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NACOGDOCHES COUNTY - ANGELINA COUNTY - SHELBY COUNTY



SEPTEMBER 2023

Timber & Tweed Outfitters – New Men’s Store in Nacogdoches

by Robert McCandless

I hate to shop...especially for clothes.

First of all, it’s time consuming and there are always too many choices, leaving me to wonder if I should have gone to a different Walmart before making the decision to purchase.

Oh, Shop on line you say? Yeah, I’ve done that a couple of times and wound up with cardboard shirts and pants that cut off blood supply to body parts when sitting or bending.

I also have a problem with paying a premium to advertise for designers who have their logo so large it may as well be lit with LEDs. Besides that, the only compliments I get on clothes are the ones my wife buys for me.

It has been a long time since Nacogdoches has had a men’s clothing store where something other than big box fashion can be found. As we watch new growth downtown that promises to brighten the city’s appeal and bring shopping to our city, comes a long awaited opportunity to buy quality stylish men’s clothing. Right downtown on Main Street in the midst of the city’s new growth, you will find that special place.



TIMBER & TWEED - Page 2

Grand Opening Planned for SFA’s Griffith Fine Arts Building

The start of a new academic year at Stephen F. Austin State University is only a few short days away. When students arrive on campus to begin classes Aug. 28, they’ll have a year of special memories ahead of them as SFA celebrates its 100th year.

Among the many reasons for celebration is the opening of the newly renovated and expanded Griffith Fine Arts Building, which will be open when classes begin.

Fine arts faculty and staff continue to get settled into their new offices and classrooms, and everyone is eager to show off the building’s beautifully stated interior and state-of-the-art technology. More than three years in the making, SFA’s Fine Arts Expansion Initiative is now reality, and the \$53 million project is nearly complete.

“This is an exciting time for SFA, and we have much to celebrate.”



Dr. Gary Wurtz, dean of Stephen F. Austin State University’s Micky Elliott College of Fine Arts, and Bill Elliott, fine arts and SFA benefactor, admire the beautiful interior of the newly renovated and expanded Griffith Fine Arts Building to be showcased during grand reopening and ribbon-cutting ceremonies at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 17. A Centennial Concert at 4 p.m. will be the first performance in the refreshed Turner Auditorium.

FINE ARTS BUILDING - Page 2



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TIMBER & TWEED

Timber & Tweed Outfitters located at 407 East Maint Street is just what it says it is. Think of the forest and nature. Think of the country gentleman's tweed jacket. Inviting colors blended with even more inviting clothing. Shirts of bamboo softer than any silk you have ever worn. Well designed fabrics with beautiful nature and animal patterns. A wide selection of pants from jeans to casual dress.

Devil Dog Jeans support Wounded Warriors with their earnings. Shirts by Horn Legend works to raise awareness of the endangered Big Horn sheep. Along with clothing, one will find fashionable bags of all types from lite day packs to duffels.

"Outfitter" makes me think of Cabelas or some place to buy hunting or fishing gear. Well, Timber & Tweed is the ultimate outfitter for the modern man prior to his need to buy bullets or bait.

Not only can you find fine clothing, but there are men's grooming products as well to keep you looking sharp till you go looking for deer.

Don't want to do guess work on that meal? Seasoning kits are available. Don't want to cook? There are several snacks available along with jellies and jams that the owner says are good to "sip it, dip it or slap it on a cracker." I'm thinking about the "Bacon Jam" myself and making up a batch of Moscow Mules using their Stoneware Kitchen mixes. If I drink too many, I can use their Bloody Mary mix the next morning.

Stephanie Mallott, works at ETX Realty and felt a need for Timber & Tweed after realizing men's items were in demand. She is a Nacogdoches native, I think they are called BINs, and wants to see the brick streets of Nacogdoches filled with energy and commerce.

Be sure to ask Sherry, Mason or Maggie to show you around. Phone number for Timber & Tweed is 936-305-3131.

Website coming soon @ timberandtweedoutfitters.com

FINE ARTS BUILDING

said SFA Interim President Gina Oglesbee. "Not only are we celebrating 100 years of SFA's educational excellence, but we're also celebrating a new chapter for the Griffith Fine Arts Building. The state-of-the-art facility is a testament to innovation, collaboration and vision. It's a place where imaginations will flourish and dreams will become reality. It's a place for students to find their future in the fine arts and for us all to enrich our lives in art, music, theatre and dance."

The building's official "grand opening" will coincide with SFA's Centennial Celebration taking place Sept. 15 through 18. An open house at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, includes a ribbon-cutting and unveiling ceremonies in the second-floor lobby. The ceremony will be followed by the 4 p.m. choral and orchestral world premiere performance of an original composition by Dr. Stephen Lias, SFA professor of composition, using the writings of celebrated poet and former SFA faculty member Karle Wilson Baker to inspire a work that honors SFA's 100 years of educational contributions and service. The Centennial Concert featuring "How Proud the Pines" will be the first performance to take place in the newly renovated Turner Auditorium.

"The beautiful Griffith Fine Arts Building is a monument on this campus that demonstrates SFA's commitment to the fine arts and fine arts education," said Dr. Gary Wurtz, dean of the Micky Elliott College of Fine Arts. "Throughout its history, SFA has embraced all arts disciplines as a way to enhance the educational experience of the university community, as well as the entire town.

"Students enrolled at SFA this fall will benefit from the most beautiful, spacious, functional and technologically advanced facilities imaginable, which will lead to countless unique opportunities for developing and honing their artistry," he added. "We also look forward to seeing our friends and neighbors at concerts, exhibits, recitals and plays, and we foresee impactful outreach through the hosting of UIL competitions and community events, like the Heritage Festival coronation."

The open house will also feature self-guided tours of the building before the auditorium is opened for its first public viewing and concert. While all activities of the day are free and open to the public, the concert is a ticketed event due to limited seating. Complimentary tickets, available while they last, can be obtained by contacting the Fine Arts Box Office at (936) 468-6407 or boxoffice@sfasu.edu starting Sept. 1.

The Fine Arts Expansion Initiative extended the Griffith Fine Arts Building along North Street. In addition to the renovations to Turner Auditorium, the state-of-the-art building has two dance studios, two new theatres, recording studio, sound stage, audio and video editing rooms, an art gallery, multiple classrooms, rehearsal facilities, faculty offices and the offices of the Elliott College of Fine Arts dean. The facilities house the college's sound recording technology, film-making, theatre, dance and musical theatre programs.

For more information, visit sfasu.edu/finearts or call the Fine Arts Box Office at (936) 468-6407.



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Around the Town is published and distributed on the first day of each month. **FREE** copies are available in more than 200+ locations in Angelina, Nacogdoches & Shelby Counties. The paper may also be viewed online **FREE** 24/7 at www.AroundTheTown.us.

Publisher - David Stallings - 936.554.5822 - aroundthetown@mail.com
 Advertising Manager - Sharon Roberts - 936.552.6758
 Advertising Sales - David Stallings - 936.554.5822
 Graphic Design - James Aston - 936.553.1927
 Features Editor - Terri Lacher - 936.488.8701
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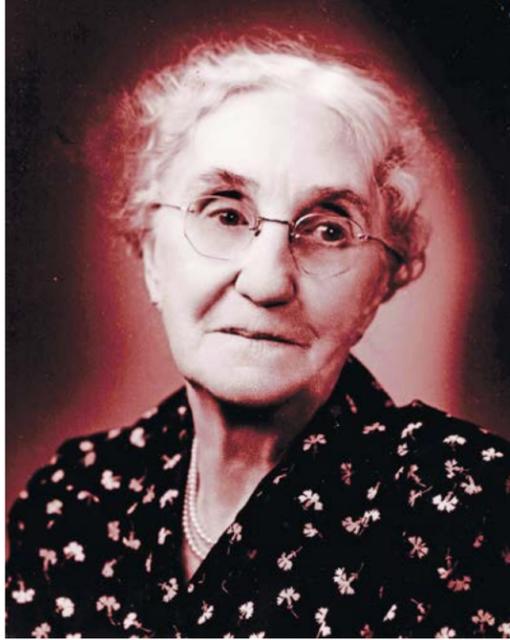
After years of volunteering to help children in need, it is time to retire again. Age and health has caught up with me and it's time to pass the work along to someone else. That is being established and more information will follow in the October issue.

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who has made this journey successful. Now we need bargain shoppers to help us one last time! We will be open Labor Day 9-3 to start the sale. *Come see us for the best deals in East Texas!*

Thanks for 13 years... *Julia and the volunteers*

Real Daughter, Mollie Polk Sharp, Honored by The Daughters of the Republic of Texas On Her Birthday, Oct. 8

Descendants, relatives and friends are invited to celebrate Mollie Polk Sharp's 152nd Birthday in the Thomas Cemetery, Sunday, October 8th, where The Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT) Ezekiel Cullen Chapter will hold a memorial service in her honor. Family members will be invited to share "Memories of Mollie" before the DRT Republic of Texas Memorial Medallion is unveiled. Mrs. Sharp is a Real Daughter because her sixteen-year-old father Lucius Polk was a Citizen of the Republic of Texas arriving in 1839 with his parents Benjamin and Margaret Moore Polk from Maury County, Tennessee. The ceremonies, one for the historic site, one for Mollie Polk Sharp, will begin promptly at 2 p.m. Attendees are advised to arrive at least fifteen minutes early.



Lucius Polk was a farmer, rancher, sawmill owner and Civil War Veteran. Thirty-eight-year-old Lucius married nineteen-year-old Margaret Jane 'Maggie' Miller on Friday December 5, 1862 after the Civil War began in April. Maggie was the daughter of Republic of Texas settlers Matthew Simpson Miller and Nancy Parker who married on December 19, 1838 in San Augustine.

Lucius and Margaret were the parents of six children and 35 grandchildren:
 Benjamin Franklin Polk (1863-1904) m. Mary Runnels
 Matthew Simpson Polk (1868-1959) m. Sarah May Border
 Mollie Polk (1871-1969) m. Benjamin Franklin Sharp
 Margaret Jane Polk (1874-1969) m. William Walter Johnson
 Kate Burselson Polk (1877-1972) m. Brune Wall
 Edna Mae Polk (1881-1944) m. Randolph Allen Noble

On January 9, 1889 Mollie married Benjamin Franklin Sharp also of Republic of Texas parentage. He was the son of Dr. James Henry Sharp and Eliza Louisa Teel, daughter of Austin's 300 Colonist George Teel. They lived in several places before making their home four miles west of town on the Old Polk place in 1895. The farm has remained in continuous ownership and operation of a family agricultural enterprise for over a century receiving the Texas Department of Agriculture Family Land Heritage Award in 2000.

Children of Frank (1864-1924) and Mollie (1871-1969):
 James Lucius Sharp (1890-1971) m. Mamie Belle Crumpler (1898-1977)
 Eugene Frank Sharp (1893-1976) No spouse
 Margaret Elizabeth 'Maggie' Sharp (1895-1967) m. Elvin Elemuel 'Lem' Henry (1895-1971)
 Era Jane Sharp (1898-1979) m. Hurd Thomas Wiggins (1900-1983)
 Wyatt Johnson Sharp (1901-1983) m. Iola Jessie Taylor (1911-1994)
 Anna Betsi Sharp (1904-1991) m. Evertt Merrill Barrett (1902-1977)
 John Lynch Sharp (1906-2000) m. Sarah Margaret Cravy (1927-2015)
 Maud Mathews Sharp (1910-1988) m. Jacob Oscar Haby (1909-1977); Robert Cope (1891-1963)
 Lawrence Maurice Sharp (1915-1991) m. Mary Crowley (1918-?); Magdalen Bauer (1920-1999)

Frank and Mollie raised their children to be courteous, frank and open in all of their dealings and to measure their lives by the standard of honor and justice. In 1924 sons Lucius and Eugene had returned home having served in the Army in World War I from 1917 to 1919. Lucius was married and employed as a cotton seed oil buyer in Shreveport. Eugene and Wyatt were away working. Era wed Hurd in 1921 and they lived in Houston with Frank and Mollie's first grandchild. Maggie was teaching at the rural Bannister School while the younger children Anna, John, Maude and Lawrence were attending the public school in town. Then, on Tuesday evening December 2, Frank being in poor health, took his life at the family farm. He left a note for the family setting forth his reasons for his

Continued on top of page 4



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Continued from page 3

untimely death. Embracing the family situation, Eugene immediately quit his job at the flour mill in Amarillo, returning home to help run the family farm allowing the younger children to continue their education.

Mollie's life spanned 97 years from 1871 until 1969. She was born in the Reconstruction Era, grew to womanhood during the Industrial Age, raised her children thru the Progressive Era, survived World War I, the Great Depression, World War II and the Post War years. Not only did Mollie witness, she lived these significant changes in her community, state, country and the world. Even though Mollie was born when Ulysses S. Grant was President, she was not allowed to vote until her 49th birthday in 1920 electing Warren G. Harding. The life of Mollie perpetuates the memory and spirit of her patriotic family who achieved and maintained the independence of Texas.

Mollie Polk Sharp's strong example as a true Daughter of the Republic of Texas is an inspiration to the Daughters who have come after her. Born into a hard-working lifestyle, she exited this world on a lifestyle of leisure. Going from horse and buggy days to traveling in luxury sedans, Mollie never desired to learn to drive a motorized vehicle! She welcomed her home having running water, being electrified, and being amazed at the rapid invention of modernizations such as televisions and telephones. Mollie's fashion sense and femininity were revealed when she declared that pants were for men to wear, not women. With determination she faced depressions, oppressions, recessions and wars. She outlived the dread of polio, tuberculosis, smallpox and other once fatal diseases. A strong, resilient wife, mother and daughter, Mollie Polk made her Republic of Texas ancestors proud.

Please join the Ezekiel Cullen Chapter in honoring the life of Real Daughter Mollie Polk Sharp on her Real Birthday, Sunday, October 8th at the Historic Thomas Cemetery located on County Road 274, off Hwy. 21 West, San Augustine County, Texas. At 2 p.m. a DRT Historic Sites Medallion will be dedicated at the entrance of the cemetery. The memorial service for Mollie Polk Sharp will follow immediately, and refreshments will be served at about 3 p.m. Attendees may bring their own lawn chairs, if needed.

For more information email ezekielcullenchapter@gmail.com.

Sergeant David Lloyd Whitley and Corporal Ollie Yarbrough's Names to Be Added to World War II Memorial on September 30th, 2023 in Garrison, TX

The City of Garrison and the Garrison Lions Club will be conducting a rededication of its veterans memorial in the town square on Saturday, September 30, 2023 at 10 am. The marker was recently moved to its new location in order to increase its visibility for the public at large.

Research by a local citizen identified two World War II veterans whose names had not been added to the town memorial. The names had not been added over the years because there were conflicting and missing military records.

In the case concerning Sergeant David Lloyd Whitley, there were two service members who had the same name, both with the same rank and both were serving in the Army Air Forces in Europe as air crew members. And, both had been gunners on bombers and killed in action during air combat. Sergeant Whitley was killed in action on March 20, 1945 near Zagreb, Yugoslavia. He was a graduate of Garrison High School and attended SFA before induction into the service.

The second veteran to be recognized and honored was almost lost to history. Corporal Ollie Yarbrough was stationed with the 383d Squadron, 15th Air Depot in the Philippine Islands. His death was recorded on August 23rd, 1945, just weeks before the official end of World War II on September 2, 1945. There was still Japanese enemy activity in the Philippines well after the surrender of Japan. His body was never sent home and he is interred in the Fort William McKinley cemetery in Manila, Philippines.

We invite all veteran organizations and interested citizens in the area to attend this memorial event. Please bring a chair, if needed. We ask that all motorcycles arrive well before the 10:00 start time. Thank you.

City of Garrison, Texas and the Garrison Lions Club.

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Saints Rest Cemetery Homecoming 2023

Saints Rest Cemetery Homecoming will be held *Sunday, Oct 1st*. There will be *lunch* on the grounds at *12 noon*. *Business Meeting* will follow at *1:00 pm*. Saints Rest Cemetery is located on CR 538, Nacogdoches, Texas. For those unable to attend, contributions for upkeep of the cemetery may be mailed to:

Saints Rest Cemetery Association
 c/o Debra Hicks, Sec/Treasurer
 4836 CR 256, Nacogdoches, TX 75965

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The Lamp-Lite Players Open Their 51st Season, A HISTORIC SEASON With *Yes, We Deliver*

The Lamp-Lite Playhouse and Community Theatre opens its 51st Season, A HISTORIC SEASON, with *YES, WE DELIVER*. Written by Lamp-Lite Player Ken Untiedt, the comedy follows Jack Stephens, played by Riley Nichols, a young man determined not to follow in his father's footsteps as a high-powered attorney. Instead, Jack takes a job in a pizza restaurant, where he has some rather quirky co-workers. Each pizza delivery contains a new surprise as Jack meets some of the restaurant's most interesting customers while he visits their homes—and eventually discovers his true calling.

