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NACOGDOCHES COUNTY - ANGELINA COUNTY - SHELBY COUNTY



APRIL 2026

Searching the Shadows: A Private Investigator's Work Landmark Investigations

by Dr. Vi Alexander

Rain slicked the downtown pavement of Nacogdoches just enough to mirror the soft glow of the streetlights. Lesa Kelley leaned against her old sedan, sipping black coffee that had gone cold hours earlier. The parking lot was quiet, except for the hum of fluorescent lights and the faint buzz of a vending machine at the far end. It was a familiar kind of quiet — the kind that came before answers started unraveling.



Lesla Diane Kelley has been at this for over twenty years. She wasn't the kind of private investigator who relied on gadgets or dramatics. Her tools were sharper: questions phrased just right, timing that caught people off guard, eyes that could read hesitation before a word was spoken. Tonight's case was simple on paper — a missing-person follow-up for a local attorney — but experience had taught her that "simple" rarely stayed that way. Nacogdoches wasn't a big city, but in small towns, secrets had a way of clinging to people like humidity. But that was the work — chasing the truth through shadows until it stood in the light. And in Nacogdoches, there was always another shadow waiting.

As a seasoned private investigator, Lesa has held her license since 2003 and is the owner and operator of Landmark Investigations, based in Nacogdoches, Texas. Born Lesa Bergeron in the late 1950s to Wallace and Doris Bergeron, Lesa grew up in High Island, Texas. During her school years, she was active in sports

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The Angelina of the River and County

by Scott Sosebee, Contributing Writer

Scott Sosebee is a Professor of History at Stephen F. Austin State University and the Executive Director and Editor of the East Texas Historical Association.

If someone asked you which one of Texas' 254 counties is named after a woman, what would you answer? If you are a resident of East Texas, you would likely know that the answer is Angelina County, the county that boasts Lufkin as its county seat and also contains cities and towns such as Hudson, Diboll, Huntington, Wells, and Zavalla. Angelina County was likely—technically—named for the river that forms the boundary between Angelina and Nacogdoches counties, but the river was named for a mysterious Caddo woman that the Spanish missionaries gave the name "Angelina," or "little angel."



Her story is a remarkable one, one of those fortuitous historical convergences that seem to defy all logic and expectation.

The Spanish first appeared in what is now East Texas in the 1540s when the remnants of the Hernando de Soto expedition that explored and tried to conquer what is now the southeastern United States. De Soto, the expedition's commander, was killed in a battle with Caddo peoples on the banks of the Mississippi (in either Louisiana or Arkansas, depending on whatever interpretation you read), but the survivors of that battle made

their way to a Hasinai Caddo Village that was located along the banks of a river, the same one that the Spanish would later name the Angelina. The Spaniards—tired, hungry, and no doubt full of fear—were treated well by these Natives, which allowed them to eventually reach the Gulf of Mexico, fashion a raft, and make their way to New Spain (Mexico). The Spanish, perhaps due to their diffi-

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PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR

and served as a cheerleader, enjoying a vibrant and connected community life. Lesa is known for her cooking, and as a child growing up on the coast, watching the ships come in, she dreamed of becoming a tugboat cook—but life ultimately led her down a different path. After high school, Lesa worked for the Galveston County Road Department—an experience that would unexpectedly shape her future. It was there she met Galveston police officer Van Kelley, who stopped by her office one day to request a repair for a downed city stop sign. Within two years, Lesa and Van were married, blending their families and eventually moving to Van’s hometown of Nacogdoches. Here, Van reconnected with many old friends and his beloved 1965 Nacogdoches High School classmates, and over the years Lesa came to love them just as much as he did.

In 1999, Van leveraged his law enforcement experience to establish Landmark Investigations, while Lesa was employed at Stephen F. Austin State University to help underwrite the venture. She subsequently joined the firm and has since served as an indispensable member of Landmark Investigations. Over the past two decades, the company has built a reputation for thorough, trustworthy background research and attentive client service. Reflecting the values expressed in Warren Buffett’s quote, “In looking for people to hire, look for three qualities: integrity, intelligence, and energy. If they don’t have the first, don’t even bother.”—Lesla and Van made integrity the cornerstone of their work. Sadly, Van passed away in 2025, but the heart he poured into Landmark Investigations lives on as Lesa continues the work they built together, honoring his memory with every case she takes. She strives to uphold the same kindness, integrity, and quiet strength that Van brought to the business.

“We built our reputation on trust, care, and respect for the private details that matter most. We understood that the information we provide could guide important decisions—whether hiring, renting, or preparing a legal case—and I continue to take that responsibility to heart. Every search I handle will receive my full attention. I will focus on accuracy, confidentiality, and clear communication, so clients can feel confident in every report they receive,” explained Lesa.

Her dependable service is rooted in transparency and accountability. From the initial consultation through final delivery, clients know exactly what to expect. Each investigation follows a structured process with clear timelines, defined search parameters, and direct updates as the team accesses criminal databases, public filings, and court records. “We outline the scope at the start,” Lesa adds, “and confirm which jurisdictions, record types, and verification steps will be included. That upfront coordination ensures reports arrive complete, clearly formatted, and ready to support informed decisions with factual accuracy.” Landmark Investigations provides a wide range of reliable background check services tailored to client needs, including but not limited to:

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- Comprehensive public record searches in Nacogdoches and beyond, including civil filings, bankruptcies, liens, judgments, and property ownership histories.

“We deliver compliant, thorough background reports so you have clarity when it matters most,” stated Lesa. Reach out to Lesa at Landmark Investigations in Nacogdoches for a free, no obligation consultation about your investigative needs, and let her help turn your shadows into light.

Lesla Kelley, Private Investigator
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Publisher - David Stallings - 936.554.5822 - aroundthetown@mail.com
 Advertising Manager - Sharon Roberts - 936.552.6758
 Advertising Sales - David Stallings - 936.554.5822
 Angelina County Adv. Sales - Don Black - 719.505.4843 - donaldblack777@icloud.com
 Graphic Designer & Editor - James Aston - 936.553.1927
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THE ANGELINA

culties during both the De Soto expedition in the southeast and the equally failed Francisco Vazquez de Coronado expedition in the southwest (both in the 1540s), abandoned efforts to colonize and conquer their northern frontier and concentrated most of their efforts on the interior of New Spain.

That was the situation for about a hundred and fifty years, but the news of Frenchmen Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle making an incursion into the Spanish northern frontier in the late 1680s alarmed Spanish authorities in Mexico City, so, in 1690, they commissioned a new venture to establish a mission in what would later be East Texas. Expedition leader Damian Massanet—a Franciscan friar—chose a spot near the Neches River to locate San Francisco de los Tejas. Through later accounts of the project, historians learned that Massanet, when he went to a local Hasinai village to evangelize, encountered a young woman who expressed a desire to learn more about the Spanish, Christianity, and—especially—the unique language that the new visitors spoke. Pleased, Massanet allowed her to accompany him back to the mission and also to help the Spaniards in the quest to build a spot in her home.

The 1690 Spanish attempt was not successful, and in 1693—citing a lack of supplies and support from Mexico as well as growing suspicions from the indigenous people—Spain abandoned the mission. When the Spanish left, at least one Native person accompanied the missionaries—the young Hasinai woman who wanted to learn the ways of the Europeans. She was taken to San Juan Bautista, at that time the farthest northern Spanish outpost, near the Rio Grande close to present-day Eagle Pass.

Angelina, as she had come to be called, stayed at San Juan Bautista for about a decade, learning Spanish as well as converting to Christianity. However, the sparse, almost desert-like conditions of the Rio Grande area was not her home, so she decided to leave and return to her village. That could have been the last anyone heard about Angelina, but her contact with the Spanish—and their rivals the French—was not finished.


Frenchman Louis Juchereau de St. Denis had begun to explore in the lower levels of the Mississippi river in the early 1710s. On one expedition he had come up the Red River to what is now northwestern Louisiana. On a visit to a Caddo village, he reported that he had met a woman named “Angelique,” who not only spoke Spanish but had also been baptized into the Christian faith. Because St. Denis also spoke Spanish, “Angelique” helped him communicate with her fellow villagers as well as hire guides for his journeys. Was this the same Angelina that had helped the early Spanish missionaries and gone to San Juan Bautista? No one can definitively say that it was, but it is the logical assumption.

St. Denis would have another, indirect, influence on the accounts of Angelina. He would also travel to San Juan Bautista and eventually be a part of a new Spanish endeavor, led by Domingo Ramon, to establish Spanish missions in East Texas. That undertaking saw the Spanish reestablish San Francisco de los Tejas, and also Missions Concepcion, Guadalupe, San Jose, and Dolores. Ramon wrote in reports that he had “recourse to a learned woman of the Hasinai tribe,” which was likely Angelina as he also reported that she spoke Spanish. Her presence was also probably the reason the expedition located Mission Concepcion near her home village.

Mentions of Angelina appear again in 1718 when she supposedly helped Martín Alarcón translate when he founded San Antonio, and then again in 1719 when she was instrumental in the rescue of a French officer named Simars de Bellisle who had been stranded on Galveston Island and captured by Natives. The last account of Angelina came in 1721 and 1722. The Spanish and French had fought “The Chicken War” in East Texas and western Louisiana in 1719 that caused the Spanish to briefly retreat from the missions. They returned in 1721-1722 and Angelina was one of the Natives who welcomed the soldiers and missionaries back and—once again—through translation and friendship eased relations between the Natives and the Spanish.


There is no mention of the Hasinai woman after those entries, so there is no way of knowing her final fate and the rest of her life. Were the accounts of “Angelina” all those of one woman? Both the French and Spanish writers seemed to be sure it was, and most present historians have concurred with that assumption. When Angelina County was carved out of Nacogdoches County in 1846, she received the final honor of having it named for her, the only county in Texas named after a woman.

Our Pledge . . .
Around the Town and its publishers seek to provide the people of this area with news and information about the current events and happenings in the categories of dining, entertainment, sports and the arts, while providing a venue for retail and commercial establishments, as well as local artisans and non-profit and service organizations to present themselves to the public. We also strive to feature some of the rich history and culture this area is particularly known for.



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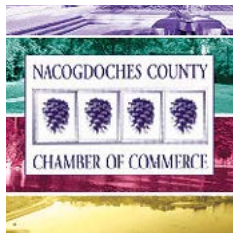


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Chamber Connection
 by Kelly Augustine
 IOM, President & CEO,
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 of Commerce

Legendary Actor Dennis Quaid and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick to Talk Film and Politics in Nacogdoches

Actor Dennis Quaid and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick will be speaking at the Lone Star Legislative Summit presented by Citizens 1st Bank on Friday, April 10, at 7:30 a.m. in Nacogdoches.

This marquee event will offer an unprecedented opportunity to peek behind the curtains of one of Texas's most impactful industries, the film industry, and its economic impact on not only East Texas, but the entire state.

How great is it that Dennis Quaid is ready to spend time in Nacogdoches, saying "I'm looking forward to joining Lt. Governor Patrick and Senator Middleton for this important discussion on Texas's future and the effort to make the Lone Star State the country's film capital. From here in East Texas to the Rio Grande Valley, Panhandle, and everywhere in between, Texas has unlimited potential and countless opportunities for growth. I look forward to discussing those opportunities at the Lone Star Legislative Summit."

State leaders are working to ensure Texas remains the best state in the union by continuing to create jobs and drive economic growth. Lt. Governor Patrick is looking forward to the discussion with Dennis Quaid, one of the sharpest and most creative minds in the film industry.

Advancements in the film industry can drive economic growth and innovation in Texas. They will cover not only the film industry in Texas, but also the continued efforts to raise wages, create opportunities, and make life better for us Texans.

The morning breakfast discussion with Quaid and Lt. Governor Patrick is open to members of the media and is sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas.

Along with the breakfast event, panel discussions and a luncheon with U.S. Congressman Pete Sessions and U.S. Congressman Nathaniel Moran are in the lineup of activities during the rest of the summit. All LSLS events are open to the public and Panel Discussions are free-of-charge. The panel discussions are:

- Media Madness. Lone Star Lens: Texas Politics Unfiltered.
- Rooted in Education. Rising in Workforce.
- The Next Drop: Planning for Texas' Water Future.

The Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce has held the biennial two-day summit starting in 2006 with the purpose of connecting lawmakers with community leaders so that real issues affecting East Texas can be discussed in an open, non-partisan forum. The goal is simple, set the stage for state and federal representation to have access as much information as possible to support the making of good law.

For more about the legislative summit, call (936) 560-5533 or go to www.Nacogdoches.org.

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Heritage Days, San Augustine, May 1 and 2, 2026 *Where History Happened and Tradition Is Preserved*

by Ellen Reeder

Friday and Saturday, May 1st and 2nd, 2026, will be the eleventh annual celebration of the Main Street Heritage Days in San Augustine. On Friday evening at 6 p.m. there will be a very special show: **God Bless America: a WWII Radio Hour**. See more about this presentation below. On Saturday the town will be bustling with activities, such as a car show, barrel train rides, mixed media art show, ongoing live entertainment stage, 1919 jail museum tours, bus ride to Mission Dolores, reenactments, Lewis Hotel tours, and so many more happenings. Our Main Street will be busy with food vendors and arts and craft vendors for your shopping and eating pleasure throughout the entire day. Bring a lawn chair and plan to spend the day being entertained, while exploring and visiting with your friends. Thanks to the many sponsors, volunteers, Main Street Board, and our community in making this such a well attended and fun event since 2015. We are very proud of our San Augustine heritage as we all embrace it. For further information or to secure your booth spot, contact Shelby Curtis, Main Street Manager, at 936-275-5581.

God Bless America: A WWII Radio Hour

Friday, May 1, 6 p.m. in the Augus Theater in San Augustine. The public is invited for free. Donations will be appreciated. This special program is presented as part of San Augustine Main Street's Heritage Days.

In *God Bless America: A WWII Radio Hour*, Shellie O'Neal portrays Sally Brennan, a fictitious radio show host. Throughout the course of the 54-minute performance, Sally sings six of our nation's anthems, including "God Bless America," "The Star-Spangled Banner," "God of Our Fathers," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "America the Beautiful," and "My Country, Tis of Thee." Throughout the play, Shellie provides historical background for each of the anthems, and she includes quotes and perspectives from the Founding Fathers. Sally also sings radio commercials of the era, as well as "You're a Grand Old Flag."

Biography of Shellie O'Neal

Dr. Shellie O'Neal served as the Chair of Theatre at Navarro College for 24 years and directed 94 NC Theatre productions. O'Neal has written 28 plays, two of which have won Texas state playwriting competitions and three of which have been published.

Dr. O'Neal grew up in Carthage, Texas, and received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas at Tyler and her Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. She was voted Professor of the Year by her colleagues and students at Navarro College in the spring of 2012. Shellie began performing her first one-woman show, *This is My Story, This is My Song: An Evening With Fanny Crosby* thirteen years ago, and she has performed that piece 195 times in 180 locations in Texas, New York City, Washington, D.C., Colorado, Arizona, Maryland, New Jersey, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Italy.

O'Neal began performing her second one-woman show, *The Ministry of Angels*, in December, 2015, and has given 80 performances of that play.

Dr. O'Neal started performing *God Bless America: A WWII Radio Hour* in the summer of 2019 after researching our nation's anthems in Williamsburg, Virginia; Brandon, Vermont; Boston, Massachusetts; Richmond, Virginia; Washington, D.C.; and Baltimore, Maryland.

One of Shellie's children's plays, *911 Gnomes: A Christmas Emergency*, was chosen as one of twenty plays worldwide to be performed at the inaugural RAVE Theater Festival in New York City in August 2019. Nine Navarro College Theatre students and alumni performed Shellie's script five times in an off-Broadway theatre on NYC's Lower East Side.

Shellie is the proud granddaughter of Ordria Gipson, a U.S. Marine who served at Iwo Jima, Guadalcanal, and Bougainville during WWII and who was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his bravery.



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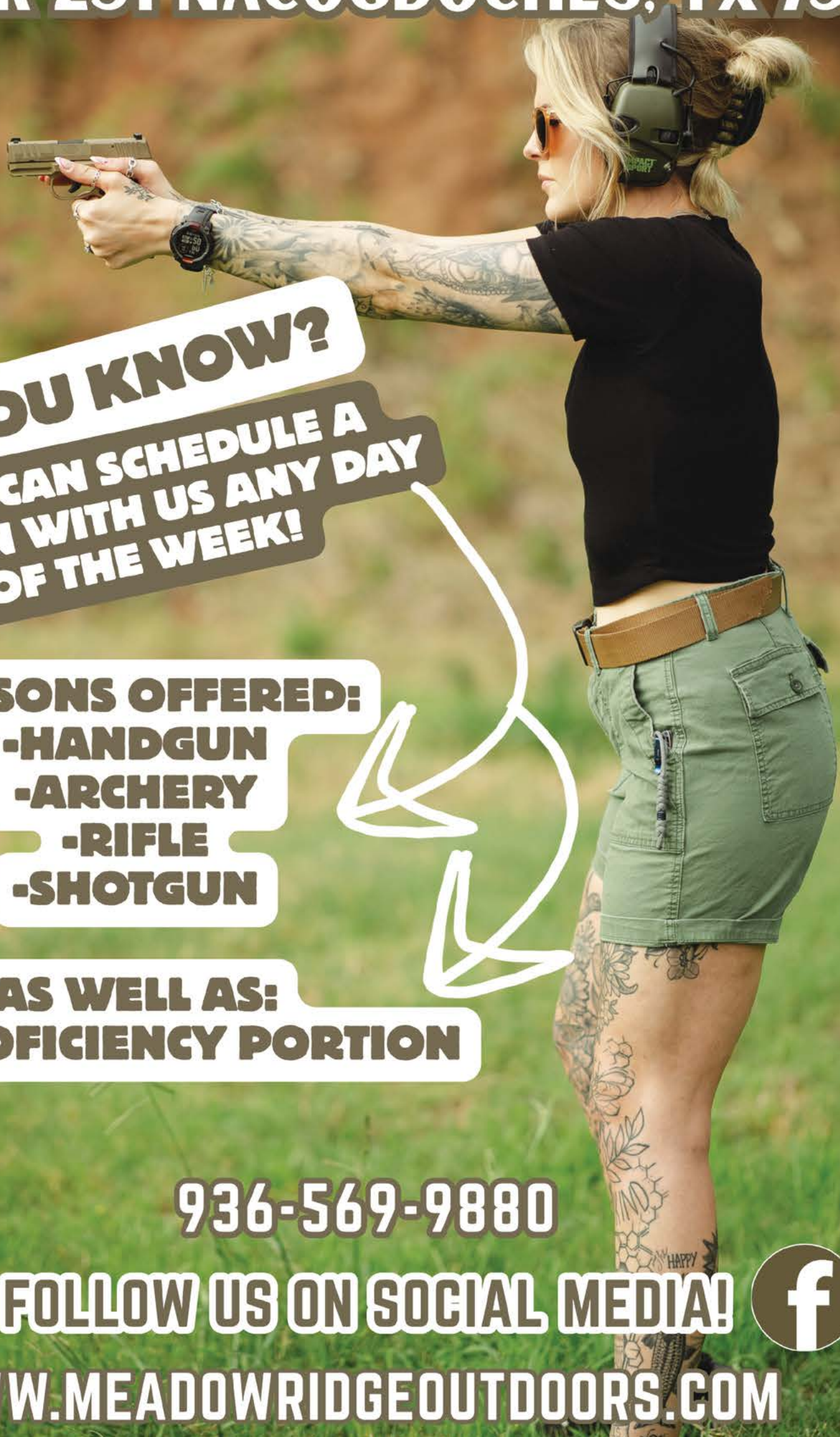
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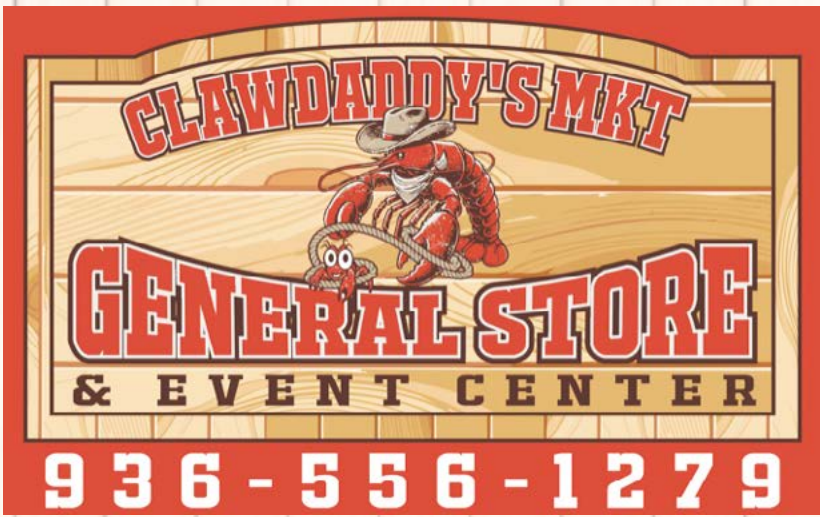
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Alyssa Fuller

Upcoming Events at the Nacogdoches County Expo – April 2026

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For the month of April, the Expo & Civic Center are PACKED with fun times! This is a month of events that you do not want to

miss! There is something for everyone this month. Take advantage of what the Nacogdoches County Expo & Civic Center has to offer.

