77E • Atlanta • 796-3371

McLeod Church of Christ
Hwy 125 • McLeod

Oak Grove Church of Christ
4382 CR 3659 • Queen City • 796-4950

CHURCH OF GOD
Atlanta Church of God
19730 FM 1841 • Atlanta

Holly Street Church of God
807 Holly St. • Atlanta • 799-7928

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Hendrix Temple COGIC
618 Wade • Atlanta • 796-3756

New Beginning COGIC
1102 Hwy. 59S • Queen City • 832-6299

Queen City COGIC
801 Walker Lane. • Queen City • 799-7995

Springdale COGIC
CR 3287 • Queen City • 799-5745

Walker Chapel COGIC
Hwy 8 • Douglassville • 846-2107

Word of Faith Kingdom COGIC
104 W. Hiram St • 796-6000

EPISCOPAL
All Saints Episcopal
406 N. Louise • Atlanta • 796-7200

FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP
Abundant Life
610 S. Louise • Atlanta • 796-9113

Word of Life Church
102-B W. Hiram • Atlanta • 796-0335

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
Hwy. 43S (at city limit) • Atlanta • 796-7637

LATTER-DAY SAINTS
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1806 S. Boggie • Atlanta • 796-5714

LUTHERAN
Redeemer Lutheran Church
4058 FM 2328 • Atlanta • 796-9030

METHODIST
Bethel United Methodist Church
E Lanark St at 7th • Queen City • 796-6000

First United Methodist
701 Lindsey Lane • Atlanta • 796-8247

First United Methodist
601 Second St. • Queen City • 796-3105

Law's Chapel United Methodist
4065 FM 2328 • Law's Chapel

New Mt. Zion CME Church
329 CR 1890 • Kildare • 796-8125

St. Paul CME Church
412 Johns St. • Atlanta • 796-4908

St. Paul CME Church
402 CR 3672 • Domino • 796-4541

Shady Grove CME Church
1029 CR 3324 • 796-5115

NAZARENE
Faith Community Church
104 N. Louise • Atlanta • 796-3390

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Bible Deliverance Church
1405 Loop 236 • Queen City • 799-6929

Bondage Breakers Ministries
219 E Hiram St • Atlanta • 799-7210

Champions Bible Church
702 Holly St • Atlanta • 903-701-6211

Christian Fellowship Church
Hwy 59N • Queen City • 796-8384

Christ Way Fellowship
1116 E. Main St. • Atlanta • 293-7806

CrossWay Church
610 Hwy 59S • Queen City • 799-7181

Faith Tabernacle
20069 FM 1841 • Atlanta • 244-0443

God's Anointed Ministries
400 E. Hiram • Atlanta • 846-2033

Harvest Fellowship Church
Hwy 59S • Queen City • 796-7929

Kingdom Faith Ministry
11555 FM 3129 • Queen City • 796-9327

Living Water Tabernacle House of Prayer
101 W. Main • Bloomburg

Narrow Gate Cowboy Ministry
1830 N Pine Vivian LA 71082
Bro Eric Cunningham Pastor

Trinity Holiness Church
101B Loop 59 • Atlanta • 903-826-1884

True Believer International
Family Life Center
219 E. Hiram • Atlanta • 903-244-3628

PENTECOSTAL
Upon This Rock Ministries
119 E. Main • Atlanta • 799-6089

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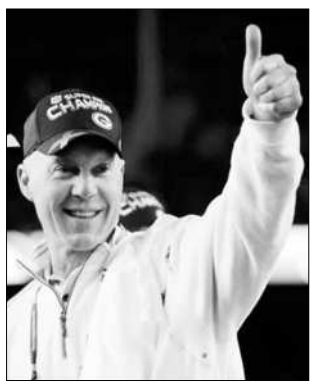
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Obituaries

TED THOMPSON

Jan. 17, 1953 - Jan. 20, 2021



Ted Thompson, age 68, of Atlanta, Texas, went to be with the Lord Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at his residence surrounded by family.