Other members of the cast include Austin Raymond, Brianna Lewis, Grayson Rhoden, Joe Ballenger, Kasey Jobe, Kelsie Johnson, Lex Johnson, Lisa Norman, Lisa Reid, Olivia Dean, Olivea Payne, Peyton Lewis, Richard Malloy, Rick Jones, River Delcambre, Sally Ellsworth, Scott Parrish, Stephanie Oldmixon, and Trae Norman. Ken Untiedt directs the play, assisted by LaChanda Maxie.

As part of Lamp-Lite's HISTORIC SEASON, photographs and posters from productions during the last 20 years are available at the performances to purchase for a donation to the Building/Air Conditioning Fund. The plaques for 21 audience chairs are also available to purchase for a \$75.00 donation to the Building/Air Conditioning Fund. Copies of Dr. Bobby Johnson's books about the New London Tragedy and other East Texas Narratives are also on sale.

Tickets for *YES, WE DELIVER* are available at Klines/Wrap-It-Up and the CVB in the Charles Bright Visitor Center. Prices are \$15.00 Adults, \$12.00 Senior Adult (60+), and \$8.00 Students/Children. Season Ticket Passes for the 2023-24 HISTORIC SEASON are on sale at every performance. Each Pass includes six FLEX tickets and cost \$80.00 Adults, \$65.00 Senior Adults, and \$40.00 Students/Children.

For more information about the 2023-24 Lamp-Lite Playhouse Community Theatre's 51st HISTORIC Season and *YES, WE DELIVER*, visit the website www.lamplitetheatre.com or email lamplitetheatre@gmail.com. Also, follow us on Facebook at Lamp-Lite Theatre.



Jack, played by Riley Nichols (r), makes a pizza delivery to Sue, played by Olivia Dean (l), in *YES, WE DELIVER*.

Gardening for the Birds and Bees

Well, maybe you were told about the birds and bees at an early age, but a lot was left out and we have a long way to go beyond the information provided in that uncomfortable lecture... and that opportunity has just come our way.

GREG GRANT will take us further into the life of these creatures and how to attract them to your garden on the **29th of September, 2023** as he presents a lecture entitled: "Gardening for the Birds and Bees: Saving the World One Garden at a Time."

Location will be at the County Extension Services conference room beginning at 10:00 am and ending at Noon. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. RSVP at (936) 560-7711. Mail your checks payable to: NCMG; County annex, Suite 100, 203 W. Main St., Nacogdoches, Texas 75961. **Checks must arrive by or before September 26th.**

Greg Grant, horticulturist for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services, also writes for *Texas Gardener Magazine* and other publications around the state, is the author of several gardening books, and maintains a social media presence to assist and educate others. He is a member of several garden and nature societies and has decided to get his doctorate in forestry, right here in the Piney Woods of East Texas.

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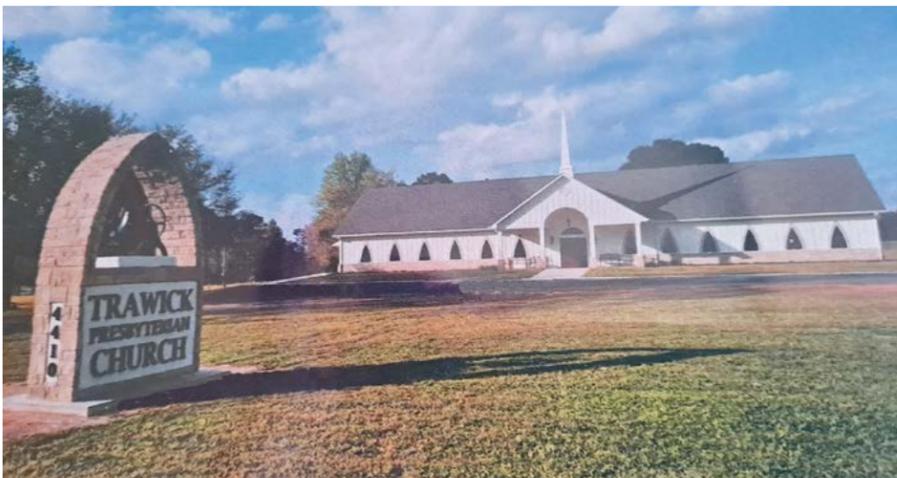
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Come Home to the Lord: One and All

Welsh composer and musician said so poignantly long ago, "Make new friends, but keep the old; those are silver; these are gold." This is the theme of the Trawick Presbyterian Church Homecoming Celebration, "Come Home to the Lord" which will take place on Sunday, September 10th. If you have never visited Trawick Presbyterian Church, which is located on SH 204, just 20 minutes northwest of Nacogdoches, we invite you to join us for worship at 10:30 am, followed by lunch.

Trawick Presbyterian Church (TPC) has a rich history as a worshipping family. Established as a joint Presbyterian/Methodist congregation on August 15, 1914 on land donated by John R. Trawick, the church and the Trawick community became a reality with a population of 300. On October 21, 2019, the church building burned to the ground, but this vital and energetic church family, now solely Presbyterian, wasted no time getting back to the worship of the Lord. Quickly the church members cleaned, painted, and prepared space in the local fire hall where worship resumed the first Sunday after the fire. On June 13, 2021, a beautiful new church building was dedicated and has housed worship services weekly ever since. During the Covid-19 pandemic, drive-in worship services were held outdoors.

Following the retirement of Rev. David O'Neal in 2021, the determination and energy of Trawick Presbyterian Church, led by the Holy Spirit have never waned. On January 1, 2023, Rev. Maury Millican, retired Army chaplain, was welcomed as the new pastor and under his leadership, this vibrant church family continues to welcome, with open arms, creative programs, a flourishingly lively youth group, new members, and visitors from across the nation. Join us for this exciting homecoming celebration for friends new and old, silver and gold, at 10:30 am on September 10th. For more information contact Robin Howell, Clerk of the Session, at 936-645-4597.



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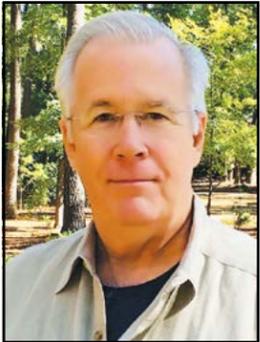


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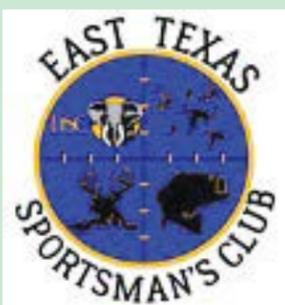
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Our First Real Tournament

by Robert McCandless

We, here in Nac, want to forget the first attempt at a tournament our founding members assembled. The mistake was the arrival of two young men from Tyler with their coach in tow.

Tournament?? Have you ever seen the painting of Custer's Last Stand? Now imagine only two Indians? Since then, the players of Nacogdoches have increased in number and talent, with tournament wins in Lufkin and Longview.

We now have two tournaments coming to Nacogdoches that will be bringing players in from all over East Texas and as far away as Dallas and Ft. Worth.

The first is a non-profit fundraiser for The Christian Women's Job Corps. It will be held on October 7th and 8th, 2023 at the newly finished courts in Maroney Park, provided by generous donations from Cal-Tex Lumber, Tipton Ford, Fredonia Brewery, Commercial Bank and the Nacogdoches City Parks Department. It will be sponsored by several major pickleball manufacturers including Gear Box, Selkirk, Onix, and Paddletek who have supplied raffle items for lucky ticket holders. 1 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$20.00. See your local ticket agent at Maroney or Banita park courts.

CWJC is a local organization assisting those in need by providing educational opportunities and mentoring in a one on one atmosphere. Many people only need someone to come alongside them and instruct them in leading successful lives. CWJC staff and volunteers do just that.

Now, I'm not a great player, but I look at it this way...if a bunch of, not so great players sign up, well... I may have a chance at winning a medal but even if I lose, I will at least have a good time and be donating to a good cause. So sign up to play and support a great organization. There will be skill categories and age brackets to encourage everyone to join in. I'm hoping for a bronze in the "Old man's" division. We will be having practice and instruction classes on Saturday, September 30th 8:00am till noon and again at 7pm till 10:00pm at Banita Creek courts by the dog park.

Now, the fun begins with the "Dink or Treat" tournament on October 21st and 22nd. This will be a fun, family oriented tournament designed to bring our community together...in costumes, as Wolfman and Frankenstein may be dinking and slamming with the Monster From the Black Lagoon and The Invisible Man. Sort of like Ben Johns meets Frankenstein.

It is being sponsored by The City of Nacogdoches and all proceeds go to maintaining and improving the beautiful pickleball courts here in Nac. Cost is only \$20.00 per person.

Among what is now known as "The New Middle Aged," there is a new group forming in town. Players are getting increasingly younger as pickleball popularity grows and the middle aged citizens are tired of elder abuse on the court. Nacogdoches Old Town 50+ Pickleball League, created and managed by Cheryl Hansen and Sue McLaughlin will begin play on September 20th 2023. You can sign up now and be ready for league play every Wednesday morning at 9:00 am for 6 weeks ending in a competitive battle. That's right, Baby Boomers are alive and well right here in our fair city.

Sign up at the pickleball courts in town by accessing the QR codes posted on the fences, or contact the C.L. Simon Rec Center at (936) 559-2960.






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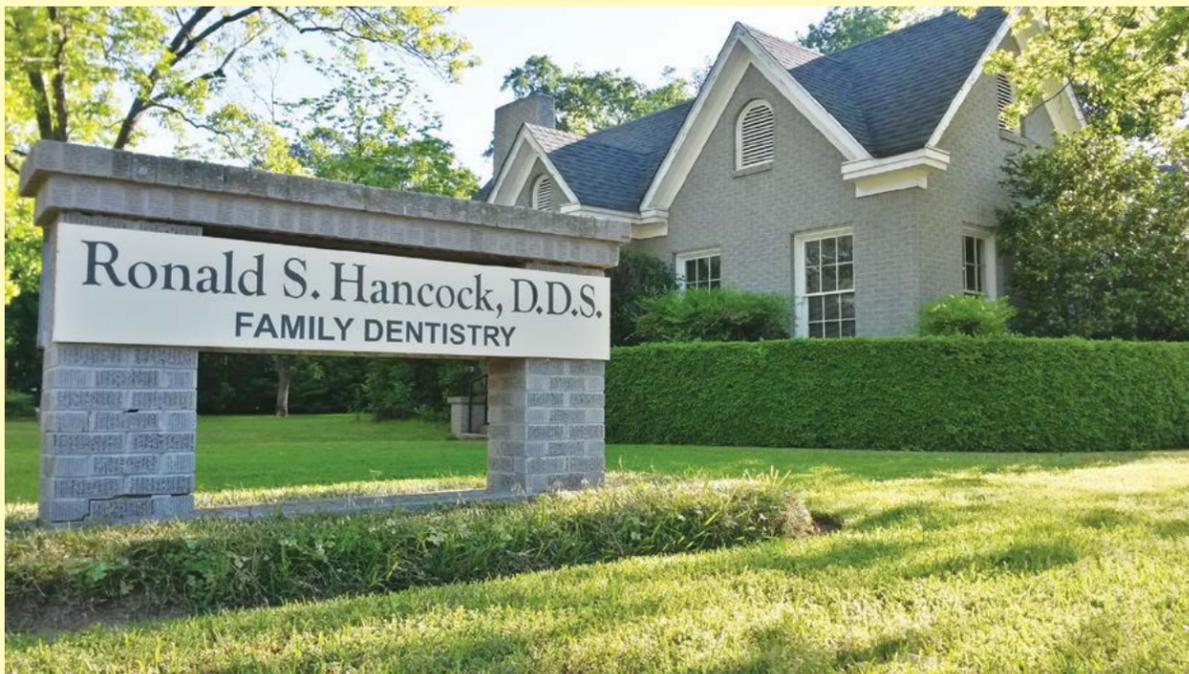
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I Am Officially Old

by Taylor Millard

On August 30th I will be 66 years old. I don't feel like I am that old, well some days I surely do, after a full knee replacement and nagging hip pain, that now requires injections, but mentally, I try to hold on to a youthful spirit. This inward feeling does not match my outward appearance with my gray hair, what's left of it, and probably my clothing choice which I assure you screams old guy that is no longer trying to impress anyone.

I will some days wear my Open Road Stetson, which is definitely an old man hat, with khaki pants and comfortable slip-on shoes. Boots and lace up shoes require more bending than I like to do. I arise before dawn most days, regardless of when I fall asleep. Where was that ambitious trait when I needed it most? I seem to take a lot of medicine as all the people at the M & S Pharmacy know my name and birthday.



Henry Taylor Millard, known as Taylor, to almost everyone, grew up in Nacogdoches with a story telling father and a history reading mother. Taylor is a seventh generation Texan and lives on the same family land dating back to the eighteen-thirties. He and his wife attend Old North Baptist Church that his great-great-grandmother assisted in founding in 1838.

All of these passages of time just added up over the last few years without noticing them, until a few weeks ago. I was busy working on several projects at my farm and went to a variety of businesses to address my needs. The feed store, a welding shop, a plumbing supply, tractor parts counter, and even the gym, and yes, I do occasionally go to a gym. I called to make a doctor appointment, called a cowboy leasing property from me, then finally I spoke with a man cutting some hay for me, back when it rained, so long ago.

Now you need to know that at all of these places, in person or by phone, were men and women with an average age of I would guess 36 years old. Every dang one of them addressed me as Mr. Millard. No one called me Taylor, or a worse name, and I will allow your imagination to scroll through that list. Nope, it was Mr. Millard. It just flowed off their tongues with ease and I didn't even notice until much later. The thought washed over me as I recalled those interactions, that I am old now.

I do have a choice going forward, I can tell them all quickly, "Mr. Millard was my father's name," a common response. I can say "Oh, just call me Taylor." Now that is also what you may hear from people trying to be younger in the eyes of their peers. Women do all they can to postpone their aging, with hair dye and makeup, or even younger looking clothing, for the more fit gals. They may even have "work" done as they call it. They put it off much longer than men, well the men I know. I have a great admiration for the women who choose the gray hair, and I will tell them how nice their hair looks. They always smile and say, "I just got tired of the battle."

I have decided to embrace my new moniker of Mr. Millard. I take it as a sign of respect and maybe I have earned it after so many birthdays. Now those people that addressed me as such, should also be thanked for their dutiful raisings, where they were taught to respect their elders. I am that elder now so whether I like it or not, it does not matter. I never considered the cost of new hair or "work," this is what God gave me. If you see me around, call me what you like, even the bad names not allowed in a respected publication like this. Now I could use a nap.

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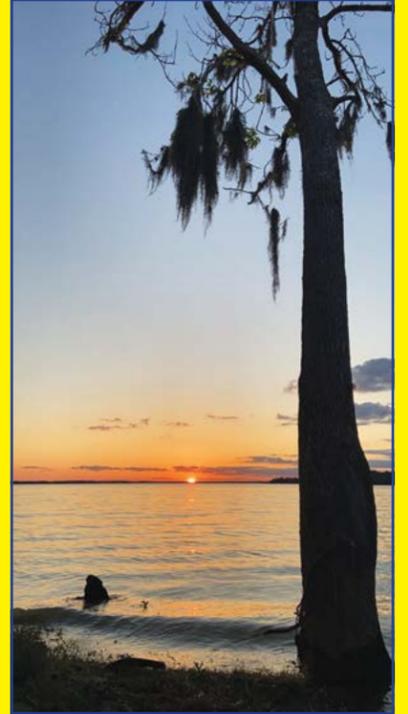
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Charles Pool Real Estate is proud to announce the return of Colton Pool to Nacogdoches' largest team of licensed brokers.

Colton continues a family tradition, serving alongside his father, Ed Pool, and his sister, Abby Taylor, at the company founded by his grandfather. Colton served as an intern at CPRE before leaving for college and is returning to Nacogdoches after working for several years in Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and California.

"I am beyond excited to work closely next to my father and sister in this company," Colton said. "Nacogdoches is the place I know and love and will someday want to show my kids the same in this town I call home."

Colton graduated from Nacogdoches High School and earned a degree in Corporate Communications with a minor in Real Estate from Baylor University. Colton worked with corporate construction, equipment, and development companies, including United Rentals, Ahern Rentals, J. Wales Construction, I-10 Equipment, Jones Enterprises and California Sulphur.

Colton is especially interested in helping people acquire land and ranch properties.

"It's no surprise that I'm excited about having my son join the team," Ed Pool, CPRE president, said. "He knows this town, he knows this business, and he has a wide range of experience that I think will prove very valuable."

