

# Hallettsville TRIBUNE-HERALD

145th Year (USPS 640/100), ©2021 Hallettsville Publishing Co.

\$1.00

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

No. 7

## Friday morning accident claims Hallettsville woman's life

A head-on crash at the Rocky Creek Bridge on Highway 77 approximately six miles south of Hallettsville claimed the life of a Hallettsville woman and her unborn child Friday morning, Feb. 12.

According to a report from

Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Ruben San Miguel, responders were called to the accident scene around 8:25 a.m. Friday morning.

San Miguel said the two-vehicle collision took place when

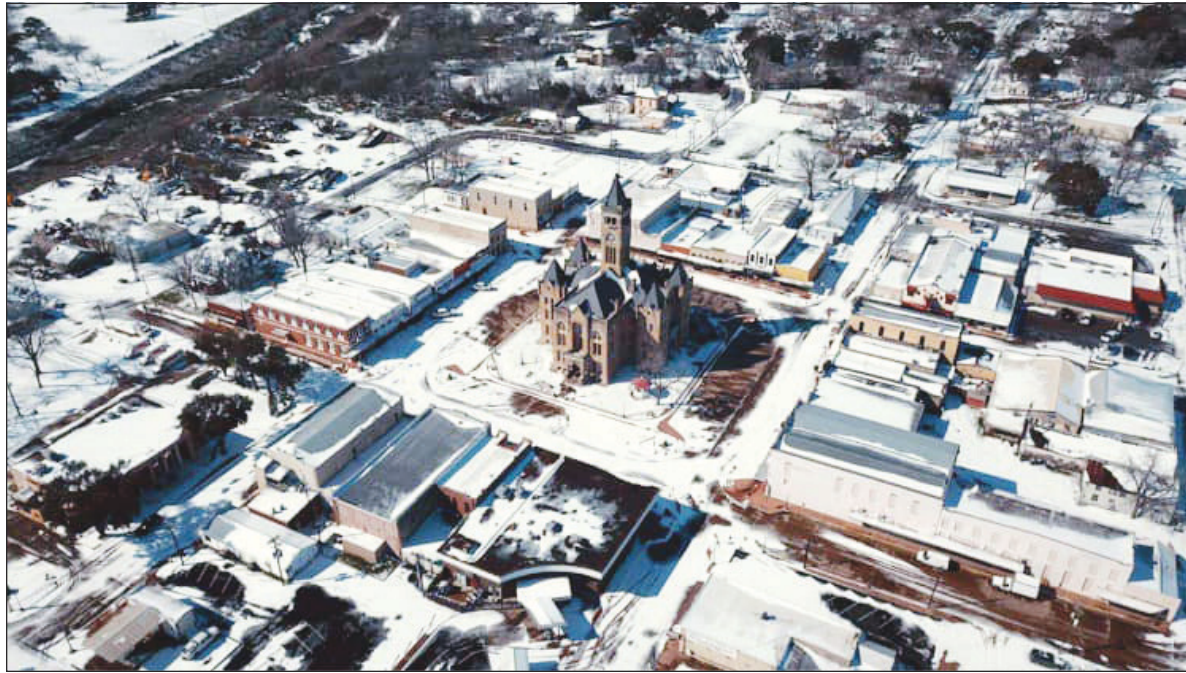
a Ford F-250 pickup, traveling north and driven by Maldonado Flaviano Lored, 36, slid on ice causing the pickup to skid into the southbound lane and collide into a Chevrolet Suburban SUV, driven by Kristy Turner, 35, of Hallettsville.

According to the DPS report, the collision caused the truck's bed to be separated from its chassis.

Turner was pronounced dead at the scene by Lavaca County Pct. 1 Justice of the Peace, Mark Ivey at 9 a.m. In

addition, Turner's unborn child also died in the accident.

According to a Lavaca County Sheriff's Office Facebook post, the bridge was closed for a period of time with travelers on Hwy. 77 detoured on an alternate route around the area.



## Record cold winter blast hits area

Old Man Winter made it known spring is not coming anytime soon.

Beginning Saturday frigid winds brought freezing rain and record low temperatures to the city, which saw a record low high temperature of 34 degrees. Things only worsened the following day.

Sunday's conditions saw sleet and freezing rain hit the area along with a record low of 21 degrees, plus a record low high of 33 degrees.

Monday was a real mess with temps slipping to a record low of 13 degrees and a record low high of 27 degrees. A period of freezing rain gave way to 1.9 inches of snow, and wind chills below zero.

Travel became an adventure as roads froze throughout the county during the prolonged precip, which blanketed the county with up to three inches of snow in several sections.

Numerous accidents were attributed to black ice on local bridges and roadways.

Winter Storm Warnings were in place Saturday through Thursday as additional frozen rain and snow was predicted Wednesday.

The latest forecast noted conditions would worsen late Tuesday night and cold temps would last until the area would

SEE COLD, PAGE 14

## SNOW!

Hallettsville was all shut down by an arctic blast that arrived on Valentine's Day and held thermometers to record lows for days afterward. The massive statewide front closed schools, shut down roadways and left millions across Texas without power for hours as the state's power grid struggled to keep up, faced with massive electricity shortages after many of the massive windmills that feed the state's power system froze solid out in West Texas. To abide local first responder pleas that we to stay off icy roadways during the storm's worst, the Tribune-Herald sent out a Facebook request asking local residents to pass along a few of their favorite storm pictures. Here are a few of our favorites, starting top left and moving clockwise: Ann Miller passed along this amazing aerial image of the Lavaca County Courthouse and downtown Hallettsville, blanketed in snow; Officers with Hallettsville Police Department, out in force throughout the storm dealing with several accidents and stranded motorists, shared this image from just outside their station early Monday; Sacred Heart Catholic Church shared this little guy, whom they dubbed "Padre Frio," a big Astros fan.



Lavaca Memorial VFW Post 6382 recognized first responders from each entity at its Feb. 10 meeting. Officer of the Day Kevin Bright, left, and Commander Steven Drozd, right, made the presentations. From left, Sgt. Rebeca DeLuna (Lavaca County Sheriff's Department), Peter Bethke (Hallettsville Volunteer Fire Department) and Lt. Erica Vaccaro (Hallettsville Police Department).

## VFW recognizes first responders

Lavaca Memorial VFW Post 6382 recognized three first responders before its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, Feb. 10 at the Sacred Heart Parish Center.

The Firefighter of the Year for 2020 is Peter Bethke.

Bethke joined the Hallettsville VFD in January 2015. Since joining, he has been a very reliable member and was able to attend over 80% of the incidences and meetings.

When there is a task to be done at the incident or at the station, he needs little or no help in completing the job and is always ready to help.

Bethke is currently the Training Officer for the fire department, a position he has held for one year.

Sgt. Rebeca DeLuna Perez was the nominee for Officer of the Year from the Lavaca County Sheriff's Department.

SEE VFW, PAGE 14

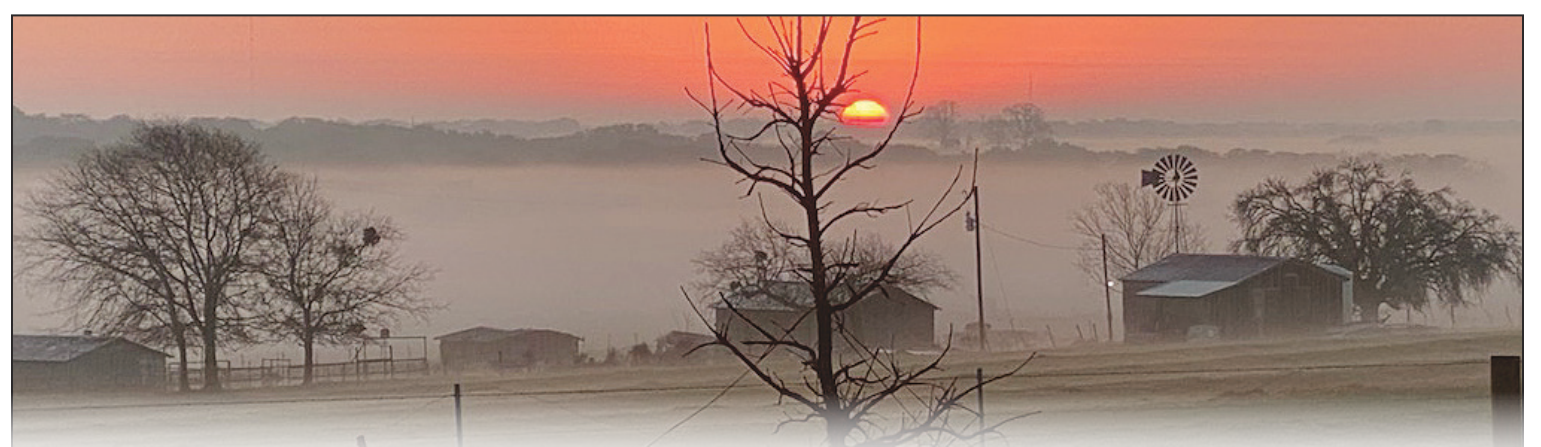
## Henneke Fish Hatchery to be shown on TCR

A report of the Henneke Fish Hatchery is scheduled to be televised next weekend Feb. 27-28) on the television program, Texas Country Reporter.

According to Kenneth Henneke, owner and operator of the Hatchery, the film crew, along with TCR producers and hosts Bob and Kelli Phillips, recorded a story about his fish farm a few months back and is now available to the viewing public.

The program, which can be seen on satellite and cable area television stations as well as RFD-TV.

A list of viewing times and channels will be listed in next week's issue of the *Tribune-Herald*.



## 125-plus years & counting...

## Wied area farm earns Family Land Heritage honors, twice now

BOBBY HORECKA, MANAGING EDITOR  
BOBBYHORECKA@GMAIL.COM

Had it been just any other ol' year, Rick and Laurie Braun would have likely been headed to Austin last September to stand and be recognized.

Of course, 2020 was anything but ordinary.

So, when it came time for the Texas Department of Agriculture's 45th annual gala to recognize its honorees in the Family Land Heritage program last September, the event got canceled, laid low by the ongoing pandemic that nixed thousands of such events across the Lone Star State since the coronavirus first hit Texas in March 2020.

Instead of some fancy shindig at the state capitol, the Brauns enjoyed a

nice, quiet day at the house—Rick with his hefty collection of vintage Farmall tractors that he restores in his free time, and Laurie with her ankle-high collection of longhaired Pekingese pups that she raises since retiring from the Texas Department of Transportation—all on the very land that's been in the family for nearly 13 decades now.