Arena Riders Welcome at the Expo- The Nacogdoches Expo remains open for arena riders Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for just \$10 per horse. Riders are encouraged to call (936) 564-0849 for availability before arriving.

Evans United Spring Carnival - April 2nd-5th

Rides, games, food, FREE parking & FREE admission! The Evans United Spring Carnival is BACK!

Open Daily: Thursday & Friday – Opens at 6PM, Saturday & Sunday – Opens at 1PM

Youth Horseless Rodeo - April 12th

Corner Post Cowboy Church is hosting a Youth Horseless Rodeo! All the rodeo fun for young cowboys and cowgirls to enjoy.

Brewfest – Nac Brew Club - April 18th

Nacogdoches Brew Club has returned with Brewfest 2026! 12-5PM, Tickets for membership are on sale NOW at nacbrewclub.org. You must purchase a ticket by 4/17/26 in order to attend. If you're interested in brewing (or sampling), this event is not one to miss!

PWYR Finals - April 17th – 19th

The Pineywoods Youth Rodeo Finals will start at 1PM on Saturday and 9AM on Sunday! 5 & under will compete Friday evening and Saturday morning. Come on out to support the East Texas youth competing!

DoDat BBQ - April 25th

Do Dat BBQ has returned thanks to Pilgrim's, R&K Distributors, Inc., and ArcaContinental and benefitting the Nacogdoches Area United Way! The tradition that began in 1994 continues on April 25th from 10AM-5PM. Gate Admission is \$15. Free food samples, live music, a kid's area, Bigfoot Monster Truck, and plenty of vendors. Bring the family and enjoy some amazing BBQ!



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“Consent Is Not Confusing” Family Crisis Center of East Texas Recognizes Sexual Assault Awareness Month

LUFKIN, TEXAS (April 1st, 2026) –April is nationally recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness, supporting survivors, and educating communities about prevention and healthy relationships. Throughout the month, the Family Crisis Center of East Texas brings attention to the issue of sexual violence.

This year, the agency’s awareness theme is “Consent Is Not Confusing.” The message addresses a common misconception that consent is unclear or difficult to understand. In reality, consent is very straightforward.

“Consent is not complicated—it’s about clear, willing, and mutual agreement. We want our community, especially young people, to understand what healthy communication and respect look like in relationships. When we talk openly about consent and healthy boundaries, we help prevent violence and ensure survivors know they are not alone,” said Whitney Burran, Executive Director.

Many people assume that if someone is an adult or did not physically resist, then consent must have been given. However, that is not the case. If someone is afraid, intoxicated, pressured, or unable to make a clear decision, that is not consent. Education is critical because when people understand what consent truly means, it helps prevent violence and supports survivors.

It is also important to understand that marriage or a dating relationship does not imply ongoing consent. Consent must be present every time, and sexual activity without consent—even between spouses—is still considered sexual assault.

Consent must be:

- Voluntary – given freely without pressure, coercion, intimidation, or manipulation
- Informed – a person understands what they are agreeing to
- Enthusiastic and mutual – both individuals actively want to participate
- Reversible – consent can be withdrawn at any time

Under Texas Penal Code §22.011, sexual assault occurs when a person engages in sexual activity without the other person’s consent. Understanding consent is one of the most important steps in preventing sexual violence. In Texas, the age of consent is generally 17. A person under that age is legally considered unable to consent to sexual activity with an adult. Laws addressing this are intended to protect minors from exploitation and situations where they may not have the maturity or power to make informed decisions.

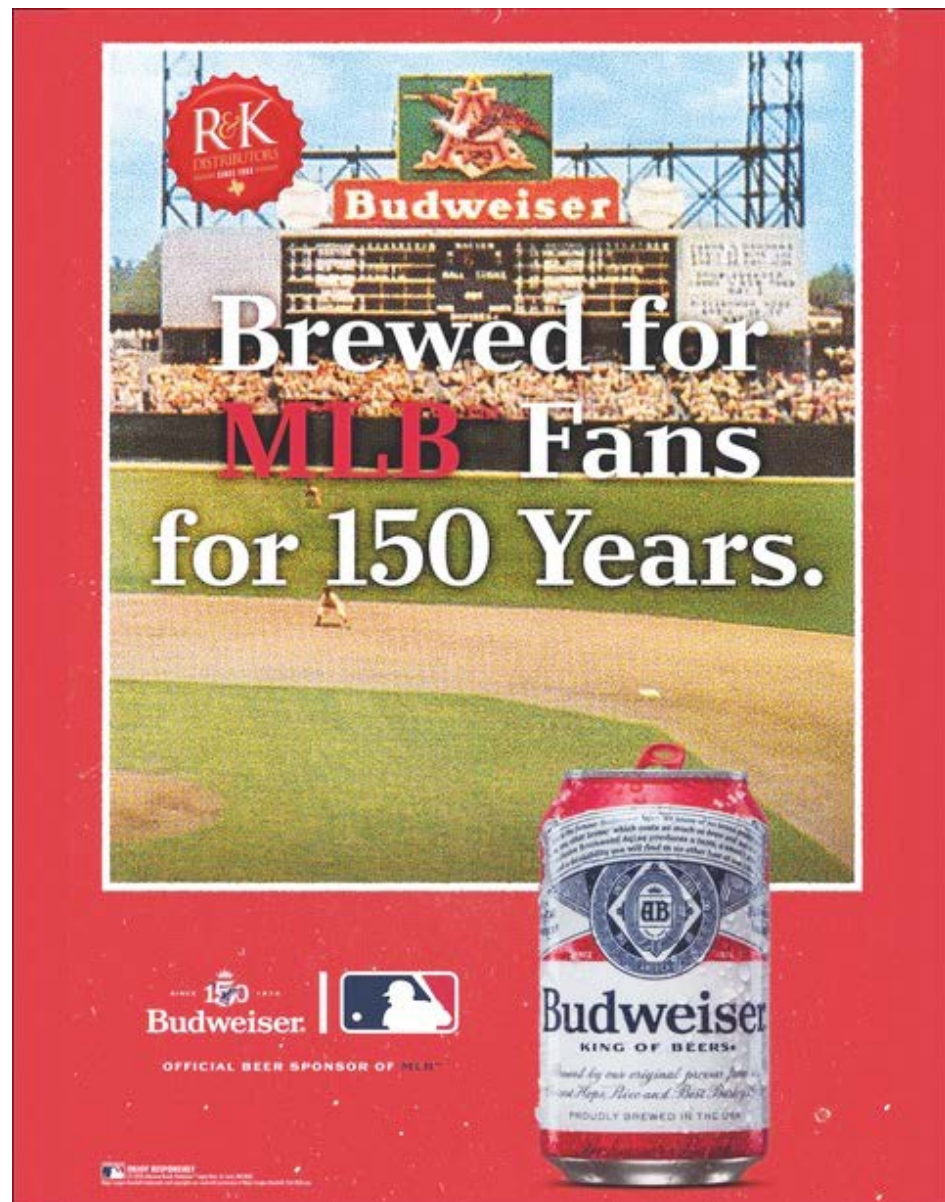
Texas law also recognizes that power imbalances can invalidate consent. This includes situations where someone uses their position of authority, trust, or influence to pressure or manipulate another person into sexual activity. Examples may include relationships involving:

- Employers and employees
- Counselors, therapists, or caregivers and those they serve
- Law enforcement or other authority figures and individuals in their custody or supervision

A person cannot legally consent if they are:

- Unconscious or asleep
- Significantly impaired by alcohol or drugs
- Physically unable to resist
- Unaware that the act is occurring

Throughout April, the Family Crisis Center of East Texas will have several community awareness events, including **Take Back the Night** on April 8th, an awareness walk held at Stephen F. Austin State University where students, sororities, and community members come together in solidarity with survivors of





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sexual violence. The event is to empower, inspire, and create unity among survivors and allies while raising awareness about the impact of sexual violence. The agency will also participate in **Safe Summer Break**, scheduled for **April 23 at Stephen F. Austin State University**. This event brings together numerous community organizations to connect college students with resources before they leave campus for the summer. Safe Summer Break focuses on helping students make safe and healthy choices while also raising awareness about issues such as sexual violence prevention, personal safety, and healthy relationships.

“Summer often means students are in new environments, traveling, or spending more time in social settings,” said Whitney Burran. “Safe Summer Break helps ensure students know how to stay aware of their personal safety and where to turn if they or a friend ever need support. Our goal is for students to leave campus informed and prepared.”

Everything the Family Crisis Center of East Texas does is made possible because of the support of the community. Whether someone donates food, sponsors a training, participates in an awareness event, or simply helps spread the word, every effort helps support survivors and build a safer East Texas. When communities talk about these issues, learn about consent and healthy relationships, and understand where resources exist, it creates a stronger network of support for survivors and helps prevent violence before it begins.

For more information about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, or how to support survivors, community members are encouraged to contact the agency at (936) 639-1681 or follow our social media pages for updates.

If you or someone you love is experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault, the agency’s 24-hour hotline is 1-800-828-SAFE (7233) or send a confidential text to 936-552-9256.

The Family Crisis Center of East Texas (FCCET) is a non-profit organization that empowers survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault by providing crisis intervention and advocacy services. The FCCET also engages the community through education to build awareness and prevent domestic violence and sexual assault.

Since 1979, the Janelle Grum Family Crisis Center of East Texas (Women’s Shelter of East Texas, Inc.) staffs a full array of professionals specializing in assistance for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. These services included emergency shelter, a 24-hour crisis hotline, access to food and clothing, information and referrals, legal and personal advocacy, child advocacy, self-sufficiency advocacy, counseling, support groups, transitional housing, prevention services, Battering Intervention & Prevention Program and more.

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FRIENDS OF MILLARD'S CROSSING

by Savannah Lott

Millard's Crossing is a charming, reconstructed non-profit historic village in Nacogdoches. The village, filled with original and authentic East Texas architecture and historic memorabilia, is a wonderful representation of the Oldest Town in Texas! The majority of the buildings in the village were moved from their original sites to Millard's Crossing and restored by Lera Millard Thomas, a Nacogdoches native and Texas' first US Congresswoman.

At Millard's Crossing Historic Village, we are committed to portraying the spirit and ingenuity of pioneer settlement in East Texas and we aim to connect present generations to those of the past. We offer

- hands-on school field trips where children experience first-hand the life of days gone by while doing laundry, plowing, making candles and butter, pen & quill writing, and much more!
- adult tours experience some of the same daily chores children experience.
- venues for weddings, receptions, corporate meetings, and private celebrations.

In addition to tours, Millard's Crossing is open to the public for annual events:

- Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 12 years of age on Palm Sunday.
- Pioneer Days in the fall.
- An Old-fashioned Christmas in December.

The Village is home to "come see me" relics like Thomas J. Rusk's traveling trunk and items you've never seen before, such as an 1800s carpet puller, a cigar snip, and an early 1900s cream separator. You don't want to miss seeing these items!

We invite you to join Friends of Millard's Crossing by supporting us with your financial contribution. Your generosity has the power to help with the day-to-day operations of the village, upkeep of the buildings, and to keep admission fees low.

Friends of Millard's Crossing is a structured donation opportunity that has a place for everyone. Each level represents a unique opportunity to support our cause and give back to the community, as well as keeping history alive for the next generation!

LEVEL	PER MONTH	PER YEAR	GUIDED TOUR	FREE PASSES	RENTAL
BRONZE	\$10	\$120	4 individuals	1	
SILVER	\$25	\$300	6 individuals	2	
GOLD	\$50	\$600	8 individuals	2	50% off one Millard's Crossing building rental (excluding weekend rental of Rebellion Barn)
PLATINUM	\$100	\$1200	10 individuals	2 season passes	50% off one Millard's Crossing building rental (excluding weekend rental of Rebellion Barn) AND one-time free rental of Reception House with "Day Before Decorating" Monday - Thursday

Thank you for considering supporting Millard's Crossing!
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Snapshot from Around the Town

Welcome new *Around the Town* advertisers, Deadra Stringer and Kimberly Eakin Kia in Lufkin. Deadra was named Best of Lufkin Car Salesperson in 2025 and she would love to help you! She offers a \$150 referral fee, so send your family and friends to see her! Kimberly Eakin Kia is located at 1705 S. First Street in Lufkin. Phone Kimberly at 936.414.8634. Pictured L-R are: General Sales Manager, Jorge Castro, Deadra and *Around the Town* Publisher, David Stallings



Getting Older

by Taylor Millard

When we are young, it is difficult to think of ourselves as old people. We see our grandparent's generation and they gradually become our parents and then we become them. It happens slowly and rapidly at the same time. Women from fifty years ago looked and dressed old. They had gray hair, with a "rinse and set" from the beauty parlor and wore frumpy dresses. Men's attire was quite consistent with khaki pants and matching bland work shirts with colors in a muted range. They were clean shaven with haircuts done on a regular routine.



The older generation dressed for church and set the standard for us all to wear your "Sunday best." If you were lucky enough to travel on a plane, you dressed up. You looked like you belonged to this class of the world. Now our fellow citizens wear pajamas.... everywhere.

Not everyone, but enough for this to seem normal these days. I myself have adopted a daily dress code of fishing shirts, shorts or jeans, or khakis. I have facial hair and must admit I do not shave regularly. I do wear suits with a tie to funerals and formal events, but not so much to church any longer.

The most remarkable change since my youth is how women have staved off aging. It is the whole package too. Hair dyes, exercise, diets with new GLP injections, makeup, Botox, fillers, face lifts, clothing, shoes, breast augmentation, and even backside implants. Sixty five year-old women with lots of money can look much younger.

The women in the public eye have led this movement like entertainers and news anchors, where youthful image is of great importance. The antiaging industrial complex is a multibillion-dollar enterprise assaulting the consumer at every turn. The post procedures photos of the most visible celebrities are rated like a prize bull in their success or sometimes failures in transforming to the best version of themselves.

It becomes the new sport of the masses to evaluate the new and improved Dolly Parton or whoever got the latest thing done. At my own fifty-year class reunion, there was a standout of facial improvement that was bordering on too much. Her face appeared to have an expression of mild surprise, whether for sad news or a hilarious joke. With her new face, all the learned social cues are now skewed. Is she mad at me or happy or is it a permanent case of nausea?

The division of ages used to be clear, now it is blurred by artificial means. I do not criticize anyone that holds on to their youth at all. I think it is great for most people. Men wear toupees and now have skin care routines. I guess the best we can all do is just be happy with who we are, whatever we choose.

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.



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Always Running From Something: The Contentious Life of Robert Potter

by Scott Sosebee, Contributing Writer

Scott Sosebee is a Professor of History at Stephen F. Austin State University and the Executive Director and Editor of the East Texas Historical Association.



Once when I was a guest at the Adolphus Sterne Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas meeting, their then president, Rick Still, made an interesting comment. He said that he is convinced that almost everyone who came to Texas during the 1830s was “running from something—debts, a crime, a bad marriage, or a feud.” Rick’s statement always reminds me of Robert Potter, a man who seemed to find trouble and controversy at almost every turn in his life, a pattern that eventually made him a tragic murder victim.

Robert Potter was a native North Carolinian, briefly an officer in the United States Navy, a lawyer, and a promising politician in his home state. After establishing a thriving

law practice in Oxford, North Carolina, Potter entered the United States House of Representatives as a fervent member of the Jacksonian Democrats, a fire-breathing group of politicians who aligned themselves with the popular President Andrew Jackson and preached the ascendancy of the “common man.” Potter immediately became a key member of the President’s party coalition and he seemed destined for a prestigious career in U.S. politics. However, as became a pattern with Potter, he could not curb his tendencies to offend and anger those around him.

Passion can do wonders for a political career, but it must be properly directed. Unfortunately for Robert Potter his zeal often took a violent form, and in 1831 it cost him a career and a wife. During the summer of that year Potter attacked and seriously injured his wife’s cousin and another man. The full details of the incident are lost to the mists of time, but most speculation has centered on jealousy as the cause of the violence, likely either an overt or perceived “romantic gesture” by one of the men toward either Potter’s wife or her sister. Whatever the reasons, a jury chose convicted Potter of assault and sentenced him to six months in prison; his light sentence suggested to many that the jury believed Potter at least somewhat justified in his reaction, but the attack was perhaps too violent for the offense to be fully condoned. While his sentence was not onerous, the conviction meant that his life in North Carolina was never the same. Upon his release from prison he was financially ruined and he turned to drowning his demons in a whiskey bottle, a vice that played a large role in his wife divorcing him in 1834. He did make a return to politics when he successfully campaigned to become a member of the North Carolina House of Commons. His rejuvenation was short-lived. Potter had not tamed his affinity for alcohol, and he often appeared in the legislature drunk. He was also viscerally argumentative with almost every member of the House—and it did not matter if the member was part of his party or not. The members of the North Carolina House of Commons were likely looking for any reason to rid themselves of Robert Potter. They found it when a former member made an accusation, and that body then expelled him in early 1835 for “cheating at cards.”

Sometimes retreat is the better part of valor, or (as Huck Finn did) it is just best to “light out for the territories.” Robert Potter chose such an option and came to Texas. He arrived in Nacogdoches on July 1, 1835 just in time to find a populace brimming with tension between the province’s Anglo settlers and Santa Anna’s central government. Potter, true to form, quickly became a part of the action, and like David Crockett that would follow him, he saw a burgeoning fight with Mexico as an avenue back to a political career. After the Battle of Gonzales in early October 1835, Potter first joined Thomas J. Rusk’s Nacogdoches Independent Volunteers but later felt his talents were better suited for the embryonic Texas Navy. Nacogdoches also elected him as a delegate to the Convention of 1836, where he voted for independence and signed the Texas Declaration of Independence.