Colton attends New Hope Church and will continue to give back to the community through professional and mission-focused organizations. Colton also enjoys hunting, fishing, pickleball and working out at 360 Fitness.

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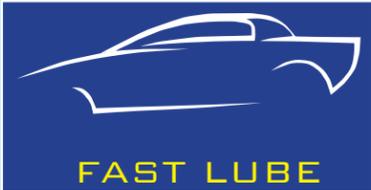
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NHS Distinguished Alumni Announced

Susan Brown Douthit graduated from Nacogdoches High School in 1974. As the daughter of Gordon Brown, who served as football coach and athletic director for Nacogdoches, she cherishes the memories made at NHS. Susan was a Dragon cheerleader for 3 years, lettered in tennis for four years, and served as a class officer. She was a member of the Fellowship of Christian athletes and was honored to be voted "Most School Spirit." Some of her favorite teachers were Dawn Burgess, Jack Hammett, Virginia Alders, and Ruby Morris.



After graduating from NHS, Susan went on to Baylor University, where she graduated in 1978 with a B.S. in Elementary Education with a double major in Design Art. Susan served as an officer in the Delta Delta Delta sorority and mentored incoming freshmen. While at Baylor, she also met her husband, Dr. Bruce Douthit, Baylor graduate and UT Medical School graduate. They married in 1979 and had 3 children, Lindsey, Andrew, and Taylor who between them hold degrees from Baylor University, King's College London, Harding University and Stanford Medical Residency. Their respective spouses, Leon, Leah, and Hannah, hold degrees from Notre Dame University, George Washington University Law School, Texas A&M University, and Baylor University.

After several years of public-school teaching, Susan then served on various committees at First Baptist Church McKinney, the McKinney Education Foundation, and the Baylor Alumni Association Board of Directors. It was during her time on the education boards that she realized the need for scholarship opportunities for hard-working students seeking higher education to achieve their life goals.

Susan resides in McKinney, Texas, with her husband Bruce, an orthopedic surgeon. She manages the Douthit family real estate and land holdings with a focus on preserving native Texas land and wildlife. She and Bruce enjoy spending time with their six grandchildren, Daniel, David, Charlotte, Lily, Savannah, and James. Susan, who is a member of the NHS Alumni Association, also endowed a scholarship to help NHS graduates pursue their higher degrees.

Dr. Deana Patterson Sheppard, NHS Class of 1988, is living proof of how the influence of one caring, observant teacher can change the trajectory of a student's future. As a student at NHS, Sheppard sang soprano in the Choir, earning a place in the Texas All-State choir, and was active in the Future Homemakers of America and Business Professions of America clubs.



She credits her NHS business instructor Kathryn Scott not only for igniting her passion for a career in education but also persuading a quiet Deana Patterson to break out of her shell and take center stage. "Mrs. Scott totally brought me out of my introverted self," Sheppard said. "She had that way of gently encouraging me that let me know I could get up and speak in front of people. She gave me opportunities and ideas that I had never thought about."

Those early experiences spurred Sheppard to success at Stephen F. Austin State University, which further cemented her desire to teach and influence others. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from SFA in 1992. She later earned a Master of Science degree in Training and Development from the University of Houston, and a Doctorate in Education in Higher Education Leadership from Sam Houston State University.

After a few years of teaching business courses at the high school level, Sheppard began her higher education career at Brazosport College, where she rose through the ranks from faculty member to the director of employee development. Firmly committed to the community college mission, she joined Lone Star College at CyFair in 2002, serving in leadership roles including dean/executive director, vice president of college centers, vice president of instruction and interim president. In 2019, she was named provost and vice president for academic and student affairs at Tyler Junior College. She values culture and investing in those she leads, and she is passionate about facilitating student success and working with individuals who share that same passion. She is also active in her community, serving on a variety of local and national boards.

Despite her success in higher education, Sheppard's true purpose in life comes from her family, which includes her husband and best friend of 31 years,

Drew; their daughter and son-in-law, Kaylin and Colby Moore; and their 11 year-old son, Liam. Congratulations to this most deserving alum on her selection. To join Dr. Sheppard as a member of the NHS Alumni Association visit nhs-alumni.org.

The NHSAA is proud to honor the **Mast Family** as its Distinguished Alumni family. The Mast family has lived in Nacogdoches for many years and their contributions to the community and to NHS and SFA are well known. **Adlai T Mast Jr.**, son of AT Mast Sr and Lois Watson Mast, attended schools in Nacogdoches but graduated from a private school in 1938. His sisters both graduated from NHS; Emily Mast Middlebrook, class of 1935 and Hollis Mast Barron, class of 1939. Adlai Jr was married to Patricia "Pat" Roberdeau of Austin. He attended SFA and UT Austin and served with the British Royal Air Force and then the Army Air Corps during WWII, with tours of duty in the Pacific and European theaters. He was a proud fourth generation East Texas who established the SFA Mast Arboretum. He passed away in December of 2002.



The next generation of the family that graduated from NHS included Dr. Adlai 'Travis' Mast III, NHS 1963, Patricia Mast George, NHS 1966, Horace Mast, NHS 1967 and John Mast, NHS 1972. Horace tragically died in 1970 while a student at SFA from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. His siblings have all gone on to contribute greatly to their communities; Travis and John both in Nacogdoches with their respective spouses Lupe and Karen and Tricia with her spouse Kenn in Dallas.

Tricia served for several years as Board President for the Foundation for the UT Dallas Callier Center and she and her husband chaired the Dallas Chapter of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Fund a cure luncheon in 2015. Kenn was ambassador to Uruguay, appointed by President Donald Trump in 2019, serving until 2021. Dr. Travis Mast is a pediatrician practicing in Nacogdoches for many years. His brother John is the owner of John Mast Cattle & Timber Company in Nacogdoches. In 2012 John refurbished the old Cason Monk building downtown, creating a much-needed event center—Mast Hall. Also in 2012 John and his siblings created the Mast Student Investment Roundtable at SFASU. Endowments created by their parents have benefited SFA academic and art scholarships, the School of Nursing and the Mast Arboretum.

Travis' family includes children Adlai Travis Mast IV, Helen Mast Lary, NHS 1999, Sidney Mast Goodfriend, NHS 1997 and Margaret Mast Mathes, NHS 2005. Patricia's children are Clement George, Patrick George, Elizabeth George Gosselin and Kenneth George II. John's children are Joseph Mast and Horace Mast II, NHS 2001. The next generation includes 13 great grandchildren and several great great grandchildren of Adlai Jr and Patricia. Several of those will be future NHS alumni. Congratulations to the Mast family.

Mark Moore, NHS 1983, has been named by the NHS Alumni Association as a Distinguished Alumnus. After graduating from Nacogdoches High, he went on to play football at Oklahoma State University. A 1986 graduate of OSU with a major in Sociology, Moore was a three time All-American at safety. He was also a Jim Thorpe award finalist in its inaugural year of 1986. This award names the best defensive back in college football in the country.



In 1987 Moore was drafted in the 3rd round of the NFL draft by the Seattle Seahawks, where he played from 1987 to 1989. He then played in New York from 1991 to 1992.

In 2016 he moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he currently works at Jenks Middle School as the In-House Supervisor and Football Defensive Coordinator. He proudly serves with the non-profit Cowboys in the Community – a group of former Oklahoma State athletes, who have come together to serve their community.

Mark is married to Holli Moore and has three children, Paisley, Tate and Quentin. Moore proudly wore number 44 during his years as a Dragon and credits Coach Steve McCarty as a huge influence in his high school years. Moore says "Coach McCarty truly showed me how to be a leader and a man."

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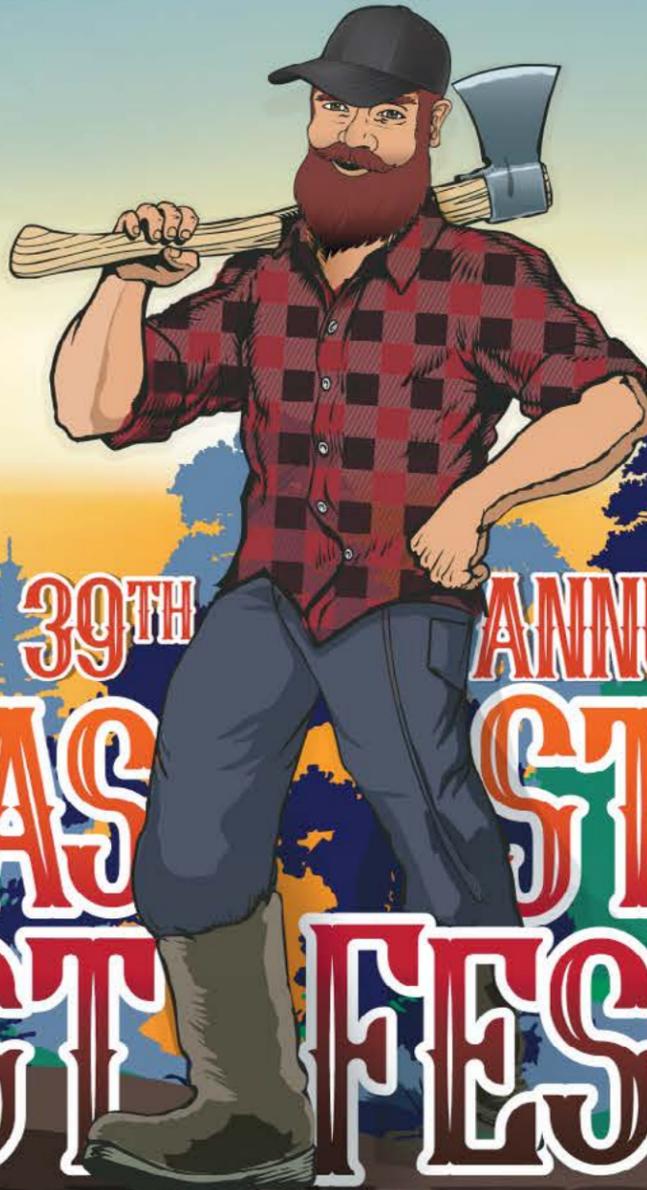
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The Real Deal

by Tweed Scott

You can always spot a cowboy. He just has a look, a demeanor all his own. You can see it in his face and if you get close enough to see his hands, then any lingering doubts will disappear.

The other day I was walking into the big box discount store, I couldn't help but notice the big chuck wagon display on the parking lot near the entrance selling chili and beef jerky. Several horses were stationed nearby to offer authenticity. It certainly looked like the "real deal."

That's when I spotted him walking towards me. Even before our paths crossed, I was impressed by his full countenance. He was the "real deal" from head to toe, topped with an impressive well-worn silver felt cowboy hat and a blue bandanna loosely tied around his neck with a pronounced knot. His neckerchief partially covered the left shoulder of his mid-blue chambray shirt. As he drew closer, I couldn't miss the swaggering gate of his step. He wore a manly, functional buckle that held his plain black leather belt together. His jeans, which showed some wear, were tucked into the tops of his horse seasoned, bull hide, reddish-brown high-top boots. Under his nose he sported a fully grown handlebar mustache centered between the crows feet between his eyes, above his square jaw.



He was impressive—a real working cowboy. One last glance revealed that this American icon carried a black leather holster on his hip. I looked closer to inspect his choice of sidearm—at that very moment, he went for the weapon and snatched it to the ready in a blink. Fully expecting a quick drawn demonstration, I gazed in amazement as he dialed his phone!



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Paying It Forward In The Deep South

by Mike Mills

Mike Mills is a 1965 graduate of Nacogdoches High School. After careers in airline flying and FAA management, he and wife Sandy, a retired teacher, took to the road in a motorhome, writing about their journeys. Their blog, "Phannie and Mae" has had more than a million views since its inception.

We periodically drive our motorhome to a town in Alabama named Red Bay for service. This tiny burg is the home of Tiffin Motor Homes—the factory that built her—and within its environs are a plethora of small shops besides the factory maintenance facility that perform every imaginable service on thousands of these popular RVs and other brands, as well. Due to the ingrained ethics of the small-town populace, there is rarely any worry about the quality of work or fairness of prices. On a couple of occasions, we stayed a couple of weeks when our bus needed work at multiple specialty shops. It was a recent visit to this area that was particularly memorable.

Red Bay is almost in Mississippi. In fact, the western city limit sign is on the border between Alabama and Mississippi. Continue a few miles west, and you'll pass through the little town of Golden and end up in Belmont, Mississippi. It is a short but beautiful drive among cotton fields and neatly kept farmhouses.

Belmont reminds me of how Nacogdoches must have been 75 years ago. There is a downtown area, but the stores are of the mom-and-pop variety. There is a Piggly Wiggly grocery store combined with a hardware store, and there is a small Big Star Food Market, whose claim to fame is baked goods that you would swear were produced in your grandmother's kitchen.

There are churches everywhere, and all the residents seem to know each other. Kids behave themselves and never fail to refer to grownups as "sir" or "ma'am." How well I remember and long for those days again. So, this sets the background for a "people" story, for which, if you've been reading this column for a while, you'll know I'm fond of telling.

Sandy and I were at the checkout counter at the Big Star one day behind a man named Floyd—as he was referred to by Susie, who was operating the cash register. Susie was playfully chatting with him when he placed a clear plastic container of delicious-looking cookies on the belt. "Now, Floyd," she said. "You know you're not supposed to have those in your condition."

Floyd sheepishly said, "My grandkids are in town, and Reba told me to pick up some cookies." Susie looked at him over her glasses with one hand on her hip. "Really, Floyd? Well, be sure and bring those grandkids by while they're here," she said with a knowing smile. Floyd didn't look up as he hurried out the door.

When we checked out, I asked Susie if she knew of anyone around who sold home-grown produce. I knew there had to be many vegetable gardens in this farming area, and I was starved for some of these delicacies, especially tomatoes. Susie thought for a moment, then said, "Why don't you stop at Bob Hester's place; I'm pretty sure he'd sell you some." (Have you noticed that all over the rural south, people's dwellings are often called 'places?') Well, I obviously didn't know where Bob Hester's place was, so I asked her.

"Just keep a-goin' south on 25 out there; his place is on the right, kinda caddy-cornered from the rehab center. I went to school with Bob; just tell him Susie sent ya." Her warm southern drawl might as well have been poured out of a syrup bucket. I was enthralled with how many one-syllable words could be made into two syllables or had a different sound from their spelling. For example, "well" was pronounced "wale" and "milk" sounded like "mi-yulk." I loved Susie's down-home manner and the way she could make a total stranger feel like a longtime friend.

I drove as Susie had directed and soon came upon the rehab center. I saw a house with a large vegetable garden in back that was caddy-cornered (I'm not sure of the spelling or exact meaning of that term), but there was no sign in the yard advertising produce for sale. Guessing that was Bob's place, I turned in the driveway and walked toward the front door. Through the big front window, I saw a woman gesturing for me to go to the side door inside the garage, and I complied. The front door had stuff piled in front of it, so I assume it was just not used—ever.

Without hesitation, the very pleasant woman, smiling broadly, stepped out of the side door and into the garage where I was standing, I thought to myself how this would never happen in a big city, where the police would probably already be on the way.

I introduced myself and asked if this was the Hester residence. "Sure is," she said. "I'm Donna Hester." I told her why I was there and that I had been sent by Susie down at the Big Star, and she said, "Oh, let me go tell Bob you're here; I know he's got a bunch of tomatoes, but he won't sell them to you."

I was obviously puzzled but, before I could respond, she was already walking across the concrete floor and stepped onto the grass. Holding her hands to her mouth to amplify her voice, she yelled towards the back of the house, "Bob!



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There's someone here to see you!" After that, Donna went to chat with Sandy, who was waiting in the car, and Bob appeared, shirtless and sweaty, a man in his mid-sixties who hadn't shaved in a while but bore a big grin. I introduced myself again, mentioning Susie at the Big Star, who directed us here. Bob grabbed a nearby shirt and slipped it on while I told him I was looking to buy a few tomatoes (since that appeared to be all he was growing there). He smiled and said, "Well, I won't sell them to you, but I'll give them to you." I demurred, saying, "Oh please, I will gladly pay you for whatever you can let me have."

"Absolutely not," he said. I have eighty tomato plants back here, and I'll give tomatoes to anyone who asks, but I've never accepted a penny for any of 'em." Seeing my surprised look, he said, "It's my way of paying it forward; I feel like that's just something the Lord would want me to do. The other day, my church was having a supper for the congregation, and I brought 'em a hunnerd tomatoes. They sure seemed to like 'em."

Seeing my admiration for his enormous tomato patch, he volunteered, "They're all Better Boys, which I think are the best. It took me five years to get the soil right, using horse manure to mix with the red dirt." I nodded and told him my dad had fertilized his garden with chicken manure. "Too much nitrogen," he said. Since I was certainly no expert on the composition of manure, I didn't argue with him. His methodology was certainly a success. "I'm sorry about all the grass around the plants," he added. "There's been so much rain, I just can't keep up with it." I waved away the comment, anticipating the prize I was about to receive.