Had they made it to Austin last September, they would have been greeted by Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller and treated to a banquet at which their farm would have been honored alongside dozens of others from across Texas as one the program's centennial honorees, recognizing Texas farms and ranches with 100 or more

SEE 125, PAGE 14





# LIONS CLUB

We Serve

BY: JIMMY APPELT

The Hallettsville Lions Club met Monday, Feb. 1 at the Knights of Columbus pavilion with Lion president Paula Parkinson presiding over the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lion Anne Rowbotham, while Lion David Smolik led in the singing of *America* and the prayer.

Lion Paula introduced the meeting's guest, Lavaca County emergency management coordinator, Egon Barthels, who also presented the program for the meeting.

Barthels began his presentation by informing the club members how he became the county's emergency management coordinator and that he has been serving that position for a little over a year.

"Little did I know when I started in October 2019 that on March 13, 2020 we were going to have this COVID-19 pandemic," Barthels said.

Barthels explained that Lavaca County belongs to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Region 8 with Lavaca County being the farthest eastern county. He said Region 8 includes the surrounding counties as well as Bexar County and stretches all the way down to Del Rio.

Barthels said he receives the case report on COVID-19 cases from Region 8 regarding the number of cases within the county, which also includes the number of



The newest member to the Hallettsville Lions Club, Shirley Rothbauer, was inducted during a brief ceremony held at the club's Monday, Feb. 1 meeting. Lion Paula Parkinson sponsored Lion Shirley with Lion Tamer David Smolik conducting the ceremonies. From left are Lions Paula and Shirley. Photo by Jimmy Appelt

Lavaca County deaths from COVID-19.

"The information I received and provided has been moved from our social media accounts to the Lavaca County website," Barthels said. "COVID-19 has become so politicized and polarized and either you are one way or the other about it, and that's okay. It has made it easier for us to share that information in one spot."

Barthels said on the website were the cases have been sorted by zip codes in the county. He said he also includes the 14-day running account of cases.

Barthels explained there is confusion in the difference of how COVID deaths are reported by Region 8 and the state dashboard. "Region 8 reported that it was determined there were 13 people in the county who have passed away from COVID, not with COVID, and that's a key in reporting," Barthels said. "On the state dashboard report, if I go out, get hit by a truck, died and had COVID-19, that goes on my death certificate and is how its calculated to the state."

Barthels talked about the rollout of vaccine distribution saying the process hasn't gone the way we all would like it be allocated.

He said Lavaca and Colorado County has developed a sub hub plan for distribution of the vaccines, when received, that includes using the two county's EMS personnel for distribution of the vaccine.

According to Barthels, currently only Lava-

ca Medical Center and Brookshire Brothers has been allocated as providers for the vaccine. Barthels said in addition, Yoakum Community Hospital just got on the list to allocate the vaccine, which will help cover county citizens residing in the western end of the county.

In the business portion of the meeting, Lion Paula reported that Lion Charles Neumeyer is recovering from a bout with COVID. She said he's doing well, but remains a little fatigued from the illness.

Induction ceremonies were held for the newest member to the club, Shirley Rothbauer. Lion Shirley is sponsored by Lion Paula and Lion David conducted the induction ceremony.

The club voted to continue sponsoring a Major League Girls softball and a T-Ball team with the Hallettsville Little League. Also, the club approved a one-year sponsorship of sign that is located at the Little League field.

The club discussed the Flags over Hallettsville project, with Lion Paula reporting that 30 applications have been received with all being paid up.

A discussion for prorating the cost for applications for a flag in the event an individual would want a flag placed in their yard following the first patriotic day. A pro-rate cost for flag applications was approved by the club.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m. and the next meeting will be held Monday, Feb. 15.



## Sacred Heart Catholic School Recognize Good Characteristics in their Students

A spirit contest was held in Grades Pre-K thru 8 to recognize good characteristics of the students. Grades Pre-K thru 4 selected two students who most exemplified the qualities of a spirited member of the Sacred Heart Catholic School student body.

The questions dealt with character, service, dedication to both Church and School, and genuine respect for life and others.

The following students were selected:

Pre-K 3: Lynden Etzler and Heidi Stovall

Pre-K 4: Emmalee Pastucha and Castson Dworsky

Kindergarten: Brynadee Etzler and Claire Janak

Grade 1: Ford Noska and Hillary Etzler

Grade 2: Emily Bludau and Greysen Miranda

Grade 3: Konnor Chance and Emi Pohl

Grade 4: Colsen Dworsky and Kristina Rybak

Students in grades 5 - 8 were asked to vote for a student whom they thought exhibited the characteristics of being responsible, having good

study habits, being optimistic, being courteous and the overall winner is the person who shows living out the Spirit of Sacred Heart Catholic School.

The following students were chosen:

Grade 5: being responsible - Ben Meinkowsky, having good study habits - Ainsley Grahmann, being optimistic - Macie Haas, being courteous - Ainsley Noska and Kennedy Zappe and overall winner - Ainsley Noska

Grade 6: being responsible - Kenzie Chance, having good study habits - Allison Clarkl, being optimistic - Ysabella Arellano, being courteous - Layne Sevcik and overall winner - Allison Clark

Grade 7: being responsible - Mabry Machac, having good study habits - Ella Demel, being optimistic - Cameron Cull, being courteous - Bryce Machicek and overall winner - Mabry Machac

Grade 8: being responsible - Brianna Clark, having good study habits - Adalyn Pohl, being optimistic - Thia Infante, being courteous - Sam Bludau and overall winner - Karley Kostelnik.

## Weather Watch

LARRY ROTHBAUER - NWS OBSERVER

### This Week's Forecast

Wednesday:	High 40	Low 28
	(SHOWERS)	
Thursday:	High 35	Low 18
	(SHOWERS)	
Friday:	High 40	Low 22
	(P/C)	
Saturday:	High 49	Low 46
	(P/C)	
Sunday:	High 63	Low 39
	(P/C)	
Monday:	High 61	Low 38
	(P/C)	
Tuesday:	High 67	Low 49
	(P/C)	

- BURN BAN IS OFF -



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**www.ChuckBrownFord.com**  
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 <b>2019 F-150 XL R/C</b> <b>\$30,900</b> SALE PRICE +TT&L	 <b>2020 EXPEDITION KING RANCH MAX</b> <b>\$70,562</b> SALE PRICE +TT&L
 <b>2020 EXPEDITION KING RANCH MAX</b> <b>\$71,203</b> SALE PRICE +TT&L	 <b>2020 EXPEDITION PLATINUM</b> <b>\$70,377</b> SALE PRICE +TT&L
 <b>2019 MUSTANG PREMIUM</b> <b>\$25,110</b> SALE PRICE +TT&L	 <b>2019 RANGER XLT</b> <b>\$34,900</b> SALE PRICE +TT&L

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# HOFFER'S

## DRIVE IN GROCERY & Washateria

SPECIALS: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17 - TUESDAY, FEB. 22

<b>SWAI Fish Fillets</b>	<b>\$2.99</b> Lb.	<b>Hormel Pressed Ham</b>	<b>\$3.49</b> Lb.
<b>Blue Bell Ice Cream</b>	<b>\$5.19</b> 1/2 Gallon	<b>Hunt's Squeeze Ketchup</b>	<b>\$1.49</b> 20 Oz.
<b>Pink Beauty Salmon</b>	<b>\$3.59</b> 14.75 Oz.	<b>Celery</b>	<b>\$1.09</b> Stalk
<b>Skinner Medium Egg Noodles</b>	<b>\$2.29</b> 12 Oz.	<b>Hy-Top Tomato Sauce</b>	<b>49¢</b> 8 Oz.
<b>Velveeta Cheese</b>	<b>\$7.69</b> 2 Lb.	<b>Parkay Vegetable Oil Spread Quarters</b>	<b>\$1.89</b> 16 Oz.
<b>Mrs. Grass Noodle Soup Mix</b>	<b>\$1.79</b> 4.2 Oz.	<b>Nabisco Unsalted Tops Saltine Crackers</b>	<b>\$3.19</b> 1 Lb.
<b>Michelob Ultra Beer</b>	<b>\$22.39</b> 18 Pk. Cans	<b>Coors Light Miller Lite Bud &amp; Bud Light</b>	<b>\$19.99</b> 18 Pk. Cans

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 Due to availability, selection may vary. Limited stock on hand.

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## Royal Court of Blessings



Seniors Abigail Clark and Alex Angerstein were crowned Queen and King of the Royal Court of Blessings.

The Coronation is a traditional part of Catholic Schools Week at Sacred Heart.

Although some adjustments had to be made due to Covid, the event was still a highlight for the week.

The crowning was followed by a student talent show with participants from PreK 4 to 12th grade.

Talents included singing, instrumental music, baton twirling, gymnastics, comedy, cheer/dance and solving Rubic's cubes.

Congratulations to all those who represented their class as members of the royal court. Thanks to all the seniors who were responsible for organizing this event.



## Great State Republicans are official

The Great State Republicans are the newest Republican Women's organization in Lavaca County. Organized August 1, 2020, after fulfilling the requirements for application, this club was accepted into the statewide Texas Federation of Republican Women in October joining the over 10,000 members in 164 clubs in Texas. January 15th Great State Republicans became a Chartered Club with the National Federation of Republican Women joining clubs in all 50 States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The Club President Becky Berger and Campaign Activities Chair Cheryl Thompson-Draper along with our TFRW Senate District 18 District Director Amy Mundy of Victoria met in Austin February 3rd - 5th at the TFRW Board Meeting for the presentation of our NFRW Charter and attend Legislative Day. These parent organizations provide resources for individual clubs to educate vot-

ers, train campaign workers and recruit and develop Republican candidates. We bring current issues to light with knowledgeable speakers on the topics that affect our world. This legislative sessions our ladies will be making our way to Austin to testify when needed to help pass good legislation and stop bad laws from making it to the floor for a vote.

