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AUGUST 2021

Texas Country Music Hall of Fame Events Set for August 13-15 in Carthage

The 24th Annual Classic Country Music Festival weekend will be presented August 13-15 in Carthage, Texas. The weekend celebrates our country music heritage and friends gather from all over to help celebrate and to visit the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. In 1993, the Chamber of Commerce opened Tex Ritter Museum in the top floor of the chamber office, a two story antebellum home built in 1914.



Moe Bandy

Seely, Moe Bandy, T. G. Sheppard, Mandy Barnett, Janie Fricke, Bailey Rae, Gina Hamilton and the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame Band. The event is hosted by Sirius XM Radio's Dallas Wayne. The hall of fame also conducts a contest in conjunction with the weekend activities called the John Ritter Tribute Showcase. This allows young people the opportunity to compete, learn from some of the best in the business, and make contacts that can help their career. The museum is located at 310 W. Panola in Carthage.

Hall of Fame inductees include: Joe Allison, Gene Autry, Cindy Walker, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Bill Mack, Hank Thompson, Ernest Tubb, Dale Evans, Charlie Walker, Bob Wills, Stuart Hamblen, Ray Price, Billy Walker, Nat

In 1997, a charter from the State of Texas was granted to form the official Texas Country Music Hall of Fame Museum. In 2002, the museum moved into a new 13,000 square foot, 2 million dollar building built by the City of Carthage to house the museum. In 2015, another 3,000 sq. ft. expansion was added. The ceremony for the induction of the honorees is held the second Saturday of the month of August. This year's show is set for August 14, 2021, featuring Jeannie

Stuckey, Gene Watson, Tanya Tucker, Lefty Frizzell, Johnny Bush, Kris Kristofferson, Mac Davis, Johnny Lee, J.P. Richardson, Jimmy Dean, Roger Miller, Glenn Sutton, Johnny Gimble, The Gatlin Brothers, Billy Joe Shaver, Red Steagall, Johnny Rodriguez, Bob Luman, Mickey Newbury, Buck Owens, The Whites, Linda Davis, Michael Martin Murphey, Neal McCoy, Al Dexter, Ray Winkler, George Jones, Mickey Gilley, Moe Bandy, Duane Allen, The Oak Ridge Boys, Tracy Byrd, Clint Black, Kenny Rogers, Bobbie Lee Nelson, Leon Rasuch, Chuck Wagon Gang, Claude Gray, Rodney Crowell, and Jeannie C. Riley.

Weekend activities include:

Thursday, August 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Hayride kickoff show with Dusty Boots Band & Scott Hampton Esquire Theater, tickets \$8.00 Adults, \$4.00 Child at door

Friday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m.

John Ritter Tribute Showcase talent contest finals

Tickets \$15.00 In advance –

Chamber of Commerce; \$20.00 at the door

Special guests – Moore & Moore & Scott Hampton

Saturday, August 14 at 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Kgas Country Music Showdown Performers vie for cash prizes – free admission

Texas Country Music Hall of Fame 2:00 P.M. – Matinee show with Southern Impact

Esquire Theater, tickets \$8.00 Adults, \$4.00 Child at the door

6:00 P.M. – TCMHOF concert featuring: Dallas Wayne – host, T.G. Sheppard, Jeannie Seely, Moe Bandy, Mandy Barnett, Janie Fricke, Bailey Rae, Gina Hamilton, Texas Country Music Hall of Fame Band



Jeannie Seely

TCMHOF - Page 3

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

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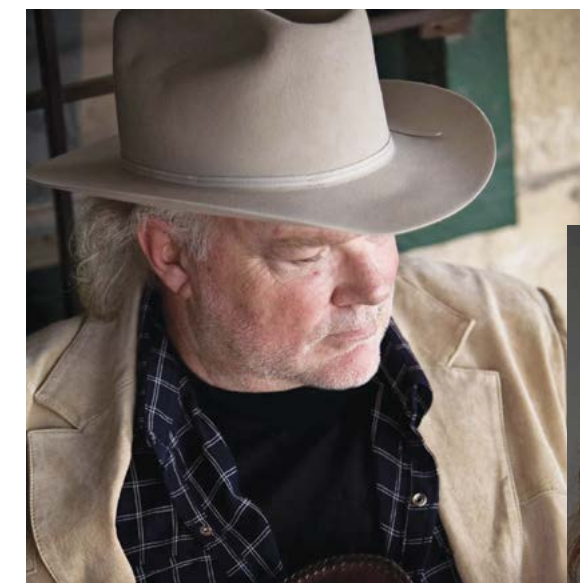
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TCMHOF

Sunday, August 15 at 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Texas Country Music Hall of Fame
Gospel at the Hall with host Randy C Moore
Special guest Gena Hamilton, others TBA
Free admission
Come by the museum and tell us goodbye – open until 1:00 p.m.

The Carthage Civic Center is located at 1702 S. Adams Street. Tickets at the Chamber of Commerce, call 903-693-6634.
Visit www.tcmhof.com for more information.



Mandy Barnett



Event Host Dallas Wayne of Sirius XM Radio



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The East Texas Sportsman's Club (ETSC) is a responsive community of hunters and anglers in the East Texas region who work to protect fish and wildlife while promoting conservation and youth education. Our mission is "to conserve wildlife and wilderness lands, to educate youth and the general pub-

lic, and to promote and protect the rights and interest of hunters."

Meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at different locations. For meeting locations and other information, please contact Marsha Find-eisen at marsha@ntsamson.com.



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Southern Bliss – A Place Where Dreams Really Can Come True

by Terri Lacher, talacher@sbcglobal.net

From the early days of playing dress-up, young people have grown up with the idea of how they see their wedding day. Some see it as a fairy-tale event leading into happily-ever-after. Once grown and ready to say "I do" they discover what a challenge it is to plan even the most simple of ceremonies. After their two daughters were married just two short months apart, Lynn and Damon Waldron realized what a huge undertaking it actually was.



"Well, that was fun," Lynn said to her husband. "But someone needs to have a venue that has everything you need." From there, Southern Bliss Weddings became a reality.

Southern Bliss, located on Highway 59 South, is the perfect place to plan a wedding. They not only provide a variety of locations both outdoors and indoors, but their wedding package includes

tables, linens, chairs, vases, antique buffets, serving pieces, table runners and much more. In addition, they can provide a list of food vendors, music, and flowers. All this is included to offer "a stress-free experience at an affordable price."

"When you book with Southern Bliss, you don't just get a beautiful venue. You are accepted into our Southern Bliss family, and we provide most of what you need in order to celebrate your special day," says Lynn and Damon.

Southern Bliss charges a flat rate for weekend weddings, which includes access to the venue. They also have a wide selection of decorations available for use on that special day. For an additional fee, they can offer catering as well.