Potter’s service during the Revolution was sporadic, although he did participate in the Battle of San Jacinto, where after the fighting he became one of the

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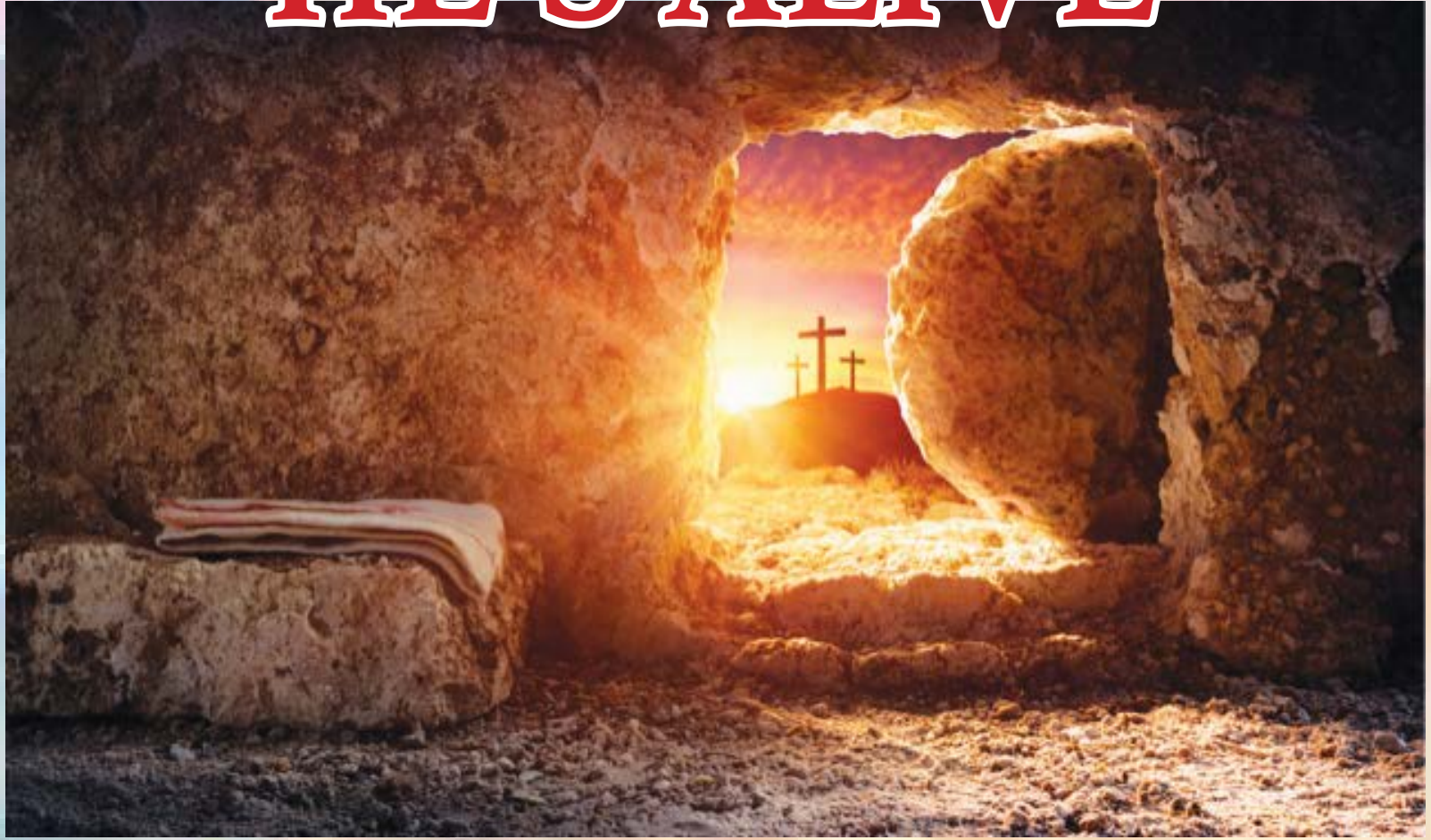
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most vocal proponents of Santa Anna’s execution. When Sam Houston refused to even ponder such a move, Potter became a bitter foe of the eventual Texas president. After Houston’s election, Potter married Harriet Ames (the legality of this marriage has been a source of many questions) and eventually settled to a homestead on Caddo Lake. His neighbors quickly returned him to his political career, and elected him as their senator in the Texas Congress.

But Potter could not avoid trouble. He became involved in the violent Regulator-Moderator War that plagued East Texas in the years immediately following independence. Potter emerged as a Moderator leader and used his political influence to further that faction’s cause. Such actions did not sit well with the Regulators, and they took their revenge on Potter in March 1842. A Regulator mob surrounded Potter’s home on the lake and shot him in the back when he tried to escape. Potter’s life of conflict, anger, and passion came to an end at the relatively young age of 42. It was a tragic end, but perhaps a fitting one for a man who seemed to struggle against a headwind his entire life.

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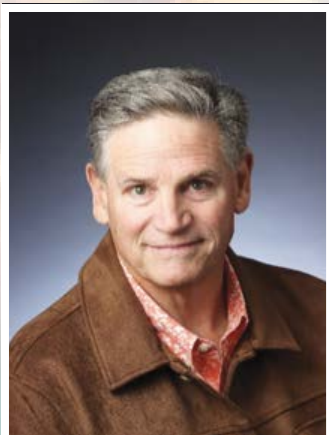
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For more information contact:

High School Secretary: Susan Baldwin
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APRIL 18, 2026 – MOTO XTREME CIRCUS

Gates opens at 5:30 pm; Event starts at 6:30 pm.

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://motoxtremecircus.com/sh-events/sat-mar-8-lufkin-tx-630-pm/> Online sales end at 7:00 am on the day of the show. After 7:00 am on the day, tickets may only be purchased at the gates. Online Early-Bird special – Limited Time and Limited Quantity – Get One Child (age 13 and younger) free with one adult ticket purchase.



This is a cash-only event. ATM will be on-site.

APRIL 22 – APRIL 25, 2026 – ANGELINA COUNTY BENEFIT PRO RODEO

Rodeo starts each night at 7:00 pm. Tickets go on sale April 4, 2026 at Boot Barn in Lufkin. Save \$1.00 when you buy your tickets in advance! General Admission Tickets are \$9.00, Lower Reserved Tickets \$13.00 and Upper Reserved Tickets \$11.00. For more information visit www.angelinabenefitrodeo.com/ or 936-632-7445 for Lions Club and Rodeo Information.



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Try It, I Think You'll Like It

by Robert McCandless

As I age, I find there are divisions in our ranks. There are those who “don’t or didn’t” do things and those “who do them anyway” even though they, maybe, should not. Having been in the latter category most of my life, I have experienced some interesting results or consequences, as some may call them.

It may be physically safer to switch sides, but I am continually called to keep “doing” as I see older people playing pickleball. A shoulder, ankle, two knee surgeries and a new hip makes me only a novice to the “do it anyway” group.

I know those who deliberately moved to Nacogdoches because of our pickleball community. I have watched as widows and widowers find new lives after their loss as well as one who shared her daily struggles, for months, during her husbands end of life.

I have seen some, like myself, who have never played sports in their lives, find joy in a game. But most of all is a group, that struggle with issues and, in spite, keep on “doing it” anyway.

Our group has worn out parts but thanks to the miracles of medical science and Medicare, we are able to move forward “doing it” anyway. One has never seen so many different brand knee, shoulder and hip braces as at Maroney Park every morning, sometimes come rain or shine and sometimes 40 degrees if it promises to warm up in a couple of hours. So far I have only mentioned those with lightweight physical difficulties.

We have a lady with over 10 surgeries on one ankle. Her goal is to get exercise and socialize. She realizes she will never be a competitive player but plays anyway and enjoys bringing new players to the court. I don’t know what “her” surgeons think about the activities, but one of our members has full support of his physician. He has Parkinson’s disease and doctors have found that both physical and social exercise are beneficial to an illness that will not go away.

One of our players wears a large fanny-pack full of heart monitoring equipment and another totes a colostomy bag from a recent operation.

As we seemingly become less productive, one must look closely at the boost we give to the economy by keeping orthopedic surgeons, chiropractors, and a host of other physicians in business. We also provide practice for surgeons for when you young “whipper snappers” have joints wear out. Sorry, just had to justify our worth.

As I watch the players, I see us all fighting off “didn’t.” Some still have the need to win or compete and some hope only to hold on to something which makes them happy for one reason or another and keeps them physically and mentally in condition.

Oh, yeah! I forgot...Pickleball is now the reason for every injury on earth... especially among the elderly. Sorry, I get carried away. It has, however, been noted that it has become the major source for minor as well as some major injuries, especially in seniors. Well, when mom or dad gets excited about getting off the sofa and out of the house to do something, you may want to be glad it’s Pickleball rather than basketball or roller derby.

The game can be played at a level where no one gets hurt. Parts may wear out but they can be replaced. May as well form a 12 Step group...ACOPPA (Adult Children of Pickleball Players Anonymous) where fearful relatives will learn to accept the inevitable and be at peace with it...maybe even learn to play themselves.

Even though Nacogdoches is only around 30-thousand plus, after high school everyone begins their lives and loses track of one another. In the five years playing I have seen at least 20 reunions of old classmates, teachers, friends and business partners.

I find myself surrounded by the people I admire. Those “who do” anyway because...who knows? I heard one say “I want to stay in the game of an active life and slide in to home when it’s over.”

The Maroney courts call, “Bring me your old, your unable, your hobbled masses, yearning for more flexibility” and we will turn them into active participants in life. If your New Year’s resolution was to get exercise, this is the place to do it.

Should you decide to give up *Good Morning America* or knitting that sweater for your grandchild in an effort to loosen up both physically and socially, come to the courts (usually around 8am or 45degrees) and someone will show you the ropes. If you have no paddle, don’t fret, everyone there has at least two, if not more, and would love to teach you the game.



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City Update

by Kathleen Belanger

Dear Friends,

Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Thanks to all who volunteered to be members of our boards and commissions, and to all those who volunteer with the city. This work includes many downtown events, planning and zoning issues, work with the airport, cemeteries, parks, and other areas of municipal government and participation.

Work on downtown improvements is progressing. The city continues to seek outside resources and apply for grants and partnerships whenever possible. While grant applications, including the CDBG grant that was on March 17's consent agenda, are time consuming, they help meet the city's needs while limiting the burden on the taxpayer. The city will also be hosting a larger meeting to inform citizens about progress toward implementing and completing the items funded through our bonds; that date has not yet been set.

TxDot will begin work on North St. in March and we understand that the work will be mostly done in the night hours.

Congratulations to the Finance Department for once again earning the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.

Finally, I wish each and every one of you good fortune and countless blessings today and always, and share with you one of my favorite prayers put to music: <https://youtu.be/xeVEGOPjJXQ>



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Charles Pool Real Estate Celebrating 50 Years

Charles Pool Real Estate is celebrating 50 years of opening doors for East Texans, and they're inviting the community to join them for a special anniversary party from 5 to 7 pm, Tuesday, May 5, at their office at 3505 North St. They'll be serving finger foods fit for Cinco de Mayo, sharing memories and looking forward to the next 50 years.

Three generations and counting have grown CPRE into one of the most trusted real estate agencies in East Texas, with more licensed brokers and more multi-million-dollar producers than any other company in Nacogdoches. As they mark a half-century in business, founder Charles, his son, Ed, and grandchildren Abby Taylor and Colton Pool are looking forward to sharing their pride in the family business and the impact it has had on the community they love.

Charles grew up in Groesbeck and moved to Nacogdoches after high school. His father co-owned Pool's Pharmacy downtown, in the building where Roma's is located, and he worked there as a soda jerk. He and his wife, Rose Ann (Jones), met on a blind date arranged by his cousin and were married in 1959.

Charles attended SFA until his National Guard Unit was mobilized during the Cuban crisis. When he returned home, he bought an interest in a local hardware store. Realizing that being inside was not his cup of tea, a friend suggested he consider the real estate business.

He began his real estate career working for Danny Powell, a local builder and broker, and then joined United Farm Agency, traveling all over East Texas in an orange and white Blazer to sell farms and ranches. He eventually got tired of all the driving and decided to open his own full-service real-estate company. He founded Charles Pool Real Estate in 1976.

"I traded a job where I worked six days a week for one where I worked seven," Charles said.

As they built the fledgling business, they dealt with challenges big and small. The first location, in a small building north of CPRE's present office, was drafty and cold in the winter.

"Travis Price was our broker of record while I worked on my broker's license," Charles said. "Travis would often come to work with his flannel pajamas peeking out of his pants and shirts. Soon we realized that we needed more space, and we built the building we now occupy."

Luckily, the family lived close to the office and Rose Ann could fill in from time to time. She eventually earned her real estate license and worked at the office full-time. While she joked that she did important things like "going to the bank and buying toilet paper," she took care of the bookkeeping and the financial end of the business. Some called her the "office manager."



Ed said. "I enjoyed being away, but I also saw that this was a pretty cool place to grow up, and I wanted my kids to grow up here. Moving back wasn't a needs-based thing, it was a want thing."

Ed began his real estate career in Waco and spent several years dealing solely in commercial real estate sales. He was impressed with the company's business model and brought some of their ideas with him when he returned home to join the family business. Although it was very different from how CPRE had been run, Charles told his son he supported him and let him run with the new approach. Under Ed's stewardship, CPRE went from a small company to the biggest in town.

"And then he took credit for my ideas," Ed said, laughing.

With Ed and Charles working together, the focus became methodical growth over time.

"Dad had me running the company way before I owned it," he said. "When I took over from him, we had 12 percent of the market and dad asked, 'Are you comfortable with that?' I said, 'No, I want 16 percent. And when I hit 16, I wanted 20, up until we were at 51 percent.'"

Although they were working together, Charles and Ed sometimes found themselves on opposite sides of a transaction – one man representing the buyer

and the other the seller.

"Mother hated it when he and I represented clients on different sides," Ed said. "She'd say 'you all fight each other with the same tenacity you have when you're working for the same client.' She hated refereeing. She was pretty good about being neutral. She would criticize us both."

"Things were never bad; there was just tension. But if you came out neutral, you were alright. If one side was excited and the other wasn't, we didn't do a good job."

Ed guided the company through years of continual growth, honing his sales approach based on a client-first philosophy.

"Serve your client to the best of your ability and the money will come," he said. "Commission is not your driver; your client's satisfaction is. I'm less of a salesperson and more of a facilitator and information-gatherer. You don't talk your client into buying something, you help guide them to the proper decision."

In addition to focusing on serving their clients, Charles and Ed both felt a responsibility to be a supportive and positive presence in the community.

"Our company has always been intentional about being involved in the community," Ed said. "Not only money, but time. We are very proud of that and hope the next 50 years will be the same."

"I felt that being a part of the community was essential and I am so pleased that Ed has continued the legacy," Charles said.

Like their father before them, Abby and Colton didn't originally plan to go into the family business. Colton left town to attend Baylor, graduating with a degree in corporate communications and a minor in real estate. He spent time in Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and California, gaining valuable experience in a range of fields.

"Dad always had a rule, and Pabub (Charles) had the same rule for him," Colton said. "After college you must work for five years doing something else. Regardless of the field, go to college, study and find a job. After five years if you choose to come back and work at the office, you're welcome to. I initially thought I wanted to do construction after college, but instead I worked in timber, sold oilfield equipment, sold roofs, and then sold heavy equipment before deciding to come back to Nacogdoches to work with Abby and Dad. It taught me a strong work ethic and the passion to love what you do."

Abby attended Baylor for a year to study nursing, then came back to Nacogdoches to study family and childhood development at SFA. She worked at a counseling office and a preschool and was office manager for American Glass before joining CPRE as Ed's broker assistant and getting licensed.

As a mother to three daughters, Abby has a deep appreciation for the opportunity to carry on the family legacy while also focusing on her children.

"I've only been here five years, but I've learned from my grandparents, especially my grandmother," Abby said. "She has given us notebooks of the history and the chronological timelines for property in the family. We talk about history a lot. Passing on generations of knowledge is important. One of the things I like about real estate is that it gives me flexibility with the girls. It's a full-time career, but I can still do mom things. That's important to me."

While the family is celebrating this major milestone, they're also looking toward the future and making plans for the next 50 years.

"My plans are to continue the legacy my grandfather and dad have built for Abby and me," Colton said. "I want to continue building the presence we have established and add our own ideas to the mix."

They recently created CPRE Farm & Ranch in addition to the commercial division, and are working on expanding into rental property management, but Ed's focus is giving Abby and Colton time to grow into their leadership roles.

"At some point I'm not going to run the company anymore, but I'm not going to the house," Ed said. "It'll be theirs' to run, and I'll be a salesman."



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“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, emphasis added)

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.



From Slavery to Satisfaction—Set Free by the Truth

Brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free. Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.
Gal. 4:31-5:1

The history that impacts my life the most and means the most to me as a Christian is what happened on Cavalry 2,000 years ago—the history of Christ’s sacrifice for our sin and our salvation on the cross. Jesus’ history has now become the Christians history because we belong to Him. We can claim His sinless life, death, burial, and resurrection as our own (Rom. 6:1-11). His people are now our people, all in whom the Spirit lives. I am satisfied with the freedom from slavery to sin Christ’s life in us brings.

I can no longer claim another human beings experience as a slave as my own. Before Christ saved me, I’d never been a slave except to sin. Slavery in every form is vile, detestable and of demonic origin. Yet in Christ, I cannot be anchored to a past that is no longer mine. Jesus’ past is now my new past (2 Cor 5:17). His life is now my life.

The Christians’ identity is in Christ. Our heritage as a new creation is in the Savior. Are you satisfied with your new identity if you are a follower of Christ? Are you satisfied with a life hidden in Christ? Are you satisfied with giving up all rights to self? Are you satisfied with no longer being of this world? Are you satisfied with the people Christ is bringing into His kingdom? Are you satisfied with the authority of God’s word ruling and reigning in your life? Are you satisfied with trusting all of the wrongs of the past to God? Are you satisfied with God’s exclusive right to control His creation and the destiny of all mankind (Acts 17:26)?

Far too many Christians want to be controlled by the voices of influential people who keep us entangled in bondage. We do not think biblically for ourselves so that we may stand in the liberty by which Christ has made us free. The Bible should inform our thinking and our believing concerning everything in this world (past, present and future). A mind controlled and dominated by someone else’s life experiences, superimposing those experiences onto ourselves keeps us from enjoying the abundant life experience right here and right now with Christ.

When we think about Easter, we do not stop and fixate on the brutality of Jesus’ injustice at the hands of sinners. An innocent Man condemned to die. We do not even stop with His burial in a borrowed tomb. Neither do we stop at His resurrection. We must keep going until we see Jesus by faith seated in heaven at the right hand of the Father. It is this vision that helps us move on from slavery to satisfaction. We can be satisfied that all who have believed and will believe in the name of Christ are sitting together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Eph 2:4-7).

Whether it is the believers previous enslavement to sin, the unjust and inhumane slavery that happened within our own nation or that is still happening in the world, only in Christ can we experience divine satisfaction when we believe Jesus became sin for every slave and slave owner, for you and for me, for every sinner (Rom. 3:23; 2 Cor. 5:21).

It is a satisfaction that believes Christ has already taken care of every wrong by becoming everything wrong for mankind on the cross. It is a satisfaction that believes a just God, the Judge of all the earth, will do what is right concerning everyone’s sin that will testify against him in the day of judgment. Everyone who died in their sins, rejecting the grace of God for salvation in Christ.

In order for the past to control us and to have dominion over us we have to let it. One reason many Christians cannot be satisfied today with the good God has given us in Christ is because we are clinging to the wrong past, whether it be our own or someone else’s. It is Christ’s past sinless life, crucifixion, burial, resurrection and ascension to heaven which engenders a satisfied life. It is the hope of being with Christ forever that satisfies the soul (John 14:2, 3). If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed (John 8:36). Are you free? Are you satisfied?

Church Steeples

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.



When one drives around the small town of San Augustine, Texas, one will note many older church buildings scattered all around the area. Some are constructed of wood, some brick, and some even stone. But one thing they all have in common is a steeple. Have you ever wondered why most churches sport a high steeple, usually topped off with a cross?

The tradition of church steeples dates back to the eighteenth century in Europe. As people immigrated to America they brought with them church architects who began designing churches as grand cathedrals which always had high steeples. One thought is that the vertical lines of the steeple helped to visually enhance the lines of the church, directing the viewer's eyes vertically toward the heavens, and to God, and thus help keep the people in a heavenly frame of mind coming into worship.

In most churches stained glass windows were used to tell stories since in the early church very few could read and write. The images on the stained glass windows told stories found in the Bible without using words.