Ted was born January 17, 1953, in Atlanta, Texas, to Jimmy and Elta Frost Thompson. He was a former General Manager for the Green Bay Packers; a ten season linebacker for the Houston Oilers and a member of First United Methodist Church, Atlanta, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Elta Frost Thompson; brother-in-law, Gary Fortenberry; and nephew, Lance Fortenberry.

He is survived by his father, Jimmy Thompson of Atlanta, Texas; brothers, Frank Thompson and wife Judy of Lubbock, Texas, Jim Thompson and wife Cassie of Atlanta, Texas; sister, Deborah Fortenberry of Mesquite, Texas; nephews and nieces, Gabby Kennedy, Jake Thompson, Brad Fortenberry, and Paige Clark.

Private services are under the direction of Hanner Funeral Service.

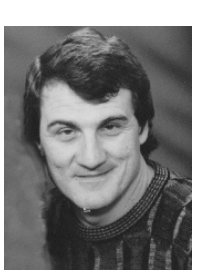
In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Heritage Home Health and Hospice, 307 North Louise Street, Atlanta, Texas 75551 or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P. O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, Tn 38148.

Guest registry is available at www.hannerfuneralservice.com.

† † †

DANNY HURT

June 19, 1957 - Jan. 18, 2021



Danny Joe Hurt age 63, of Bloomburg, Texas, went to be with the Lord Monday, January 18, 2021 in a Texarkana, Texas, hospital.

Danny was born June 19, 1957, in Atlanta, Texas, to James and JoAnn Hurt. He was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church and retired from Red River Army Depot after 31 years.

Danny received his Bachelor's degree from Texas A&M in Texarkana and was a TEEX instructor for 30 years. He was past president of SFFMA of Texas, the Northeast Texas Chapter, and current president of ESD #3.

Danny was very active in not only teaching fire classes but was a volunteer fireman for Bloomburg, Doddridge, and Bright Star Fire Departments. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife Cindy Hurt of Bloomburg, Texas; step children, Jennifer Childers of DeKalb, Texas, Amanda Childers of New Boston, Texas, Corey Childers and fiancé' Lindsey of DeKalb, Texas; two brothers, Gary Hurt and spouse Regina of Texarkana, Texas, Denny Hurt and spouse Robert Pettit of Dallas, Texas; uncle, James Williams, aunt, Kathy Peacock and spouse Neal Peacock; eleven grandchildren, Lexi, Michaela, Dalton, Autumn, A'Mya, Alandrea, Avius, Alivia, Brooklyn, Avery, Prestyn; one great grandchild, Jaxon; mother in law, Ann McIntyre; sister in law, Susan McIntyre; and a number of other relatives.

Graveside services were at 2:00 pm, Friday, January 22, 2021 in the Queen City Cemetery, under the direction of Hanner Funeral Service.

Interment was in Queen City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Cass County ESD #3, PO Box 238, Bloomburg, Texas 75556

Guest registry is available at www.hannerfuneralservice.com.

† † †

RICHARD ALAN PYLE

Sept. 22, 1962 - Jan. 18, 2021



Richard Alan Pyle, age 58, of Bloomburg, Texas died in Murfreesboro, Tennessee of a heart attack on January 18, 2021. Richard was born on September 22, 1962 in Texarkana, Arkansas to Bobby and Elner Pyle.

Richard was a truck driver, a Marine veteran with service in Japan and Korea. He was a charter member of Holly Street Church of God.

Richard traveled the world extensively, met and was followed by many people on Facebook from many countries, and of course the USA. He cared about family and friends, and keeping the yard and pasture in good condition.

Richard will be remembered by many friends, his generosity to others and his love for his Mom. He loved history and learning new things and said it kept him "interesting". Richard was preceded in death by his father, Bobby Pyle; his grandparents, Alton and Bessie Pyle and Robert and Hazel Johnson.

He is survived by his wife, Mea Pyle; daughter, Jena Pyle; mother, Elner Pyle; sisters, Carmen Pyle and Gail Cook; nephews Jesse Cook and Tanner Cook; and a host of other family and friends.

Funeral services will be at 1:00 pm, Saturday, January 23, 2021, under the direction of Hanner Funeral Service, at New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery, on County Road 4919, in Bloomburg, Texas, officiated by Rev. Vernon Groce and Andy Campbell.