Weddings aren't the only happenings at Southern Bliss. They have hourly rates available for showers, birthday parties, family reunions, proms, quinceañeras, corporate gatherings, and other special events.

"We love meeting all the wonderful people! I love it when I see a couple that has been married at our venue and they have started their family. Makes my heart happy," Lynn said.

Whatever your occasion, or whatever you have envisioned for your day, Southern Bliss is there to make it special. They are conveniently located in a beautiful Pineywoods setting, between Lufkin and Nacogdoches. Located at 5419 Hwy 59 S, Nacogdoches, Texas 75965, you may contact Southern Bliss at (936)366-0727 and set up an appointment to visit their facility. You can also check out their web page at southernblissweddings.com or check out their Facebook page.



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5:45-6 pm Optional Prayer

6-7:30pm Meeting

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Another Chapter in "Real Tales of the Texas Highway Patrol"

Deer Lease Encounter With Poacher, Shots Fired!

Near Goodman Bridge on the Angelina River in southern Cherokee County, January 2, 1985. An emergency (10-33) radio call to the Nacogdoches County Sheriff's Office dispatch began:

"352 TO NACOGDOCHES COUNTY SO. PLEASE NOTIFY CHEROKEE COUNTY AND ADVISE THEM I HAVE BEEN IN A SHOOTING JUST NORTH OF 1911 (Farm Road). GET SOME GAME WARDENS HEADED MY WAY. THEY NEED TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A BLUE AND WHITE FORD PICKUP TRYING TO GET OUT OUR BACK GATE ON HWY 69."

The Nacogdoches County dispatcher responded that she could not get through to Cherokee County. Veteran Nacogdoches County Justice of the Peace, Billy Gresham, asked, "352....do you want me to get you some help out of Cherokee County?" "Ten-four, Judge! All you can get!" He then called them directly on their radio frequency.

BACKGROUND:

It's Wednesday, January 2, 1985. I am three miles into Cherokee County, from the Angelina River, on a 12,500 acre Timber Company deer lease. Hunting the area since 1970, I had started providing deer lease security on it in 1983. We also patrolled another fifteen thousand acres or so in other parts of Nacogdoches and Cherokee Counties.

On this date, I was going out to check the lease and see how much activity was taking place. It should have been a quiet morning as the deer season was winding down and in its last week. I entered through a back gate and drove through to the front gate to check our "sign in" log. The lease had over 75 miles of graded roads...plus miles of jeep trails. With some two hundred members in the club, I saw that only six were signed in. On the radio I had just checked with Delbert Jones, and my brother, Norris Dudley. They both helped keep an eye on things and were also on the lease this morning. Delbert was particularly helpful as he lived only two miles from the lease. Norris, a patrol Sergeant with the Nacogdoches PD, was out there with his wife and daughter. They were in my second four wheel drive vehicle. The biggest event should have been watching deer play in the falling sleet. It was bitterly cold that morning.

Heading back into the lease from the sign in box, I had gone less than two miles when I saw a pickup coming out of a clear cut area. There was one male in it. As he got on the lease road, he continued northbound. He went a short distance and pulled over and stopped as I approached. Thinking he was a member, I walked up to say hello. As I approached the vehicle, I realized that I did not recognize him. I also saw a weapon. Standing by his window, and with his appearance indicating a logger, I told him that he was not to have a gun with him. A lever action rifle was next to his right leg. The rifle was later identified as a Marlin, lever action, .35 Remington caliber. Having recently dealt with several different loggers with rifles, it now appeared he was one.

After telling him he was not to have a rifle in the lease, he stated he was deer hunting. I asked who he was hunting with and he replied, "Mike S." I knew that that "Mike S" was not a member, but had other family members that

were. I asked where Mike was and he stated, "Mike did not come today and I am hunting his stands."

I asked for a name, he told me, and I then asked for some ID. He complied. Wanting to separate him from his rifle, I asked him to step out of the truck. My thoughts were to call State Game Warden, Don Currie, to head our way and perhaps to issue a citation for "Hunting w/o Landowner Consent." As he began to exit, he paused half way and asked, "How about letting me see some ID," I replied "sure," and reached for my left shirt pocket with my left hand. My plan was to identify as an off duty peace officer and doing deer lease security. I was quickly cut off by him grabbing his rifle and coming up with it. My immediate thought was that this did not have to turn into a shooting, and thought I could calm him. As the gun comes up, my brain had focused on three things: (1.) I knew I would have to draw and immediately begin firing, not merely cover him. (2.) Would my 9 m/m rounds immediately STOP him. And (3.) This did not have to be a shooting, as I can talk this situation down. That decision was instantly turned on its head with his actions.



Rock solid Texas State Game Warden, Don Currie, of Cherokee County. This photo was taken on a cold Sunday morning in December, 1987, after the body of a missing duck hunter had been found. We had searched by wading in a slough off the Angelina River on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. The hunter, from the Troup area, was in waist deep water and had died earlier in the week from hypothermia and drowning. He was the cousin of a neighbor and close friend. He had just started a vacation and family members did not know for several days that he was missing. Per the JP instructions, Don had pulled the body to shore for examination. Don was "Texas Tough".... and my friend.

I am still backing up at gunpoint...with him totally in control when he blurts out loud, "Its ok, y'all come on out!" Quietly, I asked if he had buddies with him and the response was priceless, "Hell Yes, and we are all crazy SOB's!" I responded, "I believe you!"

I found myself a hundred yards from our vehicles, when he then begins to back up towards them. I continued to move backward as did he. Thus, the distance between us is increasing until I am 166 yards from our vehicles. He is seventy-five yards from me and still backing up when suddenly he lowered the rifle and looked toward a clear cut. I immediately dove behind a small stump as he fires shot number three! This shot missing me by mere inches. I draw my Browning Hi Power 9mm and fire two rapid rounds at him. I remember thinking, "Now, he knows I have a gun!"

My situation:

I am in a shallow ditch with a 15 inch stump in front of me. I have a Browning 9 mm pistol and a five shot, two inch revolver. He is a football field and a half from me and he has a SCOPED DEER RIFLE...not exactly a level playing field!! I watched him run to my Blazer's driver's side door and reach in. My thoughts were that either he was going to run over me with my own truck, or shoot me with my own rifle. He then suddenly spun to the right rear of my truck, stood up, and fired his 4th round at me! Quickly, he turned and knelt down...he is not shooting so I begin! I quickly shoot 5 rounds at him. He jumps up, starts running to his truck and yelling, "I am hit....I have to go!" As he entered his truck, I stood and shot 5 more times, shooting his rear window out and hitting his bumper. (LONG



My good friend and long time Pasture Rider, Delbert Jones, from near Wells, in southern Cherokee County. Delbert, a WW II Veteran, fought hard in Italy, served as Pasture Rider on the Durst Lakes Club as well as the IP Family Club. He was always there as back up when needed. He was gritty and helped keep hunters in line by his continued presence on all parts of the leases. This picture, taken by me, shows Delbert a few minutes after we had found the body of a duck hunter who had died of hypothermia and had been missing for several days.