The steeples had other functions. Many of them contained large clocks, while others contained bells. In the very early days reliable clocks were very rare and expensive. Since most of the people told the time from the sun and its shadow, it was difficult to announce when the church service would begin. Thus, the churches would ring the bells to announce the time of the meeting. For the sound of the bells to be heard, the steeple had to rise above all the other buildings in town so that the sound would not be obstructed.

Tall steeples were also believed to inhibit evil spirits from entering the church which many Christians believed plagued church buildings. Even the extremely steep roofs, sharp steeples, and gargoyles were added to churches in great numbers by parishioners hoping to drive away evil creatures.

These church bells were useful for community emergencies like fires, but also served as town halls for the community to hold meetings. The sound of the bells made it easy to find the church and the height of the steeple allowed people to see where the church was located, even if they were new to the town.

In the beginning, Christian worship was at sunrise. Sunrise and sunset are the only two times of the day about which everyone can be unanimous without accurate time pieces. In the New Testament it appears that most important things happened at either the third, sixth, or ninth hour. But after Christianity became legal, pious Christians wanted to worship at different times of the day, and on all days of the week. Thus it became necessary to develop some means of announcing the time of worship to the general public. Church buildings acquired bell towers for this purpose, and they evolved into today's church steeples. Now that we all have accurate time pieces, we don't need church bells to tell us when to set out for church, so steeples are becoming decorative.

I have noted in recent years that most of the new "mega-churches" built in the large cities have abandoned the traditional steeple. The new buildings look more like a large office building. Perhaps one would never suspect them to be a church, and this bothers me.

In summary, the bells called us to worship, the steeple told us where worship was, and the verticality of the churches directed our attention upward toward God as we entered the church for worship services. Even though there are many different ideas about the origins of church steeples, today it is still easy to spot a church from a fairly long distance. The distinct church steeple still directs our attention upward, and the end result, hopefully, will be that we are drawn to God. Jesus said, "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself" (John 12:32). Those new church buildings without the steeple perhaps are missing the point of that verse.

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S O S

SERVING OUR SAVIOR

by Patti Goodrum
Executive Director, Love in the Name of Christ Nacogdoches

Many of the people Love INC serves remain unchurched, and this weighs heavily on my heart. In our community, countless individuals struggle with basic necessities that many of us take for granted. Without these fundamentals, peace and stability feel out of reach.

Their circumstances challenge us to examine whether we are truly demonstrating the love Jesus instructed us to show. Are we offering more than material help? Does our compassion, patience, and care reflect Christ-like love? Do our actions communicate the heart of Jesus, or are we simply meeting needs and moving on?

Ultimately, we must ask whether those we serve see Jesus in us. Are we known for genuine concern and dignity, or only as providers of goods? Our goal is to ensure that our service reflects the ongoing love and compassion Jesus calls us to embody.

I often wonder whether we are seen as true servants. Are we going through the motions, completing tasks, or are we allowing Christ's love to shine through us? Do people notice joy in our service, or do they see only the burden?

Today I was reminded of the power of simple human warmth. Our tone, facial expressions, and body language quietly reveal who we are long before our words do.

I stopped by a food establishment I usually avoid because the staff is often rushed and unfriendly. But since it's close to the office and I like their food, I decided to try again. To my surprise, a young woman greeted me with genuine kindness. She didn't rush me or make me feel inconvenient. Her warmth completely changed the experience. Nothing overtly spiritual happened, yet her attitude spoke volumes. I was so impressed I filled out the customer survey, told my coworkers, and decided I'll return.

It made me think: what do people see when they encounter us as Christians, those who serve, who show up, who pray, who participate in ministry? When someone walks into our office searching for help, hope, or even Jesus, do they see compassion and Christ-like love, or do they see tired people simply doing a task?

There are days at Love INC when friendliness is hard. Some folks demand instead of ask. Some arrive frustrated or hurting. And then there are those who are humble and grateful people who remind us why caring matters.

I've been reflecting on Matthew 20, the parable of the workers in the vineyard. The master pays everyone the same wage not because it seems fair, but because he is generous. The workers who labored longest resented that generosity. Jesus uses this moment to teach us humility: to receive grace without comparison and to be grateful for the grace we ourselves have been given. God's timing, gifts, and mercy belong to Him alone.

People aren't looking for perfection. They're looking for sincerity and for someone who sees them, listens to them, and treats them with dignity. When they meet true servants, those who aren't comparing, resenting, or keeping score, but serving out of gratitude, God often does something only He can orchestrate. Maybe they take a step closer to ask for help. Maybe they ask a spiritual question. Maybe they let themselves hope again.

Sometimes people find a church family not because we say all the right words, but because we demonstrate grace, generosity, and genuine love.

The final verses of Matthew 20 show Jesus noticing two blind men in a crowd and restoring their sight quietly, simply, beautifully. After all the teaching and correcting, I envision Jesus saying, "And there you go. That's grace."

Jesus is the goal.



Patti Goodrum, Executive Director Love INC Nacogdoches

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A Series on Aging: Don't Wait to Follow Your Dreams

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.

"I just don't think I can swing it yet," said Cal, a colleague of mine from work. He was responding to one of my frequent nudgings for him to retire along with me and do some traveling together with our wives. Cal and his wife, Judy, had become great friends, and Sandy and I enjoyed immensely our time together with them. They had followed for years my blogging about our vacations around the country in our RV while we were still working, and they had fallen hard for the concept of full-timing, which Sandy and I began when I retired. Cal even went RV shopping from time to time, but he always hesitated, thinking he just needed more time to prepare, financially.



I knew Cal's retirement funds were at least equal to ours; he and Judy were quite conservative with finances and had a lovely home that was fully paid off. Even so, he just couldn't seem to convince himself that his financial cushion was adequate. We differed, I suppose, in that I tend to discount risks somewhat when it comes to doing something about which I'm passionate. Fortunately, God has protected us from any resultant harm for a long time, and we're so grateful for that. The travel adventures we enjoyed were truly incredible, and we can truthfully say we have no regrets about opportunities not taken. Many, unfortunately, cannot say the same.

"I just don't know; there are so many unknowns," Cal would say. "What if something major goes wrong? These RVs can be very expensive to repair; I just have to be fully comfortable with such a decision."

And so it was that Cal continued to work for a few years after I retired, always responding to my queries, "We're getting close, Mike!" whenever I pestered him. However, he seemed to think only of the "what ifs."

Finally, retirement day came for Cal, and he picked out a very nice Tiffin motor home, slightly used, for a great price. He wasn't a stranger to driving these buses, as he had driven ours a number of times. He and Judy eagerly loaded the rig—with our guidance as to what was really needed—and we departed for trip number one together. Unlike us, they waited to sell their house which, as it turned out, was a good thing.

We had decided on Branson, Missouri as the first destination, and we joined up with them for the first departure. By this time, Sandy and I had roamed through quite a bit of the U. S., and Branson was a favorite destination. On the way, our first stop would be an RV park in Texarkana, and Cal had no problems setting up his rig for the night, although he complained about being short of breath. "It must be the excitement of the first trip," he said.

As we sat together outdoors under the motorhome's canopy watching the sunset in Texarkana, Cal and Judy could hardly contain their excitement about their maiden trip in what they thought would be a grand long adventure in their retirement years. When darkness fell, we continued the animated chatter over dinner at a nearby restaurant. Afterward, we visited Cal and Judy for a while inside their new motorhome, but we didn't stay long because Cal mentioned he was unusually tired. We took the hint and returned to our rig next door, turning in for the night.

Just before seven o'clock the next morning, we heard a loud banging at our door. I opened it, and there stood Judy, waving her arms and shrieking. "It's Cal! I can't wake him!" Sandy called 911, and I ran over to their motorhome and back to the bedroom. Cal lay there, still and unresponsive. Sadly, he would never awaken.

Years later, it is still difficult to recall this, with such emotional highs and lows within a few hours' time and the end of a dream before it had hardly begun. This is not a story I enjoy retelling, except to leave a gentle reminder that our time on earth is not ours to know.

"Don't wait; the time will never be just right." –Napoleon Hill



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Natalee Dunn
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This Month in the Oldest Town in Texas

April in Nacogdoches is a celebration of color, culture, and community. Spring is in full swing, and the city comes alive with vibrant blooms and fresh greenery at every turn. As the seasons shift, wildflowers begin to dot the landscape, adding natural beauty throughout town. Beyond the gardens, Nacogdoches' growing collection of murals brings even more color to the scene. Find eye-catching works of art tucked throughout downtown and beyond; perfect for a spring stroll or a weekend photo outing.

Kick off the month with the **Evans United Huge Spring Carnival**, happening April 2nd-5th at the Nacogdoches County Exposition and Civic Center. This family-friendly event brings all the classic carnival fun to town, with exciting rides, games, and plenty of treats to enjoy. Whether you're chasing thrills on the midway or making memories with the kids, it's the perfect way to celebrate the start of spring in Nacogdoches.

April 11th is packed with can't-miss events across town. Start your morning at the Pineywoods Native Plant Center for the **SFA Spring Plant Sale** from 9-2 pm, where you can shop a wide selection of native plants and get expert advice for your own garden. Then, make your way to the Nacogdoches Farmers Market for their **Spring Fling**, happening from 9 am-1 pm, featuring fresh produce, local goods, and a lively community atmosphere.

That evening, downtown comes alive for the **Wine Swirl** from 5-9 pm. Stroll through the historic brick streets, sample a variety of wines, enjoy live music, and explore local shops during one of the season's most anticipated nights.

On April 18th, head to the Nacogdoches County Exposition and Civic Center for the **Spring Brew Fest** from 12-8 pm. This laid-back festival brings together craft brews, entertainment, and a fun, social atmosphere perfect for enjoying a spring afternoon.

Nac Snack Friday returns on April 24th from 11 am to 2 pm in Downtown Nacogdoches. Food trucks line the streets, offering a variety of delicious options, making it the perfect midday break to enjoy great food and good company in the heart of town.

The weekend of April 25th-26th brings even more excitement. The **Do Dat BBQ** takes place April 25th from 10 am to 6 pm at the Nacogdoches County Exposition and Civic Center, serving up mouthwatering barbecue, live entertainment, and family-friendly fun. At the same time, the **Multicultural Festival** returns April 25th-26th, celebrating the diverse cultures that make Nacogdoches unique through food, performances, and interactive experiences.

From blooming landscapes and colorful murals to festivals filled with food, music, and community spirit, April is a beautiful time to get out and experience all that Nacogdoches has to offer. To explore everything happening across town, visit www.visitnacogdoches.org/events.

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NAC ARTS COLLABORATIVE News

CONNECTING COMMUNITY | SUPPORTING ARTISTS

We are proud to announce that the Texas Commission for the Arts (TCA) has awarded NAC three matching grants! Two “Arts Respond Performance Grants” supporting live music in Nacogdoches and an “Arts Respond Grant” to support out NAC Kids Summer Camps. Your support helps us to match the funds required by TCA. Registration for the art and theatre camps is live on our website.

Paint & Sip with artist Jenny Stokes! April 11 & May 9 at the NAC Annex. \$30/per person or \$55 for 2, wine and snacks included. Check out details on our website.



Toy Dinosaurs: A Study by Weelynd McMullan is on display at Falling Star Gallery the next 3 Saturdays 11-4 and we will host an ART TALK by the artist on Sunday, April 12 @ 2pm.

The 3rd Annual Naco Verde Up-cycled Art Competition is underway! The show will be held two consecutive Saturdays at our NAC Annex, 141 Walker Ave @ Hospital St. Preview is Saturday, May 2, with awards held Saturday, May 9. Prizes provided by Muddy Pants Pottery!

NAC Arts Markets continue in our parking lot at 320 North Street on April 24 from 10-2. There’s still time to become a vendor!

March Artist Spotlight - Meet Weelynd McMullan!

Weelynd is the artist behind the “Toy Dinosaurs” show currently on display at Falling Star Gallery at the Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative. Displaying the toys themselves and the art they’ve inspired, he’s managed to combine two of his three main interests here. “Art, reptiles (and amphibians), and video games. That’s basically me,” he said laughing. Using an observational drawing approach, Weelynd’s portraits of these toys share the spotlight with the toys. “The toy dinosaurs are either realistic with moving parts and fine detail or they’re comically distorted and you get cartoon characters. I love them all.”



Weelynd is a local fine artist who has made a name for himself in illustration, portraiture and teaching. A graduate of Central Heights High School, and holding both BFA and MA degrees from Stephen F. Austin in art, Weelynd is currently Exhibition Coordinator of SFA Art Galleries, including the Ed & Gwen Cole Art Center @ the Old Opera House and the Adams Gallery on campus, as well as an on campus lecturer. He is also a member of the board of the Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative.

Although Weelynd lacks a home studio at the moment, his creative spirit can’t be slowed down. His urge to draw is constant, so he carries a sketchbook and uses small snatches of time while waiting in line or being left on hold as opportunities to draw. “I have been drawing compulsively since I was a kid. I’m driven to do it, and frankly, I hope I always will be. Sometimes I’ll work while listening to music or while doing any other activity that doesn’t require my whole brain.”

“The Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative has been extremely supportive of my work,” he went on to say. “It’s great to have such an organization in town to support local artists of all stripes. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue working with them as an artist and as a board member to bring the arts to life in our little town.”

Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative is located inside Williamsburg Plaza, 320 North Street. Falling Star Gallery @ NAC is in Suite 306 and is open Saturdays from 11-4 or by appointment by texting 917-209-1050. We are also an easy walk from downtown at 415 N. Fredonia Street, one block north of the Fredonia Hotel. The NAC Annex is at 141 Walker Avenue behind the Fredonia Brewery.

Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative (NAC) is a 501c3 nonprofit arts organization dedicated to supporting the arts in Nacogdoches and encouraging artists of all disciplines to thrive.

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This Tent Crusade is one week after Easter Resurrection Sunday beginning at 4:00 p.m. The prevailing theme is “He Lives.” Edwards stated that “the purpose was ‘three-fold event’: to win the ‘lost,’ to experience spiritual renewal in area churches and assist persons to experience Peace, Power, and Purpose for life now and later.” Edwards further stated, “This is a great step of faith for county churches and pastors. The planning and support for this “Two Tent” effort has been outstanding. Perhaps the reason for such support is that everyone senses that this event is being done to glorify Christ!”



Hank Parker
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April 15, 2026

If you like fishing, as I, you will get to hear Hank Parker, World Champion Bass Fisherman share his testimony, Wednesday evening. What a gifted man of God!

Chris McNeill and wife, Michelle, and their ten beautiful children will lead the worship celebration and conduct a concert each evening.



Bring your friends and neighbors each evening at 5:30 p.m. for free, wonderful meals. This effort is not about us. It is about Christ and His Glory. I am looking forward to seeing you for four evenings at Lake Murvaul, April 12-15, 2026.

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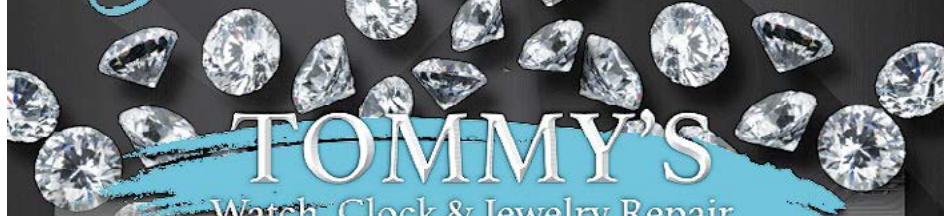
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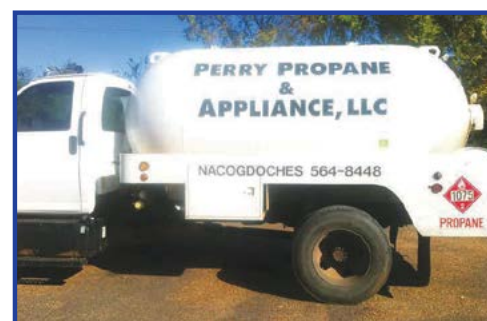
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Texas Comedies Returns to Zion Hill to Perform “The Crash at Crush”

NACOGDOCHES, Texas — Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, Inc. invites the community to enjoy an evening of music, history, and comedy with a special performance of *The Crash at Crush*, a new musical comedy performed by Austin-based performance group Texas Comedies.

The performance will take place Friday, May 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Zion Hill Historic Site, 324 N. Lanana Street in Nacogdoches.

The Crash at Crush is based on the incredible true story of a staged train crash near the temporary town of Crush, Texas. In 1896, railroad promoter William Crush organized a dramatic publicity stunt in which two locomotives were sent hurtling toward each other on a single track before a crowd of more than 40,000 spectators. The spectacle, fueled by financial pressure, eccentric railroad employees, and even the promotional flair of the Ringling Brothers Circus, created a new form of mass entertainment and briefly made the town of Crush the second-largest city in Texas for a single day.

The musical comedy brings this unbelievable moment in Texas history to life with lively storytelling, humor, and a live band.

Texas Comedies previously performed their musical *Bonnie and Clyde* in Nacogdoches in May of last year, an event that drew an enthusiastic audience and received an overwhelmingly positive response from the community. Due to the success of that performance, Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, Inc. is pleased to bring the group back to present *The Crash at Crush*.

Tickets are \$10 and will be available beginning April 1 at Zion Hill Historic Site and online through Eventbrite.com. The performance is free with priority seating for members of Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, Inc.

Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of Nacogdoches through educational programs, community partnerships, and support for local historic sites.

For more information about the event or to learn how to become a member of Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, Inc., please visit nactx.us/historicsites or call 936-560-4441.



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Lamp-Lite Players Present *Steel Magnolias*

The Lamp-Lite Players present **Robert Harling's *Steel Magnolias***, **April 10, 11, 17, and 18, at 7:30 pm**, and **April 12 and 19, 2026, at 2:00 pm**. Tickets are \$15.00 Adults, \$12.00 Adults 60+, \$8.00 Students/Children and may be purchased online now at lampliteplayers.ludus.com. Tickets will also be sold at the Box Office the day of the performance 45 minutes before curtain. All seats are reserved seats. An Audience Dress Rehearsal Preview Night will be held Thursday, April 9, 2026, 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$5.00 and are only available at the door the night of the performance. Seating is General Seating.

In her Chinquapin, Louisiana hair salon, Trudy Jones (Cassidy Cash), assisted by overeager Annelle (Kirsten Baker), provides personal attention on Saturdays for her regular customers only, including Clairee (Elaine Lambright), Ouiser (Carrie Butler Swann), and M'Lynn (Roni Lias), with the exception being M'Lynn's soon-to-be-married daughter Shelby (Faith Kolosci). While there, the women share gossip and their life experiences with each other.

Melissa DeVine directs this comedy drama, assisted by stage manager Lisa Norman and assistant stage manager Tina Oswald. Other production/technical members include Heath McCormack, set designer/builder; Brian Oswald, lighting designer/operator; Nancy Smith, costume designer; Steve Chandler, sound designer/operator; Alyssa Faykus, social media coordinator & running crew; Riley Nichols, set builder; and Candyce Wagnon, running crew. Faith Kolosci is the featured artist, and Nathaniel Smith is the Lamp-Liter.

Audience members are asked to arrive at Lamp-Lite Theatre 15-30 minutes prior to curtain. More information about the Lamp-Lite Players and this production of *Steel Magnolias*, by Robert Harling, may be found at www.lamplitetheatre.com. Follow Lamp-Lite Theatre on Facebook and Instagram.



Cast of STEEL MAGNOLIAS (l to r)-Elaine Lambright, Roni Lias, Faith Kolosci, Kirsten Baker, Cassidy Cash, Carrie Butler Swann



Production Crew for STEEL MAGNOLIAS (l to r)-Nancy White, Melissa DeVine, Candyce Wagnon, Tina Oswald, Lisa Norman, Heath McCormack, Alyssa Faykus

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Steel Magnolias

By Robert Harling

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April 2026 Schedule

Thu 2nd	Tia Juanitas	Lufkin	5:30 pm
Sat 11th	Harley Shop	Nacogdoches	12:00 pm
Tue 14th	Guacamoles	Nacogdoches	6:00 pm
Wed 15th	Tia Juanitas	Lufkin	5:30 pm
Thu 16th	Ralph & Kacoos	Lufkin	5:00 pm
Tue 21st	Guacamoles	Jacksonville	6:00 pm
Tue 28th	Guacamoles	Nacogdoches	6:00 pm



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Brookshire Brothers Announces Executive Leadership Promotions

LUFKIN, TEXAS (March 16, 2026)... Brookshire Brothers today announced a series of executive leadership promotions that reinforce the company's commitment to developing talent from within and positioning the organization for continued growth.