Pallbearers will be Henry McCreery, Donald Hodges, Shorty Elder, Ronnie Lummus, Buddy Brown and Charles Burton. Honorary Pallbearers will be Jesse Cook, Tanner Cook, Jason Martz and Dreux Land.

Guest registry is available at www.hannerfuneralservice.com.

† † †

JAMES WALKER

May 24, 1930 - Jan. 23, 2021



James E. Walker, age 90, of Atlanta, Texas, went to be with the Lord Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021 in an Atlanta, Texas, hospital.

James was born May 24, 1930, in Princeton, Arkansas, to Horace and Mamie Sorrells Walker.

He was retired from International Paper Company; and was a member of Thomas Street Baptist Church. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, fishing, gardening, hog hunting and he especially enjoyed deer hunting. He was preceded in death by his wife, Viaud Walker; son, Edward Delane Walker; and his parents.

He is survived by his son, Robert Walker and wife Danielle of Laurinburg, North Carolina; daughter, Wanda Walker Woods of Grand Prairie, Texas; daughter-in-law, Sue Walker of Camden, Arkansas; five grandchildren, Heather Rivera and husband Freddie of Leesburg, Virginia, Brad Walker and wife Wendy of Fort Worth, Texas, Toni Walker and husband Danny of Daingerfield, Texas, Dustin Woods and wife Tiffany of Longmont, Colorado, Ryne Woods and wife Amber of Midlothian, Texas; nine great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and his fur baby, "Gojo".

Visitation will be Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Hanner Funeral Service.

A celebration memorial service will be at a later date. Those wishing to memorialize James may make contributions to Thomas Street Baptist Church or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Guest registry is available at www.hannerfuneralservice.com.

On the Death of the Beloved



by John O'Donohue

Though we need to weep your loss,
You dwell in that safe place in our hearts,
Where no storm or night or pain can reach you
Let us not look for you only in memory,
Where we would grow lonely without you.
You would want us to find you in presence,
Beside us when beauty brightens,
When kindness glows
And music echoes eternal tones.



Fear or Faith?

By Pastor Susan Emmons
Pearl of Great Price Tabernacle

In this time of chaos, the child of God has to decide, do I trust God through this, or give in to fear? Did I start out trusting God, then get fearful when the situation started getting worse?

Do I continue to trust God through everything? Or will he understand if I feel anxious, worried, and uncertain?

God knows I'm human, and I have all these human emotions, so he can't expect me to not have some kind of fear, can he? Let's see what the WORD says.

2 Tim. 1:7..For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of Power, and of Love, and of a Sound mind.

Prov. 3:5..Trust in the Lord with ALL thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Isa. 35:4..Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not, behold your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense, he will come and save you.

Isa. 41:10..Fear thou not, for I am with thee, be not dismayed, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Isa. 26:3..Thou will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusts in thee.

Psalm 56:11..In God have I put my trust, I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Psalm 23:4.. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me.

Psalm 9:10.. And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee, for thou Lord has not forsaken them that seek thee.

Mark 11:22.. And Jesus answering, said unto them, Have faith in God.