He exits quickly and the gun barrel comes up. I grab for it as he twists and pulls back. My gun is under a goose down coat, not perfect for drawing. Now, he backs up as he lifts the rifle, aiming at my face. As he covers my head, he quickly pulled the hammer back. I respond, "Look, you are not in any trouble...let's talk about this."

He shouts, "I am a sorry SOB! I have killed before and about to again. Now, you ... turn and run down the road!" (So much for me not having drawn and shooting those first few seconds!)

He shouts again, "I want you to turn and run!"

That, I promise, was not going to happen! As I begin to back up, he is stepping forward.... his finger on the trigger and his rifle cocked. He continues to slowly advance towards me. After backing twenty or thirty steps, he suddenly shoots near my left foot and yelling, "I told you ##, to run!"

I continued to back up slowly and thinking, 'This is one heck of a note....to have a pistol on, to be near my truck radio... and about to die with my hands up....by being shot in the head!

I continue backing up, and he is walking forward, his rifle cocked with his finger still squarely on the trigger. Suddenly, 'bamm!' another shot is fired. This time, hitting near my right foot. He is still cursing and telling me to turn and run!

Continued on next page.

AGO ADVICE: We used to have a popular gun store on East Main called 'Maverick Arms' and owned by Gene Lemons. Once while talking to Gene about side arms on the lease, he said, "I would not carry that .44 mag Smith you have, I would carry that Browning 9... it will shoot flatter if you ever get caught without your rifle! Good advice, Gene.)

BACK TO MY SHOOTER:

He is in his truck and speeding off. I run to my truck and found he had taken my truck keys....I could not give chase, but quickly called the Nacogdoches County Sheriff's Department. Joe Evans had been sworn in as Sheriff on January 1, the day before! Bambi Kerr (r.i.p.) was dispatching...and she was sending help. Knowing help is coming, I am at my truck door with my rifle trained on the road ahead. Shortly my brother calls on the radio and tells me that up the road 1.5 miles, the shooter's truck was wrecked and in a creek. He said no one was visible. Norris was a NPD Sergeant and had his wife and baby daughter with him. He could not come straight to me as he did not know where the shooter was. To get to me he had to turn around and go another route. This now put him seven miles from me instead of just one.



JOE EVANS, Former Nacogdoches County Sheriff (16 years) and Texas Highway Patrolman (17 years). Joe became a DPS Trooper in 1967. He transferred to Nacogdoches County in the Spring, 1968. He was elected Sheriff in November, 1984. He was sworn in as Sheriff on January 1, 1985. He replaced retiring Sheriff John Lightfoot, who served from January 1, 1961 through December 31, 1984.

BACK AT MY TRUCK:

Now I hear someone yelling. I called State Game Warden Don Currie, and told him that the shooter was back, and yelling for help. The shooter then yelled that he was hit and needed help. I tell Don that we need an ambulance. He responded, "10-4" and added, "Be careful, Son!"

Still addressing the issue through a six power rifle scope, I see the bad guy was not carrying a



State Game Warden Jimmy Wood. A veteran GW when he began working Nacogdoches County in September, 1975.



Texas Highway Patrolman David Fischer. Began in Nacogdoches in 1966. Worked thirty years and retired as Corporal. I began riding with David in the fall of 1969.

from all the ambulance tracks, they found where the shooter had dragged a foot as he had walked for approximately one mile...At the truck they found the bloodied gun and shot out rear window. Then the Chief understood.

(NOTE: Fischer, Deputy Jerry Weems, and I had been shot at ourselves in the Upshaw Community in May, 1972)

TO SUMMARIZE:

My shooter and his TWO buddies had driven nearly 60 miles to poach.

They were drinking beer and smoking marijuana. When I spotted my shooter, they had already killed two deer and were trying for a third. My shooter had been a logger working out there in the past. He still had a company key in his possession. The two friends fled and caught a ride to Wells and were dropped off at a pay telephone.

Based on my shooter, it was easy for investigators to identify who was with him. Rangers and Texas Game Warden Major, Jack Tisdale, were waiting on them as they returned home near Grapeland.

The day after the shooting, Texas Speaker of the House, Gib Lewis, called Regional Director Tisdale, and told him to let Dudley know I had his backing and poachers were not going to take over East Texas. The same day, Arthur Temple, called from Diboll with the same message. He had his hunting clubs in mind and wanted poachers put on notice.

What was my shooter doing at the moment I shot him? While I did not know it at the time, but he had suddenly gone to the ground in order to reload replacement rounds for the four he had fired. Again, as he stopped shooting, I began!

It took 22 months to get him in the court house for his trial. As I point out in my gun classes, I was on the stand 5.5 hours the first day, 45 minutes the second, and 2.5 hours the third day...and he was the bad guy!

The jury quickly found him guilty. The defense attorney then asked the judge to set the sentence, not the jury. He then received a five-year probated sentence.... not much punishment for the near death sentence I had nearly received at his hands.

Four or five years later he was in a major deer stand accident. It first caused major lower body paralysis and then, months later, death.

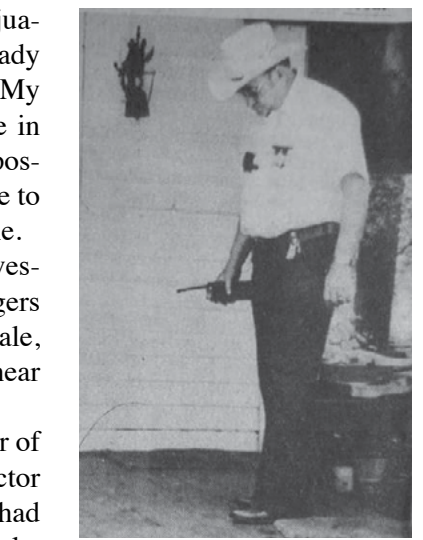
END OF STORY



State Game Warden Tom Smith. Began working Nacogdoches County in the spring of 1968. Died April, 1991. "Rode the river" many times with him.

me were Game Wardens Tommy Joe Smith and Billy Patton...they provided much support later, especially during my shooter's trial. Tom Smith and his wife Pat were close support for Sara Bess.