Our club currently has 51 Primary members (all of whom are Charter Members of Great State Republicans), 14 Male Associates, 2 Female Associates and one Young Affiliate (14-18). We have room to grow since there are 4,068 Republican Primary Voters in Lavaca County. With the bulk of our membership living in the Hallettsville area we hold our meetings in Hallettsville at St. Peter Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall the last Monday of each month at 7 PM. This month February 22nd, we will be having our first Silent Auction and Social

at our usual meeting location and time. We have many nice items donated by our members and members of the community. There will also be membership information and forms available for those who wish to help us get our government to work for us as intended by the Founding Fathers (and Mothers). We encourage you to join us if you are Republican and interested in letting us show you how to get your voice heard. Come and meet our members and leadership, Karen Renger 1st VP Finance, Barbara Koehn 2nd VP Membership, Debbie Hopper 3rd VP Legislation, Patricia Kessler 4th VP Programs, Aileen Peck Secretary and Mona Davenport is our Treasurer/PAC Treasurer. Our Committee Chairs are Ruth Muehr-Awards, Dianne Appelt-Bylaws, Cheryl Draper-Campaign Activities, Geraldine

O'Day- Historian, Sandra Pustka-Hospitality, Frances Pohl-Parliamentarian and Virginia Partida-Telephone Contact.

From October through December of 2020 Great State Republicans provided 6,840 political volunteer hours to campaigns for county, state and national candidates, registering voters and getting people to the polls. Volunteer hours for political purposes are valued at \$24.75/hr. That is the equivalent of \$169,290.00 donated in just 3 months. It speaks volumes as to the dedicated efforts of our members. Just imagine what we will do with all 12 months in 2021.

For more information you may contact President Becky Berger at becky-bergerfortx@gmail.com or at 979-505-0508. Send your email by Text GREAT-STATE to 42828 to be added to our contact list.

## FILING DEADLINES FOR TAX EXEMPTIONS

Below are the deadlines for filing various tax exemption applications with the Lavaca County Central Appraisal District Office:

EXEMPTION APPLICATION	FILING DEADLINE
Residential Homestead Exemption (11.13)	April 30, 2021
Over-65 Exemption	April 30, 2021
Disabled Persons Exemption	April 30, 2021
Surviving Spouse of Individual who qualified for Age 65 or Older Exemption	April 30, 2021
100 Percent Disabled Veterans Exemption	April 30, 2021
Surviving Spouse of Disabled Veteran who qualified or would have qualified for 100 percent Disabled	April 30, 2021
Donated Residence Homestead of Partially Disabled Veteran	April 30, 2021
Surviving Spouse of Disabled Veteran who qualified for Donated Residence Homestead Exemption	April 30, 2021
Surviving Spouse of Disabled of Member of Armed Forces Killed in Action	April 30, 2021
Surviving Spouse of Member of First Responder Killed in Action	April 30, 2021
Cemetery Exemption (11.17)	April 30, 2021
Charitable Organization Exemption (11.18)	April 30, 2021
Religious Organization Exemption (11.20)	April 30, 2021
Disabled Veterans Exemption (11.22)	April 30, 2021
Miscellaneous Exemptions (11.23)	April 30, 2021
annual application	April 30, 2021
Historic Site Exemption (11.24)	April 30, 2021
annual application	April 30, 2021
1-d-1 (open space) Agricultural Appraisal	April 30, 2021
RENDITIONS	FILING DEADLINE
Real Property	April 30, 2021
Business Personal Property (Mandatory)	April 15, 2021
Mobile Homes	April 15, 2021

\*Applications for Homestead may be filed up to 2 years after the deadline for filing it has passed, if it is filed not later than two years after the delinquency date for the taxes on the homestead.

The Over-65 and Disabled Persons Exemption may be filed immediately upon turning 65 or written confirmation of Disability from Social Security.

For more information or to obtain an application, please contact the Lavaca County Central Appraisal District located at 908 N. Glendale St., Hallettsville, Texas 77964, or telephone 361-798-4396.

Forms are also available at [www.lavacacad.com](http://www.lavacacad.com).

**HALLETTSVILLE  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19**  
Hallettsville KC Hall  
**\$10.00 PER PLATE**  
*Drive thru Plates to Go Only*  
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

*Golden Fried Fish Fillets, Hush Puppies,  
French Fries, Pinto Beans & Cole Slaw.*

Tickets available at Hoffer's Drive-In, Sacred Heart Catholic School,  
Sacred Heart Federal Credit Union, KC Hall and at the Door.  
Proceeds support KC Charities

**Acute Care Saturday  
OUTSIDE CLINIC**

**LAVACA FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC**  
(LOCATION - BEHIND FACILITY IN ER PARKING LOT)

**Saturdays • 8 a.m. - Noon**  
**BEGINNING FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>**

Only acute visits will be scheduled for appointments such as: fever, coughs, colds, congestion, COVID symptoms, flu symptoms, sore throat and ear aches.

Saturday acute clinic appointments can be scheduled beginning at 1 p.m. on Fridays of each week.

Call 361.798.1200  
TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT.  
1400 NORTH TEXANA | HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS 77964  
[WWW.LAVACAMEDICALCENTER.COM](http://WWW.LAVACAMEDICALCENTER.COM)

## Polka & Sausage Fest canceled

Organizers of Hallettsville's South Texas Polka & Sausage Fest regretfully announced Wednesday, Feb. 10, that this year's event would be canceled because of the ongoing threat posed by the coronavirus pandemic.

"We apologize for the inconvenience to our many patrons who may have been planning a trip to Hallettsville for the weekend of March 26-28," they said in a release. "We pray that you are all healthy, and we look forward to an end to this pandemic. Thank you and God bless!"

## Holy Cross Lutheran Church 'Family Movie Night'

Hello! God's blessings to everyone! Holy Cross Lutheran Church is again sponsoring their "Family Movie Night" at the church Fellowship Hall, located at 605 Highway. 77A South in Yoakum on Sunday, Feb. 28 at 4 p.m. Bottled water, popcorn, and other snacks will be available prior to and during the movie, and it is all FREE! This month, the movie will be What if?...

Fifteen years ago, a man left his girlfriend, his hometown, and his ministry for a business opportunity. Now, he has a high-paying job and a trophy fiancée. One day, he is visited by an angel who lets him see what his life would have looked like if he had followed his calling. Please plan to join them and do not forget to bring your family and friends.

Social spacing will be provided for your safety. God Bless!

**Texas Time Machine**

Stories from the archives  
of old newspapers

By Murray Montgomery

**September 19th, 1942 -- Forerunner of Bergstrom Air Force Base is activated near Austin**

On this day in 1942, Del Valle Army Air Base was activated. The facility was constructed on 3,000 acres of land donated by the city of Austin. It was renamed Bergstrom Field on November 11, 1943, in honor of Capt. John A. Bergstrom, the first Austinite killed in World War II. In 1948 the name was changed to Bergstrom Air Force Base. The base closed on September 30, 1993. The land was returned to the city of Austin, and in May of 1999 Austin-Bergstrom International Airport was opened on the site and Robert Mueller Municipal Airport was closed.

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## 2021 HOPE LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION SHOW AND AUCTION

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20

**HOPE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
122 CR 413A, YOAKUM 77995

### SCHEDULE

12:00	Concessions Open
2:00	Livestock Show
6:00	Livestock & Cake Auction

**LIVE & SILENT AUCTION**  
**4H & HLA RAFFLE**  
**TICKETS AVAILABLE**

**COME OUT AND  
SUPPORT 4H & FFA!**

### PROJECT SHOW EXHIBITORS

#### BROILERS

Conner Clark, Hope 4H  
Sutton Haynes, Hope 4H  
Jaxson Herchek, Sweet Home 4H  
Audrey Hogan, Hope 4H  
Summer Hogan, Hope 4H  
Lani Pilat, Hope 4H  
Brandie Smith, Hope 4H  
Joseph Smith, Hope 4H  
Saralynn Smith, Hope 4H

#### RABBITS

Aaron Brandes, Hope 4H  
Savannah Filip, Hope 4H  
Madelyn Hynes, Hope 4H  
Baylee Johnson, Hope 4H  
Jamison Johnson, Hope 4H

#### HEIFERS

Kodie Bible, Hope 4H  
Laney Bible, Hope 4H  
Jonah Hermes, Hope 4H  
Lani Pilat, Hope 4H  
Brooklyn Schoenneman, Hope 4H  
Cole Taylor, Hope 4H  
Weston Tucker, Hope 4H

#### SWINE

Tucker Boswell, Sweet Home 4H  
Dayson Brosch, Sweet Home 4H  
Shalyn Hairell, Hope 4H  
Ryder Harris, Sweet Home 4H  
Sutton Haynes, Hope 4H  
Kelson Jacobs, Sweet Home 4H  
Rylan Jalufka, Hope 4H  
Raiden Jalufka, Hope 4H  
Ian Kennedy, Sweet Home 4H  
Konnor Kopecky, Sweet Home 4H  
Kolton Kopecky, Sweet Home 4H  
Koy Kopecky, Sweet Home 4H  
Jacob Motal, Sweet Home 4H  
Dagan Pfuhl, Sweet Home 4H  
Brianna Songster, Hallettsville FFA

#### CLOVER BUCKET CALVES

Jase Taylor, Hope 4H  
Brystal Tucker, Hope 4H

Additional exhibitors entered in 4H cake contest and auction  
Your support is greatly appreciated, buyers and buyers group members needed  
For More Information: Contact Matt Bible @ 361-293-7204



## GVEC donation

GVEC Community Relations Representative Christine Presley presents a \$1,225 donation to the Hallettsville Junior Livestock Show. GVEC donates funds to the stock show each year in support of youth participants. Pictured (L to R): Hallettsville Junior Livestock Show board members Michael Graham and Todd Tullos, Presley, and board members Ronnie Sevcik and Rick Rose.

## HJH's Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Art Winners



Girls left to right back row: Grace Halata, Carson Jansky, Brenna Scott, Kaylee Marek Roberson, Johanna Smith. Front row: Elizabeth Felcman, Haven Drozd, Ka'Mia Ford



Boys: Brayden Miranda, Nathan Henke

## Announcing the 2021 Hallet Oak Gallery Programs

New Hours! Hallet Oak Gallery will be Open Monday - Friday Noon to 2:00 PM. Saturdays 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Ongoing - view the 2021 Artists Exhibit: paintings, photography, drawings, sculptures, and woodcarvings. Discover the stories of Hallettsville's namesake family on the Hallet Historical Timeline. Learn about the architecture of the building designed by renowned architect J. Riely Gordon. Notice the Muldoon Blue sandstone used on the outside of the building and the cast-iron threshold stamped Kahn & Stanzel. Enjoy a scavenger hunt in the Gallery or around the Square.