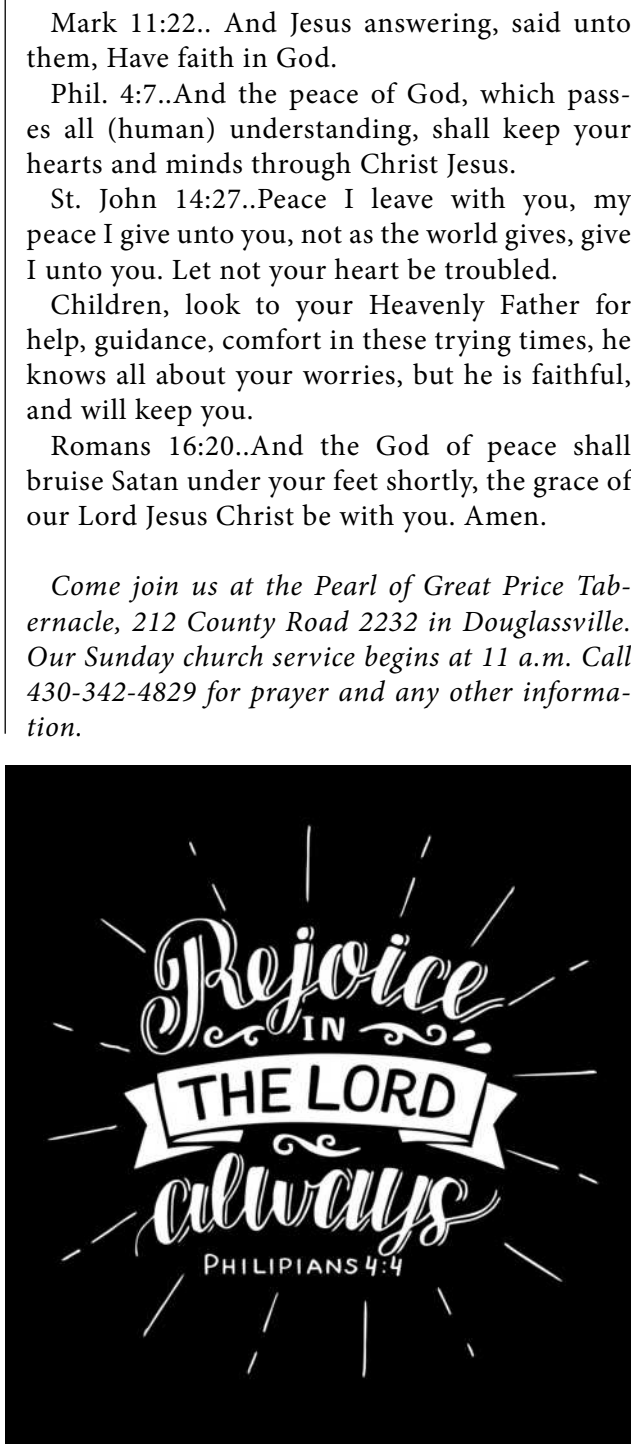
Phil. 4:7..And the peace of God, which passes all (human) understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

St. John 14:27..Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you, not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled.

Children, look to your Heavenly Father for help, guidance, comfort in these trying times, he knows all about your worries, but he is faithful, and will keep you.

Romans 16:20..And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Come join us at the Pearl of Great Price Tabernacle, 212 County Road 2232 in Douglassville. Our Sunday church service begins at 11 a.m. Call 430-342-4829 for prayer and any other information.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

"Do not be conformed to this world" (Romans 12:2). The call is that Christians conduct themselves so they will not be viewed as the unbelieving world. A brief review of history reveals that Christian armies could be as cruel and vicious as the unbeliever. Those in power could be as adulterous as those who openly had multiple wives. Greed and lack of integrity marked many as no different from any other religion.

There is strong pressure to conform. The unbelieving world demands that we conform. The root meaning of the word "tribulation" is pressure. Tribulation comes as one is pressured to conform, be it one's sex life, business dealings, or the unborn. There is peer pressure, media pressure, and government pressure. That pressure is coming in the form of persecution—ridicule, loss of employment, imprisonment, and in some instances the loss of life.

"But be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (12:2). That will happen only as you read, study, and meditate upon the Word of God (Psalm 1). The pressure to conform is so strong that one in his own strength cannot resist. Only through the forgiveness of our Lord Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit working through the Word of God will you stand "in the evil day" (Ephesians 6:13-18). Sunday service time is at 11:00 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran Church
4058 FM 2328 • Atlanta, TX 75551
Sunday Service Time 11 a.m.

Queen City hosts Archery Tournament at J.K. Hileman Elementary

By Tim Emmons
temmons@casscountynow.com

Queen City ISD hosted a tournament for their Archery Program on Sat. Jan. 16, at J.K. Hileman Elementary. The Bulldog Archery Team had 88 archers who competed in the meet. The Top Archers included: (fourth grade) first place - Journey Dowden 232; (fifth grade) first place - Carter Aucoin 252; (sixth grade) first place - Chris Brown 272; (seventh grade) first place - Caleb Kimble 297; (eighth grade) first place - Brayden Wiley 276; (ninth grade) first place - Bailey Endsley; (10th grade) first place - Aubrie Kiser 239 and (11th grade) first place - Austin Fahrney 270.