They had married in our home on July 4, 1985. Also out of town the day of the shooting was veteran State Game Warden Paul (Charles) Gluck of Cherokee County. When he apologized for not being there that day, I pointed out that while he missed that day, he WAS there in support during the next twenty-three years he was a State Warden. As with the others, he and I rode many miles together. Speaking of "riding," it was with Tom Smith and State Warden Doug Spivey that we logged many miles together on horseback. I had a long time association with all the Wardens under the Command of District Chiefs Jerry McRae of Rusk and Ed Walker of Lufkin. This included the men in Shelby, Panola, Rusk, Cherokee, Nacogdoches, Angelina, San Augustine, and Sabine Counties....and some farther away. Included as a close friend to Sara Bess and I was the "Lady Warden" of Cherokee County, Cynthia Guajardo. She had had the spunk to tackle game and fish enforcement as a young Hispanic female in East Texas, as one of the two wardens in Cherokee County. Beginning there in the early nineties, her partner was Paul Gluck. After the retirement of Regional Director, Jack Tisdale, the new Commander was another important friend, Major J Larry Williford. Often visiting with him in his office, I could see the compassion and concern he had for the men and



Cherokee County Sheriff, Allen Horton.

FURTHER REMARKS:

I want to attempt naming officers that came to my aid. As stated earlier, Game Warden District Chief, Ed Walker was first. Then Delbert Jones and my brother, Sgt Norris Dudley arrived. Then Deputy Garrett from Cherokee County. Cherokee County Game Warden Don Currie. Currie was in Jacksonville when I called and he burned the road up to get to me. Then Nacogdoches County officers arrived in force, including Sheriff Joe Evans, Highway Patrolman David Fischer, Deputy Bill Ball, Game Warden Jimmy Wood, Deputy Bud Cain, Deputy Charles Christian, Cherokee County Sheriff Alan Horton, with Chief Deputy Joe Echinroe (sp), Deputy Chris Parsons. Too far away to get to



Sara Bess Brookshire Dudley... always with me on deer lease patrol. When asked why she was not with me on the day of the shooting, I replied, "Simple, it was Wednesday!" Facing a puzzled response, I explained, "It was hair appointment day!!!"

Continued on next page.

Continued from previous page.



On the left, Bill Ball, long time deputy and Constable. He is with Texas Ranger Bill Walk.

women under him. He had had a young Game Warden and his family to lose their brand new house to arson. It was burned to the ground before they had a chance to move in. This arson was in retaliation against Deep East Texas Game Wardens for their successful investigations of illegal deer hunting with dogs. He had seen a young San Augustine County Game Warden, Ronnie Germany, shot to death on July 29, 1973, in the Attoyac River bottoms near Martinsville on Hwy 7 in eastern Nacogdoches County. This is an area where San Augustine, Nacogdoches, and Shelby Counties all meet. The nineties brought more Game Warden deaths from work and medical reasons. On May 26,



Roger Dudley and "Buck" on deer lease patrol.

1990, Barry Decker and Bruce Hill, Panola County Wardens, drowned in Lake Murvaul at approximately 10 pm. Veteran Wardens Ed Baker, Tom Smith, Jimmy Wood, and Don Currie, all died of heart and cancer illnesses in a relatively short time. These were close and very important friends to us that we lost. Tom and his wife Pat, had married in our home on July 4, 1985. Jimmy and Don were there.

The early 1970s Texas Highway Patrolmen in Nacogdoches County, along with five or six State Game Wardens, were some of my closest friends for many years. We had supported each other for fifteen years at the time of my shooting... and, as I had done for them, they came to me!

THE END

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Saints Rest Cemetery Asso. Homecoming that was to be held Sunday, Oct 3rd, has been CANCELLED DUE TO THE SURGE OF THE DELTA VARIANT OF CORONA VIRUS.

Maintenance and upkeep is still required on our cemetery during these difficult times. For those who would like to make donations towards this, please make checks payable to Saints Rest Cemetery Asso, c/o Debra Hicks, Sec/Treasurer, 4836 CR 256, Nacogdoches, TX 75965.

Should you have any questions, please call Jo Ann Carter, President, @ 936-569-8487.

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The C.L. Simon Recreation Center will also continue to host weekly vaccination clinics on Wednesdays through July 28. Clinics will take place from 1-4pm. Walk-ins are welcome or you can make an appointment by going to tinyurl.com/VacNac or by calling 936-305-8488.



Any unvaccinated person 21 years of age or older who gets their first vaccine at a JBS USA or Pilgrim's-sponsored vaccination clinic has a shot at free beef, pork and chicken for the next year.

Keeping Our Communities Safe
Vaccination rates at JBS USA & Pilgrim's facilities outpace that of the general population. We want to keep everyone in our communities as safe as we keep our team members. That's why we're hosting community events across the country June 26-Aug. 31, 2021, and encouraging people to attend and roll up their sleeves for their first vaccine. Fifty newly-vaccinated participants will be eligible to win a year's worth of free beef, pork and chicken for a family of four.

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CAP News

by Capt Richard Block, Public Affairs Officer
CAP Nacogdoches Squadron



C/Ann Nathanael Smith handles the controls of a Civil Air Patrol Cessna 172 on his first Orientation Flight. Smith is from Lufkin and has been a member of the Nacogdoches Composite Squadron since April 29th. CAP cadets have the opportunity to take 5 orientation flights before their 18th birthday. Each flight has a unique syllabus and lasts about one hour. For information on joining the CAP contact Squadron Commander Capt. Cynthia Shunior - cynthia.shunior@txwg.cap.gov.

The Nacogdoches Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol will be participating in a national year-long blood drive Saturday, Aug 7th from 9 am to 3 pm at the Nacogdoches Regional Airport.

CAP members, their family and friends and the public are urged to come and participate. Two Blood Center buses will be on site.

Donors need to bring I.D. and will be given a coupon for a free pint of Bluebell Ice Cream.

For information contact Capt. Lucinda McFarlin at 936-205-9013 or scan with QR bar on the photo.

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Seeing With Your Heart

“REED ALL ABOUT IT!”
by Dr. Allen Reed

“But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but they didn't see it. And they longed to hear what you hear, but they didn't hear it.” Matthew 13:17 (NLT)

In May, 1820, six week old baby girl, Fanny J. Crosby, caught a cold which settled in her eyes. It was still no serious matter until a country doctor prescribed a hot mustard poultice for her inflamed eyes. The result was total blindness for life. When she was five years old, sympathetic neighbors contributed money to send her to New York's famed Dr. Valentine Mott. But after an examination, Fanny Crosby heard the specialist say with a heavy heart, “Poor little blind girl!” That sympathetic expression remained with Fanny Jane Crosby throughout her life.

Fanny turned her handicap into an asset. She even said that her blindness was a blessing, for not being disturbed by things about her, she could more easily write her poems. At the early age of eight she wrote:

Oh, what a happy child I am,
Although I cannot see!
I am resolved that in this world
Contented I will be.

Others with less courage would have given up. Not Fanny J. Crosby. Instead of being consumed with self-pity, she accepted the medical verdict as a challenge. At the age of fifteen, Fanny entered an institution for the blind to be trained as a typist which her parents felt would at least provide her an income. She preferred writing and was soon dictating poetry for the other students to type.