The following 2021 programs are funded in part by Dr. Betty J. Edwards, Dixon-Allen Foundation, and City of Hallettsville. All are free and open to the public:

**MARCH**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 6**  
 HALLETTSVILLE: Grand Opening - 2021 Artists Exhibit!  
 11:00 AM to 4 PM - Open House Reception  
 Refreshments will be served.

Traditional and contemporary art by Moses Adams, Dianne Appelt, Blanche Cavarretta, Roy Cavarretta, Linda Cejka, Larry Charles, Toni Conner, Gene Grant, Mary Gullette, Debbie Halling, JoAnn Kahaneck, Ken Kpacki, Mieko Mahi, Kathleen McBride, Paulina

Patterson, Dennis Pesek, James Phillips, Steven Pituch, Georgia Pohl, Phyllis Rivera, Timothy Sadler, Lois Weiss, Michael Windberg, and Brianna Woods  
 Hallet Oak Gallery, 115 N. Main St., Hallettsville, TX 77964  
 www.halletoakgallery.com 361-217-7030  
 Free and open to the public. Membership not required.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 20**  
 HALLETTSVILLE: First-Day-of-Spring Chalk Art - Come & Go  
 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Thumbprint Art Class by Georgia Pohl  
 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Outdoor Music

Exhibits of Hallettsville High School Livestock and Rodeo Art, Young American Creative Patriotic Art, and Moulton ISD Western Art.  
 Hallet Oak Gallery, 115 N. Main St., Hallettsville, TX 77964  
 www.halletoakgallery.com 361-217-7030  
 Free and open to the public. Membership not required.

**APRIL**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 3**  
 HALLETTSVILLE: Hallet Oak Gallery Beautification Day  
 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM  
 Indoors - Children's Art Project by Linda Cejka  
 Outdoors - Cleanup Projects for Adults  
 Over 15 may pick up trash with adults, must be pre-

pared with proper clothing.

\*Community Service Certificates provided for students.

Hallet Oak Gallery, 115 N. Main St., Hallettsville, TX 77964  
 www.halletoakgallery.com

RSVP for details, leave voice message: 361-217-7030  
 Free and open to the public. Membership not required.

Hallet Oak Gallery will award six \$150 student service scholarships donated by Robert Blair, Marilyn Prazak Chovanetz, and Cheryl & Duwayne Engelhardt. See www.halletoakgallery.com for details. Selection will be based on most Hallet Oak Gallery youth volunteer hours and most creative young artist exhibit in Gallery.

## World AND U.S. TRIVIA

Historical Facts about the world & America  
 (Compiled by Murray Montgomery)

\* A group of flamingos is called a "flamboyance".

\* World Wrestling Federation (WWF) had to change their name to World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) because of legal action taken by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

## Helping lead the youth for 24 years

Carol Zak retired from the Hallettsville ISD after 24 years of service. School board president Robert Lundy presented her with a plaque at the Feb. 10 meeting of the board of trustees.



## Lavaca County Spelling Bee Winners

Garrett Appelt took top honors at this years Lavaca County Spelling Bee while Gabriel Dodson was second place. Appelt, pictured at left, is an eighth grader at Vysherad ISD. His parents are Carmen and Jason Appelt. Paula Parkinson, center, was the pronouncer of the annual Lavaca County Spelling Bee. Dodson, pictured at right, is a seventh grader at Sweet Home ISD. His parents are Jordan and Joe Sluka. They advanced to the regional spelling bee to be held in Victoria on March 6.

# Hallettsville MARKET DAYS



9:00 - 4:00

Sat., Feb. 20



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# SPORTS



Sydney Migura blocks a shot by Karnes City's Jaiden Robinson in the bi-district game in Goliad Friday. Chuck Grafe/Tribune-Herald



Kaylee Svetlik scores in the point despite the effort of Karnes City' Jashania Foley. Kaylee led the Lady Brahmas with 15 points in the bi-district game played in Goliad Friday. Chuck Grafe/Tribune-Herald

## Lady Brahmas fade in end, lose 51-42

CHUCK GRAFE, STAFF WRITER  
HTHSPTS@sbcglobal.net

**GOLIAD** – The Hallettsville's Lady Brahmas' chances of winning a bi-district championship faded in the final minute.

The Lady Brahmas went scoreless the final three minutes in dropping a 51-42 decision to Karnes City at the Events Center Friday night.

Briley Rother's driving lay up was the last points the Lady Brahmas would score. After that, Hallettsville (10-8) went into turnover mode and Karnes City scored the final 8 points of the game.

The Lady Brahmas took a 40-38 lead at the onset of the fourth quarter after a three-pointer by Sloan Machacek. However, the Lady Brahmas were outscored 13-2 the rest of the way.

Karnes City (14-4) led by as many as 12 points in the first half.

Mia Lozano had the hot hand for Karnes City in the first period with 9 points while Courtney Woytek had 7 for the Lady Brahmas, but the Lady Badgers led 13-9 at the first break.

Five Lady Brahma turnovers in the second stanza helped Karnes City take a 27-17 lead at the half.

But to its credit, Hallettsville fought back and



Sloan Machacek squares up for a three in the bi-district loss to Karnes City Friday in Goliad. Chuck Grafe/Tribune-Herald

opened the second half with threes by Rother and Kaylee Svetlik and a free throw by Sydney Migura to cut the lead to 27-24. The teams played on even terms the rest of the third period with Karnes City taking a 38-35 lead into the final eight minutes.

Svetlik led Hallettsville with 15 points. Karnes City had three players in double figures led by Jaiden Robinson's

See LB, Page 7

## 'Nettes gain tie for 1st

CHUCK GRAFE, SPORTS EDITOR  
HTHSPTS@sbcglobal.net

St. Paul came back from a 15-point deficit to defeat the Sacred Heart Indianettes back on Jan. 22. Although the Cardinals came close, the Indianettes weren't going let it happen again.

The Indianettes repelled a fourth quarter surge to take a 50-45 win to gain a first place tie in TAPPS District 5-AA with the Cardinals in the SH Gym last Tuesday.

Sacred Heart (12-7, 7-1) led 48-39 following a 6-0 run which was headed by Elizabeth Grahmann and Jules Janak, but the Cardinals wouldn't go away and whittled the lead to 48-45 with less than a minute to play. Rebecca Wagner hit a pair of free throws, Kate Ehrig a basket and Ashley Pesek a follow shot to get the lead down to three. But Bailey Haas and Janak both buried free throws in the final three seconds to seal the game.

It was a had-fought, foul-plagued game with the teams combining for 62 free throws. The Indianettes and Cardinals had 25 turnovers apiece.

Grahmann finished the game with a game-high 23 points and shot 19 of 26 from the field, while Janak and Emma Hawkins were both in double figures with 10 points each. Janak had a double-double with 11 rebounds as did Hawkins with 10 boards.

Wagner led the Cardinals with 19 points, 9 coming from the free throw line in 12 attempts. The rest of the team was 4 for 16.

St. Paul's only lead in the game was 5-2 at the start before the Indianettes got 5 points by Grahmann and 4 by Hawkins for a 11-9 advantage at the first break.

Sacred Heart scored 10 consecutive points in the second quarter to build up a 23-9 advantage and it seemed the Indianettes were going to run away and hide, before going the final three minutes 58 seconds with nary a point and the Cardinals trimmed the lead to 23-14 at the half.



Abby Clark (33) vies for a rebound with St. Paul's Rebecca Wagner in the key TAPPS District 5-AA game here last Tuesday. Chuck Grafe/Tribune-Herald

The Indianettes took a 28-20 lead in the third period after a bucket by Grahmann, but once again the Cardinals rallied with 8 consecutive points to get within two points. Sacred Heart eventually led 33-30 going into the fourth stanza.

The Indianettes made a paltry 12 of 34 free throws.

The teams met Tuesday in a playoff for the top seed at Faith Academy in Victoria.

ST. PAUL (45) - Rebecca Wagner 19, Kate Ehrig 9, Paige Brown 6, Danni Blair 3, Taylor Wauson 2, Ashlyn Pesek 2.

SACRED HEART (50) - Elizabeth Grahmann 23, Emma Hawkins 10, Jules Janak 10, Bailey Haas 5, Allie Bludau 2.

Three-pointer: Haas  
Rebounds: Janak 11, Hawkins 10, Haas 5, Grahmann 5, Kraatz 2, Bludau 1.

Assists: Haas 3, Haas. Steals: Kraatz 2, Hawkins 2, Grahmann, Janak. Blocks: Janak 5, Hawkins 2, Grahmann, Haas, Kraatz.



Jules Janak lets fly with a three in the victory over St. Paul last Tuesday. Jules recorded a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. Chuck Grafe/Tribune-Herald

## Cobras claim district title

CHUCK GRAFE, SPORTS EDITOR  
HTHSPTS@sbcglobal.net

Industrial buried free throws left and right in the final seconds to secure a 45-40 victory in a key District 28-AAA game here last Tuesday night.

The win clinched the district title for the Cobras (20-3, 14-0) while the Brahma (12-2, 12-2) settled for second place. The victory was the 17th in a row for Industrial.

The Cobras led 41-33 with 1:24 to play prior to the Brahmas narrowing the gap to 41-38 on the strength of Deven Wood's three-pointer and his driving lay up, the latter coming with 25 seconds remaining. The Brahmas needed to foul and with 18 seconds to go, Chace Thigpen calmly sank two free throws to put the Cobras up by five.

After the Brahmas' Kyler Chovanetz scored a deuce, Thigpen again nailed two free throws for the final margin of victory.

Devin Barr was a pain in the neck for the Brahmas and scored 15 points in the paint. Rylan Schindler led Hallettsville with 14 points.

The first period was very slow with the scored tied at 7-7 at the end.

But things picked up in the second quarter. Luke Bludau scored four points and Wood buried a three for an 18-14 for the last Hallettsville lead. The Cobras went on a 4-0 surge for another tie and took a 26-24 halftime advantage.

Barr, a 6-2 hefty senior, scored 5 points in the third stanza, while the Brahmas were just 2 of 10 from the field and In-

See BRAHMAS, Page 7



Jaden Ellis and Kyler Chovanetz (0) guards Industrial's Devin Barr during the key District 28-AAA game here last Tuesday. Chuck Grafe/Tribune-Herald



**CHUCK GRAFE**

est gut punch to a fan base that just suffered through a 4-12 season and has little to no faith that things will significantly improve at least for two years.

About half of the league reportedly now wants to sign Watt with free agency still a month away. Which means that if the services of No. 99 are still that valuable in the what-have-you-done-for-me-lately NFL, a well-run organization should have at least netted a third-round pick for a defensive end who totaled 52 combined tackles, five sacks, 14 tackles for loss, seven passes defensed, two forced fumbles, a fumble recovery and a pick-six interception during his 10th pro season.