"One of the greatest strengths of our company is the dedicated leaders who choose to grow their careers here at Brookshire Brothers and help shape our future," said John Alston, President and CEO of Brookshire Brothers. "These four outstanding individuals reflect what it means to work and thrive at an employee-owned company. Their commitment, experience, and servant leadership play an important role in our company's success."

Clay Oliver, Chief Operating Officer

Clay Oliver has been named Chief Operating Officer after serving with distinction as Chief Financial Officer.

Clay's journey with Brookshire Brothers began in 2004 as a Staff Accountant. Over the past two decades, he has helped guide our company through growth and change while serving as CFO since 2011 and as a member of our Board of Directors since 2012. His leadership has strengthened our financial foundation and supported critical areas including Accounting, Treasury, Budgeting, Strategic Planning, Asset Management, Mergers & Acquisitions, and Information Technology.

"Clay's operational insight, steady leadership, and deep understanding of our company make him the right person to help lead Brookshire Brothers into its next chapter," Alston said. "He is a respected leader who exemplifies our culture and knows the importance of supporting our employee-owners."

A proud East Texan, Clay attended Stephen F. Austin State University and the Texas A&M Mays Business School and holds a degree in Finance, an MBA in Management, and a master's degree in Data Analytics. He is a devoted husband and father of four. A former police officer, Clay remains active in the East Texas community and has served on several nonprofit and civic boards including Angelina College, Crime Stoppers, Harmony Hill Baptist Church, and UBank, while also supporting youth organizations such as High School Rodeo and Lufkin Little League.

Jessica Brown, Chief Financial Officer

Jessica Brown has been named Chief Financial Officer, bringing extensive experience and trusted guidance to this important role.

Jessica has advanced through numerous financial leadership positions across the organization, including Staff Accountant, Financial Analyst, General Ledger Manager, Assistant Controller and Controller. In her role as Vice President of Accounting and Treasury, she has helped guide financial strategy, acquisitions, refinancing initiatives, and operational oversight.

"Jessica's thoughtful leadership style and commitment to excellence has shaped her practical and strategic approach to financial management, making her exceptionally well prepared to serve as CFO," Alston said.

She earned her Accounting degree from Louisiana State University-Shreveport and her master's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University. Outside of work, Jessica values time with her family and community. She is married to Kevin and is the proud mother to Lauren, Austin and Allie.

Stephanie Cole, Vice President of Accounting

Stephanie Cole has been promoted to Vice President of Accounting, a milestone that reflects both her professional excellence and her deep roots within the organization.

Stephanie began her Brookshire Brothers career as a teenage cashier in 2004 and worked in store operations before joining the Accounting department in 2010. Since then, she has steadily advanced through key accounting leadership roles, most recently serving as Assistant Controller where she oversaw daily accounting operations, financial reporting, budgeting, and forecasting.

"Stephanie's story is a powerful example of the career growth opportunities available within Brookshire Brothers," Alston said. "We believe in growing our people, which in turn creates a deep-rooted culture of ownership, accountability, and pride in the work we do every day."

Stephanie earned multiple degrees from the Texas A&M Mays Business School and has been a licensed CPA since 2017. She and her husband, Kyle, are proud parents of Easton, Emory, and Everleigh and are deeply connected to the Lufkin community.

Jeff Bates, General Counsel

Jeff Bates has been promoted to General Counsel after serving as Corporate Counsel and trusted legal advisor to the company for the past two years.

Jeff provides critical leadership across our Legal and Risk departments, overseeing contract negotiation, litigation management, regulatory reporting, intellectual property protection, food safety and compliance programs, and management of our internal legal team. He also serves as Corporate Secretary for Brookshire Brothers Inc., Brookshire Brothers Holding Company, and the Brookshire Brothers Charitable Foundation.

"Jeff's depth of legal experience and steady counsel make him an invaluable member of our leadership team," Alston said. "He understands our values and helps protect the integrity of the company we've built."

He earned his BBA in Business Administration and Marketing and Juris Doctorate from Baylor University and Baylor Law School. Jeff and his wife, Ginger, have called East Texas home for more than three decades and enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren. Jeff is active in his community and church and has served on numerous nonprofit boards.

"Strong companies are built by strong people," Alston said. "Clay, Jessica, Stephanie, and Jeff each represent the core values that define Brookshire Brothers — quality, growth, community, passion and friendliness that feels like home. I'm confident they will continue to make a meaningful impact as we serve our customers and communities."

About Brookshire Brothers

Established in 1921, Brookshire Brothers is an employee-owned grocery company serving communities across Texas and western Louisiana with nearly 120 retail locations. While rooted in traditional grocery and pharmacy services, the company also features fuel centers, tobacco operations, coffee shops and event venues.

Guided by its mission to be good people who sell good food and do good deeds, Brookshire Brothers remains deeply committed to supporting its neighbors through charitable giving, active community engagement, high-quality food and superior customer service.

Visit www.brookshirebrothers.com for more information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Public Relations & Corporate Responsibility Manager
mcrager@brookshirebros.com
O: 936.634.8155 ext. 4344
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A Little Bit of History



Stone Fort Museum Possibly in Jeopardy

There is an unsubstantiated rumor that the Stone Fort Museum, now located on the Stephen F. Austin State University campus, may not be reconstructed if it is torn down to build a science building in its place. Although it appears the City of Nacogdoches would be willing to house it downtown, the issue could be the cost the City would have to pay to remove it from the campus and reconstruct it there. Rumor has it that the price tag could be as high as \$10 million, and if the University of Texas Regents do not vote the funds for its removal and reconstruction in its budget, it may not survive. That would be a travesty of history for a replica which embodies the life of Gil Ybarvo, whose life embodies Spanish history from being born in Los Adaes to being removed to La Bahia to founding Bucareli to re-founding the city of Nacogdoches.

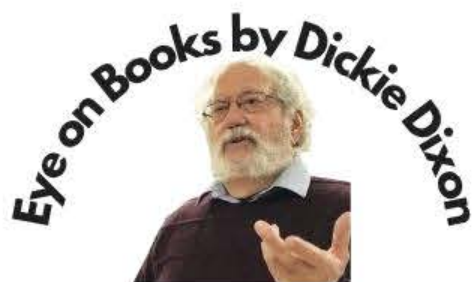
Use the following information to call, write, or email your objections to the Stone Fort Museum being torn down and possibly not reconstructed. The address of the Office of the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System is as follows: The University of Texas System 210 West 7th Street Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 499-4402 Email: bor@utsystem.edu The address of the President of SFASU is as follows: Office of the President Stephen F. Austin State University 1936 North Street Nacogdoches, Texas 75962 Phone: (936) 468-4732. The mailing address of the City Manager of Nacogdoches is: City Manager Rick Beverlin, c/o City of Nacogdoches P. O. 635030, Nacogdoches, Texas 75961 Phone: (936) 559-2500. Write, call, email all of them.

Kissin' Kuzzins

(1) April 6, Ron Adair will discuss his life and serving as a Seabee on active duty in Vietnam beginning in 1966 at about 6:15 p.m. for the Deep East Texas Archeological Society at the Iris and Anne Howard Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton. Ron has written his biography in two volumes titled **A True Texan Survivor**, the second volume having recently been published. The doors open at 5 p.m., refreshments and desserts will be ready at 5:30, followed by a short business meeting at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend; you don't have to be a member to attend. For more information, contact Ruth Dusan Garcia at (409) 336-9216 or ruthdusan35@gmail.com or Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com (2) At the Tuesday, April 14, 2026 meeting of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, Mark Vogal will present "**Jefferson Davis: The Last Washingtonian President**" at 5:30 p.m. in one of the meeting rooms of Ralph & Kacoo's Restaurant on South First Street in Lufkin. For more information, contact Larry Howell at (940) 391-1628. (3) Be sure to read Will Lannigan's article on McMahan's Chapel in the February edition of Charm magazine, which is published by the Lufkin Daily News. (4) Dickie Dixon will discuss "**Take Those Photos Now and Tell Your Stories Often**" on April 20, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the meeting room of Ralph & Kacoo's on South First Street in Lufkin for the April meeting of the Angelina County Genealogical Society. For more information, contact Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com. (5) Thu Von Ellis will discuss her book "**From Vietnam to Texas**" for the May 4, 2026, meeting of the Deep East Texas Archeological Society at about 6:15 p.m. at the Newton Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton. Doors open at 5 p.m., desserts and refreshments will be served up at 5:30 p.m., followed by a short business meeting. For more information, contact Ruth Dusan Garcia at (409) 336-9216 or ruthdusan35@gmail.com or Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com (6) David Lewis will discuss "**Gulf Coast Mushrooms**" at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2026, at the meeting room of Ralph & Kacoo's on South First in Lufkin. For more information, contact Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com (7) Matt McBroom will discuss "**The John Henry Kirby Sawmills**" at about 6:15 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2026, at the Newton Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton. For more information contact Ruth Dusan Garcia at (936) 336-9216 or ruthdusan35@gmail.com or Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com (8) "**Raise Up Your Head: Freedom Colonies in America**" will be Richard Orton's topic, when he speaks to the Angelina County Genealogical Society at 5:30 p.m. on Monday June 15, 2026 at the meeting of Ralph & Kacoo's on South First Street in Lufkin. The public can view the documentary now at pbs.org, and it contains information about four Freedom Colonies: County Line in Nacogdoches County, Dixie and Mount Union in Jasper County, and Shankleville in Newton County. For more information, contact Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com (9) Jamie Carter Bollich will discuss "**My American Revolution Heritage**" at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2026, at the meeting room of Ralph & Kacoo's on South First Street in Lufkin. For more information, contact Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com (10) Cindy Thomas will discuss "**Separating Fact From Fiction: Proving or Disproving Family Stories**" when she speaks to the Angelina County Genealogical Society at 5:30 p.m. on August 17, 2026, at the meeting room of Ralph & Kacoo's on South First Street in Lufkin. For more information, contact Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@aol.com

Birthdays: April birthdays: 1st: Russell Harrell 2nd Avery Mann 9th: Melva Jones, Leigh Ann Serbanek Davis 19th: Tom Hilton 20th: Stephanie Hudspeth, Tiffany Jones

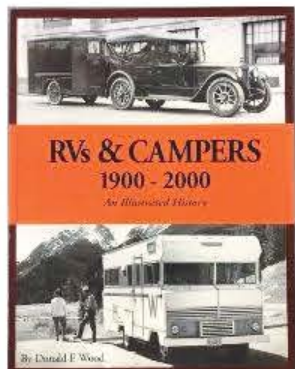
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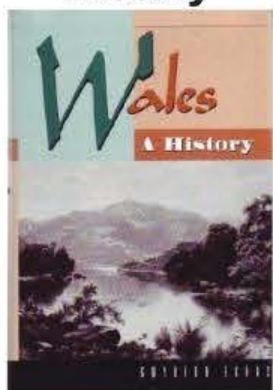
The choice of titles does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the author of this column.

Automotive



RVs & Campers: 1900-2000
Donald F Wood

United Kingdom History



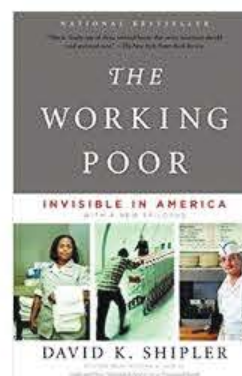
Wales, a History: 2000 Years of Welsh History
Gwynfor Evans

Sawmill History

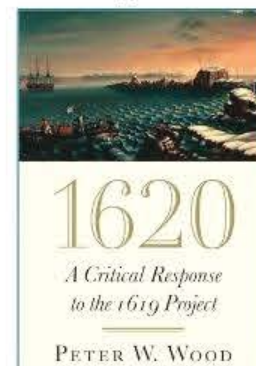


The House of Thompson
Sam R. and Malcolm Monroe Barnes
Sports History

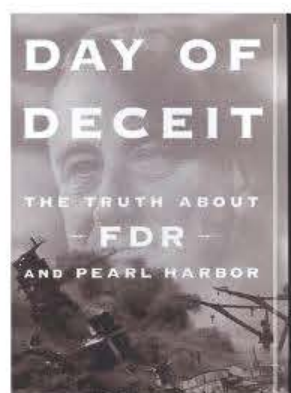
American History



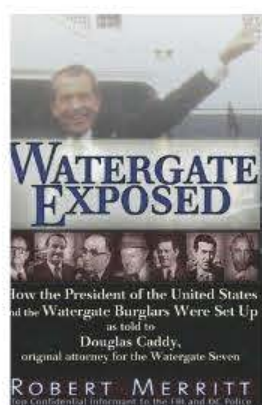
The Working Poor: Invisible in America
David K. Shipler



1620 A Critical Response to the 1619 Project
Peter W. Wood



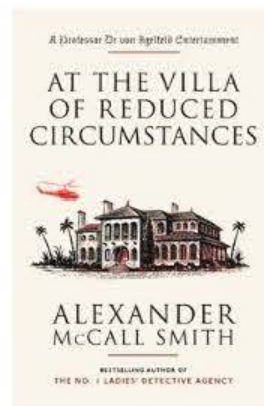
Day of Deceit
Robert Stinnett



Watergate Exposed
Robert Merritt



Unstoppable: My Life So Far
Maria Sharapova



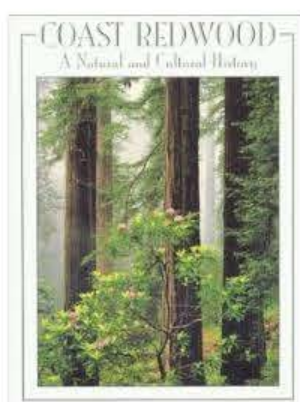
At the Villa of Reduced Circumstances
Alexander McCall Smith



A Man Lay Dead
Ngaio Marsh

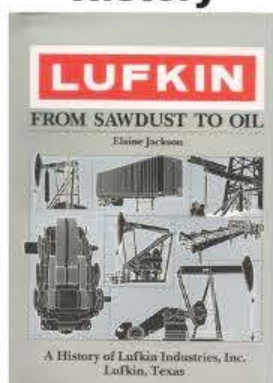
Fiction

Forest History



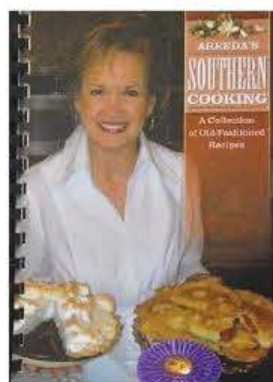
Coast Redwood: A Natural and Cultural History
(Editors)
Michael G. Barbour, John Evarts, Marjorie Popper

Petroleum History



Lufkin, from sawdust to oil
Elaine Jackson

Cooking



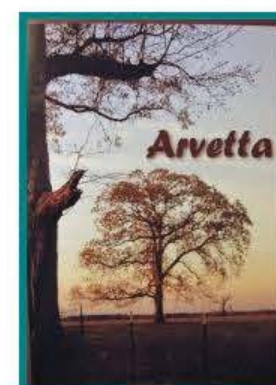
Areeda's Southern Cooking: A Collection of Old-fashioned Recipes
Areeda Schneider Stampley

Texas History



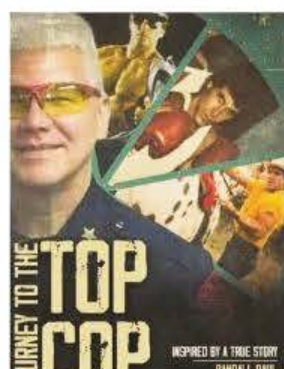
The Old Stone Fort
Dr. Archie P. McDonald

African American Historical Fiction



Arvetta
Herman Wright and Jamie Carter Bollich

Historical Fiction



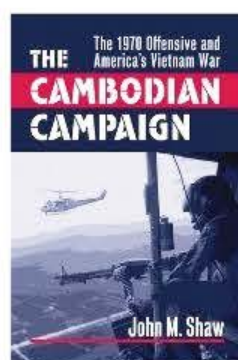
Journey to Top Cop
Randall Paul Holland

Children's



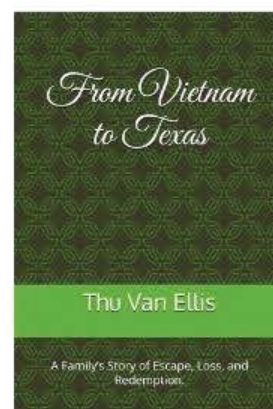
Saving Christmas
April Lopez

Modern War Studies

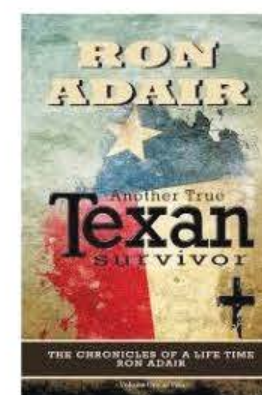


The Cambodian Campaign: The 1970 Offensive and America's Vietnam War
John M. Shaw

Autobiography



From Vietnam to Texas
Thu Van Ellis



Another True Texan Survivor Vol 1 and 2
Ron Adair

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

Leadership Starts Here

by Amanda Powell
 Director of Marketing & Communications
 Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce

Applications Now Open for 2026–2027 Programs



The Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for two of our most impactful leadership programs: Leadership Lufkin and Leadership Tomorrow.

These programs are designed to grow leaders, strengthen connections, and shape the future of Angelina County, starting right now.

Leadership Lufkin

For Established & Emerging Leaders

Leadership Lufkin is a premier nine-month experience that brings together professionals who are ready to lead with purpose and make a lasting impact in our community.

Through immersive, full-day sessions, participants gain a behind-the-scenes look at the industries and systems that shape Angelina County, from healthcare and education to economic development, government, public safety, and quality of life.

More than just a program, Leadership Lufkin builds relationships, broadens perspective, and equips participants with the knowledge and confidence to lead where it matters most.

Graduates leave informed, connected, and ready to step into leadership roles across our region.

Apply by May 4, 2026:

LufkinTexas.org/leadership-lufkin



Leadership Tomorrow

For Current High School Sophomores (Class of 2028)

Leadership Tomorrow is designed for students who are ready to grow, lead, and explore their potential.

Open to current high school sophomores, this program mirrors the Leadership Lufkin experience at a student level, offering hands-on learning about the community they call home.

Participants dive into key areas like healthcare, education, social services, local government, and the economy, all while building essential leadership skills such as communication, teamwork, critical thinking, and decision-making.


Service is at the heart of the program, giving students the opportunity to give back while developing a deeper connection to Angelina County. Along the way, they gain valuable exposure to local leaders, career pathways, and future opportunities through mentorship and networking experiences.

Leadership Tomorrow continues to shape confident, capable young leaders who are ready to make a difference, wherever their path leads.

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What's Happening in Shelby County!

by Deborah Chadwick, *Director*

In the words of Piglet, “All in Favor of Spring, say ‘I!’”. “I!” Winter is officially over and we are all looking forward to a beautiful Spring. East Texas is so beautiful during the Spring.

Spring means restoration and fresh starts. “Spring: a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be.” (Anonymous)

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. The Shelby County Children’s Advocacy Center will be hosting its annual Butterfly Release, sponsored by Farmers State Bank, on April 2nd at 4:30pm at the old Historic Courthouse, on our downtown square. Children and adults from all over the county come to this wonderful event. Everyone will receive a butterfly to release. We would love for you to join us. The amazing staff at the Advocacy Center, the Board of Directors, Law Enforcement and all the volunteers who help are truly making a beautiful change in a child’s life.