With that, Bob picked out about a dozen beautiful tomatoes from a large collection in his storage shed and brought them to me in a plastic grocery bag. I thanked him profusely and left, both surprised and not surprised by the generosity and friendliness of these people who didn't know me from Adam.

The tomatoes? They were delicious, as homegrown tomatoes always are. I was reminded immediately of tomatoes from my dad's garden in Nacogdoches, that I believe (without bias, of course) is a place that grows the best-tasting tomatoes that can be found anywhere. But Bob's were right up there, for sure.

I do love small towns in the South that seem never to lose their charm despite the mayhem and depravity that permeates much of the rest of the country. It's like time travel—back to when life was full of goodness, generosity and simple pleasures. It was hard to say goodbye, especially to Bob, Donna and Susie. (Email: mikemills159@pm.me)



Bob Hester standing in his tomato garden.

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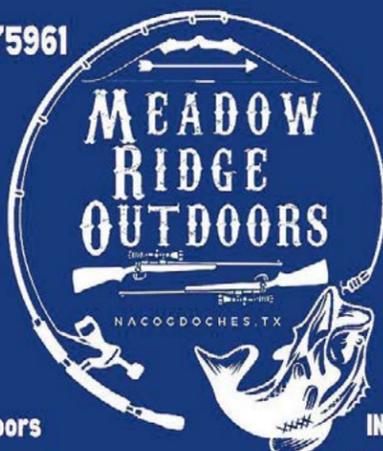
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UPCOMING IN SEPTEMBER 2023...

SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2023 – LABOR DAY HOLIDAY...COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2023 – FIRST RESPONDER APPRECIATION BANQUET – Presented by Calvary Baptist Church and East Texas Home Inspections: Calvary Baptist Church 2nd annual First Responders Banquet will be on Thursday, September 14th, from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. There will be a 100% free meal honoring all first responders within the Nacogdoches County Area. All first responders wishing to attend must RSVP online or over the phone through our front office at 936-564-4539.

SEPTEMBER 16-17TH, 2023 – PINEYWOODS YOUTH RODEO
Free admission and free parking. Concessions will be available. Saturday: Starting at 9:00 am, Sunday: Starting at 8:00 am. Events Include: Barrels, SAW Barrels, Poles, Goat Tying, Chute Dogging, Breakaway, 7-9 Double Mugging, Tie Down, Ribbon Roping, Jr. & Sr. Team Roping. For more information visit www.pineywoodsrodeo.com

SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2023 – NACOGDOCHES COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION ** \$10K STEAK DINNER FUNDRAISER**
Doors open at 5:30 pm. Support our youth while enjoying a delicious ribeye steak dinner for two! A cash bar is available. There will be random drawings for CASH PRIZES and live and silent auctions. The last ticket drawn will win the \$10K cash prize! Tickets are \$100.00 per couple (includes dinner for two) and are available from your local Agricultural Science teachers. The funds raised are used to support the youth of Nacogdoches County that are active in FFA or 4H thru scholarships and the premium sale of livestock projects during the Pineywoods Fair.

SEPTEMBER 22ND-24TH, 2023 – G&S PROMOTIONS - 3 DAY GUN SHOW
Friday from 4:00 pm- 8:00 pm, Saturday from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, and Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Admission is \$10.00 per person, come Friday and your admission is good all weekend. Please contact Ms. Stephanie for Vendor Booth inquiries at 918-635-5432.

SEPTEMBER 22ND-24TH, 2023 – REGION V HIGH SCHOOL RODEO
Free Admission and Free Parking. Concessions available.
Saturday: Starting at 10:00 am, Sunday: Starting at 9:00 am. Events include Bareback, Saddle Bronc, Bull Riding, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Team Roping, Breakaway Calf Roping, Steer Wrestling and Goat Tying.

PINEYWOODS FAIR VENDOR BOOTHS STILL AVAILABLE – Come see us at the Expo for more information on reserving a vendor booth at the 2023 Pineywoods Fair.

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Harvest Time

“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”
2 Corinthians 9:6 (NKJV)

On June 21, 1834, Cyrus Hall McCormick received a patent for his reaping machine – he was just twenty-five years old. Actually, his father had almost invented the mechanical reaper by himself but gave up the project and turned it over to young Cyrus. He was aided

by Jo Anderson, an enslaved African American on the McCormick plantation at the time.

Even though his reaper harvested twenty-two acres a day, as compared to the half-acre that could be manually harvested in the same time frame, sales were slow. When Cyrus moved from his hometown in rural Virginia to metro Chicago in 1847, his distribution and marketing took off. By 1850, he was selling more than 5,000 reapers each year. Thanks to his genius, at the time of McCormick’s death in 1884, enough grain was being shipped from Chicago each year to bake 10 billion loaves of bread.

But that is just half of the story. Cyrus, having been nurtured in a Christian home, also knew a thing or two about sowing and reaping in life. He was exceedingly generous with his time and finances to many in need. In 1869, McCormick donated \$10,000 to help Dwight L. Moody start the Young Men’s Christian Association, and his son, Cyrus Jr., would become the first president of the Moody Bible Institute.

McCormick’s success hung on the truth of 2 Corinthians 9:6 which teaches that we will reap if we sow; that we will reap more than we sow; that we will reap as we sow; and we will reap later than we sow. As a good steward of what had been entrusted to him, McCormick became a blessing to others.

In his commentary on this passage of Scripture, Warren W. Wiersbe writes: “Our giving must come from the heart, and the motive in the heart must please God. We must not be ‘sad givers’ who give grudgingly, or ‘mad givers’ who give because we have to (of necessity), but we should be ‘glad givers who cheerfully share what we have because we have experienced the grace of God. He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed.” (Prov. 22:9).

What about you? Harvest time is anytime when opportunities show themselves allowing us to be a blessing to others. God gives to us that we might give to others.

A LITTLE HUMOR: A visitor to a farm was astounded to see brown bundles of feathers zooming around the barnyard, so fast they couldn’t be seen clearly. “What in the world are those things?” he asked, somewhat alarmed.

“Those are my four-legged chickens,” the farmer said. “I’ve been breedin’em. Quick, ain’t they?”

“Yes, but why do you want four-legged chickens?”

“Cuz me and my wife and our two boys all like the drumstick. When we have fried chicken, there’ll be a leg for each of us.”

“Does it taste like normal fried chicken?”

“Don’t know yet. We haven’t been able to catch one.”

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Save Us With A Seat

I still can't wrap my head around why some drivers don't see the importance or necessity of wearing a seat belt or making sure their little ones are safely secured in a child car seat, booster seat or seat belt.

I saw this on the Lufkin loop just last week and I shuttered thinking about how dangerous it was. The two children were standing in the backseat and the driver seemed oblivious to the fact that he was breaking the law. You ever see a driver breaking the law and wish there were a police officer around? I did. I can only think of one other reason besides the fact that it is the law and it's quite simple – wearing one will save your life.

A leading cause of death among children involved in vehicle crashes is not being restrained properly or not being restrained at all. It is also a leading cause of fatalities with adults.

Many of us wouldn't think of driving with children in a car without first making sure they are safely secured. I had children when a car seat turned backwards in the front seat was all I thought was necessary to keep them safe. Now I know that it was not.

While most of you believe your children are properly buckled up, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration points out that a staggering 46-percent of all car seats are not used properly. The best way to keep young children safe in your vehicle is to make sure they're properly buckled up in a car seat.

The Lufkin District has been busy recently with car seat events aimed at keeping children safe. The recent Senior Fit event was also a success. The event was held to educate senior drivers to the safest techniques in their own vehicles.

You don't have to wait until the next event to make sure you or your loved ones are secured safely. The Lufkin District provides free safety seat inspections throughout the year. All you need to do is schedule a check-up with a TxDOT Traffic Safety Specialist. In the nine-county Lufkin District, that is Melissa McKnight. Call her at (936) 633-4303 or (936) 219-8922 to set an appointment.

Traffic Safety Specialists not only inspect the car seat but can help you determine if a child should be in a rear-facing, forward-facing or booster seat. They will also advise you of Texas law, which requires that all children younger than 8 years old, unless they are taller than 4 feet 9 inches, be secured in a child safety seat whenever they ride in a vehicle. Older children who have outgrown a booster seat must wear a seat belt.

Texas law also provides a little motivation for us adults. Failure to properly restrain a child can result in a ticket of up to \$250. And for those wondering proper seat belt and car seat safety guidelines, this might help:

- Texas requires drivers and all passengers to wear seat belts.
- Ensure the seatbelt fits snugly across the hips, not over the stomach.
- Ensure shoulder belt goes over the shoulder and across the center of the chest.
- Never tuck the shoulder belt underneath your arm or behind your back.
- Children must be in an appropriate car or booster seat.
- Birth to two years old: All infants and toddlers should ride in a rear-facing car seat until they are two years old, or until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their safety seat's manufacturer.
 - Over two years old: Any child two or older who has outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for a car seat, should use a forward-facing car seat with a harness for as long as possible, up to the highest weight or height allowed by their car seat's manufacturer.
 - Ages four to eight years old: Children whose weight or height exceeds the limit for a forward-facing car seat should switch to a belt-positioning booster seat. These children should remain in a booster seat until the vehicle seat belt fits properly.

These guidelines and laws are in place for a reason. Seat belts and child safety seats save lives. I've seen them when they have, and I've seen them when they never had the chance to. I hope you choose to stay as safe by buckling up and securing your precious cargo in a child safety seat.

This really is not rocket science and I hope the driver with the unrestrained children reads this. We just want to make sure you and your family are safe, because in that split second before a crash occurs, it's too late to buckle up.

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The Refuge

“That by two immutable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for REFUGE to lay hold of the hope set before us.” (Hebrews 6:18)

Cheryl Brady is a native of El Dorado, Arkansas. Following graduation from college as a ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG), she went on to serve twenty-eight years as a U.S. Army logistics officer, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. She was transplanted from Washington State by the hand of the Lord to Nacogdoches in May 2019. She has grown to love this oldest town in Texas. She is a Bible teacher, published author, and motivational speaker who loves to encourage folks with the Word of God.



Influenced by the Voices of the Dead

The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. James 3:6 NKJV

People in this world fall into one of two spiritual realities, dead to God or alive to God. Those who are alive to God are the ones He has made alive through faith in His Son. All who have Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, have life.

Many who profess to be Christians have been wooed into a deep sleep by the voices of the dead (Rom 13:11-12). I am speaking of the spiritually dead among the influencers of this perverse generation. Men and women in this world who use their skin color, gender, power, fame, and fortune to influence the masses to do evil and not what is right in the sight and hearing of God. From their mouths come exceedingly poisonous venom, poisoning the souls of those who listen to their words. These dead influencers say they believe in God, even quote verses from the Bible, yet from the same mouth they promote sacrificing a pregnant woman’s unborn child to demons; dehumanizing babies whom God created; extolling the lie of reproductive healthcare. Their wicked tongue is set on fire by hell. All evil speech is from hell.

People professing to follow Christ are unashamedly enticed by these evil influencers to the extent that they cannot hear the truth come from God which leads to repentance and a return to His ways. They allow the dead, day after day, to influence their mind, will, and emotions, leading to an insatiable appetite for compromising the truth. People called by Christ’s name committing spiritual adultery with the dead.

Influencers who speak as representatives for God know God through a personal relationship established in Christ by grace through faith. Influencers who speak for God speak the truth (John 17:17). Influencers who speak for God believe His word as evidenced by a life of obedience resulting in transformation by His word. Influencers who speak for God speak words that are spirit and are life (John 6:63). Influencers speaking for God are led by the Holy Spirit who teaches and leads them according to the truth.

Choose carefully the influencers in your life if you are calling yourself a Christian. Be very careful with whom you become an ally in this world. To join with the wicked who speak against Christ and the truth of the Bible is to fight against God. Hear the sin of their mouth and do not be deceived by their empty words. “Everyone who is of the truth hears [Jesus’] voice” (John 18:37).

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Developing Character is Crucial to Student Success

by Brandon Enos, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Cushing ISD

When I have asked what skills are most important to a student's future success, parents, teachers, community members, and business owners have never said that mastering the state's standardized exams or getting straight A's is important. What I hear time and time again aligns with a recent Pew Study which asked parents what traits they think lead to success for their children. The four traits listed in the Pew Study are: being responsible, working hard, being well-mannered, and helping others. Similarly, employers were asked what characteristics they seek in employees they hire. These potential employers stated that reliability, problem-solving, communication, and teamwork are the most important skills they seek in those they want to hire. If these skills are important to parents, business owners, and our communities, then why are they not taught as part of our school curriculum?



Whose responsibility is character development?

The primary responsibility for character development for children starts with the family; however, if left solely to parents, some students are never taught the necessary soft skills essential to their future success. Although developing these skills is not currently a mandated training required of our schools, I would argue that it is falling to the schools to ensure these skills are taught. Because it is becoming apparent that character development skills are lacking, leaders in schools across Texas are adding a character development curriculum.

What can schools do?

Each school should determine what character development curriculum or program works best for their students and their community. As you can imagine, there are a plethora of programs available to schools that all boast unparalleled results. Some of these programs are stand-alone and take as little as ten minutes per day, while other programs are integrated into the teaching methodologies of each class. At the least, a good character development program at any school should include the following:

- Good manners
- Value others and their unique abilities
- Take responsibility for actions, decisions, and behaviors
- Celebrate when others succeed and focus on individual student growth
- Answer and ask questions in complete sentences
- Be resilient
- View mistakes as an essential part of learning
- Never put others down or tolerate those who do

What can parents do?

Character development programs at school should not replace a parent's role in shaping the morals of their children; these programs should supplement or augment the parents' instruction. Schools can send home useful information about what is being taught at the school and parents can extend these activities or can add them to their lessons on character at home.

Why schools must take action

The purpose of teaching these social norms at school is an assurance that our communities preserve their shared values, all students learn the basic tenants of a successful life, and that our society remains orderly.

In a world where so many traditional community values are questioned or ignored regularly, children must be exposed to the character development and relationship skills necessary to lead a successful life as contributing members of society. Developing the character within our youth to match the values of the surrounding community is beneficial to all members of society. It is important that schools develop meaningful programs to address this growing problem and that parents support the efforts of these schools.

Dr. Enos is the Superintendent of Cushing ISD in Cushing, Texas. He is a strong supporter and advocate for the public school teachers and students in Texas.

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Snapshot from Around the Town

These hungry gentlemen with Samford & Sons Heavy Truck Repair in Nacogdoches enjoyed a great meal at CC's Smokehouse. Pictured L-R: Anthony Veliz, "Grandpa," Miguel Samford & Gilberto Veliz.

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Ashley Morgan
CVB Creative Content Director

This Month in the Oldest Town in Texas

Happy September! Here's what's happening in the Oldest Town in Texas this month.

Along with school starting, the return of football games, and fall activities, there are some big events on the horizon! Get ready for the ultimate "double-header" of a weekend, September 15th-16th brings both the SFA Centennial Celebration AND the return of the Old Town Rig Down!

Nacogdoches is the place to be whether you're celebrating 100 years of SFA or traveling to see over 100 "big rigs" lining the brick streets of Downtown Nacogdoches. Both multi-day events have full schedules available on their websites.

For the SFA Centennial Celebration, go to sfasu.edu/centennial

For the Old Town Rig Down schedule, go to visitnacogdoches.org/old-town-rig-down

We hope that by the time this issue gets printed, we'll start seeing some cooler temperatures. But if not, we have some ideas of how to "stay cool" in the meantime.

- Catch a show at the SFA Planetarium on campus! There are shows every Saturday at 3pm, 4:30pm and 7pm. Heads up, the 3pm showing is kid-friendly!

- For adults, grab an ice-cold wine slushie at either Red House Winery or Naca Valley Vineyard.

- Family Activity: Check out "Dead Tree Dreams" bookstore on North Street, just off the intersection of Main Street.

Looking to shop local? Don't miss "Market on Main" on September 2nd from 10am-2pm at 305 E. Main Street. The monthly market offers craft and artisan goods from jewelry to homemade bath products, clothing and more! Next, Art Fest will take place in Downtown Nacogdoches on Saturday, September 23rd from 11am-4pm. The annual event will feature more than 50 vendor booths on the Downtown Square offering goods made by local artists!

Don't forget Visit Nacogdoches is your one-stop-shop for event information! Check out visitnacogdoches.org/events or give us a call at 936-564-7351 to get the 411 on all things Nacogdoches.