What Fanny Crosby could not see with her eyes, she saw with her heart and expressed with her pen. Over 9,000 hymns and sacred songs flowed from her searching soul. Who among us hasn't been inspired by such hymns as “Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It,” “Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine,” “Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savio,” “Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross,” “Rescue the Perishing,” “Safe in the Arms of Jesus,” “To God Be the Glory,” “I am Thine, O Lord,” or “He Hideth My Soul” to name a few. The struggles of Fanny Crosby have provided spiritual strength for generations of those who have learned to praise God even for their difficulties.

Fanny Crosby never regarded herself as being unfortunate in her blindness. She even said that if God should offer her normal sight, she would decline it because when she reached heaven, the first face she wanted her eyes to behold would be that of her “blessed Saviour.”

Like Fanny Crosby, you can choose whether your problems will make or break you. You can grieve or you can grow. It's up to you!

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Chamber Connection
by Kelly Augustine
Executive Vice President,
Nacogdoches County Chamber
of Commerce



Cool Chamber Events for August

Good things are happening in the business community, and the Nacogdoches County Chamber plays a significant role in bragging on our members' developments, accomplishments and contributions.

Ribbon Cutting Celebrations

All in the community are invited to join the following ribbon cutting ceremonies. If you can't attend, be sure to go by the business and congratulate them!

Stone House Kitchen, 11 a.m., Monday, Aug. 2 at 312 E. Main St. Celebrating a new eatery on the brick streets in historic downtown! Stone House Kitchen opens at 7:30 a.m. and serves breakfast and lunch and options for quick bites, sweet treat fixes and specialty coffees. Check out the weekly take-and-bake dishes for quick and delicious meals at home.

Tidal Wave Auto Spa, 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 12 at 3103 North St. Site leader Rick Thornton would like for you to attend and learn more about this new business on North St. The company is SFA Alumni owned and offers some nice deals for keeping your ride looking good!

Eggs & Issues

The Chamber's monthly membership meeting, Eggs & Issues, is 7:30 to 9 a.m., Aug. 27 at The Fredonia Hotel and Convention Center, 200 N. Fredonia St. Dr. Hans Williams, Dean of SFASU Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture is the guest speaker. The meeting is open to the public, and the cost for breakfast with the program is \$24 for non-Chamber members and \$20 for Chamber members.

Painting the Town Purple

With thousands of new and returning students heading back to Stephen F. Austin State University this month, the Chamber is encouraging all businesses to display more SFA purple swag. By painting our town purple, SFA faculty, staff, students and their families get the message that we appreciate them and support the university. If you happen to own a business, consider flying flags or have employees participate in Spirit Fridays by wearing purple. If you have a sign, please post a welcome message for our Lumberjacks. Very soon the Chamber and SFA Driving Jacks and other SFA partners will offer SFA flags and swag. If you would like more information, please call the Chamber at 936-560-5533.

For more about these and other Chamber programs, please go to www.Nacogdoches.org or call 936-560-5533. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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Lufkin District Public Information Officer
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Texas Department of Transportation

You Gotta Love East Texas

I stopped in a small-town café on my way to a meeting not long ago and I couldn't help but overhear the table of four next to me. You could tell they were old friends gathering to cuss and discuss the town news and gossip.

"Hope y'all been doin' OK," one lady said loud enough for the room to hear. She looked at the menu, turned to her husband and said just as loudly, "Burt, the blue-plate special is steak fingers or baked chicken. Which one you want?"

The two gentlemen were already deep in conversation about the weather, doctor visits, cows, gardens and an upcoming domino tournament.

"Y'all know Esther just got back from California? Why, that's too far for me," the lady announced to everyone. The men never slowed their conversation, and the other woman at the table just smiled and nodded as though she had been through this before.

But I perked up when I heard her say, "Have y'all been around the square lately? They got them sidewalks almost finished. We're gonna be really up-town. Gonna be like the big city around here. Burt, you want the steak fingers or the baked chicken?"

I wanted to interrupt and tell her that I knew about those new sidewalks. In 2018, the Lufkin District worked to construct ADA accessibility projects and sidewalks determined in priority locations in Lufkin, Grapeland, Garrison, San Augustine and Hemphill. In 2019, TxDOT replaced or provided ADA compliant sidewalks in Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Onalaska and in 2020, ADA compliant sidewalks in Pineland, Lovelady, Broadus, San Augustine and Livingston were completed or currently under construction. And this year, there are plans to construct additional sidewalks in Nacogdoches, Huntington, Crockett and Lufkin.

I wanted to explain that current and future sidewalk projects in our nine-county district are planned to ensure ADA compliance and our goal is to enhance safety for pedestrians and connect them to where they need to be, just as we do motorists. Working to form partnerships with local and regional governments as we plan these projects are important to their success and once complete, they will enhance the beauty and growth of a city or town.

Deciding to stay quiet and figuring I wouldn't have gotten a word in anyway, I enjoyed the stories they were sharing about their town, their life experiences and how things have changed. I believe TxDOT construction projects, including ADA compliant sidewalks, are helping fuel that positive change and help provide a better quality of life for many.

The young waitress returned to the table for the third time to take their order. They had been so caught up in their own conversations, they had barely noticed her. Finally, one gentleman turned to her and said, "Little lady, we are ready to order."

The loud white-haired lady ignored him and continued to cackle like a yard hen about who she had seen at the grocery store.

"Have you been to the grocery store lately and priced that meat? I think we can grow it cheaper ourselves. Burt, you want the steak fingers or the baked chicken?"

And for the first time since they sat down, Burt turned to her and in a firm, deep voice said, "I'll eat the steak fingers." Then he turned back to his conversation about the high price of gasoline.

I held back a laugh as the lady turned to the waitress and said, "Good thing we got them sidewalks. We might all be walking with gas gone so high. Honey, we'll have the baked chicken."

You gotta love East Texas.