We are bringing back our Grill Fest, presented by Farmers State Bank on April 24th and 25th at the Windham Civic Center. Teams of 4 compete in this Lonestar Sanctioned cook off, in 3 categories: chicken, pork and brisket. There will also be a 42 Tournament, Washer Pitching tournament, margarita, bloody mary, beans and an ‘open’ (featuring pineapple), karaoke and a lot of good food. For more information, contact the chamber of commerce at 936-598-3682.

We wish everyone a wonderful Easter!

Get outside and enjoy our beautiful East Texas spring.



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Don’t wait! Applications close May 4, 2026. Your seat at the table is waiting.

Lamp-Lite Theatre Auditions For *Annie*

The Lamp-Lite Players announce AUDITIONS for *ANNIE* at Lamp-Lite Theatre on Saturday, April 25 (1pm to 4pm) and Sunday, April 26 (1pm to 3pm). Audition forms will be available to fill out at auditions. For the audition itself, you may prepare a brief monologue or a song excerpt to present if you would like, however we will have audition material prepared for everyone to use that day. *ANNIE* is a big show, and we need people of all ages. Auditions will be held at Lamp-Lite Theatre, 4210 Lamp-Lite Lane, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Lamp-Lite Player Shari Watterston Ellsworth will direct *ANNIE*, with musical direction by Davy Thomas. Rehearsals will begin June 8, 2026, with performances July 17-19 and 24-26, 2026.

For more information about Lamp-Lite Theatre, the 2025-2026 53rd season, or auditions for this production, visit the website www.lamplitetheatre.com or email lamplitetheatre@gmail.com. Also, follow us on Facebook and Instagram at Lamp-Lite Theatre.



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Annie

By Charles Strouse

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April Is Alcohol Awareness Month: A Good Time to Have the Conversation

More than 178,000 people die from alcohol related causes in the United States every year. Behind each of those numbers is a family that probably never saw it coming, and very likely never had the conversation while there was still time.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, and with proms and the end of the school year right around the corner, it's a good time to talk about something that doesn't always come up at the dinner table.

Alcohol is still the most commonly misused substance among young people in the United States. Many teens believe alcohol is safer than other substances, but it still carries real risks. Research from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) shows that alcohol use during the teenage years can interfere with normal brain development, and the earlier a teen starts drinking, the higher the risk of developing Alcohol Use Disorder later in life. Alcohol is also a factor in a significant number of deaths among people under 21, including accidents, drownings, and other injuries. Most parents want their kids to understand the risks. The tricky part is finding the right moment and saying it in a way they will actually hear.

One East Texas father said he always assumed alcohol problems happened in other families. It was not until his daughter came home from a friend's party that he realized he had never actually talked to her about it, not really. She was fine that night, but the conversation they had afterward was one he wished they'd had sooner.

You do not have to have all the answers. Starting the conversation, being direct, and keeping it going over time makes more of a difference than getting it perfect once. Talk early, be clear that underage drinking is not okay, and keep the conversation open. The NIAAA has free resources specifically designed for parents, teens, and educators at niaaa.nih.gov if you want a place to start.

Locally, the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Council of Deep East Texas works with communities across East Texas on prevention, education, and treatment. If you have questions or need support for yourself or someone you know, help is available. Reach out at (936) 634-5743 or visit adacdet.org.

Paige Bentley, Public Relations Coordinator
Region 5 Prevention Resource Center
Alcohol & Drug Awareness Council
(936) 634-5753 Ext 8771

ADAC serves the following counties: Angelina, Hardin, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, and Tyler.



Nacogdoches Wine Swirl

Red, Wine, & Blue

Downtown Nacogdoches
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

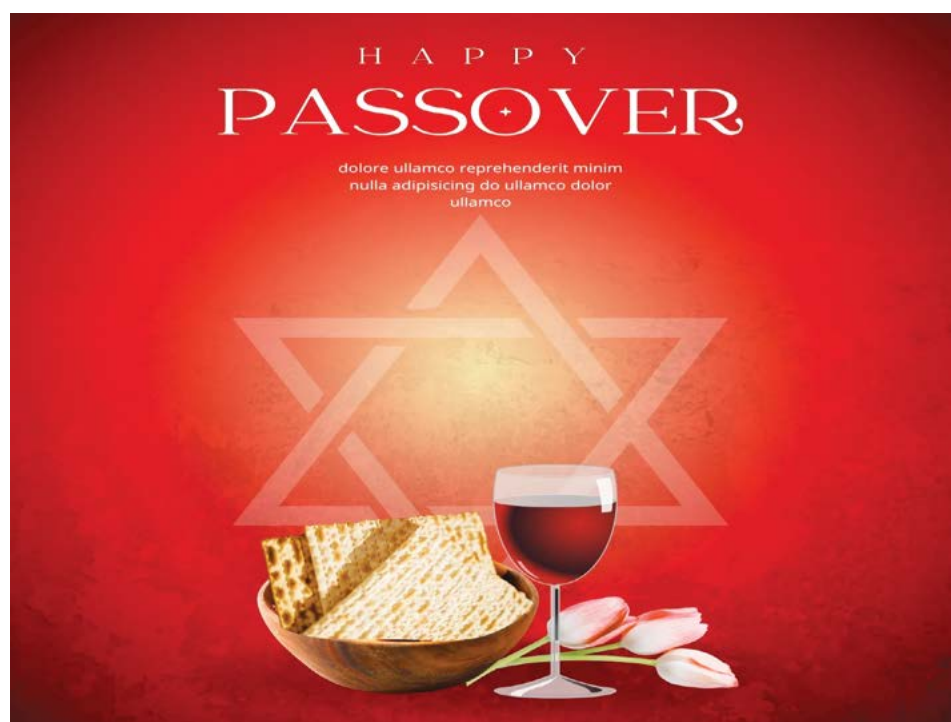
Saturday, April 11th

TICKETS

Appetizers Only - \$30
Wine Only - \$50
Wine & Appetizers - \$65
VIP (limited quantity) - \$150


For more information, call 936-559-2562



HAPPY PASSOVER

dolore ullamco reprehenderit minim
nulla adipisicing do ullamco dolor
ullamco



April Gardening

by Elaine Cameron, Angelina County Master Gardener

We are enjoying a beautiful spring. A pair of cardinals has built a nest in a tall shrub outside our window. The nest started with strands of pine straw that Mama Cardinal found in our fresh mulch. She made multiple trips with dry leaves, dry grass strands, bits of moss until the nest was finished. At last she has occupied the nest and we have a front row seat to watch a new clutch of cardinals.

Angelina Master Gardeners will host "Mornings at the Market" on **Saturday, April 18, 9:00 am until noon**, under the arbor of their greenhouse in the Angelina County Farmers Market, at 2107 S. Medford Drive. You may bring your gardening questions and we will have information available for vegetables, and ornamentals. If you are new to the area, new to gardening, or moved into a new home you may not know where to start. We are here to help with answers and information.

Master Gardener James McEntire has had advanced training in vegetables and will answer your questions and provide information about home gardens. Demonstrations will include composting, by Master Gardener Amy Harper, and planting a colorful container for summer by Master Gardener Clara Cozier.



A children's activity will be led by Master Gardener Debbie Pope, where kids can learn about gardening while their parents have time to gather information.

The Noon Gardening Program, hosted by Angelina AgriLife Extension and Angelina Master Gardeners, will be held on **Tuesday, April 21, noon to 1:00 pm** at the Extension office at 2201 S. Medford Drive in Lufkin. Dr. Andrew King, an assistant professor of ornamental horticulture for Texas A&M AgriLife in Overton will be the guest speaker. Andrew is a fourth generation horticulturist whose family has been in the nursery business for 110 years. His talk will discuss ornamental plants in the Texas Superstar program. The Noon Gardening program is free to the public, and you may bring your lunch.

Enjoy spring and hope to see you soon.

MONUMENT CORNER

Monument Corner reappears in Timpson, Shelby County. In the city square area in the downtown area on Jacob Street between Railroad Lane and Austin Street stands a monument describing the history of the town. It reads as follows:

TIMPSON

IN 1884, HOUSTON BUSINESSMAN PAUL BREMOND (1810-1885), AND OTHER INVESTORS BEGAN PLANNING FOR A NEW RAILROAD TO CONNECT HOUSTON AND SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA. SURVEYS SOON BEGAN ALONG THE PROPOSED ROUTE, AND IN 1885 THE TOWN OF TIMPSON WAS FOUNDED, NAMED FOR PAUL C. TIMPSON, THE RAILROAD OFFICIAL WHO LAID OUT THE TOWN. THE HOUSTON, EAST AND WEST TEXAS RAILROAD, A NARROW GAUGE SYSTEM, WAS SOON A REALITY, AND THE FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN ARRIVED IN THE NEW TOWN ON AUGUST 1, 1885.

THE FIRST BUSINESSES IN THE NEW TOWN WERE TWO STORES, SEPARATED BY A PINE THICKET WHICH WOULD LATER BE CLEARED FOR USE AS THE TOWN SQUARE. WITHIN A YEAR, THE POPULATION HAD GROWN TO 1,000.

WITHIN THE FIRST YEAR OF TIMPSON'S FOUNDING, A SCHOOL WAS BEGUN, AND CHURCHES AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS WERE ORGANIZED. MANY BUSINESSES WERE ESTABLISHED, INCLUDING A NEWSPAPER; GROCERY, DRUG, AND OTHER RETAIL STORES; AN ICE COMPANY; FACTORIES; AND BANKS. THE TOWN BECAME AN IMPORTANT EAST TEXAS LUMBER, COTTON, AND RAIL CENTER, AS WELL.

RAILROADS CONTINUED THEIR IMPORTANT ROLE IN TIMPSON UNTIL THE 1940s, WHEN DEVELOPMENT OF STATE ROADS AND HIGHWAYS DECREASED THE USE OF RAIL SHIPMENTS.

TEXAS SESQUICENTENNIAL 1836-1986



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



April 2026

Evans United Huge Spring Carnival
Apr. 2nd-5th
Nacogdoches County Exposition & Civic Center

Classic Car Cruise In
Fri, Apr. 3rd 4-7pm
Clear Springs

Market on Main
Sat, Apr. 4th 10am-2pm
305 East Main St.

SFA's Nelson Rusche Distinguished Lecture Series Ft. Dennis Quaid
Thu, Apr. 9th 7:30pm
Baker Pattillo Student Center Grand Ballroom

Texas Size Bling's Sweet 16
Fri, Apr. 10th 10am-6pm
Texas Size Bling

SFA Gardens Spring Plant Sale
Sat, Apr. 11th 9am-2pm
Pineywoods Native Plant Center

Spring Fling Farmers Market
Sat, Apr. 11th 9am-1pm
Nacogdoches Farmer's Market

Nacogdoches Wine Swirl
Sat, Apr. 11th 5-9pm
Downtown Nacogdoches

Kite Fest 2026
Sun, Apr. 12th 11am-4pm
A. L. Mangham Jr. Regional Airport

Spring Brewfest
Sat, Apr. 18th 12-5pm
Nacogdoches County Exposition & Civic Center

Nac Snack Friday
Fri, Apr. 24th 11am-2pm
Downtown Nacogdoches

Do Dat BBQ
Sat, Apr. 25th 10am-6pm
Nacogdoches County Exposition & Civic Center

Multicultural Festival
Sat, Apr. 25th & Sun, Apr. 26th 10am-5pm
Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Piney Woods Entrepreneurship Network
Wed, Apr. 29th 5:30-7pm
Fredonia Brewery

Swing Dancing Class
Thu, Apr. 9th & 23rd 7:30-8:45pm
C. L. Simon Recreation Center

Flowers After Hours
Wed, Apr. 8th & 29th 5-7pm
Both Bloom Studio

STEEL MAGNOLIAS
4/10, 4/11, 4/17, & 4/18 7:30pm
4/12 & 4/19 2pm
Lamp-Lite Theater

Lone Star Trivia
All times are 7pm unless stated otherwise
Tuesday: 4/7 & 4/21 Bottlecap Alley
Wednesday: 4/1: Fredonia Brewery
Thursday: 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, & 4/30 Fredonia Brewery
Sunday: 4/12 Trivia Tournament Finale
Fredonia Brewery 3pm

Maklemore's Ale House & Bistro
Wine Down Wednesdays: Live Music

Stone House Kitchen
Beyond the Vines Cellars Open every Thu.-Sat.
4/10: Wine Pairing Dinner with Beyond the Vine Cellars; Reservation Required 7pm

Naca Valley Vineyard
Pizza on the Pavilion:
Andy's Wood-Fired Pizza every Thu.-Sat.
Live Music 5:30pm:
4/4: Randy C Moore
4/11: Andrew Toole
4/18: Randy C Moore
4/25: Justin Merritt

Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative
Locations are Italicized

320 North St:
4/4, 4/11, & 4/18: ToyDinosaurs: A Study by Weelynd McMullan 11am-4pm
4/12: Weelynd McMullan Art Talk 2pm
4/25: Arts Market 10am-2pm
141 Walker St:
4/25: Naco Verde Upcycled Art Drop Off

Banita Creek Hall
Thursdays: Free Dance Lessons 7-8pm & Ladies Night
Fridays: Dollar Night
Live Music 8pm:
4/11: Cole Stephens with Passengers Unknown
4/18: Randall King with Braden Jamison

Madhatter Distillery
Events are 21+ | No cover unless stated otherwise
Thursdays: Bingo 6-7:30pm
4/11: Live Music with Alyssa Fuller 7-9:30pm
4/18: Live Music with Daniel McMahon 7-9:30pm
4/25: Live Music with Jay and Linda Kaye 7-9:30pm

LugNutz Bar & Grill
Thursday Steak Nights
Karaoke & Burger Fridays
Live Music Saturdays

Lumberjack Harley Davidson
4/4: Easter Egg Hunt at SFA 8am-3pm
4/11: Car and Bike Show 12-3pm
4/18: Riding Without limits 12-3pm
4/25: Do Dat BBQ 12-3pm

Farmers Market
Every Saturday 9am-12pm
Nacogdoches Farmers Market

Pemberley's Afternoon Tea
Every Thursday 4pm
Pemberley's at The Jones House

Aperitivo Cafe & Gelato
Thursdays: Piano & Pour 6-9pm
4/4: Cars & Coffee 9am-12pm

The Fredonia Hotel
4/5: Easter Brunch; Reservation Required 11am
Fridays: Music on the Patio 6-9pm:
4/3: Larry Greer & the Shades of Blue
4/10: Logan McCune
4/17: Enrique Munguia
4/24: Marshall Hance

Fredonia Brewery
Trivia every Thursday 7pm
Live Music every Friday & Saturday
4/2: Books & Brews 6-7pm
4/4: Country Willie Edwards Live 6-9pm
4/12: Trivia Tournament Finale 3pm
4/19: FredTalk Lecture Series 2-3pm
4/22: Music Bingo with J Soul 6-8pm
4/24: SFA Jazz Concert 6-9pm
4/25: Books & Beers Event 12-5pm & Joe Cuellar Live 6-9pm

Slash-O-Meadery
Saturdays: Mead with the Highlands 2-8pm

SFA Planetarium
Saturday: 4/4, 4/11, 4/18, & 4/25
3pm, 4:30pm, & 7pm

SFA Fine Arts
Locations are Italicized
Black Box Theater:
4/9-4/12: Hedda Gabler
W. M. Turner Auditorium:
4/9-4/11: SFA Spring Opera 7:30pm
Cole Art Center:
4/17-6/28: Texas National 2026
In between Wright Music Building & Student Center:
4/27: Concert in the Park 2pm

SFA Gardens
Locations are Italicized
Brundrett Conservation Education Building:
4/9: The Hammond Research Station: Where We've Been, Where We Are, and Where We're Going 7-8pm
Pineywoods Native Plant Center:
4/11: Garden Gala Plant Sale 9am-12pm
Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden:
4/18: Sculpture in the SFA Gardens
Opening Reception 2-4pm

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.