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More Food, Fun, and Fellowship

by Jim Garrett

When our children were in college, we would have a number of students in our home for Sunday dinner. Each of our kids were told that they could invite five of their friends to eat with us. Often Mary Beth and I would invite one or two more - giving us upwards of twenty people in our home. The routine was for the girls to assemble in the kitchen where MB barked out orders for preparing salads and cutting desserts. Foods (prepared and cooked on Saturday) which needed to be served hot, were in her two double ovens with timers set. In addition, she would often have both of her microwaves going at the same time. The boys would assemble folding chairs and TV trays in a circle in the living room. On days in which there was a little lag time, the students would amuse themselves working some iron puzzles we had which were called Tavern Puzzles. If a person purchased one of the puzzles and could not work it, they could write the company and find out the answer **only** if they put in writing that they could not solve it! When the group sat and worked on these, they looked like they very well could have been involved in psychological testing.



Jim and Mary Beth Garrett

Mary Beth's goal for lunch was to have everyone fed and out of our home by 1:30 pm. We kept a record of all those in attendance in a notebook. Each person present would sign-in with their name along with their telephone number. Our son told them that this was for income tax purposes – which was not the case at all!! We were slightly ahead of our time with social media. We knew who was friends with whom and we knew how to contact any one person in the case of an emergency.

After our children left home, we continued to have college students in for meals. We had a young lady who was a graduate-assistant basketball coach for the Ladyjacks live with us for a couple of semesters. During that time Mary Beth prepared a rather large supper for the team. One of the items on the menu was homemade cinnamon rolls. Those were quickly inhaled and enthusiastically requested the second time we had the team out. In addition to the Ladyjack basketball team we also had the Ladyjack volleyball team for a meal. We learned from those experiences that lady athletes require a lot of calories to replace those burned in practice and games!

We must admit that we have had our share of parties, most of which have involved a theme and food. One party which we will long remember is the time we had the youth of our church out for a "Build Your Own Pizza" party. We invited them to come for homemade pizza, that is pizza which **THEY** were to make. Prior to their coming, Mary Beth had assembled all of the ingredients that would be needed. She prepared the uncooked crusts ahead of time as well as an abundance of homemade pizza sauce. She also had various meats and cheeses as well as an assortment of vegetables. On the night they arrived, there were a number of empty pizza shells awaiting the highschoolers' culinary prowess. The teenagers were told that they could put **anything** on their pizza that they wished, **but** they had to eat **all** that they cooked! They agreed then created some of the most outlandish pizza combinations imaginable! By the evening's end, all of the pizzas had been consumed. Would you believe – we had a 100% success rate!!

As the writers of a local newspaper's weekend gossip column used to say, "and a good time was had by all!"

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Seven Tips for Grooming Your Dog at Home

by Steven Martin, *Owner of Martin Kennel*

Regular grooming is important for dogs of all breeds – it helps them maintain a shiny, tangle-free coat and gives you the chance to check for parasite infestations and skin issues, improving their overall hygiene. Plus, grooming can be a one-on-one bonding experience for you and your pet.

Even dogs with short, low-maintenance coats need regular brushing, bathing and nail trimming. Dogs with longer coats may also need clipping and hair trimming. While you may wish to schedule regular appointments with a professional groomer – especially when it comes to clipping and trimming your dog's hair – these seven tips will help you establish an at-home grooming routine with your dog.



1. Regularly brush your dog's coat to prevent matting

Regardless of breed, your dog will need regular brushing to keep its coat shiny and glossy. The amount of brushing per week depends on your dog's coat length and texture. Longhaired breeds like golden retrievers and collies will need more frequent brushing (at least once a week, if not every other day), while short-haired breeds like greyhounds or Labradors may need good brushing only every other week.

For long-haired dogs, badly matted hair can cause pain. Dogs will lick or bite themselves at the source of irritation, which may result in skin infections. Foreign bodies like grass seeds can hide inside a matted coat and can even burrow into the skin to cause an abscess. Regularly brushing your long-haired dog prevents matting from becoming a problem.

Shorthaired dogs benefit from brushing, too. Brushing removes loose hair, dirt and dander from your dog's coat, extending the time between baths.

2. Trim your dog's hair – but use caution

Most dog owners prefer to take their dog to a groomer to have their dog's hair cut. That said, if you proceed carefully you can trim overgrown hair around your dog's eyes or paws in between professional grooming. Trimming the hair around your dog's eyes can prevent overgrown hair from blocking its vision and rubbing against and damaging its eyes.

Always wait until your dog is calm and preferably lying down. Move slowly and calmly, and use extra caution when scissor blades are near the skin. Make sure to reward your dog's calmness with a treat after you're finished.

Trimming the hair inside the ears can improve air movement and help prevent ear infections. However, this is best done by an experienced groomer or at your vet clinic.

Remember: It's easy to accidentally cut your pet with scissors or clippers. Always take care when trimming, and if you're nervous or would prefer not to trim your dog's hair yourself, turn to a professional grooming service.

3. Safely trim your dog's nails

Trim your dog's nails when you hear them clicking on the hard floors in your home. This will prevent your dog from experiencing discomfort from overly long nails. However, before you trim your dog's nails for the first time, you may need some instruction and we at Martin Kennel are always available to assist.

4. Check your dog's skin as you groom

Allergic skin diseases are common in dogs, causing itchiness and making them scratch, chew or lick their skin. In addition to making your pet miserable, external parasites like fleas, ticks, lice and mites can transfer diseases or other parasites like the tapeworm.

Make a habit of checking your dog's skin every time you groom them. Start by running your fingers through your dog's coat, feeling its skin for unusual lumps or bumps. You can investigate further by parting the coat to examine the skin more closely for sores, redness, rashes, bald spots and evidence of parasitic infestations.

5. Teach your dog to enjoy grooming sessions

Many dogs, especially puppies, need encouragement and positive reinforcement when you first introduce them to a grooming routine.

These tips will help the first few at-home grooming sessions go smoothly:

- Spread a little Vegemite on a washable surface and allow your dog or puppy to lick it off while you brush or wash them.
- Take things slowly and give lots of treats and praise so your pup will look forward to its next pampering session.

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- Before bath time, lay a slip-proof mat in the tub to prevent your dog from sliding around.

After Getting Wet

Water causes your dog's hair to get tangled, so brush them once they're dry. That will help prevent painful mats from forming.

During Shedding Season

Brushing a dog becomes even more critical during shedding season—usually spring and fall. Suddenly, your house seems to be overrun with fur! Brush your dog daily with a rubber brush or slicker brush, then once a week with a DE shedding tool, according to their coat type.

Why Is Brushing a Dog Important?

There are many reasons brushing a dog is a crucial part of giving them the best life. Brushing your dog:

- Prevents painful mats from forming.
- Reduces shedding.
- Allows you to spot lumps, bumps, parasites and skin issues.
- Keep your pup looking their best.
- Is a wonderful bonding opportunity.

How to Keep Dogs Calm During Brushing

Some dogs don't like to be brushed, especially if it's a new experience. The key is to start small and use plenty of treats.

Allow your pup to sniff the brush, then give them a small treat. Brush a few strokes, then reward with another treat. Gradually increase the length of time you brush your dog before rewarding them, and finish with a big treat, like a bully stick, when you're all done.

Brushing a dog is a critical part of keeping them healthy and happy, but it doesn't have to be a chore. If you keep up with it, brushing your dog can be something you both enjoy. If you're still struggling to keep your dog brushed out, don't hesitate to reach out to Martin Kennel 936-560-3643 for your grooming needs. And remember—the best way to brush a dog is what works for both you and your pup!

6. Regularly check your dog's ears

While grooming your dog, remember to take a closer look at its ears. Ear infections can be painful, so if you notice any of the following changes or behaviors, take your dog to your vet for a check-up:

- The inside of the ear is inflamed or moist.
- The ears smell odd (often, the smell of a dog ear infection is sweet).
- Your dog shakes its head or scratches its ears.
- The ears contain more or a different kind of discharge than usual (a little wax is normal).
- Whines or yelps when you examine the dog's ears.



7. Don't bathe your dog too often

Most dogs with healthy skin only need to be bathed every couple of months to prevent hygiene issues and unpleasant odors. Bathing your dog more often than this can strip the natural oils from its coat and dry out its skin.

If your dog smells bad but hasn't rolled in something awful, then you should discuss this with your vet. Underlying issues may indicate dental disease or a skin infection.

When bathing your dog, keep these tips in mind:

- A dog's skin has a different pH level from humans, so never use baby or human shampoo. Choose a soap-free shampoo specially formulated for dogs, which will be gentle on their skin.
- Pour warm water over your dog until it is thoroughly wet then gently massage the shampoo into the coat. Avoid the dog's eyes, mouth and the insides of its ears.
- Rinse the shampoo off with warm water, then let your dog shake and air-dry outside, if the weather is warm. In cooler weather, dry the dog by gently towel-drying the coat or blow-drying it using the coolest setting.

Good grooming, periodic bathing and regular skin and ear checks not only help keep your dog healthy, but it also demonstrates your love for your pet and gives you and your pet quality time together.

Millard's Crossing News and Calendar

Good Day Readers,

This summer has been a HOT one, hope everyone has been staying hydrated and as cool as possible. I have been impressed with our guests that have braved the heat and overlooked the mess of repairs and updates to our wonderful Millard's Crossing Historic Village during their visit.



When we rent our buildings to people for weddings, parties, or any other event, we close them off as part of the tour. On September 23, 2023 from 10am-2pm we will be hosting a Wedding Day Open House, if you or someone you know would like to see what it can look like for a wedding or decorated up for a reception, come out and tour the Village. There will be an actual wedding taking place later in the day, so when you come visit, please keep that in mind. The Watkins Reception House will actually have people going about the day in there, last minute things going on in the Chapel, men chillin in the Parsonage, and of course the Barn being set up for food and fun after the ceremony. We are charging our normal admission for the day, which is \$10.00 per person, so hope to see you there. Please see showcase buildings and a little information about them listed below:

Free Methodist Church: It was created in 1905 by a group of "Free Methodists. This was a group of people that didn't particularly agree with the Methodist doctrines in place at that time. The location of the Church was on the corner of Townsend and South Fredonia Street. We are happy to have it here at Millard's Crossing.

Methodist Parsonage was built in the 1900's and originally located downtown on North Fredonia Street around from the Free Methodist Church. This is located by the office and is a Pink House.

Watkins Reception House was built by our founder Lera Millard Thomas's maternal grandfather. This is also known for the Brides room that is at the back of the house.

The Rebellion Barn, which is the building you see to the right when you enter into the Village, most couples celebrate their reception in this location, and is open during open house as well.

All other buildings, will be open as well.

Thank to all of our sponsors, volunteers, board of directors, employees, that help keep Millard's Crossing going. Please see a list of events coming up:

Halloween – Ghost of Millard's Crossing October 28th 2023 11am – 7pm
Spooktacular Car Show, Haunted Maze, Petting Zoo, Pony Ride, Headless Horseman, Hayrides, Pumpkin Chunkin, Pumpkin Roll, Pumpkin Pie Contest, Costume Contest, Music and more.

Old Fashioned Christmas December 9, 2023 2 -9pm

If you would like to place your auto in the car show, for Spooktacular Auto Show or Christmas, please call the office and we will email you a form. We have a lot of fun planned for every age group.

We host an Open Mic the 3rd Thursday night of the month from 6-9 pm, if you would like to be our featured artist, please call the office at 936-564-6631. We are open Monday – Saturday 9 am – 4 pm, closed on Sundays. We will be closed on Labor Day September 4, 2023.

If you would like to volunteer, rent the buildings / village, or just want to stop by and have a hot cup of coffee, or a very cold beverage (non-acholic) please visit us at 6020 North Street Nacogdoches Tx 75965. You can always call the office with questions at 936-564-6631, visit us on Facebook, and our website at www.mchvna.com, new website is almost done.

Hope the weather cools off for September and our grass and trees get a reprieve.

Thank you for reading,

Grace Handler
Executive Director

The mission of Millard's Crossing Historic Village is to portray the spirit and ingenuity of pioneer settlement in East Texas and to connect present generations to those of the past.

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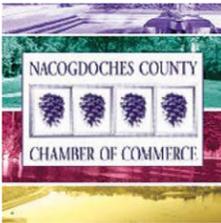
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Here's Johnny!

A few nights ago, I watched an old rerun of the Johnny Carson Tonight Show. Several times during the show Johnny or one of his guests made a reference that would be considered inappropriate today. Yes, I will confess, I did chuckle from time to time at a joke or comment. I also recognized that by today's standards and rules, those comments would be deemed offensive or inappropriate.

When I write this article, I carefully review the content and ask myself, "what did I say that could be offensive to others?" After I review the newsletter, I ask one of my staff colleagues to review the content in case I missed something.

I often wonder if I am being so careful about the content that I miss the point I am trying to make for fear of offending someone. Do not get me wrong, I am not asking for a license to offend or to hurt the feelings of others. I understand that the rules and protocols have changed since I entered the workforce 45 years ago.

In recent years I have seen people destroy their careers or be fired because they used the wrong words or said the wrong thing. I am not defending these folks but wonder, how are we ever going to talk about solutions to the many complex problems facing this country if we cannot have an honest and frank discussion without the fear of retribution?

I moved here over 7 years ago from New England. When I arrived in Nacogdoches, I quickly recognized that it was a very different culture with very different rules.

Example you ask? Hugging. In New England, for the most part, we stopped the practice of hugging two decades ago. When I assumed my position here at the Chamber, I quickly recognized that many folks in Texas still use a hug as a part of a greeting. I had to adapt to this new way of saying hello.

You may laugh at that example but I had to learn how to hug all over again. I realized that if I wanted to be accepted and fit in, I needed to learn all over again how to engage with a hug.

I should also confess that in my time here in Texas that I have learned what a "side hug" is and what a "hug your neck" means.

I guess that there is still hope for this transplanted Yankee (I wonder if my reference to "Yankee" offends anyone?)!

Snapshot from Around the Town

Retired Nacogdoches business man and current cattle rancher, **Jimmie Simms**, was seen raiding the dessert bar at Golden Corral in Lufkin recently. Jimmie has been one of Nacogdoches County's biggest boosters for as long as we can remember. He went to Golden Corral with the "Lunch Bunch" from First Baptist Church in Nacogdoches.



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Where Have the Car Hood Ornaments Gone?

by Neal Murphy

Neal Murphy grew up in the small town of San Augustine, Texas. He and wife Clara have two grown children. Moving back after retiring, now with five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, he began, as a hobby, writing short stories of humorous things that he observed over the years. He was an ambulance driver in college, worked for two funeral homes, then spent over forty years in the insurance business. He also writes stories of his forty-four years as a state certified police officer working for seven different departments. After living in five different states, he is now retired back in San Augustine and has his stories printed in seven different newspapers, and published five books. He is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin University, and the Insurance Institute of America. He is a Deacon in a Baptist Church and former Sunday School Teacher for many years, as well as Choir Director at several churches. He is also the docent in the 1919 Jail Museum in San Augustine and works three days a week. He was the director of the restoration of the old county records dating back to the 1800s.



As a young lad back in the 1950s, one of my favorite things to do was to ogle all the new cars that appeared in the local dealerships every October. I would examine details of interest on all the new models. I particularly enjoyed the hood ornaments peculiar to every brand auto. They all had hood ornaments on them and I knew just by looking at the ornament which car it was. Fast forward to today and you do not see a hood ornament on any car. What happened to them?

We must look at the hood ornament as it was back in the early days of the automobile. In the early years, automobiles had their radiator caps outside the hood, and on top of the grille. The radiator cap also served as an indicator of the temperature of the engine's coolant fluid. The Boyce MotoMeter Company invented a radiator cap that incorporated a thermometer that was visible to the driver. It contained a sensor that measured the heat of the water vapor rather than the water itself. This became a very useful gauge for the driver because many early engines did not have water pumps, but a circulation system based on the "thermo-siphon" principle as in the Ford Model T. So, the exposed radiator cap became a focal point for automobile personalization.

With all the above now said, fast forward to around 1940. Radiator caps were now tucked away underneath the hood of the cars. Now that the radiator caps were hidden, car makers decided to attach hood ornaments to help identify their brand of automobile. So, what started off as a practical way of making cars more attractive quickly turned into an accepted design element. These hood ornaments remained until the last few decades

I remember that my Dad purchased a new 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air in October of 1954. It had an attractive jet plane ornament affixed to the center front of the hood. It helped me keep the car centered for whatever transportation activity I was doing. With my new Chevrolet Malibu today, with no hood ornament to help my aim, I just have to guess if my aim is correct. So far, so good.

Some of the more recognizable car hood ornaments include the Jaguar "Leaper," the Bugatti "Dancing Elephant," the Bentley "Flying 8," and the Rolls-Royce "Spirit of Ecstasy." Most every car maker sported their own personalized hood ornament. So, what has happened to them?