The Texans bragged before the 2020 trade deadline about how much they loved everyone on their roster. They lost their last five games, gradually turned off franchise quarterback Deshaun Watson and still don't have a first- or second-round pick in the upcoming 2021 draft.

The Texans released J.J. Watt on Friday, allowing the most popular player in franchise history to simply walk away for free with a full season remaining on his professional contract.

Overall, Friday's stunner was devoted to honoring the local legacy of super-famous Watt. Watt rivals Andre Johnson as the greatest Texan and when the three-time Defensive Player of the Year enters the Pro Football Hall of Fame, every current indication is that The Kid From Pewaukee, Wis. will proudly represent Houston's NFL team in the Hall of Fame one day.

But Friday also was devoted to another day filled with local fans and national critics ripping the ridiculously Texans.

Watt telling the Texans that he didn't want to play for them anymore was the lat-

## SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

**LADY BRAHMAS**

Friday, Feb. 19

Bastrop Cedar Creek, here, JV/V, 5:00-7:00

Tuesday Feb. 23

Smithville, there, JV 5:00, V 5:00-7:00

**INDIANETTES**

Feb. 26-27, Burton Tournament

## BASEBALL SCHEDULE

**BRAHMAS**

Monday, Feb. 22

Shiner, there, JV/V, 4:30/7:00

**INDIANS**

Monday, Feb. 22

Nixon-Smiley, here, JV/V, 4:30/7:00

## 2021 INDIAN BASEBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Teams	Time
Mon., Feb. 22	Nixon-Smiley	JV/V	4:30/7:00
Feb. 25-27	Hallettsville JV Tournament	JV	TBA
Fri., Feb. 26	@ Schulenburg	JV/V	4:30/7:00
Mar. 4-6	Sacred Heart Tournament	V	TBA
Tues., Mar. 9	St. Paul	JV	6:00
Mar. 11-13	Flatonia Tournament	V	TBA
Mon., Mar. 22	@ Smithville	JV/V	4:30/7:00
Thurs., Mar. 25	SA St. Gerard •	V	6:00
Mon., Mar. 29	Bulverde Living Rock •	V	6:00
Wed., Mar. 31	St. Paul •	JV/V	4:30/6:00
Mon., Apr. 5	Bulverde Bracken •	V	6:00
Mon., Apr. 12	@ SA St. Gerard •	V	6:00
Thurs., Apr. 15	@ Bulverde Living Rock •	V	6:00
Tues., Apr. 20	@ St. Paul •	JV/V	5:00/7:00
Fri., Apr. 23	@ Bracken Christian •	V	6:00

• TAPPS DISTRICT 5-AA GAMES

## BRAHMAS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

dustrial led 33-29 heading into crunch time.

The Brahmas had four turnovers in the fourth period which eventually cost them.

Wood finished with 11 points and Bludau 10. Mason Roe tallied 13 for the

Cobras and Thigpen 11.

INDUSTRIAL (45) - Devin Barr 15, Mason Roe 13, Chace Thigpen 11, Carson Kolb 2, Kael Estes 2.

Three-pointers: Roe, Thigpen

HALLETTSVILLE (40) - Rylan Schindler 14, Deven Wood 11, Luke Bludau 10,

Kyler Chovanetz 8, Jaden Ellis 1.

Three-pointers: Wood 2.

## JH BASKETBALL

### JV WHITE DROPS ONE-POINT DECISION

The Brahma JV White dropped a 29-28 decision to the Industrial freshmen here last Tuesday in the regular season finale.

Jashaun Price scored 15 points in defeat for the Brahmas. Damarion Austin had 8, and Dougie Mundine 5.

### JV MAROON FINISHES 9-2

The Brahma JV Maroon put the finishing touches on a 9-2 season with a 45-34 win over Industrial here last Tuesday.

Cam'ron Alamilla, Brenden Henke, Monte Thigpen and Braden North all had 7 points for the Brahmas who led 25-19 at the half.

Michael Redding chipped in with 4 points, Tanner Cliffe 3, Zariyon Miller 3, Derek Rees 3 Tristian Horton 2 and Gage Matula 2.

Cliffe, Thigpen, Alamilla and Henke all hit three-pointers.

## 2021 INDIANETTE SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Teams	Time
Thurs., Feb. 18	Refugio	JV	5:30
Feb. 26-27	Burton Tournament	V	TBA
Tues., Mar. 2	SA Providence @ Seguin	V	6:00
Mar. 4-6	Schulenburg Tournament	V	TBA
Mar. 11-13	Flatonia Tournament	V	TBA
Thurs., Mar. 18	@ Refugio	JV	1:00
Sat., Mar. 20	Schulenburg Tournament	JV	TBA
Tues., Mar. 23	@ Victoria Faith Acad. •	V	4:30
Fri., Mar. 26	Bryan St. Joseph •	V	5:30
Tues., Mar. 30	St. Paul •	V	5:30
Tues., April 6	@ Bryan St. Joseph •	V	4:15
Fri., Apr. 9	Bryan Brazos Chrn. •	V	5:30
Mon., Apr. 12	Victoria Faith Acad. •	V	5:30
Fri., Apr. 16	Schulenburg	V	5:30
Tues., Apr. 20	@ St. Paul •	V	5:30
Fri., Apr. 23	@ Bryan Brazos Chrn.	V	5:30

• TAPPS DISTRICT 5-AA GAMES

## LB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

16 points. Lozano added 14 and Bianca Reyes 10.

The Lady Brahmas shot 29.4% from the field and 7 of 16 from the foul line. Karnes City shot 40.2% and made 5 of 16 free throws.

Karnes City committed 18 turnovers and Hallettsville 17.

KARNES CITY (51) - Jaiden

Robinson 16, Mia Loizano 14, Bianca Reyes 10, Jashanie Foley 7, Davilyn Rodriguez 2, Jaycee Polasek.

Three-pointers: Robinson 2, Reyes, Lozano

HALLETTSVILLE (42) - Kaylee Svetlik 15, Courtney Woytek 8, Sydney Migura 7, Briley Rother 7, Layten Kolacny 2.

Three-pointer: Svetlik 2, Rother, Machacek.

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# HALLETTSVILLE BRAHMAS

## BASKETBALL



**JADEN ELLIS**  
JUNIOR - FORWARD



**LAYTON KOLACNY**  
FRESHMAN - GUARD

# SACRED HEART INDIANS

## BASKETBALL



**TYLER HAWKINS**  
SOPHOMORE - FORWARD



**ALEIGH KRAATZ**  
FRESHMAN - GUARD









## Tool helps ranchers develop custom biosecurity plan

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) beef checkoff-funded Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program has developed a Daily Biosecurity Plan for Disease Prevention template to help ranchers prevent disease transmission in their herds and safeguard the health of livestock.

The customizable template includes an 11-step process that will assist ranchers in designing a workable biosecurity plan for their operation. It is available as a fillable PDF, which can be edited digitally, or printed for handwritten plans.

"Biosecurity is a top priority for the beef industry," said Kim Brackett, chair of BQA's Advisory Group. "This tool allows beef farmers and ranchers to develop their own biosecurity plans unique to their operations. Being proactive and developing a written plan ahead of a crisis allows producers to implement and become familiar with biosecurity precautions. Even more importantly, producers will be prepared if a biosecurity threat were to happen."

Training employees on biosecurity and how to limit disease exposure on a daily basis are covered in the material. Also covered are records of animal movement, including quarantining of new herd additions and developing a contingency plan for interrupted animal movement.

According to the document, carcass disposal, manure management and wildlife and pest control are additional topics to consider in developing a daily biosecurity plan.

In addition to supplying basic information on herd biosecurity practices and their importance, the template encourages ranchers to talk with their veterinarian, Extension agent and state BQA coordinator about biosecurity preparedness.

The tool was developed in collaboration with the USDA and the Secure Beef Supply project, a partnership between USDA, Iowa State University and Kansas State University.

To access the customizable template, visit [https://www.bqa.org/Media/BQA/Docs/bqa-daily-biosecurity-plan\\_12-04-2020-93.pdf](https://www.bqa.org/Media/BQA/Docs/bqa-daily-biosecurity-plan_12-04-2020-93.pdf).

## Louderback: 'It's now or never on border control'

Members of law enforcement turned out in force for the Republican Women of the Yoakum Area's first meeting of 2021 held in Yoakum on Wednesday, Feb. 10. Featured speaker was none other than A.J. "Andy" Louderback, recently sworn in to his fifth term as sheriff of neighboring Jackson County and, if recent national television appearance are any indication, a rising star voice against Biden administration plans to reopen American borders. Already, tens of thousands of foreign nationals have lined the U.S. border, holed up in tent cities at some of the largest Texas border towns, waiting for Trump-era walls to tumble in the wake of presidential orders handed down Biden's second day in office. Those orders effectively remove deportation as an option for dealing with illegals in all but the absolute worst of the worst criminal cases, Louderback said, a move that binds lawmen's hands everywhere. Federal courts have issued stays to delay the border breach—thanks to suits filed by our own Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton—but those stays are only temporary. The executive orders, by contrast, could forever change our state and nation, Louderback told last week's Republican crowd, and why every red-blooded Texan ought to be on the phone right now, hashing it out with elected lawmakers. Photos by Bobby Horecka.



## NRCS Announces Funding Opportunity for Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration

TEMPLE - The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas has established a funding application deadline of March 12, 2021, for the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Mussel Initiative available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

This initiative is in

partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF).

It is available in the Brazos, Colorado, and Guadalupe river basins to improve water quality to support the recovery of Texas fawnsfoot and Texas fatmucket, as well as other freshwater mussel species.

Applications are taken year-round for NRCS programs, but deadlines are announced to rank and fund eligible conservation projects.

Producers interested in signing up for EQIP should submit applications to their local USDA service center.

If already a USDA client, a producer can submit applications online via [Farmers.gov](http://Farmers.gov).

EQIP is a voluntary

program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers.

Technical assistance is provided without a fee from NRCS specialists to help landowners and land managers plan and implement conservation practices to help them meet their land management goals, address natural resource concerns and improve soil, water, plant, animal, air, and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland.

For additional information visit the NRCS Texas website at [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov).

Producers interested in EQIP can contact their local USDA service center or visit the NRCS EQIP web page.