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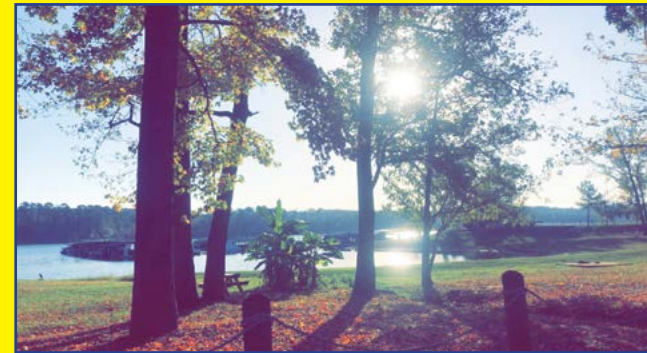
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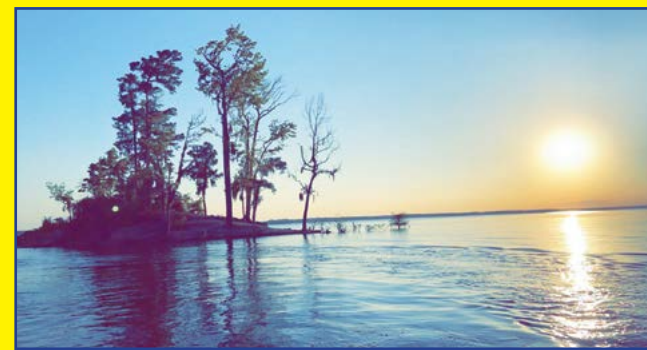
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Cheryl Brady is a native of El Dorado, Arkansas. Following graduation from college as a ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG), she went on to serve twenty-eight years as a U.S. Army logistics officer, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. She was 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.



The Sins of 1619—Erased by The Blood of Christ Part II

1619 is not a date in human history that should cause believers forgiven by God in Christ to do evil or to even think evil of others. Christians must not suc-

cumb to mental and emotional manipulation with a past that God allowed for His purposes. Far too many Christians are being held captive by the past instead of being captivated by a glorious future with Christ.

In order to triumph over Satan’s ministers who, through lies and deception, use the past to take us to a place in our mind, emotions, and actions that dishonors Christ and leads to evil against someone who has done no wrong against us, we must take those thoughts captive and subject them to the obedience of Christ. We must not allow psychological warfare (spiritual warfare) to destroy our morale or keep us from loving our neighbor as ourselves. We need more people in the church who are the true sons and daughters of God to start living the Word. The Bible says if we walk after the Spirit we will not fulfill the desires of the flesh. This requires a Bible revival. We must consistently saturate our minds and our hearts with the truth. The more truth we know and act upon it, the greater our freedom to love.

We can only let go of the past to the degree that we trust God with the past. When we trust God with the past we do nothing to avenge the wrongs caused by someone else’s sins. We must trust God’s wisdom, timing, and allowance of events that happened in 1619. Christians spend far too much time in the unfruitful works of darkness trying to remove the speck from the eyes of the dead instead of removing the plank from our own. God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. The time is now for true reconciliation in the body of Christ. Saved folk must stop living like the devil’s children that we once were. How? By letting go of a past that is not ours and treat one another in God’s family as family. We must walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. We must understand what the will of the Lord is (Eph 5:15, 16).

Anyone troubled by the events of 1619 or any period in history must hear (believe) the Good News of what God has done in Jesus for all sin. No Christian is owed reparations or an apology, nor should we allow anyone to make us feel guilty about another’s sins. By God’s grace Christians are now in Christ—a place where sin’s debt has been erased, cancelled, forgiven, and forgotten by God.

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Authentic Texan

by Tweed Scott

On many occasions I have been asked, what exactly is an authentic Texan? I would suggest it doesn’t begin with boots or cowboy hats. I believe in John Steinbeck’s statement found in his book, “Travels with Charlie.” Steinbeck said, “Texas is a state of mind. Texas is an obsession above all, Texas is a nation in every sense of the word.” I believe it’s all true. Texas is authentic to its core. To start with, it all goes to mindset. It’s how you see yourself in your environment.

I think authenticity is also a matter of the heart. You know in your heart when something is so. You know what you feel. You know what your truth is, and you know what you think. It’s who you are. When you get right down to it, as a Texan, you feel Texas within you. It becomes a part of you. It is who you are. That’s when it becomes authentic, and you become an authentic Texan. Do you have to be born in Texas to be an authentic Texan? I don’t think so.



My introduction to Texas was not of my choosing. I joined the Navy to see the world when I was 17. After boot camp, I found myself serving in Kingsville, Texas. I didn’t get here as fast as I could. I got here as quick as I got sent! I didn’t ask to come to Texas. For a boy who grew up in New England, Texas was a culture shock! Just like the early pioneers, I knew I would have to adapt. I quickly learned if it walked, crawled or slithered, it would hurt me—even the plants could draw blood! Yeah, this was going to take some getting used to and it did.

Early perceptions are often wrong or misleading. Within a few weeks of my arrival, I had the good fortune of meeting some native Texans. These were authentic Texans—the real deal and 100% genuine. These were down to earth everyday people. It was the first time I heard the saying about being “the salt of the earth” but it certainly fit them. Openly friendly, welcoming and giving to the core. They had their own opinions about life, and you didn’t have to wait long to hear what those opinions were. I immediately fell in love with them. There was something real about them that drew me in.

The Texas character is anchored by a sense of values and fair play. That is part of their upbringing. It is genuinely who they are. Authentic. The people where I came from where good people too but there was something special about these folks. It’s not a put-on or contrivance. They are who they appear to be.

Texas was a brutally tough place to live in the early days. Their authenticity comes directly from their history—their ancestors. It was the life they had to live to survive. I have said it many times, you had to earn the right to live in Texas. You had to earn the right to live here. You earned it by surviving.

Texans in some ways are an anachronistic people. They are strong-willed and individualistic, yet they were quite needy too. The late Liz Carpenter, Lady Bird Johnson’s Press Secretary and Chief of Staff once told me, “Texans have always been needy people. Needy in the sense that they needed each other to survive. Think of the stampedes or prairie fires. They banded together to take on the situations they had to deal with together. They had to figure out things on their own, many times by trial and error.

They often got knocked on their butts when they failed but that didn’t stop them. They simply got up, dusted themselves off and said, “Well, that didn’t work. Now, how do we do we make it happen?” They would proceed to find a way to complete the task. Again, often it was just trial and error; other times, was a well-executed plan. Either way, they solved the problem. As a result, Texans became HOW thinkers not if thinkers. IF never entered into their equation. it is all about creating the path to a solution.

So that brings me back to the original question, do you have to be born in Texas to be an authentic Texan? The short answer is No. My experience of living in or around Texas for at least parts of several decades now has proven something to me. The conversion is quite possible. What has become quite apparent to me is, Texans (who don’t fear much) are concerned about Texas losing its identity in the masses of individuals moving here from other places for a better life or opportunity and then trying to change Texas into the place they came from. The only thing authentic Texans want from the new arrivals is to assimilate. Come be one of us—not apart from us. Learn the values and traditions of what makes us Texan. It’s not about the hat or boots. Don’t play the part—live it. That is what’s authentic.