It seems to have been a combination of things. One is the smooth hoods reduce air drag, so good bye ornaments. Another reason was, believe it or not, safety concerns. It was felt that hood ornaments were particularly dangerous to pedestrians during a collision. Slowly but surely hood ornaments disappeared from car hoods around the world, replaced with mere shadows of their former selves as stylized logos on the car's grille instead.

So, if you want to see any of the old ornaments, you will have to attend any car show featuring restored automobiles of the past. These cars should still sport their hood ornament.

I found it interesting that there is now a list of the most dangerous and deadly car hood ornaments. Below is a list of the top ten:

1. Jaguar "Leaper"
2. Rolls-Royce "Spirit of Ecstasy"
3. Mercury "Winged God of Speed"
4. Pierce Arrow "Archer"
5. Chevrolet Bel Air "Jet Plane"
6. Duesenberg "Model J"
7. Packard "Goddess of Spring"
8. Nash Metropolitan "Flying Lady"
9. Buick Super Eight "Bomb Sight"
10. Plymouth "Mayflower"

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A Little Bit of History



*If you wonder why my perspective is so skewed,
I want to remind you that I was born cross-eyed.*

All for my Granny Hinson

In September 1961, when Hurricane Carla hit, there was so much rain that LISD let us out of school, and it blew over a chinaberry tree at my Granny Hinson's house. The tree didn't damage her room when it fell on it--it just rested on it. I cut it up about 24 inches in diameter for her to burn in her fireplace, but all I had to chop with was a machete and a hatchet. Persistently, I kept at it until I had cut the whole thing up. (By the way, this was one of the trees her chickens would roost in when the sun was about to go down). Because I had demonstrated such interest and persistence, my Mom and Dad gave me a red-handled Plumb single-bit axe with a black head for Christmas. I thought I was Daniel Boone when I could cut down a post oak on Saturday for Granny to use for firewood. I cut the trees on Uncle B. D.'s and Aunt Eleanor's land to the left of Granny's house. I expended some real effort hauling those pieces of wood to her house in a wheelbarrow. At the end of the day on Saturday, I was sore from all my work. But I did it all as a labor of love for Granny Hinson.

And now you know too!

Convicted of raping Sara Griffin on November 24, 1740, William Duell was hanged, but he lived through the hanging. Not wanting to admit they had botched his hanging, the authorities commuted his sentence to transportation to America, where he died in Boston in 1805.

On August 17, 1957, Ritchie Ashburn had a most unusual at-bat in a game between the Philadelphia Phillies and the New York Giants. He hit a foul ball to the press box behind the third dugout and broke the nose of Alice Roth, the wife of the sports editor of the Philadelphia Bulletin. Then, on the next pitch, he broke her leg with another foul ball.

Kissin' Kuzzins

By Dickie Dixon

1) In a cooperative effort between the Huntington Genealogical Society and the Angelina County Genealogical Society, the two entities are hosting the Civil War History Conference on Saturday, September 9, 2023, from 9 am to 4 pm at the Office of the Huntington Housing Authority on 210 East Walnut Street in Huntington. The conference costs \$10, no matter if you attend one or all of the sessions, and the meal cost is \$10. Please feel free to RSVP or pay at the door.

(2) Historian Michael Wilson will discuss "Samuel Lewis: American Revolutionary and Texas Revolutionary Soldier" at about 7:15 pm on Monday, September 11, 2023, at the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church in Newton. Sandra Litton and associates will have the desserts and refreshments ready at 6:30, and Ruth Dusan will conduct a short business meeting at 7 pm. For more information, contact Ruth Dusan at (409) 379-5694 or jrdusan@windstream.net or Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419

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MONUMENT CORNER

This month we travel back to Lufkin. Our monument this month is found at 1905 Atkinson Drive behind the Texas Forestry Association offices. There you will find a replica of a logging train and a monument that reads as follows:

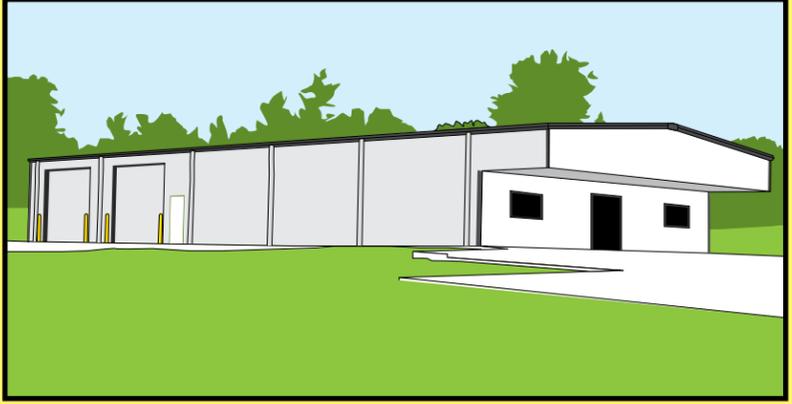
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THE 1906 WOOD-BURNING STEAM LOADER WAS ALSO USED BY CARTER-KELLEY IN BUILDING MANNING MILL, AND LATER SERVED ON "PORTABLE" LOGGING RAILROADS. ITS CABLES COULD SKID LOGS TO TRACKS FROM DISTANCES OF 300 TO 500 FEET.

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What's Happening in Shelby County!

by Deborah Chaddwick, *Director*

Well, summer is over, the kids are back to school, the days are getting shorter, and except for the heat, it might start feeling like fall. I don't know about all of you but my summer went WAY too fast, as usual. And just when I think I have many more months until our annual East Texas Poultry Festival – it is here (almost).

The East Texas Poultry Festival began as a way to celebrate the broiler industry in the East Texas area. Now, celebrating 47 years, the Festival has grown into a fun three day event featuring food booths from local volunteer and church organizations, arts and crafts, a quilt show, photography show, creative arts show, petting zoo, live entertainment and a carnival.

The 47th Annual East Texas Poultry Festival, Presented by Farmers State Bank will be held on October 5th, 6th and 7th on the beautiful Center downtown square. There will be lots of great food, arts and crafts vendors, Entertainment, a Creative Arts Show which includes, all aspects of art, quilts, photography, canning and much more! The Carnival will have rides running all three days.

The Fajita Lunch will kick off the Poultry Festival activities, on September 27th. Our annual Doo Dah Parade will take place later that afternoon. The Poultry Festival Queen will be crowned on September 30th. Pageant activities began on August 30th with the Welcome Party.

There will be a 1K and 5K run, the morning of October 7th starting at 7:30 at Portacool Park. The 6th Annual Car Show will be on the square from 10am until 2pm. Show off your clucking skill at the Clucking Contest. If hot wings are your thing, sign up for the Wing Eating Contest. Our local Ag/Mechanics students will be showing off their skills – you can purchase one or more of the projects. The local Lions Club will have their annual vehicle drawing right before the Broiler Auction begins.

Enjoy visiting the Creative Arts show, Quilt Show and Photography show open all three days.

The East Texas Poultry Festival is a fun family outing. Entrance buttons are \$5.00 each and cover all three days. Children under 5 are free. See you at the Poultry Festival.

Thank you to the Presenting Sponsor, Farmers State Bank; and Gold Sponsors Badders Law Firm, City of Center, Pilgrims Pride and Tyson Foods.

Thank you to all our many other Sponsors. The Festival would not be possible without their support.



Historic Thomas Cemetery to Be Honored by Daughters of the Republic of Texas

Search for descendants of the following is ongoing: Benjamin Thomas & Mary Dickinson; Benjamin Polk & Margaret "Peggy" Moore; Lucius Benjamin Polk & Margaret "Maggie" Miller; Jackson Fitzgerald & Sarah "Sallie" Moore; Henry Horn & Eunisa Elder; Inlow Mathews & Jeanette Hoffman; William Henry Harrison Tucker & Ann Elizabeth Dixon; Benjamin Franklin Sharp & Mollie Polk

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT) Ezekiel Cullen Chapter will conduct two ceremonies on Sunday, October 8, 2023, at 2 p.m. at the Thomas Cemetery, located on County Road 274, San Augustine, Texas. The first will be dedication of a Republic of Texas Historic Site Medallion. The Thomas Cemetery was designated as a Historical Site by the Texas Historical Commission in 2012. A ceremony honoring Real Daughter Mollie Polk Sharp, buried there, will immediately follow. Both ceremonies will conclude about 3 p.m., and refreshments will be served afterwards. Attendees may bring their own lawn chairs, if needed.



The Thomas Cemetery is special to the Ezekiel Cullen Chapter because Ann Elizabeth Dixon Tucker (1813-1882), the niece of Ezekiel Cullen, is buried there alongside her husband, William Henry Harrison Tucker (1811-1868).

Delivering remarks at the ceremony will be Past President General of the DRT, Carolyn Thomas Raney, a direct descendant of the Thomas family who were among the founding families of San Augustine.

The history of the Thomas Cemetery began when North Carolina native, Benjamin Thomas, who was living in Alabama, read an advertisement calling for families to settle Stephen F. Austin's colony in Texas. Between himself as head of the family, his wife Mary Ann "Polly" Dickinson and eligible children, he qualified for thousands of acres of farm and virgin forested land. The family reached Natchitoches, Louisiana in February 1822 and stayed there until July waiting for Austin to escort them to their new home. However, Austin never came. So, the family continued their journey along the El Camino Real and founded the Thomas Settlement in San Augustine County.

The Benjamin Thomas children served in many capacities in the early history of Texas and San Augustine County, including the military, ministry, law enforcement and commerce. Sons Shadrach, Iredell D., Theophilus, Jackson and Benjamin Jr. were true patriots. In 1832 Shadrach was appointed as one of a committee of fifteen men to select the site of the town of San Augustine. After the town site was laid out, Iredell D., who was operating a mercantile store near his home in the Thomas Settlement, was the first to build a store in the town on Columbia Street in 1834, remaining in the same building for the next 40 years. Shadrach and Theophilus fought in the Battle of Nacogdoches August 1-3, 1832. Iredell was Secretary of the San Augustine Committee for Vigilance and Safety which met in September 1835 when Major Jonas Harrison delivered the fervent call for Texas Independence. Iredell was in the Siege of Bexar December 5-10, 1835 and served as a Trustee for the University of San Augustine in 1837. Benjamin Jr. enlisted in Captain William Kimbro's Company fighting in the Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836. Theophilus, Shadrach, and Jackson enlisted in the Volunteer Company of Capt. Thomas S. McFarland on July 4, 1836 serving until October 4, 1836. Theophilus, who later became a minister of the Methodist Church, served again when the Texas Militia was called into service to repel a Mexican invasion in 1842. Shadrach served the county as Justice of the Peace 1836-1846 and was elected sheriff in 1847 and re-elected except for one term until 1856. Shadrach, who preached at times, seldom carried a firearm to discharge his duties as sheriff. The Thomas family was valued by the Republic of Texas, the State of Texas, San Augustine and the Thomas Community for their patriotism and integrity.

From June 13 until July 6, 1836 Iredell provided the local military detachment merchandise which included kettles, fry pans, ropes, sugar, coffee, blankets, yards of linen and shirting totaling \$263.63. The claim for provisions was paid by the Republic of Texas in 1837 after Sam Houston, who was a frequent visitor in the Thomas home, became President of the Republic of Texas. Pe-

nelope Thomas, daughter of Iredell D., painted the portrait of Sam Houston, said to be the only portrait for which he ever posed, others were painted from photographs. San Augustine in the 1840's was second only to Houston in size among Texas towns and often referred to as the Athens of Texas because of its leadership in education, religion and politics, all aspects of which the Thomas family was actively involved. The Thomas family members were significant figures in the early political, religious, economic and agricultural development of Texas.

In 1849, the Thomas Community became the home of the Mathews family, who traveled from Prattville, Autauga County, Alabama along some of the same miles the Thomas family had traversed twenty-seven years earlier. The migration to San Augustine is the first of many parallels of the Thomas and Mathews families. The children of Abram Mathews, Reese, Inlow, John W. and daughter Elizabeth joined their sister Rebecca Mathews Gilbert, who had married second husband Aaron York in San Augustine County on March 13, 1848. The family established themselves in the Thomas Community purchasing farmland in the J. W. Moss Survey from Iredell D. Thomas. The Thomas family provided the mercantile needs of the nineteenth century pioneers and the Mathews family did so in the twentieth century as proprietors of I. L. Mathews Dry Goods, I. L. Mathews & Sons Co., J. P. Mathews Company and five Mathews-Miller Department Stores. Inlow Mathews (1813-1879) and wife Jeanette Hoffman (1826-1897), Reese Mathews (1810-1872) and wife Elizabeth Muse (1814-1874) are all buried in marked graves in the Thomas Cemetery. As did other patriotic pioneer Thomas Community families, Reese and Elizabeth watched two of their sons ride off to battle. Two of fourteen Confederate States of America Veterans buried in the Thomas Cemetery, 101-year-old John Calvin Mathews, who served under Capt. Samuel Thomas (son of Shadrach Thomas) with his brother Sim Mathews in the 13th Texas Calvary, was the last surviving San Augustine County CSA Veteran. The obituary of John Calvin Mathews states, "He stood on the main street of San Augustine and saw General Sam Houston campaign against secession. Houston was governor then and Mr. Mathews once related that he heard Sam Houston when he told his audience that it would be a sad day when Texas left the Union, and that he would resign." John Calvin Mathews also served on the Commissioners Court, as Sheriff and Tax Collector during Texas reconstruction years. The Mathews family would follow the Thomas family in becoming successful merchants, planters, community leaders and caretakers of the Thomas Cemetery.

The Thomas Cemetery comprises two acres in the James W. Moss Survey, near where the Thomas plantation home once stood. The oldest marked grave is Sarah Moore Fitzgerald (1795-1840) wife of Jackson Fitzgerald (1795-1882) a veteran, who along with Sam Houston fought in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in the War of 1812 under Andrew Jackson. However, large stacks of native rocks mark many of the earlier graves. The first burials were Benjamin Thomas in 1834 (1774-1834) followed by his wife Mary in 1840 (1776-1840); their daughters Martha Thomas Davis in 1842 (1801-1842) and Therissa Thomas Brownrigg in 1843 (1803-1843); son Iredell Thomas' wife Penelope Edwards Thomas in 1844 (1813-1844); and son Shadrach's wife Sarah before 1850 (b.1805-bef. 1850). The early burials of Henry H. Horn in 1839 (1801-1839) and in 1840 Benjamin Polk (1790-1840) a Veteran of the Battle of New Orleans War of 1812, Sarah Moore Fitzgerald (1795-1840), and her son James Maston Fitzgerald (1816-1840) indicate the burial ground was used by other Thomas Settlement families. Twenty-eight headstones mark the graves of those who died between 1840 and 1897. The Thomas Cemetery is one of the oldest community cemeteries in San Augustine County still serving these families as evidenced by fifth, sixth and seventh generations of burials.

The Thomas Cemetery is the final resting place of many men and women instrumental in the development of the Republic and State of Texas. Interred here are Republic of Texas Veterans, Colonists and Citizens, along with Veterans representing all military branches in conflicts beginning with the War of 1812 through the Vietnam War. Distinguished citizens and public servants who served as judges, sheriffs, merchants, ministers, farmers, school board members, superintendents, principals, and teachers are interred here alongside their Republic of Texas ancestors.

For over 200 years every burial plot has been made available to family members and community residents free of charge. The care and maintenance for the cemetery was under the loving hands of family members during the graveyard workings for 150 years. Today, monetary donations of families and friends provide the funds managed by the Thomas Cemetery Association to maintain the fenced grounds surrounding almost 400 graves.

Atop this shaded, tranquil rolling hill are interred patriotic souls who shaped the history of Texas that encouraged, embraced, enhanced and endeared them to their native and adopted home. The Daughters of the Republic of Texas Ezekiel Cullen Chapter Historic Site Medallion for the Thomas Cemetery memorializes the substantial significance and contributions of these courageous families.