Nacogdoches Church Directory

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*“Serving The Nacogdoches
Community With Honor
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- Agape Life Church** — 3500 North Street #3, 75965 — 936.559.3081
- Antioch Baptist Church** — 1421 Greer Street, 75961 — 936.569.7432
- Apostolic Lighthouse** — 1801 Durst Street
- Appleby Baptist Church** — 13995 US-59, 75965
- Appleby Church of Christ** — 10494 FM 941, 75965 — 936.564.9792
- Austin Heights Baptist Church** — 2806 Appleby Sand Rd, 75965 — 936.564.0818
- Bethel Temple Church of God in Christ** — 1716 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, 75961 — 936.305.5138
- Bethlehem Mission** — 125 NE Stallings Drive, 75961 — 936.564.6278
- Bonita Methodist Church** — 10303 Hwy 259 @ Central Heights — 936.560.2028
- Calvary Baptist Church** — 3732 NE Stallings Drive, 75965 — 936.564.4539
- Calvary Pentecostal Church** — 2800 Old Lufkin Rd, 75964 — 936.564.6835
- Cariker Street Seventh-day Adventist Church** — 909 Cariker Street, 75961 — 936.564.2197
- Centro De Vida Cristiana** — 2933 Hunter Street, 75964 — 936.615.4753
- Christ Episcopal Church** — 502 E Starr Ave, 75961 — 936.564.0421
- Christian Life Center | Pentecostal Church** — 2604 Stallings Drive N, 75964 — 936.560.1431
- Church of Christ** — 3831 NE Stallings Drive, 75961 — 936.205.5956
- Corner Post Cowboy Church** — 8151 FM 1638, 75964 — 936.645.0123
- Davis Memorial Church of God** — 1614 Gasaway Rd, 75964 — 936.564.8401
- Eastside United Pentecostal Church** — 3801 Center Rd, 75961 — 936.564.6432
- Fairview United Methodist Church** — 6296 TX-21, 75961
- Faith Temple Church** — 217 Sweetgum Street, 75961 — 936.559.1502
- First Baptist Church** — 411 North Street, 75961 — 936.564.7379
- First Christian Church** — 702 Mound Street, 75961 — 936.564.7389
- First Pentecostal Church** — 1622 Douglass Rd, 75964 — 936.569.6784
- First United Methodist Church** — 201 E Hospital Street, 75961 — 936.564.8308
- Forest Pine Church** — 3738 S Fredonia Street, 75964
- Fredonia Hill Baptist Church** — 1711 South Street, 75964 — 936.564.8386
- Glory Gang** — 1610 SW Stallings Drive, 75964 — 1.855.456.7944
- Godtel Ministries** — 330 E. Main Street, 75961 — 936.569.7914
- Gospel Assembly Church** — 2916 Lilly Street, 75964 — 936.219.0251
- Grace Baptist Church** — 4120 NW Stallings Drive, 75964 — 936.552.8988
- Grace Bible Church** — 2305 Raguet Street, 75965 — 936.564.8867
- Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church** — SE Loop 224, 75961 — 936.559.0952
- Gravel Ridge Missionary Baptist Church** — 7425 FM 225, 75964
- Greater Faith Tabernacle** — 2800 Old Lufkin Rd, 75964 — 936.564.6835
- Harmonia Baptist Church** — 2547 Old Post Oak Rd, 75965 — 936.552.1956
- Harmony Baptist Church** — 268 County Rd 726, 75964 — 936.569.7381
- Harvest Point Church** — 2708 South Street, 75964 — 936.569.9342
- Heritage Primitive Baptist Church** — 128 Hunt Street, 75965 — 936.554.0102
- High Praise Tabernacle** — 1607 Douglass Rd, 75964
- Iglesia Bautista Cristiana** — 1917 S Fredonia Street, 75964 — 936.462.8692
- Iglesia Bautista Vida Eterna** — 2612 Williams Street, 75964 — 936.462.0719
- Iglesia Evangelica Cristiana Espiritual** — 501 Lenwood Drive, 75964
- Immaculate Conception Catholic Church** — 1422 County Rd 724, 75964 — 936.560.3200
- Impact Cowboy Church of Nacogdoches** — 415 FM 2112, 75961 — 936.569.8559
- International Church of Nacogdoches** — 1610 SW Stallings Drive, 75964 — 936.564.7265
- Iron Wheel Baptist Church** — 820 1st Street, 75961 — 936.569.8358
- Jacob's Memorial Cogic** — 1717 Castleberry Street, 75961 — 936.564.7493
- Johnson Chapel CME Church** — 614 3rd Street, 75961 — 936.569.9703
- Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses** — 2832 NE Stallings Drive, 75965 — 936.560.6571
- Life Church** — 702 N University Drive, 75961 — 936.205.5956
- Little Zion Baptist Church** — 305 Shawnee Street, 75961 — 936.564.4577
- Macedonia Baptist Church** — 169 County Rd 719, 75964 — 936.564.3148
- Martinsville Baptist Church** — 10892 FM 95, 75961 — 936.554.1344
- Miracle Tabernacle** — 3214 E Main Street, 75961 — 936.4624.8575
- Mosaic Church | Nacogdoches** — 2603 SE Stallings Drive, 75961 — 936.615.3199
- Mt Moriah Baptist Church** — 1413 Powers Street, 75964 — 936.564.3058
- Mt-Zion Baptist Church** — 3767 SE Stallings Drive, 75961 — 936.554.7294
- Nacogdoches Bible Fellowship** — 2220 E Main Street, 75961 — 936.569.7077
- Nacogdoches Christian Fellowship** — 1701 E Main Street, 75961 — 936.560.1948
- Nacogdoches Community Church / Victory Fellowship** — 1907 Stallings Drive N, 75964 — 936.569.2720
- Nacogdoches First Church of the Nazarene** — 211 SE Stallings Drive, 75964 — 936.305.5351
- Nacogdoches Korean Baptist Church** — 1711 South Street, 75964 — 972.632.0560
- Nacogdoches Seventh-day Adventist Church** — 4407 Old Tyler Rd, 75964 — 936.564.1905
- New Birth Fellowship Church** — 2910 E Main Street, 75961 — 936.569.7334
- New Creation Nations Christian Center** — 3806 NW Stallings Drive, 75964
- New Hope Baptist Church** — 819 Ritchie Street, 75961 — 936.225.8580
- New Hope Methodist Church** — 5301 E Main Street, 75961 — 936.564.7693
- New Life Christian Fellowship** — 4111 FM 1878, 75965 — 936.674.7339
- North Street Church of Christ** — 3914 North Street, 75965 — 936.564.2471
- Northpointe Church of God** — 3900 Appleby Sand Rd, 75965 — 936.560.2358
- Northwood Baptist Church** — 3224 NE Stallings Drive, 75965 — 936.564.2969
- Oak Grove Baptist Church** — 2603 SE Stallings Drive, 75961 — 936.569.0756
- Old North Baptist Church** — 332 County Rd 205, 75965
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church** — 4401 Old Lufkin Rd, 75964 — 936.560.3506
- Pine Flat CME Church** — 899 FM 3228, 75961 — 936.564.4224
- Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church** — 4922 FM 2864, 75965 — 936.559.5445
- Power Of The Word** — 1501 Industrial Drive, 75964
- Redeemer Lutheran Church** — 2306 Appleby Sand Rd, 75965 — 936.564.6729
- Redemption Baptist Church** — 3716 South Street, 75964 — 936.414.6777
- Rey De Reyes Iglesia Cristiana** — 1705 SW Stallings Drive, 75964 — 936.462.8008
- Rock Springs Church** — 203 County Rd 819, 75964
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church** — 2508 Appleby Sand Rd, 75965 — 936.564.7807
- Sandy Ridge Church** — 75964
- Saint Paisios the Athonite Orthodox Christian Mission** — 614 E Starr Ave, 75961 — 936.622.0622
- Saints Temple Church of God in Christ** — 2604 Ellis Street, 75964 — 936.560.3506
- Shady Grove Baptist Church** — 2548 FM 2112, 75961 — 936.560.2721
- Shawnee Church of Christ** — 612 Shawnee Street, 75961 — 936.564.2103
- Southside Church of Christ** — 3738 S Fredonia Street, 75964 — 936.559.1800
- Stallings Drive Baptist Church** — 728 SE Stallings Drive, 75964 — 936.564.2075
- Star Hope Baptist Church** — 2305 Looneyville Rd, 75964 — 936.564.1369
- St James Baptist Church** — 2633 Canyon Street, 75964 — 936.564.7887
- St Mary's Chapel** — 215 College Street, 75965 — 936.564.0661
- St Matthew Church** — 2720 Matthew Street, 75964
- St Paul's Methodist Church** — 601 Moore Street, 75961 — 936.564.3585
- Stonewall Fellowship Church** — 1303 S University Drive, 75961 — 936.587.9895
- Sunset Galilee Missionary Baptist Church** — 1609 S Rayburn Drive, 75961 — 936.564.3853
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints** — 3307 Center Rd, 75961 — 936.564.0687
- The Citizen Nac** — 108 N Lanana Street, 75961 — 936.237.6395
- Timber Creek Church** — 3801 North Street, 75965 — 936.632.3540
- Trawick Presbyterian Church** — 4410 SH 204, 75964 — 254.702.0100
- Union Cross Missionary Baptist Church** — 2905 Old Tyler Rd, 75964 — 936.564.9838
- University Church** — 2505 North Street, 75965 — 936.205.3100
- Vineyard Church** — 4140 FM 1878, 75961 — 936.564.4600
- Westminster Presbyterian Church** — 903 North Street, 75961 — 936.564.0203
- Westside Missionary Baptist Church** — 3109 Durst Street, 75964 — 936.564.0713
- Woden United Pentecostal Church** — 136 Rankin Rd, 75961 — 936.560.2733
- Zion Hill First Baptist Church** — 324 N Lanana Street, 75961



ASLEEP

AT THE WHEEL

7 P.M. Thursday, April 16, 2026

Pines Theatre

113 S. First St. - Lufkin

Tickets: AngelinaArts.org
or 936.633.5454

COMMUNITY NEWS ITEMS



VFW DANCE

**Every Saturday Night!
7 pm - 11 pm
\$15.00 Admission**

VFW POST #3893
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**Now accepting Credit Cards
and Debit Cards for
admission and at the bar.**

Open to the public - No membership required!

APRIL 2026 BLOOD DRIVES

- **St. Luke's Health Memorial Livingston - Monday, April 13th** from 9am to 1:30pm in the Community Conference Center.
- **St. Luke's Health Memorial Lufkin - Wednesday, April 22nd** from 11am to 5pm in Community Rooms A & B.

Appointments are preferred. Walk-ins welcome.

FREE MEAL

What: Free meal, water, coffee for anyone. Free Bibles and bags available.

When: April 12, 2026, Sunday

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 or later

Where: 102 North Street, Nacogdoches. Johnson Furniture loading dock.

Why: To show the love of Jesus.

We will have this every second Sunday of each month.

This month's meal will be chicken spaghetti, corn, salad, bread and a dessert.

We will also offer beef hotdogs and chips.

It doesn't matter who you are, if you want or need a meal, stop by.

If you would like prayer, we will pray with you.

"Friends of Jesus" event.

Friends of the Mt Enterprise Library Fundraiser

Join us for an evening with actor Brad Maule for a presentation about General Sam Houston.

Saturday, April 18th, 2026 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church Life and Learning Center

210 N Railroad Ave, Mt. Enterprise, TX 75681

All proceeds benefit the Mt Enterprise Library Summer Reading Program for children.

Baked potato dinner and homemade desserts plus a silent auction. \$10 per adult; \$5 for children ages 5 to 10; Children under 5 will be free.

NACOGDOCHES SHRINERS



SHARON TEMPLE

The Nacogdoches Shrine Club Building is available for event rentals.

We can accommodate 250 people.

Tables and chairs available.

Large paved parking lot.

208 CR 703 • Nacogdoches, TX 75964

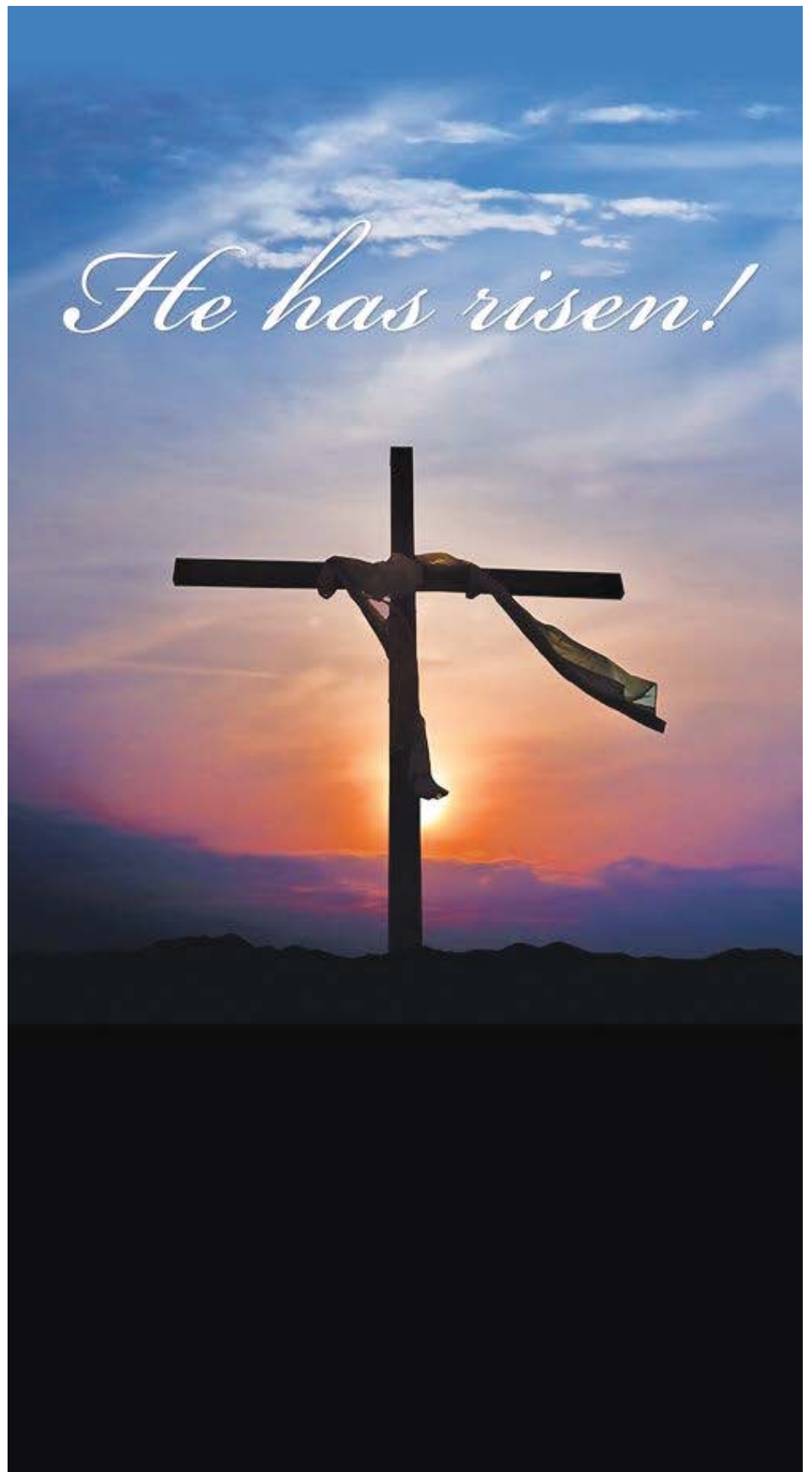
Rental Managers:
Michael and Leshia Harrell

936-404-1776

We are seeking new members!

Shrine Contacts:

Robert Parrish 936-645-2883 cell; 936-560-4881 home
Calvin Taylor 936-591-1580



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.**

Lufkin Church Directory

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204 E Front St
Corrigan, TX 75939
936-398-4141

www.carrowayfuneralhome.com

- Allentown United Pentecostal Church** — 4166 FM 843, 75904 — 972.921.6533
Angelina Church of Christ — 2213 Tulane Drive, 75901 — 936.634.4555
Angel of Joy Lutheran Church — 4003 Daniel McCall Drive, 75904 — 936.632.4777
Believers' Bible Church — 408 S Medford Drive, 75901 — 936.632.3818
Bethel Assembly of God Church — 3863 Ted Trout Drive, 75904 — 936.875.2444
Bountiful Blessings Ministries — 5730 SH 103W, 75904 — 936.671.0996
Breath of Life United Fellowship Of Churches Int'l — 1202 Cain Street, 75904 — 609.851.8541
Canaan Missionary Baptist Church — 1313 Paul Ave, 75901 — 936.632.5683
Carpenter's Way Church — 400 N John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.632.6599
Central Church of Christ — 711 N Second Street, 75901
Chestnut Drive Baptist Church — 1701 S Chestnut Street, 75901 — 972.632.1568
Christ Congregational Church — 105 Saddle Creek Drive, 75904 — 936.634.2009
Church At Lufkin — 205 Joyce Lane, 75901 — 936.632.6185
Church in the Park — Kiwanis Park Drive, 75901
Church of Christ — 2906 Atkinson Drive, 75901 — 936.632.1233
Church of Christ — 401 E Groesbeck Ave, 75901 — 936.634.7515
Church of Christ — 910 Oquinn Ave, 75904 — 936.632.3601
Church of the Living God — 212 S Garvan Street, 75901 — 936.632.4141
Church of the Living God — 613 Culverhouse Street, 75904 — 936.632.5144
City Church Lufkin — 711 N Second Street, 75901 — 936.632.3844
Collins Chapel CME Church — 801 Rowe Ave, 75904 — 936.637.2610
Covenant Presbyterian Church — 1303 E Denman Ave, 75901 — 936.637.6043
Cross Road Baptist Church — 5714 Old Union Rd, 75904 — 936.875.2810
Cross Timbers Cowboy Church — 4977 US 69, 75904 — 936.632.2535
Denman Avenue Baptist Church — 1807 E Denman Ave, 75901 — 936.634.6691
Dunn Chapel Church — 1212 Bethlehem Rd, 75904 — 936.637.3770
Eastview United Pentecostal Church — 1407 N Medford Drive, 75901 — 936.632.3525
Emanuel Assembly of God Church — 1818 N Timberland Drive, 75901 — 936.634.2483
Fairview Baptist Church — 3742 FM 2108, 75901 — 936.637.1466
Faith Family Church — 7020 US 59, 75901 — 936.632.8275
First Baptist Church Lufkin — 106 E Bremond Ave, 75901 — 936.634.3386
First Christian Church — 1300 S First Street, Suite 1, 75901 — 936.634.8341
First Church of the Nazarene — 1604 S Medford Drive, 75901 — 936.634.9443
First Lutheran Church — 1001 Atkinson Drive, 75901 — 936.634.7468
First Presbyterian Church — 607 Janeway Ave, 75904 — 936.634.3711
First United Methodist Church of Lufkin — 805 E Denman Ave, 75901 — 936.639.3141
First United Pentecostal Church — 3200 S Medford Drive, 75901 — 936.634.3515
Free Spirit Church — 610 Cain Street, 75904 — 936.639.6515
Fuller Springs Missionary Baptist Church — 5003 Fuller Springs Drive, 75901
Godtel Ministries — 323 Moody Street, 75901 — 936.637.2520
Goodwill Baptist Church — 812 E Lufkin Ave, 75901 — 936.634.7832
Grace Tabernacle Church — 408 Henderson Street, 75904 — 936.634.4589
Greater Shilo Baptist Church — 600 Weaver Ave, 75904 — 936.632.3630
Greater Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church — 1519 Williams Street, 75904 — 936.632.3629
Harbor Light Church — 109 Jones Street, 75901
Harmony Hill Baptist Church — 2708 S Chestnut Street, 75901 — 936.632.1350
Harvest Family Worship Center — 4176 FM 2251, 75904
Heritage Baptist Church — 1910 S John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.632.8188
Hillcrest Baptist Church — 2005 Ford Chapel Rd, 75901 — 936.634.3419
Homer Methodist Church — 5265 FM 326, 75901
Impact Outreach Ministries — 440 FM 2021, 75901 — 936.632.2611
Keltys First Baptist Church — 2402 N John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.634.4019
Keltys United Methodist Church — 1867 Old Mill Rd, 75904 — 936.634.3950
La Vina Church — 516 Montrose Street, 75901 — 936.366.1821
LifeGate Church — 2511 E Lufkin Ave, 75901 — 936.632.1517
LifePoint Church — 4737 Ted Trout Drive, 75904 — 936.634.6674
Little Flock Baptist Church — 2769 FM 1475, 75901 — 936.824.3633
Long Chapel CME Church — 514 Lining Street, 75901 — 936.634.4049
Loop 287 Church of Christ — 1911 S John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.212.0605
Lufkin First Missionary Baptist Church — 410 Scarborough Street, 75904 — 936.632.2426
Lufkin Seventh-day Adventist Church — 1209 S John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.639.1898
Memorial Baptist Church — 904 N John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.634.9288
Monastery of the Infant Jesus — 1501 Lotus Lane, 75904 — 936.634.4233
Mt Calvary Baptist Church — 208 Calvary Street, 75904 — 936.634.6266
Mt Carmel Baptist Church — 595 Mt Carmel Rd, 75904 — 936.875.2218
Mt Zion Baptist Church — 4303 FM 842, 75901 — 936.632.6447
New Beginning Baptist Church — 1002 Pershing Ave, 75904 — 936.699.7729
New Life Church of Lufkin — 4707 FM 843, 75904
New Life Church on the Rock — 4333 SH 103, 75904 — 936.632.2678
New Zion Temple of Deliverance, Inc — 1202 Cain Street, 75904 — 936.634.6759
Our Father's House of Faith — 518 S 3rd Street, 75901 — 936.639.9431
Overcomers Through Faith — 202 Forest Park Blvd, 75901 — 936.632.8149
Parkview Baptist Church — 111 Parkview Circle, 75904 — 936.634.6717
Peaceful Rest Baptist Church — 105 Fair Street, 75904 — 936.634.5700
Promise Land Baptist Church — 208 Whitehouse Drive, 75901 — 936.639.9633
Providence Baptist Church — 4423 Ted Trout Drive, 75904 — 936.875.2613
Redland Baptist Church — 234 Redland Church Rd, 75904 — 936.634.7437
Solid Rock Church — 3476 SH 103, 75904 — 936.639.8808
Southside Baptist Church — 1615 Tulane Drive, 75901 — 936.632.3292
St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church — 1611 Feagin Drive, 75904 — 936.632.9100
Timber Creek Church — 2021 S John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.632.3540
The Foundry Assembly of God — 1405 S Chestnut Street, 75901 — 936.634.1444
St Patrick's Catholic Church — 2118 Lowry Street, 75901 — 936.634.6833
St Cyprian's Episcopal Church — 919 S John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.639.1253
St Paul's United Methodist Church — 1505 S John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.634.7810
St Thomas Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church — 2112 N Timberland Drive, 75901
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints — 606 Bending Oak Street, 75904
The River Lufkin — 617 S Bynum Street, 75904
The River Lufkin, A Church For Whosoever — 105 Holmes Rd, 75904 — 936.632.7407
Timber Creek Church — 2021 S John Redditt Drive, 75904 — 936.632.3540
Timberland Drive Church of Christ — 912 S Timberland Drive, 75901, 75901 — 936.634.7110
Timberland Unitarian Universalist Fellowship — 1510 N Timberland Drive, 75901 — 936.208.7955
Trinity Baptist Church — 1641 FM 325, 75901 — 972.632.8450
Union Road Church of Christ — 3504 Old Union Rd, 75904 — 936.634.4144
United Pentecostal Church — 4109 S First Street, 75901 — 936.632.7718
Warren Temple True Light Church — 405 S Warren Street, 75901 — 936.634.4637
West End Church-God In Christ — 2014 Cairo Street, 75904 — 936.634.7807
Woods Memorial Temple Church — 230 Leach Street, 75904 — 936.632.9701
Word of Life Church — 1407 Ellis Ave, 75904 — 936.639.2000