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[TexasRentRelief.com](http://TexasRentRelief.com)

Assistance is available in multiple languages.

## Free Mental Health First Aid Certification Courses Available

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension has grant funds available to implement the Mental Health First Aid Certification courses in Lavaca County. The certification courses are offered completely free as part of a grant provided by the OnStar Foundation (Rebuild Tx Fund) to the 41 counties affected by Hurricane Harvey.

**NATALIE D. KNESEK, PHD, CFCS**  
CEA-FCH-Lavaca County  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
361.204.6992  
[natalie.knesek@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:natalie.knesek@ag.tamu.edu)

Mental Health First Aid is a skills-based training course that teaches participants about mental health and substance-use issues. Mental Health First Aid has a goal to make this training as common as the CPR training. According to the Mental Health First Aid website, "Mental Health First Aid is a course that teaches you how to help someone who may be experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge. The training helps you identify, understand and respond to signs of addictions and mental illness."

The certification course is particularly valuable to law enforcement, educators, health care professionals, and caregivers but adult may become certified. There are two types of trainings available: youth and adult. All trainees must be at least eighteen years old. The youth training is designed for those who work with young people, including school personnel and youth group leaders.

The Mental Health First Aid organization points out that depression is one of the most common mental health disorders. Worldwide, more than 264 million people were suffering from depression in 2017. At least one recent study has suggested that the number of people suffering from depression has tripled since the beginning of the pandemic. Additionally, more than three percent of the United States population suffers from Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

If your work setting or organization is interested in hosting either the youth or adult training course please reach out to me at [natalie.knesek@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:natalie.knesek@ag.tamu.edu) or 361-798-2221. Both training courses are eight hours. The first two hours you complete on your own and then there is six hours of face-to-face instruction. The classes may be as small as five people but are limited to twenty. To receive the training for free the courses must be completed before the grant ends June 30, 2021.

This past spring, faculty and staff of Hallettsville ISD completed this certification course. We are not limited in the county to how many courses can be offered but must be able to get on the calendar of the trained instructors working under the grant. I am hopeful that we can bring more trainings to the county. Please help me share this opportunity with those that you think it would most benefit.



Texas Coronavirus Relief Bill Rental Assistance Program administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Providing false, incomplete, or inaccurate information on application forms or seeking assistance for months in which assistance has been or will be provided, may result in up to 5 years of imprisonment and for each occurrence a fine of up to \$10,000. | Other program limitations and eligibility requirements apply, not all households may be eligible. See [TexasRentRelief.com](http://TexasRentRelief.com) for details. | Funds may no longer be available by the time a household applies.



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# On the trail of a criminal.....

## Moulton Police Chief updates council on recent card skimming case

**BOBBY HORECKA, MANAGING EDITOR**  
BOBBYHORECKA@GMAIL.COM

Moulton citizens got a rare glimpse into the behind-the-scenes work detectives use to solve a criminal case on Tuesday, Feb. 9, when Police Chief Mitchell Bennett offered local councilman an update on his investigation into a recent case involving a credit card skimmer illegally placed inside a local gas pump.

The device came to light a week prior when several Moulton residents contacted Moulton police complaining about fraudulent charges appearing on their credit cards.

A dozen local families filed reports over the next few days, Bennett said. About the only thing they had in common, he noted, was that they'd all stopped for gas recently.

More specifically, Bennett later noted, they'd all stopped for gas here in Moulton at the Fishbeck Store, just off Highway 95. And even more



any other devices still around. Finding none, he returned to the task at hand, determining which of his victims filled up first. It appeared that likely occurred sometime early Thursday, Jan. 28.

It was a starting point, at least, something Bennett said he could use back at Fishbeck's to start reviewing their surveillance tapes. It didn't

did the deed in plain sight to anyone passing by, in the middle of the afternoon no less, right alongside one of the busiest roads in town.

Job complete, he even went inside and pick up a few items before heading out of town.

That's where Bennett nabbed the picture of the suspect we published last week, asking the

matter.

He instantly phoned the store in Seguin, asking them to help them confirm the suspect and vehicle description. Then, knowing that the Department of Public Safety has license plate readers set up at various points along Interstate 10, Bennett phoned ahead to get a list of all passing cars within the

for—was black. As it just so happened as well, that truck passed by the reader precisely 10 minutes after it pulled away from the store, which matched the time it would have taken the suspect to get there.

With plate numbers now in hand, Bennett now had the identity of his culprit and a Katy address, along with more than enough to evidence to secure a warrant for the Moulton crimes. As the investigation remains ongoing, The Eagle is not releasing that information just yet.

But as fate might have, Bennett likely landed even more.

While searching law enforcement databases early in his investigation, Bennett learned of similar, yet unsolved card skimming crimes in the Ganado and College Station areas.

Those, interestingly, also involved someone who matched his suspect description and drove a similar red truck.

Bennett said he was actively working with investigators in each of those respective agencies to tie the Moulton suspect to those other crimes as well so that when police make their arrest, their suspect will be facing some serious jail time for his crimes.

### Card Skimming: How It Works



specifically, he'd soon realize, each of his 12 complainants had used Pump No. 6, using the store's pay-at-the-pump credit card machine.

So, the police chief set out to investigate, stopping along the way to pick up a borrowed credit card skimmer detection device from another department. Detector in hand, Bennett went to Fishbeck's and began inspecting the suspect gas pump.

There wasn't any sign whatsoever that the card reader was tampered with in any way, Bennett told last week's council crowd, but sure enough, that detector told him otherwise.

Attached so neatly he might have easily overlooked it had it not been for the detector, the police chief said he found—and swiftly removed—the source of the problem, a tiny skimming device hidden deep within the pump itself.

Bennett then used the detector to check other nearby pumps to out the possibility of

long to spot what he was after, and it drove up in a big red Dodge pickup with fancy aftermarket wheels, early afternoon on Wednesday, Jan. 27.

Watching the video was a bit chilling, Bennett said, considering that no sooner than the suspect parked his truck, he stepped out—with a key in hand to open up the pump—and installed his illegal skimmer in seconds flat. He brazenly

public to phone in if anyone recognized them.

Before they could, however, Bennett was hard on the culprit's trail.

During his investigation, the police chief had noticed that several of the contested charges were appearing at businesses in the Luling and Seguin area, and by mere happenstance, a new charge happened to occur one day, right as Bennett was dealing with

likely timeframe.

A total of 112 vehicles would pass the nearest I-10 plate reader within the next hour, some 10 miles away from the Seguin store where the suspect was last seen, Bennett said. Just two were Dodge pickups, and he was able to eliminate one by the color of its bumper.

One had a red bumper and the other—the one Bennett was looking

## Special FEMALE SALE

February 27 ★ 12 Noon

**Hallettsville Livestock Commission Co.**  
HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS  
AVAILABLE TO BUY & BID ONLINE: LIVEAUCTIONS.TV2.0

- 25 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 20 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 5 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 3 F-1 Braford Chocolate Heifers - PAIRS - Red Brangus
- 10 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - BRED - Angus
- 25 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - BRED - Angus
- 16 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - OPEN 650#
- 8 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - OPEN 750#
- 5 F-1 Tiger Stripe Braford Heifers - EXPOSED Angus 750#
- 5 F-1 Black Brangus Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 20 F-1 Black Brangus Heifers - OPEN 800#
- 100 Black Brangus & Baldie Heifers - PAIRS - BRED - Angus & Brangus
- 25 Black Brangus Heifers - PAIRS - Angus - 1100#
- 20 Black Brangus Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 10 Black Brangus Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 11 Black Brangus Heifers - BRED - Red Brangus
- 5 Black Brangus Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 25 Black Brangus Heifers - OPEN - 700#
- 11 Black Brangus & Baldie Heifers - OPEN 750#
- 25 Grey Brahman Cows (3-5 yrs old) - BRED - Brahman
- 20 Grey Brahman Heifers - BRED - Angus
- 10 Grey Brahman Heifers - BRED - Angus
- 5 Grey Brahman Cows (3 yrs old) - BRED - Hereford
- 14 Grey Brahman Heifers - OPEN
- 3 REGISTERED Grey Brahman Heifers - OPEN - 850#
- 10 3/4 Brahman Heifers - BRED - Hereford
- 20 Brahman Cross Heifers - PAIRS - BRED - Angus
- 5 Crossbred Heifers - PAIRS - Angus
- 35 Crossbred Cows (3-5 yrs old) - PAIRS - BRED
- 10 Crossbred Cows (3-4 yrs old) - PAIRS - Brangus
- 10 F-1 Tiger Stripe Cows (5 yrs old) - PAIRS - Charolais & Angus
- 3 Polled Hereford Heifers - PAIRS - Brahman
- 5 REGISTERED Charolais Cows (6 yrs old) - PAIRS - Charolais & Brahman
- 25 Beefmaster Heifers - OPEN 800#
- 10 Beefmaster Heifers - BRED - SimAngus
- 10 Beefmaster Heifers - PAIRS - BRED - Angus
- 9 Black Angus Heifers - OPEN & BRED - Angus

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### ★LIVESTOCK REPORTS★

#### HALLETTSVILLE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

CATTLE ON HAND: 1409

WEEK AGO: 1341 YEAR AGO:

The market this week was mixed. No. 1 classes continued steady/strong in most weight brackets. Saw a little weakness due to upcoming inclement weather. The average of all calves sold was \$3 lower.

Packer cows and bulls sold \$4 to \$6 higher on approx. 225 hd. total. Quality of cows remains less than desirable.

If we can help with marketing your livestock, please call 361-798-4336.

**PACKER COWS:** Canner & Cutter Cows: 49-69; Utility & Fat Cows: 46-63; Light Weight Canner Cows: 32-45; Poor/Weak: 20-35.

**PACKER BULLS:** Heavyweight Bulls: 88-97; Utility & Cutter Bulls: 78-88; Light Weight Canner Bulls: 68-78.

**STOCKER AND FEEDER CALVES AND YEARLINGS:**

**NO. 1 STEER & BULLS CALVES:** Under 200: None; 200-300: 155-200; 300-400: 150-185; 400-500: 145-182.50; 500 - 600: 130-167.50; 600-700: 115-152.50; 700-800: 110-130.

**NO. 1 HEIFER CALVES:** Under 200: None; 200-300: 135-165; 300-400: 135-162.50; 400-500: 125-155; 500-600: 118-142.50; 600-700: 110-127.50; 700-800: 102-120.

**REPLACEMENT HEIFERS:** 350-750: None.

#### HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO.

Where your Livestock Brings Top \$ Every Time!