If you descend from these Republic of Texas Patriots or Early Settlers, please join the Ezekiel Cullen Chapter for the Thomas Cemetery Historic Site Dedication:

Benjamin Thomas & Mary Dickinson
Benjamin Polk & Margaret "Peggy" Moore
Lucius Benjamin Polk & Margaret "Maggie" Miller
Jackson Fitzgerald & Sarah "Sallie" Moore
Henry H. Horn & Eunisa Elder
Inlow Mathews & Jeanette Hoffman
William Henry Harrison Tucker & Ann Elizabeth Dixon (niece of Ezekiel Cullen)
Benjamin Franklin Sharp & Mollie Polk

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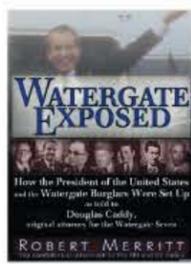
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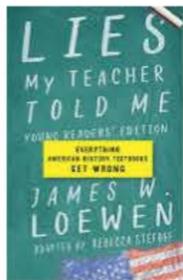
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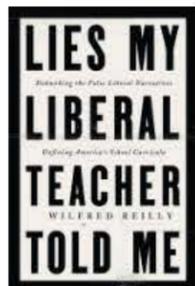
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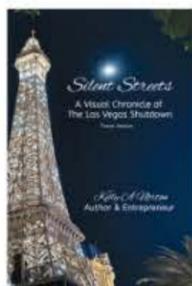
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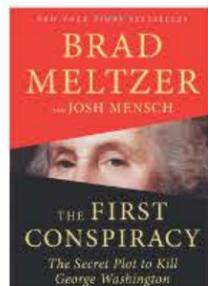
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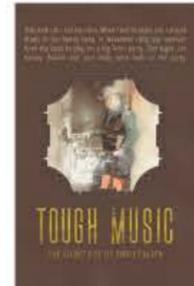
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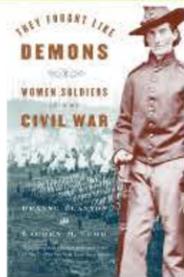
Dudley Allen



Letters to Janie

James Slack

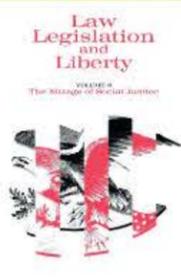
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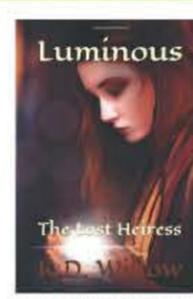
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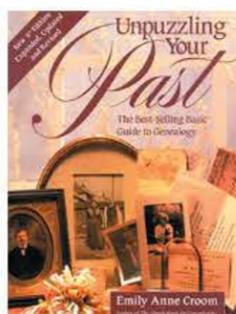
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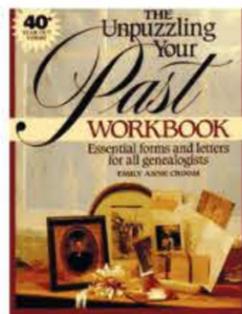
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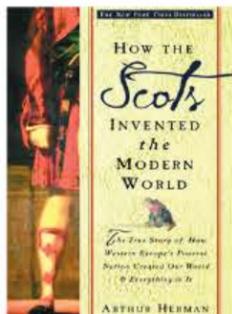
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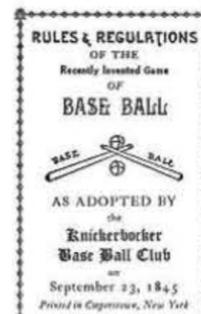
Arthur Herman

Sports History



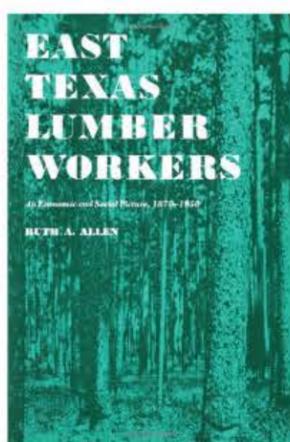
Baseball Extra

Eric C. Caren



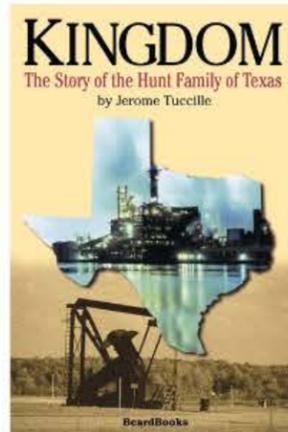
Rules & Regulations of the Recently Invented Game of Baseball As Adopted by the Knickerbocker Club

Texas History



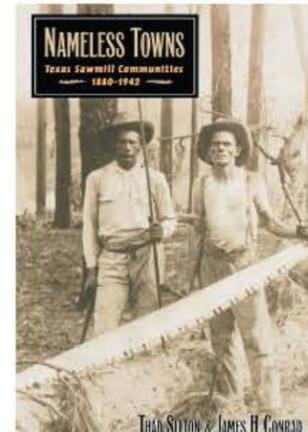
East Texas Lumber Workers: An Economic and Social Picture, 1870-1950

Ruth A. Allen



Kingdom The History of the Hunt Family of Texas

Jerome Tuccille



Nameless Towns

Thad Sutton & James Conrad

SAVE THE DATE

In a cooperative effort between the Huntington Genealogical Society and the Angelina County Genealogical Society, the two entities are hosting the Civil War History Conference on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Office of the Huntington Housing Authority on 210 East Walnut Street in Huntington. The cost of the conference is \$10 no matter if you attend one or all of the sessions, and the cost of the meal is \$10. You can RSVP or pay at the door.

Contact

Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419

[Credit: This page, Eye on Books, was graphically designed by Jannetta Lamourt, jannettalamort@gmail.com and edited by the semi-omniscient ACGS Newsletter Eduhtuh Jamic Carter Bollich. (Her handle is derived from my conversation with Georgia native Vicky Craig, who told me she wrote a letter to the eduhtuh in the "Georgia brogue". Now, even though she speaks Georgian, don't think for a minute she doesn't have a good head on her shoulders!)]

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NAC ARTS COLLABORATIVE News

Over 40 young people took part in the 15th Junior Jacks Theatre Camp. Both closing performances were well attended and enthusiastically received. The partnership with LampLite Theatre was a smashing success and will continue in the future.

Downtown Nacogdoches will host the Old Town Rig Down, scheduled for Friday & Saturday, September 15-16. This 2nd year event has amazing big rig trucks parked all over the brick streets with light shows each evening. A concert will also take place in the park. NAC will be hosting vendors in Mast Hall and displaying photos taken by noted photographer Wendy Floyd, taken at last year's event. Stop by and sign up to win a prize!

Over 50 vendors have signed up for ArtFest Nacogdoches, Saturday, September 23 from 11am-4pm downtown Nac on the square. There will be live entertainment, food trucks and lots of local artists on display. Vendor and volunteer information can be found on the ArtFest 2023 Facebook page or www.nacartscollab.com. This event is cosponsored by the Nacogdoches Public Library.

The Haden Edwards House is hosting their second gallery show opening Saturday, September 23 from 6-8pm, following ArtFest. This lovely Rulfs-built Victorian Airbnb is located at 106 N. Lanana Street. Artists on display include Michelle Filer, Ruby Woodard, Ryan Talley, Carol Eaton Walsh and Marcia Lyons.

SEPTEMBER Artist Spotlight

Meet artist and teacher Victoria DeBlase!

Victoria is a Nacogdoches artist currently specializing in bookbinding and creating stunning marbled paper with watercolors. You may have seen her journals and her paper for sale at ArtWalk and ArtFest. She laughed when showing the great variety of colors and patterns in her work. "Creating marbled paper, it's like Christmas. You never know what you're gonna get!"

This retired art teacher has worked in a variety of media over the years, including but not limited to ceramics, quilting, and puppet making. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, Victoria first came to East Texas as a young married mother. She eventually earned her Master's from SFA with a thesis on art education and taught art in Nac for seven years. But after her children were grown, Victoria found herself single and dreaming of adventure. So she took a job with the Department of Defense, teaching art in schools overseas. She lived abroad for 20 years: Bermuda, Turkey, Germany, Crete and Italy. During her sojourn in Turkey, Victoria was introduced to the techniques for marbling paper. "I learned from Hikmet Berutcugil, a renowned master marbler with a studio in a hotel next to the Topkapi Palace. It was fascinating and I got hooked." Victoria's interest in bookbinding arose organically. "Once I had all this fanciful paper, I looked for ways to use it and handmade journals were an obvious choice."



Victoria DeBlase



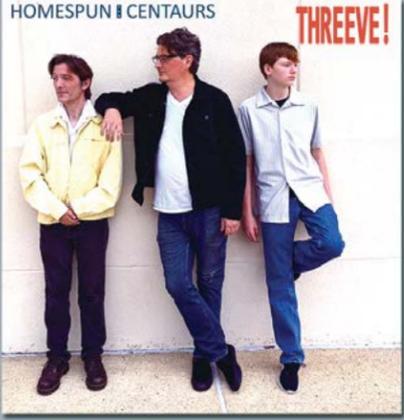
A sampling of Victoria's marbled paper work.

When asked what makes an artist, Victoria responded, "I think that loving art is the first step to creating it. I think everybody has a creative gift of some kind and sadly, many people bury it or it gets beaten out of them in some way. But there is tremendous pleasure in creating something and even more pleasure when someone admires it and appreciates



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what you've done. I've always loved making art. I have to be working on something or producing something to feel like I've properly used my day. And at 81, I'm still enjoying that pleasure."

Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative (NAC) is a 501c3 nonprofit arts organization dedicated to bringing the arts to Nacogdoches and providing space for artists of all disciplines to thrive. An initiative to obtain a space for an arts center is in progress.

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In the Loop... Expo Center in Lufkin

with **Burt Hairgrove**
Executive Director,
George H. Henderson, Jr. Expo Center
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Greetings from the Expo!

As I attend events here locally and get the opportunity to visit with "Around the Town" readers it is always nice to get some positive feedback. In fact, I ran into one just last week. Here's to my old friend, Dave Watson at Kenco Pools.

Meanwhile, back at the Expo, on September 9th, don't miss-**Jeepin' for Jesus** - This is a **completely free, family friendly event**. There will be a show & shine for Jeeps & Motorcycles with 10 different categories and trophies for each. Also, a flex contest for the Jeeps to see who can stretch the highest. There will even be cars that will be run over by the Jeeps. A "Poker Run" for the motorcycles with cash prizes is planned. Bounce houses for the kids and a variety of food trucks will be on hand. Raffles & door prizes given out all day. Including a set of five 37 inch Mud Tires from the TreadWright tire company. The event is free!

Next, we will be gearing up for the **39th Annual Texas State Forest Festival September 16-19**. Presented by Brookshire Brothers. The Angelina County Chamber of Commerce began the Texas State Forest Festival in 1938, which was held as an annual county fair event until 1953. With the existing Chamber sponsoring the Youth Fair as part of the event, the Texas State Forest Festival was held on the 30+ acres where Lufkin Middle School currently is located, and drew crowds reaching 8,000!

In 1984, the Chamber board reviewed and revised the Texas State Forest Festival as an annual event, and merged its activities with the Southern Hushpuppy Championships in May 1985. The Texas State Forest Festival moved to its September date in 1988. In 2023, the Texas State Forest Festival is back and better than ever happening September 14-17, 2023.

The Texas State Forest Festival hosts several competitions, which includes: the East Texas Cheerleading Championships, the East Texas Pom-Pon/Dance and the Big Axe BBQ Competition. There will be lots of fun carnival rides, great food, live music and cold refreshments. Don't forget to visit the Round Table for the best ribeye steak sandwich anywhere! To learn more go to: www.texasstate-forestfestival.com.

Currently, the Texas State Forest Festival draws crowds approaching 14,000 and generates a net profit of \$50,000 per year – a tremendous accomplishment for an event almost 40 years old! Annually, the Texas State Forest Festival requires over 150 volunteers working about 2,500 hours to stage the event, and continues to be one of the premier annual events in East Texas!

As always,

See you at the Expo!
Burt Hairgrove, Executive Director

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September Is Forest Festival Time in Lufkin!

by **Amanda Crocker**
 Director of Marketing & Communications, Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce



Who doesn't love carnival rides, one-of-a-kind thrill shows, live music, good food, BBQ, cheer, and so much more? Mark your calendar for the 39th Texas State Forest Festival presented by Brookshire Brothers, September 14-17. This year promises to be better than ever!

Get ready to be thrilled and more entertained than ever before. Join us as we open the gates Thursday, September 14, at 5 PM with the carnival rides ready for you to jump on. Don't want to run straight to the rides? Join us at the Swinging Axe stage and listen to non-stop live entertainment. We are thrilled to partner with Visit Lufkin and Service Master to provide music the entire 4 days of the festival. At 6:30PM Thursday, officials will present the city with the Music Friendly designation. It's going to be a fun filled evening!

Do you love classic cars, trucks, jeeps, and motorcycles? Come out Friday night for The Pineywoods Classic Car Show presented by BOM Bank. The awards presentation will begin around 8 PM. Saturday is also sure to be busy this year. The 4th Annual Lumber-JACKED 5K & Fun Run, presented by S&W Expert Collision Repair, will kick off the festivities bright and early at 8 AM on Saturday, Sept. 16. Runners will travel around the scenic Ellen Trout Memorial Lake. The registration fee is \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$15 for children 12 and under. Registration and the race map can be found on the website at www.texas-stateforestfestival.com/forms

Come join us in the evening for a cold adult beverage and eat some fabulous food including a famous Ribeye Sandwich, ribs, turkey legs, BBQ, pizza or delicious Mexican food. There will be a wide variety of food vendors to satisfy any appetite. Back by popular demand is the Bear Hollow Wood Carver, so be sure to stop by and see the incredible wood carvings, which will be available to take home with you. Bring the kids by the face painting booth, Game Bus, or Children's Festival area sponsored by Angelina Beautiful Clean and the Texas Forestry Museum. Want to cool down from the heat? Hop into the Chill Out Zone provided by McWilliams Heating, Cooling & Plumbing. For all those who love shopping, the Vendor Market Day will be held throughout the day, Saturday, as attendees find the perfect gift for a loved one or themselves. Dozens of commercial vendors will be open to shop with an array of items on display. So, bring your wallet, it is sure to be a fabulous day for browsing and shopping!

Do you love to cook? Do you love to compete? We are excited to announce the 2nd Annual Big Axe BBQ Competition, presented by Ferrara's Heating & Air Conditioning, will be on Saturday, Sept 16. This year the competition is kicking it up a notch and is joining forces with the IBCA. Cookers can compete and earn points for the Houston Livestock Show with either wood fire or pellet smokers and have the opportunity to compete in 3 categories—beef brisket, chicken, and spareribs.

Taking center stage at 1 PM on Sunday, September 17, come enjoy the East Texas Cheerleading & Pom/Dance Championships, presented by Integra Insurance. Fill the stands and cheer for your favorite High School or Middle School team. This fun activity is always a crowd pleaser!

New and Exciting Shows and Competitions

During all 4 days of the Texas State Forest Festival, you will have multiple opportunities to see our amazing new shows. Come watch Pirates walk the plank and dive into a pirate ship! This high diving show features twin high dive towers, 4 Olympic style springboards, two inflatable pirate ships and a main stage. This high energy show will tell a salty tale of Pirates on the search for Treasure Island.

Who doesn't love a butterfly garden? Come bring your kids and explore the Butterfly Encounter. Over 300 butterflies will be on display as you walk through a screened-in exhibit where you will have an opportunity to observe them and feed them nectar.

Take a light-hearted trip back to the Wild West with Tumbleweed Crossing, where laughs fly like bullets and hilarity is the law of the land! This Old West town comes to life with a 25-minute show filled with thrilling stunts, crowd pleasing family friendly comedy, and special effects. The good guys always win, and the audience always laughs.

Want to get up close and personal with live animals? Come enjoy our incredible petting zoo, back by popular demand.

Hours for the Festival are Thursday and Friday, 5 PM – 10 PM, Saturday, 10 AM – 10 PM, and Sunday 11 AM – 5 PM. Check out www.TexasStateForestFestival.com for entry forms, ticket prices, ways to volunteer, and schedules.

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It is with great pleasure that we invite you to be a part of this professional rodeo. Your sponsorship in this event will generate community fun, good will and great entertainment for the whole family to enjoy. All proceeds from the Rodeo will be used by the Chamber of Commerce to promote the commerce and tourism in San Augustine County, community improvements, youth activities and so much more.

To discuss sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 936-275-3610.

Thank you! - The San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce



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Junkin' for Fun

by Mary Francis Johannessen

Mary Frances Johannessen - graduate of San Augustine High School, Angelina College Nursing School, Stephen F. Austin Nursing School - Retired Registered Nurse with a 40 year career - Ambassador for San Augustine since retiring 8 years ago. Member SA Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce. Likes traveling and family time.



What, Where, When, and Why would be the questions to ask about Junkin'. Canton, Texas trades days is the largest and oldest continually operating flea market. Downtown square trading began back in the late 1880s. In 1965, the city purchased 6 acres of land north of the square, due to the outgrowth around the downtown square. Located between Dallas and Tyler just off Interstate 20 and 150 miles from my house in deep East Texas, crowds gather to find a good deal or simply have fun. In 2021 it gained historical publicity and awareness with the placement of a Historical Marker there.

The name is - First Monday Trades Days; however, it is not on a Monday, but on the Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, rain or shine from sunup til sundown before the first Monday of each month. You can find over 6,000 vendor spaces over 400 acres, 100,000 shoppers young and old, browsing through the pavilions, the mountain, the village, outdoor spaces, the arbors, the indoor shops, dog alley ...all of us seeking the best bargain, whether we need it or not.