Shelby County Church Directory

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Arcadia Church of Christ — 75935
Blount Chapel Baptist Church — 298 CR 3760, 75935 — 936.598.5362
(Temporarily Closed)
Bright Morning Baptist Church — 623 Martin Luther King Drive, 75935 — 936.598.4560
Called Out Church — 1077 Southview Circle, 75935 — 936.598.2333
Carroll's Chapel CME Church — 302 FM 2694, 75935 — 936.598.2260
Central Baptist Church — 909 Cora Street, 75935 — 936.598.3642
Center Christian Church — SH 87, 75935 — 936.598.2645
Center Christian Fellowship — 75935
Center Church of Christ — 110 Hurst Street, 75935 — 936.598.2945
Center Church of the Nazarene — 400 Hurst Street, 75935 — 936.598.3785
Center First Pentecostal Church — 610 Hurst Street, 75935 — 936.598.3646
Center Missionary Baptist Church — 443 Moffett Drive, 75935
Clever Creek Baptist Church — 199 CR 1042 at FM 417 West, 75935
CME Church Lanetown — 3709 FM 711, 75935 — 936.288.0434
East Liberty Church — 75935
First Baptist Church — 117 Cora Street, 75935 — 936.598.5605
First Christian Church — 124 Cora Street, 75935 — 936.598.3512
First Methodist Church — 211 Porter Street, 75935 — 936.598.2707
First Pentecostal Church-Jesus — 480 FM 2026, 75935 — 936.598.4276
Good Hope Church — 75935
Heritage Baptist Church — 1001 Tenaha Street, 75935 — 936.332.0310
Hillcrest Baptist Church — 901 Southview Circle, 75935 — 936.598.2704
HORAM — 205 Church Street, 75935
House of Refuge Ministries — 215 Church Street, 75935 — 936.591.8941
Iglesia Apostolic de la Fe en Cristo Jesus — 176 US 96, 75935 — 9156.706.6236
Iglesia Bautista Misionera Getsemani — 204 Travis Street, 75935 — 936.634.8341
James Church of Christ — 4873 SH 7, 75935
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses-Center — 3751 Loop 500 E, 75935
Lone Star Baptist Church — 2026 SH 87 S, 75935 — 936.598.5396
Loop 500 Church of Christ — 3216 Loop 500, 75935 — 409.382.0535
McClelland Community Church — 733 CR 2571, 75935
Mt Zion CME Church — Martin Luther King Drive, 75935 — 936.598.4059
Neuville Baptist Church — 1258 FM 2140, 75935
New Hope Church — 1986 FM 2974, 75935 — 936.598.3500
New Life Church — 822 Hurst Street, 75935 — 936.598.3286
North Jericho Church — 335 CR 3671, 75935
Northside Church of Christ — 192 US 96, 75935 — 936.332.9872
Open Door Baptist Church — 900 Cotton Ford Rd, 75935 — 936.590.9454
Primera Iglesia Bautista — 615 Loop 500, 75935
Providence Missionary Baptist Church — 1129 CR 1265, 75935 — 318.230.1415
Revival Tabernacle — 2398 SH 87 N, 75935 — 936.280.4790
Sardis Pentecostal Family Life — 430 CR 3054, 75935 — 936.598.5010
Shelby County Outreach — 906 Shelbyville Street, 75935 — 936.598.4990
Southview Family Church — 1229 Southview Circle, 75935
Stepstones Ministry International — 101 Hurst Street, 75935 — 254.718.5040
St Johns Baptist Church — 2308 CR 2050, 75935 — 936.598.4769
St John's Episcopal Church — 1063 Southview Circle, 75935 — 936.598.4101
St Paul Missionary Baptist Church — 617 Hopkins Street, 75935
St Therese Catholic Church — 717 FM 2974, 75935 — 936.505.8402
The Luke Church, Inc. at San Augustine Texas — 1110 Tenaha Street, Suite 2, 75935 — 936.679.2060
Todd Spring Baptist Church — Old San Augustine Hwy, 75935 — 936.591.0300
Triumph Church — 908 Daniels Street, 75935 — 936.598.8982

JOAQUIN:

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church — 13127 SH 7, 75954
FBC Haslam — 154 CR 3590, 75954 — 936.269.3587
First Baptist Church — 100 Connell Ferry Rd, 75954 — 936.269.3582
Friendship Baptist Church — 6796 US 84, 75954 — 936.269.4056

Friendship Missionary Baptist — 140 CR 3569, 75954 — 936.269.3132
Hosanna Full Gospel Church — 7619 SH 198, 75954 — 903.848.0737
Jackson Missionary Baptist Church — 11120 SH 7, 75954 — 936.269.3370
Joaquin United Methodist Church — 105 Faulkville Rd, 75954 — 936.269.3661
Lone Cedar Church — 75954
The Pentecostals of Joaquin — 11113 SH 7, 75954 — 936.269.4245
Willow Grove Community Church — 4635 CR 3790, 75954 — 936.269.4756
Word of Faith Outreach Center — 12413 SH 7, 75954 — 936.269.4133

SHELBYVILLE:

Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church — 674 CR 2582, 75973 — 936.368.7195
East Hamilton Church — 7325 FM 2261, 75973
Ephesus Church — 75973 — 936.332.4001
First Baptist Church of Shelbyville — 5030 SH 87 S, 75973 — 936.598.7348
Lone Star Church — 75973
Lydia Missionary Baptist Church — 14998 FM 139, 75973 — 936.368.2462
Patroon Baptist Church — 310 FM 2261, 75973 — 936.275.2977
Shelbyville Methodist Church — 252 FM 417, 75973 — 936.598.7388
Smyrna Church — 177 CR 2450, 75973 — 936.368.2457
Toleda Bend Baptist Mission — 2543 FM 3172, 75973 — 936.368.7252

TENAHA:

Benford Chapel Baptist Church — 126 Martin Luther King Street, 75974 — 936.248.2916
Bobo Church — 1411 CR 4648, 75974
Bright Morning Star Baptist — RR 2, 75974 — 936.248.3002
First Baptist Church — 200 S George Bowers Drive, 75974 — 936.248.3207
House of Prayer Church and Campground — 526 CR 4356, 75974 — 936.332.3087
Iglesia Bautista El Olam — 2998 US 84, 75974
Iglesia Bautista Monte Sinai — 200 Towneast Rd, 75974 — 936.248.3075
Iglesia Nueva Esperanza — 8001 US 96, 75974
International Missionary — 645 CR 4356, 75974 — 936.591.9112
Old Center Baptist Church — 7086 FM 699, 75974 — 936.248.2796
Old Home Church — 75974
Pleasant Hill Church — 2010 FM 2660, 75974
Ramah Church — 75974 — 936.248.6432
St John Missionary Baptist Church — 102 Booker T. Washington Drive, 75974 — 936.248.2999
Tenaha United Methodist Church — US 84, 75974 — 936.248.2246
Woods New Hope Baptist Church — 120 CR 425, 75974
Woods United Methodist Church — 75974

TIMPSON:

Buena Vista Missionary Baptist — 1943 FM 1645, 75975 — 936.254.3235
Clayton Temple Church of God — Francis Street, 75975 — 936.254.9898
Corinth Baptist Church — FM 1979, 75975
Countryside Cowboy Church — 408 US 59, 75975
County Line Baptist Church — RR 2 Box 97, 75975 — 903.898.2499
East Texas Baptist Family Ministry — 75975 — 903.822.3474
Epiphany Catholic Mission — 3072 US 59, 75975 — 936.254.9662
First Christian Church — 811 N 2nd Street, 75975 — 936.254.3389
Good Hope Baptist Church — 1813 FM 2667, 75975 — 936.254.9294
Messiah Baptist Church — 459 Ross Graves Drive, 75975 — 936.254.3702
Mount Olive Church — 75975
Pleasant Grove Church — 1440 CR 1470, 75975
Smith Chapel Baptist Church — 919 CR 4704, 75975
Smyrna Baptist Church — 100 Francis Street, 75975 — 936.254.3613
Timpson First Assembly of God — 652 Houston Street, 75975 — 936.254.3178
Timpson First Baptist Church — 715 N 2nd Street, 75975 — 936.254.2220
Timpson First Methodist Church — 312 Austin Street, 75975 — 936.254.3428
Timpson Missionary Baptist Church — 2142 US 59, 75975 — 903.692.0716
Weaver Church — 75901
Woodland Christian Church — 220 US 59, 75975 — 936.254.2894

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ANGELINA COUNTY

In the City of Lufkin

Angelina Manufactured Housing - 3907 N. Medford Dr.
 Big's - 2400 E. Denman Ave.
 Big's - 1902 W. Frank Ave. (Hwy 94)
 Big's - 3889 Hwy 69N
 Big's - 3122 Adkinson Dr. (Hwy 103E)
 Big's - 4609 Hwy 103E
 Big's - 620 N. Raguett
 Big's Valero - 1910 N. Timberland
 Big's Texaco - 1203 S. Chestnut St.
 Bodacious BBQ - 2207 W. Frank Ave. (Hwy 94)
 Brookshire Brothers - 301 S. Chestnut
 Brookshire Brothers Gaslight Plaza - 1807 W. Frank Ave.
 Brookshire Brothers Express - 2106 S. 1st St.
 Casa Morales Mexican Restaurant - 1001 S. 1st St.
 Catfish King - 806 S. Medford Dr.
 Chen's - 302 S. Timberland Dr.
 Cherry's Grocery & Valero - 2701 N. Raguett
 Crown Colony Shell/Snappy's - 101 Champion Dr.
 Food Mart Exxon - 612 Frank Ave.
 Food Mart Exxon - 6480 Hwy 69S
 JR Food Mart - 1114 E. Denman Ave.
 Lone Star Charlie's Family Restaurant - 1910 E. Denman Ave.
 Lucky's Valero - 1707 N. John Redditt Dr.
 Maytag Laundry - 601 S. 1st
 Mexico Express - 1603 W. Frank Ave. (Hwy 94W)
 Mom's Diner - 420 W. Frank Ave.
 Napoli's Restaurant - 107 W. Lufkin Ave.
 On the Road - 4110 S. 1st St.
 On the Road - 3503 S. Chestnut.
 On the Road - 2909 E. Denman Ave (Hwy 69S)
 On the Road - 3049 Hwy 103 W
 Pelican Pointe Cajun Kitchen - 1302 N. John Redditt Dr.
 Ralph and Kacoo's - 3107 S. 1st (Hwy 59S)
 Ray's Drive In - 420 N. Timberland Dr.
 Shell Food Mart - 3008 Adkinson Dr. (Hwy 103E)
 Sleep Inn/MainStay Suites - 2409 N. Timberland Dr.
 Stringer's Lufkin Barbecue - 203 S. Chestnut St.
 Tia Juanita's Fish Camp - 3102 S. John Redditt Dr.
 Timberland Chevron - 804 N. Timberland Dr.
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 Walgreens - 102 N. Timberland Dr.
 Walgreens - 1000 W. Frank Ave.
 Wash & Dry Washateria - 114 E. Laurel Ave.
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In Diboll:

Brookshire Brothers - 221 N. Temple Dr. (U.S. Hwy 59)
 Diboll Depot - 1605 N. Temple Dr. (U.S. Hwy 59)
 On The Road - 1580 N. Temple Dr. (US Hwy 59)

In Homer:

Homer Mini Grocery - 7075 Hwy 69S

In Hudson:

Brookshire Brothers Express - 5750 Ted Trout Dr. (Hwy 94W)
 Brookshire Brothers Express - 6564 Ted Trout Dr. (Hwy 94W)

In Huntington:

Brookshire Brothers - 885-A Hwy 69S
 Little Boots Grocery & Chevron - 101 Hwy 69S
 Papa's Pit & More - 501 N. Main St.

In Pollok:

Brookshire Brothers/Polk's - 6925 Hwy 69N

In Redland:

JOC Stop Exxon - 5389 US Hwy 59N

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY

In the City of Nacogdoches:

Appleby Sand Mercantile Cafe' - 6530 FM 2609
 Appleby Sand Depot - 3023 Appleby Sand Rd.
 Arbor - 3002 Westward Dr.
 Auntie Pastas - 211 Old Tyler Road
 Barbecue House - 704 N. Stallings Dr.
 Barkeeps - 3308 North St.
 Big's - 2430 SE Stallings Dr.
 Big's - 540 NE Stallings Dr.
 Blue Eyed Coco's Market Square - 412 E. Main St.
 Boatman Tire & Service - 315 N. University Dr.
 Boles Feed - 913 South St.
 Brendyn's BBQ - 601 E. Main St.
 Brookshire Brothers - 1402 N. University Dr.
 Brookshire Brothers - 1216 South St.
 Brown Family Health Center - 1407 E. Main St.
 Buckle Up Insurance - 1122 N. University Drive - Suite 119
 Butcher Boy's - 603 North St.
 Cataract, Glaucoma & Retina Consultants - 3302 NE Stallings Dr.
 CC's Smokehouse - 2709 Westward Dr.
 Chamber of Commerce - 2516 North St.
 Charles Pool Real Estate - 3505 North St..
 Chevron - 3228 North St.
 Chique-n-Tiques on Main - 409 E. Main St.
 CiCi's Pizza - 3801 North St. - Suite 19
 Claw Daddy's Market - 3322 Center Hwy
 Clear Springs - 211 Old Tyler Rd.
 Coldwell-Banker Blueberry Realty - 112 E. Main St.
 Copy Center Nac - 2618 North St.
 Days Inn and Suites by Wyndham - 2724 North St;
 Doches Credit Union - 920 NW Stallings Dr. @ Hwy 21W
 Dr. Ronnie Hancock Family Dentistry - 1302 Raguett St.
 El Rancho Restaurant - 123 King St.
 El Taco Salsa - 4512 North St.
 Exxon - 3104 N. University Dr.
 Farmers State Bank - 3540 NE Stallings Dr.
 Fitness 360 - 4822 N. University Dr.
 G & G Lock & Safe - 916 Park St.
 Gound Chevrolet - 1015 North Street
 Granary Health Foods - 4411 South St.
 Guacamole's - 1315 North St.
 H & Z Valero - 1626 N. University Dr.
 Herman Power Tire - 222 South St.
 HoneyBee Health Foods - 3801 North St. - Suite 17
 Hop In/Roady's Chevron - 4919 NW Stallings Dr.
 Hotel Fredonia - 200 N. Fredonia St.
 Independence Manor - 1501 Pruitt Hill Dr.
 Java Jack's - 1122 North Street
 Johnson Furniture - 106 E. Main
 K.J.'s Convenience Store/Exxon - 5713 South St.
 Kinfolks - 4817 NW Stallings Dr.
 Kline's Wrap-It-Up - 628 N. University Dr.
 Kroger - 3205 N. University Dr.
 Kyle Brasher Insurance - 212 South St.
 Lehmann Eye Center - 5300 North St.
 Linda's Cutting Edge - 2211 S. University Dr.
 Loblolly Properties, LLC - 1326 N. University Dr. - Suite 101
 Lone Star Farm & Home Center - 608 W. Main St.
 M & S Pharmacy - 917 E. Austin St.
 Ma's Jewelry - 2423 North St.
 Martin Kennel - 512 CR 217
 McCoy's Building Materials - 4009 NW Stallings Dr.
 Meadow Ridge Outdoors - 1090 CR 231
 Memory Lane - 3205 N. University Dr. - Suite F
 Mike Perry Motors - 3812 South St.
 Mike's BBQ - 1622 South St.
 NacBurger - 3205 N. University Dr.
 Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative - 320 North St - Suite 307.
 Nacogdoches CVB - 200 E. Main St.
 Nacogdoches Senior Center - 1601 W. Austin St.
 Napoli's Restaurant - 2119 North St.
 Nikki Evans-Wallace State Farm Insurance - 332 N. University Dr.

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY

In the City of Nacogdoches

On The Road Valero - 1304 NW Stallings Dr.
 Papi's Mexican Restaurant - 422 E. Main St.
 Perry Propane - 6500 Franklin St
 Pike Saw & Tool - 2502 NW Stallings Dr.
 Pineywoods Financial - 303 Creek Bend Blvd - Suite B
 R & K Distributors - 6821 North St.
 Red House Winery - 108 E. Pilar St.
 Renfro's Glass - 714 North St.
 Rick's Valero/Dickies BBQ - 3505 South St.
 Roma's Italian Kitchen - 124 E. Main St.
 Sam's Southern Eatery - 1220 North St.
 Simpson Real Estate - 104 North St.
 Sombreros - 3000 North St..
 Sunshine Food Mart - 2013 North St.
 Taquitos El Jaliscience - 3217 North St.
 Taqueria El 21 - 1422 Douglass Road
 Texas State Optical - 4729 NE Stallings Dr.
 Thrall's Grocery, Deli & Cafe' - 7144 Hwy 21 East
 VIP Cleaners - 4515 North St. - Suite 1
 Walmart - 4810 North St.
 Windhill Apartments - 1324 Pruitt Hill Dr.
 Woden Rd. Qwik Stop - 2500 Woden Rd

In Appleby:

Gimme's Exxon - 14542 North U.S. Hwy 59
 Stuckey's - 14084 North U.S. Hwy 59

In Central Heights:

Brookshire Brother's Express - 9855 U.S. Hwy 259 North
 Central Heights Depot/Whataburger - 10175 U.S Hwy 259 North

In Garrison:

Bulldog Express/J & S Food Mart - 381 N U.S. Hwy 59
 Garrison Gas & Convenience Store Exxon - 432 N U.S. Hwy 59

In Martinsville:

L & M Quick Stop - 13101 Hwy 7

In Woden:

Dollar General Store - 5130 FM 226

SHELBY COUNTY

In the City of Center:

Boles Feed Co. - 101 Porter St.
 Boyd Adams Barber Shop - 424 U.S. Hwy 96N
 Brookshire Brothers - 105 Hurst St.
 Covington Lumber & Bldg Materials - 1595 Tenaha St.
 Farmers State Bank - 115 Shelbyville St.
 H & S Discount Foods - 705 Shelbyville St..
 Rancho Grande - 816 Tenaha St.
 ReSale Mall - 730 Shelbyville St.
 Shelby County Chamber of Commerce - 100 Courthouse Square A-101
 T/R's Steaks & More - 892 Hurst St.

In Huxley:

Trail's End Grocery & RV Park - 5437 FM 3172

In Joaquin:

Bink's Joaquin Quick Stop - 12762 U.S. Hwy 84
 Brookshire Brothers - 113 Haslam Sawmill Rd. - Hwy 84

In Shelbyville:

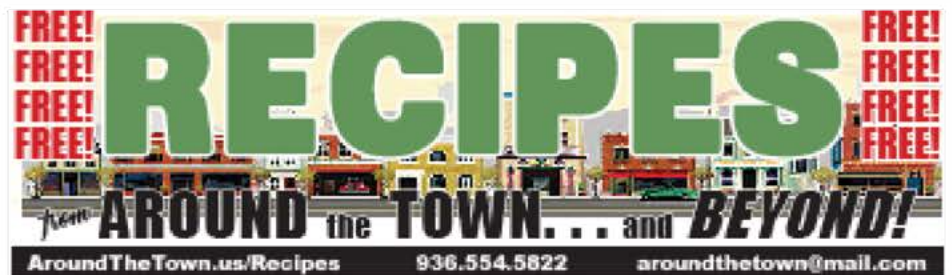
Shelbyville Grocery and Valero - 5270 Hwy 87S

In Tenaha

Bink's Quick Stop - 300 S. George Bowers Dr. (Hwy 59)

In Timpson:

Bink's Timpson Quick Stop - 674 N. 1st St. - Hwy 59
 Brookshire Brothers- 829 N. 1st St. - Hwy 59
 Tie & Timber Lodge & Event Center - 397 Jacob St.



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