• SALE EVERY TUESDAY •

140 Auction Ring Rd  
361-798-4336

#### CUERO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021

CATTLE ON HAND: 319 WEEK AGO: 1535

Weather conditions limited the number of cattle on hand and as a result prices were scattered. What was here sold as well as before. There were 62 cows and 4 bulls. The packer market will continue to get stronger each week as supplies are dwindling in line with the time of year. Overall quality remains poor and prices reflect such. Any cows or bulls in good flesh continue to sell at a premium.

The calf market in a very limited test continued to show strength in all classes. Exceptionally small run due to the weather today was not a real test. Like the cow/bull market, what was here sold well if not better than previous weeks.

**PACKER BULLS:** 70-84.

**PACKER COWS:** Canners & Cutters: 44-66; Poor & Weak: 15-35.

**PALPATED:** 7 bred: 65-71.

**PAIRS:** None

**STEER CALVES:** (Avg. High) Under 200 Lbs.: None; 200-249 Lbs.: None; 250-299 Lbs.: None; 300-350 Lbs.: None; 350-400 Lbs.: None; 400-450 Lbs.: 110-161; 450-500 Lbs.: 100-150; 500-550 Lbs.: 101-141; 550-600 Lbs.: 101-134; 600-700 Lbs.: None; 700-800 Lbs.: 100-115.

**BULL CALVES:** (Avg. High) Under 250 Lbs.: 117-130; 250-300 Lbs.: 104-124; 300-350 Lbs.: 125-160; 350-400 Lbs.: 114-140; 400-450 Lbs.: 121-150; 450-500 Lbs.: 113-130; 500-550 Lbs.: 108-125; 550-600 Lbs.: 104-123; 600-700 Lbs.: 103-127; Over 700 lbs.: None.

**HEIFER CALVES:** (Avg. High) Under 200 Lbs.: 106-110; 200-250 Lbs.: 105-115; 250-300 Lbs.: 100-127; 300-350 Lbs.: 116-128; 350-400 Lbs.: 103-126; 400-450 Lbs.: 100-122; 450-500 Lbs.: 108-126; 500-550 Lbs.: 102-122; 550-600 Lbs.: 101-118; 600-700 Lbs.: 100-112; Over 700 Lbs.: 100-112.

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**World AND U.S. TRIVIA**

Historical Facts about the world & America  
(Compiled by Murray Montgomery)

- \* A group of flamingos is called a "flamboyance".
- \* World Wrestling Federation (WWF) had to change their name to World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) because of legal action taken by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

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**WORD ADS:** 38¢ per word for first insertion; 36¢ per word for each consecutive insertion.

**Minimum Charge - \$7.60;**  
Consecutive Insertion - \$7.20

**CLASSIFIED DISPLAY:** \$7.75 per column inch.

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:** Noon Monday

All Classified Word Ads Must Be Paid in Advance

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Lavaca County  
[www.co.lavaca.tx.us](http://www.co.lavaca.tx.us)

Notice of Invitation to Bidders

Sealed bids, plainly marked, will be received by **Shana R. Opela, Lavaca County Auditor, 109 N. LaGrange St., Hallettsville, Texas 77964** until 9:00 AM. on Wednesday, March 10, 2021, for:

**Advertise for Bids for the Purchase of the following items for Lavaca County Roads:**

**A. Purchase and Delivery of Gravel Post Oak Pit Run with Red Binder and Gravel Post Oak Screened 1 1/2" and Down with Red Binder**

**B. Purchase of Seal Coating, and Resealing**

Bids will be opened and read aloud by Mark Myers, Lavaca County Judge, or his designee, in the Commissioners' Courtroom, Lavaca County Courthouse, Hallettsville, Texas on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 10:00 AM. Bids will be discussed and/or awarded at the Commissioners' Court Regular Meeting on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 10:00 AM.

Particulars pertaining to bid can be obtained from: **Nailene Ruppert, Lavaca County Commissioners Office, 109 N. LaGrange Street, Hallettsville, Texas 77964, Lavaca County Courthouse, 361-798-5310.**

Bids must be timely filed and must conform to specifications. Bids will not be returned. All rights reserved.

**HENNEKE DOZER WORKS, LLC.** Dozer work of all types including clearing, raking, building, & cleaning tanks. Randy 361-798-5960 or 361-772-3823. (30-TFN-CH)

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**NOTICES**

**NOTICES**

Case No. 11465

IN THE ESTATE OF C.W. KOEHNE, DECEASED § IN THE COUNTY COURT § OF § LAVACA COUNTY, TEXAS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of C. W. Koehne, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2021 to Charles Wayne Koehne, Jr., 795 CR 417, Taylor, TX 79574, Cause No. 11465, pending in the Probate Court of Hallettsville, Lavaca County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of C. W. Koehne, Deceased, c/o James A. Evans, P.O. Box 503, Hallettsville, TX 77964. 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 10 day of February, 2021.

James A. Evans  
Attorney for Executor

## BUY SELL FIND IT in the CLASSIFIEDS

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**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JUDY LANDRY, DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that the original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of JUDY LANDRY, Deceased were issued on FEBRUARY 9, 2021 in Cause No. 00011472 pending in the County Court of Lavaca County, Texas, to BILLY BUD WHITE AND RHONDA WHITE, Joint Independent Executors.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Billy Bud White and Rhonda White,  
Joint Independent Executors  
Estate of Judy Landry  
c/o Mr. Kenneth E. Kvinta, P. C.  
P. O. Box 775  
Yoakum, TX 77995

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 9th day of February, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,  
By: Kenneth E. Kvinta  
Attorney for Estate

**Do you have news you'd like to have in the paper?**

EMAIL IT TO THE TRIBUNE-HERALD  
[TRIBUNEHERALD@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:TRIBUNEHERALD@SBCGLOBAL.NET)

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Helping Hearts Sitter Service offers a full range of companionship for you or your loved one. Whether you need 24 hours a day care or just a few hours occasionally, we are here to help, days or nights. All sitters are screened with drug tests and criminal history checks performed.

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- Substitute Bus Drivers
- Substitute Custodians
- Substitute Child Nutrition Workers

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CALL 361-798-2242, EXT. 400.  
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under News and Announcements.

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**Part-Time Adult Education Instructors**  
needed in the Gonzales area to teach courses to adult learners, according to an established curriculum in the area of GED Preparation (basic skills in reading, language, & math) and English as a Second Language (ESL) including Citizenship and basic computer skills.

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**FOR SALE.** 11 month old red bald face Beefmaster bull. \$1000. 20 foot dump trailer. \$9000. 361-798-0394. (6-2-PD)

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**HELP WANTED.** Retail help wanted part-time or full time. Janak Packing, Inc. 361-798-2985 (1-TFN-CH)

**PART-TIME DRIVER NEEDED** at Kountry Bakery. Call 361-798-4423. (4-TFN-CH)

**HELP WANTED.** Wagner Medical Clinic is seeking applications for an office job opening. Medical coding and managerial experience. Please mail, fax or bring resume to 124 E. Wolters/2nd St., Shiner, Tx. 77984. Fax: 361-594-4104. (5-4-CH)

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**SIMMENTAL BULLS** and Heifers. Call 361-798-6506 or 361-798-6015. (44-TFN-CH)

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**4.39 AC, CR 122, SUBLIME,** heavily wooded, seasonal creek, recreational tract w/ plenty of wildlife located in a FEMA flood area... **CONTRACT**

**NEW! 8.755 AC, HALLETTSVILLE,** CR 132, heavily wooded tract with a lot of county road frontage, nice homesite or recreational tract... **CONTRACT**

**28.139 AC, SUBLIME, FM 3283,** mixture of heavily wooded and open land, seasonal creek, 2/1 older camphouse w/ electricity, READY FOR DEER SEASON... **SOLD**

**NEW! 60.938 AC, Sublime, FM 3283,** heavily wooded w/ a pond, seasonal creek, Live Oaks Galore, Wildlife Haven... **CONTRACT**

**NEW! 44.78 AC, SUBLIME, FM 3283,** heavily wooded with some openings and trails, pond, electricity, cased water well, storage building... **CONTRACT**

**NEW! 69.87 AC, SWEET HOME, CR 423,** heavily wooded w/ Live Oaks, some open areas, wet weather creek, nice homesite or recreational tract... **CONTRACT**

**NEW! 102.59 AC, VIENNA, CR 158,** heavily wooded with tons of trails throughout property, pond, Sandy Creek on South side, hunter's paradise... **SOLD**

**NEW! 164.65 AC, SPEAKS, CR 17,** great hunting/grazing property with a pond and road along west side of property... \$3,750 acre

**HOME & ACREAGE**

**REDUCED! 20.03 AC, SUBLIME,** 1389 CR 146, 2005 manufactured home w/ 1,292 sq ft (per LCAD), good fencing, cattle pens, 2 water wells, creek w/ heavily wooded part, all... **SOLD**

**NEW! 24.61 AC, VIENNA AREA,** covered with live oaks, fully fenced w/ a pond, custom home built in 2011 w/ 1,580 sq ft (per LCAD), 2/1.5, gorgeous property... **CONTRACT**

**NEW! 56.91 AC, MONT AREA, 331 CR 390A,** 2,419 sq ft home built in 1999, 2 ponds, woods, creek, several outbuildings, IMPRESSIVE RANCH!... **SOLD**

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**Moulton** - +/- 27 acs. or +/- 32 acs. on FM 532, N. Fork River, elec. available

**Hallettsville** - 6.96 acs., w/2BR/1BA home + outbuildings, 1628 Hwy 90A W.

**Sheridan** - Warehouse/garage, office bldg. w/living space, 1354 Hwy 90A

**Schulenburg** - 79.68 acs. cattle/pecan farm, 2 ac. pond, 25x100 bldg, utilities, CR 226

**Hallettsville** - 30 acs., partially wooded, secluded, wildlife, \$10,500/ac. CR 147

**Hallettsville** - 40 acres, high fenced 2/custom 3/3 hm. many extras, REDUCED

**Schulenburg** - 3 BR/3BA, 2,136 sq. ft. hm., pool, gst. hse., 110 College St.

**Sheridan** - 37.67 acres, wood... **SOLD** 0/acre. FM 2437

**Schulenburg** - 2 story 4 BR... **CONTRACT** st. hse. & pond. 438 Marty Rd.

**Schulenburg** - 10.27 wood... **SOLD** bldg, secluded, Marty Rd.

**Oakland** - 110 acres on Navida... **SOLD** for hunting, CR 221, \$4,950/ac

**Sublime** - 231 acres, recreati... **SOLD** br well + minerals

**Moulton** - 172 acres w/5BR/3BA hm., 6 ponds, barn, pens, North Fork River, CR 265

**Ezzell** - 141.55 acres w/electricity, waterwell, creek, Lavaca River, \$4,600/ac. CR1

**Schulenburg** - 5,944 sq.ft. bldg. on 0.34 ac. lot, accessible from Hwy. 77, 609 Kessler Ave.

**Hallettsville** - 18 acres, nice views, possible home site, ag-exempt, Hwy 77 S.

**Rock Island** - 181.88 acres w/ 55+/- acre DU pond, elec., well, CR 106/CR 141

**Schulenburg** - FOR LEASE, retail/office space next to Apothecary, \$ neg. 1,500-3,000 sqft

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# Lions Club conducts eyeglass collection campaign

JIMMY APPELT, STAFF WRITER  
TRIBUNE@NEWSROOM@SBGLOCAL.NET

Lions Club International is known throughout the world for their work to improve the lives of the visually impaired and prevent avoidable blindness.