As you arrive, either from driving that am or after staying in the hotels, RV parks, or lodges there, the traffic is congested, as each car load is looking for that \$5-10 parking space within walking distance. No way can you cover the entire area in 1 or even 2 days. If you have in mind exactly what you are going to buy, googling FB and viewing utube videos can be your best bet to get more organized. A riding scooter cart can also be rented to cover more ground easier and faster. You'll see pull wagons for loading and carrying your many purchases throughout your day. Cell service is sketchy so if your family separates, plan a later meeting place and time should cell service go off. Dogs must be on a leash with clean up by owner. No alcohol is allowed on the market grounds except the 3 sit-down entertainment venues. Food court and vendor food trucks offer a variety of delicious food. Restrooms are available throughout the areas. ATM machines can be located in various spots since cash is preferred by the thousands of exhibitors. A trolley runs between the separate locations to save having to walk a longer distance from Mountain, Village, downtown square, dog alley, and Civic Center, etc.

It's impossible to say what is for sale, but antiques, home decor, furnishings, clothes, crafts, jewelry, gifts, collectibles, soaps, candles, candies, soup, caramel corn, plants, vintage toys/games, just to name only a few items. Vendors, dealers, craftsmen and artists come from far away distances to sell their goods. More information can be found on their WEB pages if you had rather be a monthly vendor yourself - not just a shopper.

The most popular months seem to be November through January whenever the temperatures are best. Someone recommended "shop outdoors in the am and inside the covered areas in the pm, wearing comfortable clothes and shoes."

Next trades days are scheduled on 8/31-9/3, 9/28-10/1, 11/2-11/5, and 11/30-12/3. Go to the WEB pages and you can find so much more information before you go on your first adventure there to have yourself a "bucket list check off day"..... but the best idea would be go with someone who has been there. Remember that Junkin' is fun !!

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Nac's Pine Top Pickleball Tournament Benefits CWJC

Pickleball was created in 1965 by Joel Pritchard and two of his friends, Barney McCallum and Bill Bell in Washington State. They made up the game in an attempt to entertain their bored children while on vacation. The game is made up from the rules of other games.

According to Joel's wife Joan, the name of the game became Pickleball after she said it reminded her of a pickle boat – which is where a team of oarsmen are chosen from the leftover crews of other teams.

Despite its peculiar name, this eccentric sport is making its mark in American mainstream culture, over a million Americans have embraced Pickleball in the past couple of years.

Characterized as a sport accessible to all, the fundamental objective of Pickleball, like other racket sports, is to send the ball over the net while preventing opponents from returning it. It can be played individually or in doubles, both indoors and outdoors, on a court measuring 20 feet by 44 feet. The game concludes when one side reaches 11 points, maintaining a two-point lead.



Using a mishmash of available equipment – a wiffle ball, ping-pong paddles, and a badminton net (later lowered to tennis net height) – they developed rules for the game. They eventually replaced ping-pong paddles with larger paddles and introduced a non-volley zone, seven feet from the net, to discourage smashing.



This non-volley zone, known as the "kitchen," distinguishes Pickleball by reducing running and emphasizing strategy, making it inclusive for players of all ages and fitness levels.

The sport initially found a following in retirement communities for its social aspect, moderate exercise, and sheer enjoyment. From 2018 to 2021, USA Pickleball membership nearly doubled, with an estimated 4.8 million Americans now participating in the sport.

In a fresh development, Pickleball has arrived in Nacogdoches with new courts being established at Maroney Park and Banita Creek Park. Excitement is currently building for the first-ever Pickleball Tournament in support of the Christian Women's and Men's Job Corps (CWJC), a nonprofit offering free job training courses to those who live below the federal poverty level. Last year the non-profit provided a service to 700+ people.

The event is scheduled for October 7th and 8th, 2023, registration is open until September 30th, at 11:00 PM. Participation in the event costs \$35.00 for the first event and \$10.00 for a second event. Registration is exclusively online, requiring both players in Men's, Women's, and Mixed Doubles to register, sign the online waiver, and pay.

For those taking part, a goodie bag from sponsors awaits, and medals will be awarded in Gold, Silver, and Bronze per category. The event promises food trucks, vendors, and raffle prizes, creating a vibrant atmosphere. For more information, visit <https://cwjenac.org/pickleball>. The event's location is Maroney Park, 2110 Maroney Dr., Nacogdoches, TX.

Pickleball's journey from a family vacation to widespread popularity exemplifies the sport's unique charm and inclusive nature, making it a beloved activity for people of all ages and backgrounds.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 7 & 8

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GRIEF SHARE Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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The Nac 100 Club supports over 17 local law enforcement agencies with equipment, training, and benevolence.

 www.nac100club.org

The Nac 100 Club benefits the Nacogdoches Law Enforcement Foundation. NACLEF is a 100% volunteer-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

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FRIDAY - SEPT 15th
COVINGTON LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS
1595 Tenaha St - Center

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Nacogdoches Police Department Welcomes New K9

The Nacogdoches Police Department announced the addition of a new K9 to their ranks last month. Hamer is an 18 month old Belgian Shepherd that was bred in Poland, but received his training in Liberty Hill Texas. Hamer is certified in narcotics odors and has spent the past two weeks with his handler Officer Atticus Shelton. Hamer began his first day on patrol on Tuesday August 1st, 2023. When asked about his new K9 partner, Officer Shelton stated, "I'm excited to see his potential as he progresses in his career." Chief of Police Scott Weems advised the new K9 was purchased using seizure funds and stated, "We are happy to have Hamer join us in serving Nacogdoches. He will be a great asset to us."



Officer Atticus Shelton with Hamer by his side.

Hamer wasted no time in proving valuable to the NPD. On August 10th, officers with the Nacogdoches Police Department K9 Unit stopped Brandon Lee White 39 years of age from Trotwood, Ohio for a traffic violation in the 7000 block of NW Stallings Dr. During the traffic stop officers gained consent to search the vehicle. NPD's newest K9, Hamer, also alerted on the vehicle that Brandon was operating. During the narcotics investigation of officers located 25.8 pounds of cocaine in an aftermarket storage compartment within the vehicle.



UPDATE ON THE RESTORATION PROJECT

The month of August could be called the month of the "Unknown Grave" at the ONCAAC.

Don't get me wrong, there are a number of parts of the project coming together. We have repaired our second broken headstone, leveled a dozen headstones, 1/2 of the cemetery has been mapped, 2 benches have been donated by the Bohac family, the veteran plaque has been donated by the American Legion, the message center has been donated by the Cason Monk-Metcalf Funeral Directors, and a new sign donated by ETX Realty LLC.

Back to the subject of the month, the Unknown Grave. At the onset of the project we knew that the unknown graves had to be recognized. We looked at a number of different ways that others memorialize graves. But having a GPR report that pinpoints 46 bodies, we wanted to give them the respect for the life they had and gave to Nacogdoches.

This process came in a couple of different ways. We wanted to give those 46 a marked place in the cemetery. That mark is going to be made by a black, stenciled cross that will be placed at the appropriate location, based on the GPR report. In addition the Nacogdoches Rotary Club donated a plaque to outline these graves.

The process took a small army to get all the parts done. The Nac. Rotary Club made a donation of the plaque. We had Brooks Bay weld the support back and pole, Rodzilla Sign assisted with the printing and mounting materials. The crosses were donated by Michele Liston, from Lubbock. We then had them drilled for anchor spikes by Will Hill. The stencils were made by Copy Center Nac, the stenciling of the 46 crosses was done by Roya Dinbali and the NISD National Honor Society students. Next we will be placing them accordingly.

We still have 3 major issues in the restoration that need to be completed:

1. Looking for a partner/sponsor for a new gate.
2. Waiting to have a Texas Historical Site approved
3. Have a dead tree removed that is damaging headstones every time the wind blows.



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, October 8, 2023

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

Ezekiel Cullen Chapter

**Real Daughter
Mollie Polk Sharp
Medallion Ceremony**



**Thomas Cemetery
Historic Site
Dedication**

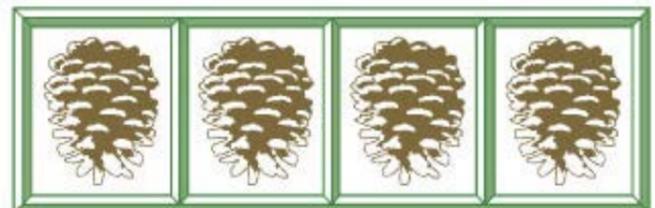
2 p.m.

**Thomas Cemetery
CR 274**

San Augustine, Texas

Member in good standing

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.nacogdoches.org

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Family Crisis Center of East Texas' Passion for Purple Luncheon Set

Feel the buzz in the community—have you caught wind of the latest talk? It's all about the upcoming **Passion for Purple Luncheon** on Oct. 5th, hosted by the Family Crisis Center of East Texas.

This inaugural sit-down gathering is creating a stir as the community unites to raise crucial awareness and funds during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Sponsorships and tables are going quickly, so secure your table now and bring your co-workers, associates and friends to be part of this impactful event. When you support domestic violence survivors with a larger event sponsorship, you'll be recognized as a partner in ending the cycle of violence.

Individual tickets are set to go on sale September 5th—stay tuned for updates on how to secure your coveted spot at this must-attend luncheon. Don't wait, survivors need you!

Family Crisis Center of East Texas
PO Box 510, Lufkin, TX 75902



Passion for Purple
LUNCHEON
10.4.2023 / 11:30AM-1:00PM

Individual tickets go on sale September 5.

For information on sponsorships and raffle donations, contact Melissa Wheeler at 936.639.1681 or MWheeler@fccet.com.

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'Elvis' Returns to the Pines in Lufkin!

Submitted by Steve Fountain

What: Kraig Parker World Premier Elvis
When: Sep 29th 7:00 pm
Where: Pines Theater, Lufkin

From Las Vegas to London, Kraig Parker has been astonishing audiences of all ages for over 20 years with his authentic and passionate tribute to Elvis. Fans are left "All Shook Up" and screaming for more. Experience the 'real' Look-Voice-Persona of the King! Even critics claim "this is as good as it gets!" ELVIS HAS NOT LEFT THE BUILDING!!

Don't miss Kraig Parker's award winning tribute to Elvis Presley, a world class show that has astonished audiences for over 20 years. Parker has performed across America and Europe at casinos, performance halls, cruise ships and with major symphony orchestras, including headline shows in Las Vegas. Kraig Parker's powerful voice, electric moves and tasteful charisma will leave you 'all shook up' and screaming for more!

Unlike many imitators, Parker travels and performs with his very own 10-piece group, the Royal Tribute Band. He has also toured with Presley's original vocal groups The Jordanaires, The Stamps Quartet and The Sweet Inspirations, as well as multiple events with Elvis' body guards Sonny West, Sam Thompson and Dick Grob.

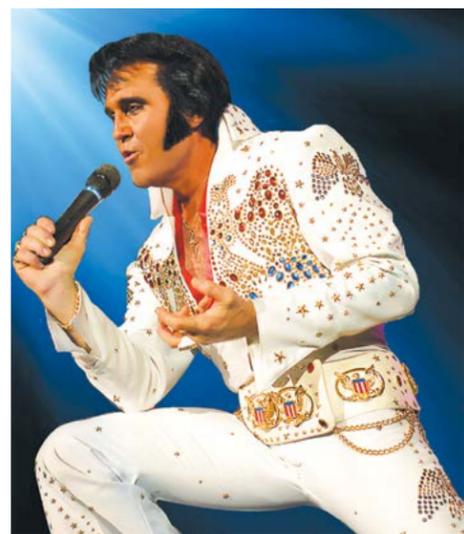
Kraig Parker is personally managed by Charles Stone, Elvis Presley's former tour producer from 1970-1977.

This is one electrifying performer not to be missed. Even critics have claimed "this is as close as it gets!"

FROM LAS VEGAS TO LONDON, KRAIG PARKER IS THE ULTIMATE ELVIS EXPERIENCE!!

Special guests all female group 'Shake Rattle & Roll'. Also featuring Colin Dexter's tribute to Roy Orbison. Ultimate tribute band 'Edge of Reality'.

For reservations Call Steve Fountain 832-312-0074 or email stevemdxelvis@gmail.com



Kraig Parker aka 'Elvis'



WHAT'S HAPPENING



September 2023

SFASU Centennial Celebration
September 15th-18th

Market on Main
305 E. Main Street
September 2nd

Thursday in the Garden
Durst Taylor House & Garden
10am - 11am
September 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

First Friday Film
The History of Time Travel
Cole Art Center 7pm

Old Town Rig Down
Downtown Nacogdoches
September 15th- 16th

Nac Snack Friday
Downtown Square
Fri. September 22th 11am-3pm

Planetarium Shows
SFA Planetarium
Every Saturday @ 3:00, 4:30 & 7:00pm

Art Fest
Downtown Square
Saturday, September 23rd
11am - 4pm

SFASU Football
Home Games
9/9: vs. Alcorn State University
9/23: vs. Austin Peay State University
9/30: vs. Texas A&M Commerce

Nacogdoches County Exposition & Civic Center

9/16 & 9/17 - Pineywoods Youth Rodeo
9/22 - 9/24 - G&S Promotion Gun Show
9/22 - 9/24 - Region V High Scholl Rodeo

Fredonia Hotel

Music on the Patio (Friday Evenings):
9/1 - Johnathan Webster @ 6pm - 9pm
9/8 - Larry Greer & the Shades of Blue 6pm - 9pm
9/15 - Sean Christopher 7pm- 10pm
9/22 - Ryan Paul Davis 6pm - 9pm
9/29 Cameron Barnes 6pm -9pm

Fredonia Brewery

Wednesday Game Nights & \$1 off pints,
Trivia Thursdays, Open Sundays 12-5pm
9/1: Club Fredonia/ Shali's Indian Kitchen
9/2: Huffie and the Paint Fish/ Chamber's Smokehouse
9/8: Scott Floyd/ Taqueria Mi Rancho
9/9: Galaxy/ Shali's Indian Kitchen
9/15: Linda Licht/ Chamber's Smokehouse
9/16: Texas Blend Band/ Chamber's Smokehouse
9/22: Steffany Karback/ I've Got Your Dog
9/23: The Budz/ Big Fell'a BBQ
9/29: SFA Jazz Concert/ Shali's Indian Kitchen
9/30: Ryan Paul Davis/ Viet Fushion

Front Porch Distillery

Pickin' on the Porch
LIVE music and Food Trucks every Fri. & Sat.
9/9: Mac & Cheese Feast: 12pm - 4pm
9/16: Brunch & Bloody Marys 10am

Lugnutz Bar & Grill

Thursday Steak Nights
Karaoke & Burger Fridays
Live Music Saturdays

Cottage Wine Bar

Tuesday Nights: Happy Hour
Wednesday Nights: \$10 Cocktail Happy Hour

Farmers Market

Nacogdoches Farmer's Market
Every Saturday 9am-12pm

Maklemore's Ale House & Bistro

Wine Down Wednesday's
Pint Night All Day Thursday's & Sunday Nights
Weekend Brunch Every
Saturday & Sunday 11am-3pm
9/2: Emo Nac 6pm
9/11: Lone Star Trivia 7pm
9/22: Haylee Lewis 7pm
9/25: Lone Star Trivia 7pm

Pemberly's Afternoon Tea

Pemberleys's at The Jones House Every Thursday @4pm

Naca Valley Vineyard

Pizza on the Pavilion:
Every Thurs. & Fri. 5-9pm & Sat. 12-9pm
Live Music:
9/2 - Randy C Moore @ 5:30pm
9/16 - Justin Merritt @ 5:30pm
9/23 - Maryah and Martyn @5:30pm
9/30 - Miki Lynn and the Red Flat Cats @ 5:30

Lumberjack Harley-Davidson

9/2 - No Labor Today Happy Hour 12pm - 3pm
9/9 - Hot Wing Eating Competition 12pm - 3pm
9/14 - Loudest Pipes Bike Night 6pm - 9pm
9/16 - Bikes, Burgers & Beer 12pm - 3pm
9/23 - The Elm Street Tattoo Experience & Tattoo Contest 9:30am - 4pm
9/30 - Ugly Bike Show, Ugly Burnout Competition, Ugly Bike Wash 12pm - 3 pm

Banita Creek Hall

Thursdays: Dance Lessons (7-8:30) & Ladies Night
Fridays: Dollar Night
9/2: Huser Brothers
9/9: Braxton Keith
9/16: Gabby Barrett
9/23: Pecos & The Rooftops w/ Parker Ryan
9/29: Kolby Cooper

For tickets, information and more go to www.visitnacogdoches.org/events

LET US HELP PUBLICIZE YOUR EVENT!

If your church, service organization or non-profit has an upcoming event or fundraiser, please send to AroundTheTown@mail.com.

We'll help spread the word!
Please include a contact phone number.

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