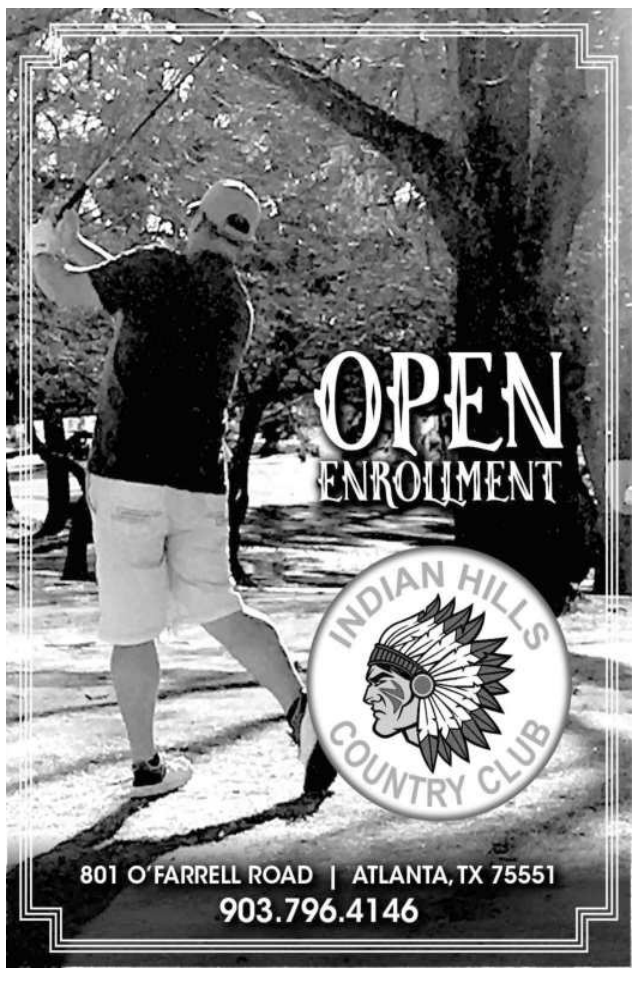
Morris Upchurch Middle School basketball action shots













Queen City powerlifters earn first place at Maud Invitational

By Tim Emmons
temmons@casscountynow.com

Queen City powerlifters competed Jan 14, at the Maud Invitational Powerlifting Meet. The Bulldogs took 17 boys and one girl to the event.

Overall, the Queen City boys' team placed first against the 12 other schools present which included juggernaut Texas High.

The lone Lady Bulldog Erica Lavoie placed fourth in her respective weight class.

For the guys Justin Lance was a beast at the bar as he placed first in the 242-pound weight class with a squat total of 650 pounds, a bench total of 285 pounds and a deadlift total of 485 pounds.

Cedric Davis also tossed up beast-like numbers as he placed first in the Super Heavy Weight (SHW) division with a squat total of 660 pounds, a bench total of 335 pounds and a deadlift total of 500 pounds.

Kenneth Allison placed second in the 132-pound weight class, Delvon Federick placed first in the 148's, Christian Nard placed fourth in the 148-pound weight class, Charlie Kirkland-Campbell placed eighth in the 165's, Kaden Satterfield placed ninth in the 165's, Logan Niedens placed fourth in the 165's, Clint Wooding placed seventh in the 181's, Mason Stringer placed eighth in the 181's, Aaron Jones placed sixth in the 198's, Tanner McCarthy placed sixth in the 220-pound weight class, Daniel Jones placed sixth in the 242's and Rhyen Pope placed seventh in the 275-pound weight class.

QC power will compete in the Tri-Meet Saturday, Feb. 13, with Linden-Kildare and Clarksville.



Erica Lavoie stays focused at the squat station during the Maud Powerlifting Invitational.



Cedric Davis tossed up 660 pounds at the squat station. Davis won the SHW division with a total of 1,495 pounds lifted.













McLeod celebrates Senior Night before game with Maud



Cary May



Kaitlyn Cross



Photo by KELSEY MAY

Sibbie Comer