One of the primary projects of the Hallettsville Lions Club in meeting this mission is collecting used eyeglasses for recycling and given to visually impaired individuals, especially students in school.

The Hallettsville Lions Club is conducting an eyeglass collection campaign during the month of February to collect old eyeglasses that are no longer needed.

Glasses and frames, no longer needed or used by individuals, can help others through the recycling of old eyeglasses, prescription lenses, over the counter sunglasses, or an individual's cheaters.

Collection boxes are set up at various locations throughout Hallettsville including Walmart Pharmacy, Hallettsville Pharmacy, Lavaca Medical Center Gift Shop, Sacred Heart School, Sacred Heart School Library; Hallettsville High School, Jr. High School and Elementary, Vysehrad School, Ezzell School, Victoria Eye – Hallettsville location, Hallettsville Chamber of Commerce, the French Simpson Memo-

rial Library, Hallettsville Tribune-Herald, Hallettsville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Stevens Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Brookshire Brothers Grocery, and Star Cleaners.

"If you have eyeglasses that you no longer use, please drop them off in one of the collection boxes located around town," Paula Parkinson, Hallettsville Lions Club president said.

The glasses collected will be sent to the Conroe Noon Lions Club Eyeglass Center, where the glasses will be sorted, cleaned, and classified to help recipients find "near matches" to help them see clearly.

## 125

years of continuous ownership and operation by the same family.

Instead of all that, however, Laurie said she got her certificate and commemorative book featuring 2020's Family Land Heritage honorees, right alongside her usual bills and junk sale flyers via standard mail delivery just last week.

Hardly fitting for a place that's now gotten TWO of those 100-year award designations.

You see, Laurie's parents—Joe D. and Mildred Janak—landed that first centennial honor from the Texas Family Land Heritage program back in 1982. Now that the place was officially deeded to her, Laurie could apply for the certification once again to recognize the land's ownership change.

Still, Laurie says her experience was absolutely nothing like what her parents got back then.

Of course, 1982 was a momentous year in her family. Precisely 100 years before then—on Sept. 13, 1882—was when Laurie's great-grandparents, Frank and Rosalie Janak, first purchased the 195-acre tract near Wied from one L.E. Neuhaus to begin making their mark on the place.

They arrived in Galveston some nine years prior from Ticha, Czechoslova-

kia. They left behind countless relatives in their home country, along with the oppressive rule of the Austrian Empire and its Bohemian King Franz Joseph. They came here seeking a new life, Texas-sized opportunities and, as countless family stories always phrased it, "their own bit of paradise."

Departing Galveston, the Janaks first made their way to Fayette County, where they settled near the community of Hackberry. They then purchased their first 70-acre farm in 1876 in the Vysehrad area.

It wasn't long, however, before they set their sights elsewhere, ultimately selling that first farm to one of their children a few years after finding the place Laurie says she's always known as home.

Growing up, she recalled stories her family passed down about how her great-grandfather came seeking that little piece of paradise and how, after seeing all those rolling hills and plush valleys—so reminiscent of his native Moravian homeland—he was certain he'd found it.

Together with five brothers who immigrated with him, their wives and children, Laurie's great-grandfather Frank set to working his newfound land, raising cotton, corn, cane for molasses, livestock

and poultry.

There, too, he and Rosalie would raise 14 children, the last of whom—Laurie's grandfather August—would ultimately take up where Frank and Rosalie left off to carry on the family farming tradition.

Under August Janak's watch, that original parcel of land would more than double in size over several years' worth of steady acquisitions. There, too, he and his wife, Agnes, raised 10 children of their own, farming all the while, like his father before him, raising cotton, corn, maize, livestock and poultry.

Once again, it would be the youngest son of the Janak clan—Laurie's father, Joe D. Janak—who would take up the family farming mantle. On his 24th birthday, young Joe and wife Mildred bought out his father in 1951, paying \$110 an acre.

Like his father and father's father before him, Joe also started by farming the place, raising cotton, maize, hegira, cattle and poultry, and selling a few eggs to make ends meet. Joe and his wife, Mildred, would set up their home in the exact same house that Frank and Rosalie first built in 1882.

There they raised four children of their own, the youngest of whom—Laurie—brings us to present day.

But it would be Laurie's father Joe who introduced the most significant production changes in the long history of the Janak place when he decided, sometime during the early 1960s, to give up the farming operations and shift to cattle exclusively.

He was one of the first in Lavaca County to raise registered Charolais cattle, and he soon added a purebred Limousin herd to mix as well. It wasn't long before those Janak cattle were turning heads at livestock shows everywhere, with Laurie's father Joe building quite the reputation for raising show winners in places like Houston, San Antonio, Fort Worth

and Denver.

Laurie started showing her dad's Charolais cattle in Houston when she was just nine, and by age 18, she was crowned Miss Texas Charolais 1976, proudly representing Charolais breeders from across the Lone Star State.

Not surprising, Laurie and husband Rick continue that same ranching tradition her father started, with Charolais still the herd favorite on their place.

After she and her siblings split their respective shares of the homeplace in late 2016, Laurie and Rick claimed a roughly 47-acre tract, a spot with a tall hill that overlooks the gently sloping prairie for miles around.

Growing up, Laurie says her family affectionately called that particular patch of earth "the Back 40" for as long as she can remember.

Today, she and Rick call it LRB Ranch, as well as their home.

Just last year, the Brauns built a new house and adjoining shop atop that very same hill, overlooking their own little patch of paradise with each day's dawn. God willing, they both said, they'll get to collect that next Texas Family Land Heritage recognition when they break the 150-year mark.

After all, it's only 12 years away. That's hardly anything all, considering.

They say the truest measure of a man comes in the legacy he leaves behind for those he loves.

And in that respect, consider this: That same year Laurie's parents landed that first state-recognized centennial certification, back in 1982, someone in their family put together a massive genealogy with her great-grandparents, Frank and Rosalie, set right at its heart.

The list of descendant names, back then, totaled more than 4,000 people.

Laurie swears it would have more than doubled in the roughly four decades since, all direct kin to the man who once looked out at those rolling hills, certain he'd found paradise.

He likely had it spot on from the start.

Because if that's not paradise, I'm pretty sure he could see it from there.

## VFW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She began her employment as a corrections officer in the Detention Center on Sept. 14, 2000. Sgt. Perez was promoted to the rank of corporal in 2006 and in October 2010 she was again promoted to her current position of jail administrator and sergeant over the Detention Center.

According to Chief Deputy Daniel Peters Jr., Sgt. Perez had the ability to quickly sum up situations that occur in the Detention Center, and knows her job well.

Sgt. Perez also has a big hand in passing jail inspection each year.

Lt. Erica Vaccaro was chosen as the Hallettsville Police Department's Officer of the Year.

Lt. Vaccaro spent 15 years with the Victoria Police Department prior to coming to Hallettsville.

On Jan. 31, 2013, she started as a patrol officer here and was promoted to sergeant June 6, 2013 and then to lieutenant July 16, 2015.

Lt. Vaccaro is a 2014 graduate of the Law Enforcement Management Institute at Sam Houston State University. She also holds an Associate's Degree, a Master Peace Officers License and has a running total of over 1,900 training hours.

Police Chief Randal K. Schlauch said Lt. Vaccaro is a huge asset to his department and it is an honor to have her serve as a leader within the department.

## Kait's Korner

# It got a little cold

KAITLIN STUBBS, STAFF WRITER  
KAITLIN.STUBBS@GMAIL.COM

Sunday morning, 4:30 a.m.: I woke up to complete and utter silence and then a flash of light. The power was out, and I was definitely not expecting it. Five hours later, the power came back on, but I was still wary.

This got me thinking about how I could be prepared next time I was in an outage. So, here are some tips that I found in case of another winter power outage.

Something to do before an outage actually happens is have an emergency kit available as well as stock up on foods and water you can keep in the pantry. Also, make sure you have charged electronic devices like phones and tablets to pass time and contact people if necessary.

Next, stay warm. Dress in layers and pull out the fluffy blankets. Keep the doors and windows shut and maybe use towels or blankets to block drafts. During the day, open your curtains to let the sun in and naturally bring warmth in. At night, close them so the heat is trapped indoors.

Keep your food cold by not opening your fridge or freezers. Food can stay frozen for 24 to 36 hours if it remains untouched. Try keeping a bag of ice in your freezer in case you are out of town. If the cubes melt and refreeze, the food in the freezer is most likely spoiled.

If you have electric heat or an electric water heater, leave taps dripping to prevent the pipes from freezing and bursting. My family has been doing this since the weather got this cold and so far, no bursts or frozen pipes.

When the power comes back on, depending on how long the power was out, you might want to check food for spoilage. Also, try to conserve energy in case of a second outage by keeping the heater set at about 68 degrees Fahrenheit and keeping some lights and appliances off if they're not needed.

I hope these few tips help you prepare for a power outage during winter.



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## COLD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

break out of the bitter cold air sometime Friday.

Rotating power outages began late Sunday and most likely will last until Thursday.

For those of you who are history buffs, we have to go back to Feb. 2, 1951 for the month's coldest-ever temp of six degrees.

Also the record temps of 13 and 12 degrees are the coldest since Dec. 23, 1989.

The last time Hallettsville received measurable snow was Dec. 7-8, 2017 when two inches fell.

- Larry Rothbauer,  
NWS Observer