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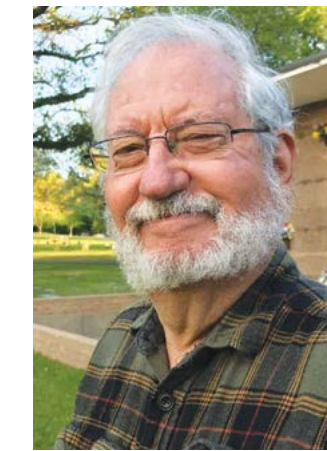
A Little Bit of History... Our Road Trip to New Mexico

by Dickie Dixon

Born in Lufkin, Texas to Hershel and Kathleen (Hinson) Dixon, Dickie Dixon is a sixth generation with very strong roots in other parts of East Texas, too. On his father's side, his ancestors, the Fenleys, arrived in what is now Angelina County, and he died about a year later in what is called the Cordova Rebellion, an event whereby Dickie's great-great-grandmother gained an interest in the Old Stone Fort (or House). None of his family lines arrived in Angelina County later than the 1880s, and one of them, Stanislaw John Pauszek (later anglicized to Poskey) was a Polish immigrant.

Later in life, he studied history at SFASU, serving as a graduate assistant and grader to Dr. Archie P. McDonald, and he has spoken a few times at the historical organization over which McDonald was in charge. In 2016, Carolyn Erickson gave him permission to assume the editorship of her column, which he has sent on a weekly basis to a number of newspapers.

Being very curious, he is interested in all types of history, and I hope I can whet your appetite for history in the future.



1958 was a momentous year for my two older brothers, Don and Ardie. Don, the oldest, received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) degree from Texas A&M University in May, and Ardie had graduated from Lufkin High School. Don, in all the six years he had attended A&M, had not owned his own car; he had hitchhiked to and from college. So, that summer, after he landed a job as a meat inspector in Goliad. He purchased a white 1958 Chevrolet Biscayne from Bailey Chevrolet in Wells, Texas.

To acquire the car, Don commissioned Ardie to pick up the car. Once that was done, he loaned it to us for Ardie to drive us to visit Mother's older sister Edna Hinson Burkhart in Lovington, New Mexico.

It was a long drive out there and back, but Ardie, Laura, Mother and I made the trip fine. Getting to see Aunt Edna and Uncle Burkhart was worth the long drive, since Edna was one of the spunkiest of Mother's three sisters, and Burkhart was a very sensible man. He had acquired hero status with my Mother during the Depression because Mother, her Mother and Aunt Eleanor lived with them.

Along the way the DJs on the radio made that August of '58 memorable: about every 15 or 20 minutes they would play the hit by the Everly Brothers with the line in it "Hey Bird Dog, get away from my quail!"

After our visit, Ardie drove us safely home, but his driving tasks were not over: Don asked him and Larry Palmore to bring the Biscayne to Goliad. Then Don took them to Houston, where they had lunch with Uncle Paul and Aunt Little Dixon, after which he took them to the outskirts of the city to hitch a ride home. When they arrived in Lufkin, Larry called either his brother Alan or his sister Louise to come take them home.

N.B. Later that year Don moved to Cuero, where he met his wife Margaret Snapp, and in September Ardie started playing basketball for SFA, where he was redshirted. As for me, when I got home, my best friend Richard Baker told me he and his family were moving from Finley Street to the Dotson Addition.

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Angela's Monthly Recipe

Charro Beans



Angela Bradford is the former owner/operator of Appleby Sand Mercantile Café in Nacogdoches.

5 bacon slices, cut into 1" pieces	1 (10 oz.) can Rotel tomatoes
1 pound dry pinto beans	1 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
water to cover beans	Salt to taste
1 Tbsp. cumin	Pepper to taste
1 tsp. garlic powder	

If you don't pre-soak beans overnight, then place beans in a colander, rinse well, and remove any stones or shiveled beans. Sort and wash pinto beans; place in a Dutch oven. Cover with water 2 inches above beans and bring to a boil. Boil beans 1 minute. Cover, remove from heat and let soak 1 hour. Drain. Cook bacon until just crispy in Dutch oven. Pour beans back into the Dutch oven. Cover with water. Bring to boil; add garlic, cumin, garlic powder and chili powder. Cover, lower heat and boil until beans are soft, usually a couple hours. Keep covered with water. Stir in Rotel and chopped cilantro when beans are almost done. When beans are done, season with salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste (add 1/2 teaspoon of salt at a time, tasting in between).

Recipe courtesy of Angela Bradford's Appleby Sand Mercantile Café Cookbook. You may purchase the book by contacting her at 936.559.5151

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Convention & Visitors Bureau

Ashley Morgan
 CVB Creative Content Director

How You Can Support Your Community

One of the biggest reasons I stayed in Nacogdoches after I graduated from SFA was the sense of community, a home away from home. I loved it so much that I decided to make it my permanent home. I was never tempted by the offerings of the Big City. In Nacogdoches I feel valuable, like I'm contributing to the betterment of the city that we all call home.

The thing about smaller communities is that it takes a little bit more work to make things happen. There isn't a money pot that allows us to hire crews of workers to put on events—they're executed by a small group of dedicated individuals with a common goal of providing fun for the community to enjoy.

They say many hands make light work. You may have seen us ask before for volunteers keeping the Visitors Center open on the weekends, but we could use some additional hands at our events like **Nac Snack Friday** and our **Full Moon Concerts**. Events like these are a big fish to fry, but our staff of 4 finds a way thanks to a few good friends and family members.

We can't pay the big bucks like many cities can, but we can offer service hours for members of civic and collegiate organizations, t-shirts, free tickets to events, and of course our love and adoration!

Even if you can't physically contribute, you can help your community by boosting our posts on social media, telling your friends and family about upcoming events, and purchasing tickets. You can find our posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter by searching "Visit Nacogdoches" and give us a follow while you're there! The best way to support us is by sharing our weekly What's Happenings posts.

All of this to say, if you like seeing large-scale events in Nacogdoches and want to help out, give us a call at 936-564-7351 or email us at sales@visitnacogdoches.org

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Brandi Emanis
Executive Director

Hello Again from San Augustine County!

Well everyone, things seem to be getting back on track here in San Augustine County, we recently had our annual Civic Auction fundraiser for our Chamber of Commerce operations. We, unfortunately, did not get to have it last year and you all know why, so there is no need for me to bring that up again! Our Civic Auction is what funds the operations of our Chamber of Commerce. The Civic Auction was a huge success and we can't wait to see you all again next year in July!

Next up will be our 2021 Rodeo! The rodeo was supposed to be held back in May. We ended up postponing the Rodeo because of rain at the last minute, as bad as we hated to, we just had to do it because the fairgrounds were just so wet due to all the rain, we knew that we did not need to take a chance with all we were supposed to have going on. There were just too many chances of getting stuck and many more problems.

With all that being said, it is time!!! We are about to have the San Augustine County Rodeo on September the 16th through the 18th, and guess what, it is FREE!!! Yes, you read that right, FREE!!! So go out and tell your friends and everyone you know to come on over to San Augustine and enjoy 3 nights of fun and excitement. You will not be disappointed! There will be clowns and bull-fighters, a goat dressing contest, and a BBQ cook-off competition that is sanctioned through Lone Star BBQ Society. We will have vendors set up there also. Our Rodeo title sponsors this year are Badders Law Firm and Prime Energy. We have a Pink out night theme to support cancer victims, which is on Friday night and Patriotic night theme to support all men and women who serve and have served to allow us to have our freedom, this one will be on Saturday night. So dress the part each night and come join and support San Augustine and enjoy a fun-filled weekend with good friends and good times that make memories!

Right around the corner after the Rodeo be sure to mark your calendars for October the 23rd, because the SASSAFRAS FESTIVAL will be happening! It will be fun for all and lots and lots of things to see and do every year at the Sassafras Festival.

If you have any questions about any of these events please give me a call at the San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce, 936-275-3610.



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UPCOMING IN AUGUST 2021...

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AUGUST 8 – USA PLAZA TIERRA CALIENTE – RODEO & CONCERT
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AUGUST 21 – BONA-FIDE'S Kajun Kenfolk presents EAST TEXAS PAINT & SOCIAL PARTY
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AUGUST 27-29 - REGION V HIGH SCHOOL RODEO
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If you are interested in becoming an Inside Vendor for the Pineywoods Fair, Oct 13-17, give Karee a call at 936-564-0849. All food concession booths are full.

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In the Loop... Expo Center in Lufkin

with **Burt Hairgrove**
Executive Director,
George H. Henderson, Jr. Expo Center
Lufkin, Texas

Greetings from the Expo!

Well, from the phone calls and emails that I have been receiving, I get the idea that folks are ready to get back in the swing of things as far as live events go. A great example was our 1st Annual Expo Summer Stampede on July 15th. It was a huge success! A big Expo Thank You goes out to Tara Watson-Watkins and the Lufkin/Angelina Chamber of Commerce staff for putting this event together in short order. We would also like to send a sincere thank you to all of the sponsors that made it happen:

- Presenting Sponsor -Angelina Forest Products
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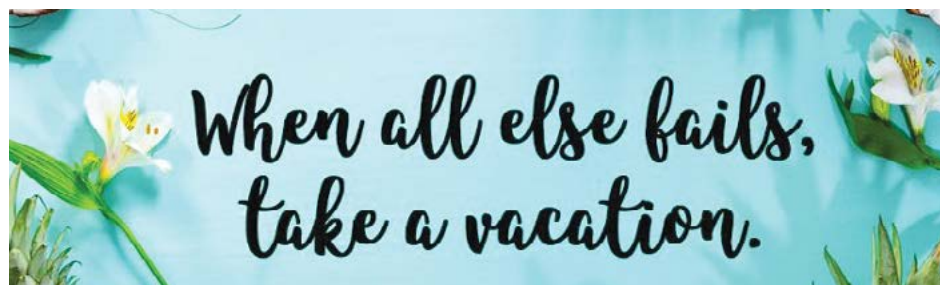
Thank you for all of the attendees who purchased tickets and showed up for a great time. Over \$35,000 was raised for the non-profit to help meet expenses associated with the maintenance and operation of the Expo.

The event was a team competition made up of 4 person teams from various local businesses who competed in a "horseless" rodeo. It was a lot of fun and provided some great laughs! The Grand Champion award went to McWilliams and Son Heating and Air Conditioning. Make plans to attend next July!

Coming to the Expo in August:

- 13/14 -Pineywoods Youth Rodeo Association's first rodeo of the 2021-22 season.
- 21/22 - Lufkin FFA Jackpot Livestock Show sponsored by The Advanced Financial Group.
- 28/29 -Texas High School Rodeo Association Region V first rodeo of the 2021-22 season.

As always,
See you at the Expo!
Burt Hairgrove, Executive Director



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Lufkin Chamber Launches New Industry- Exclusive Program Beginning in August!

The Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce is launching a new industry-exclusive program called **Chamber FIRST**. The group of professionals will be focused on building each other's businesses by supplying genuine referrals to their members.

Built on trust and follow up, **Chamber FIRST** members will maximize their membership with professional education and resources, while encouraging mutual support and increasing sales. It also provides opportunities for small business owners to work with experienced coaches and mentors for the purpose of developing connections with their peers, local leaders and the financial community.

Being a part of **Chamber FIRST** will provide participants:

1. Increase your exposure through other business professionals.
2. Increase referrals for your business.
3. Build relationships that foster growth and support.
4. Learn business strategies to find and attract new customers
5. Learn about other businesses in the community.

Keep reading to learn more about **Chamber First** and a breakdown of the schedule for the upcoming sessions throughout the year.

CLASS SIZE: 15-25 people (Industry Exclusive)

AUDIENCE: The desired participants are executives of small, poised-for-growth companies that are potential job creators. These small business owners, controlling partners, financial and operations are decision makers for the company. (Owner/Operator/President/CEO/CFO/General Manager/Director/Administrator)

PROGRAM EXPERIENCE:

- Class will consist of no more than 25 and no less than 10 Chamber Investors in good standing from a variety of non-competing businesses. Membership into Chamber FIRST will be on a first come, first pay basis. Upon selection of 25 members for one group, additional groups will be created pending demand.
- The cost of a membership in the Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce Chamber FIRST includes a fee of \$350.00 which includes lunch for the year. These fees will be billed once a year and are non-refundable in the event of exiting Chamber FIRST or not obliging to the attendance policy.
- Chamber FIRST will meet once per month from August to May, with each meeting lasting approximately one hour, and members will be expected to enthusiastically furnish valid business referrals or leads on a continuing basis to other members. An average of one referral per month will be considered the minimum requirement for participation in the program.
- If a member has more than three unexcused absences for the year, the member will be removed from the Chamber FIRST program with no refund. Members are expected to pay their dues and be an investor in good standing.
- In the event that an investor leaves their business, they may find someone from their prior employment to replace them without penalty.

Here is a look at the schedule for 2021-2022:

August: Welcome & Program Introduction | Aug. 11, 2021

Each member gives a three-minute elevator speech about their business and who they are.

September: Market Research and Competitive Analysis - Sept. 15, 2021

Instructor: Eric Robinson, CFO, CHI St Luke's Health Memorial



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Market research helps you find customers for your business. Competitive analysis helps you make your business unique. Combine them to find a competitive advantage for your small business.

October: Know Your Budget - Oct. 20, 2021

Instructor: Trey McWilliams, Owner, McWilliams and Son Heating & Air Conditioning
Accounting for revenue and expenses can help keep your business running smoothly. Make sure you maintain proper bookkeeping and have a basic knowledge of business finances.

November: Understanding Your Customer - Nov. 17, 2021

Instructor: Brant Lee, Director of Convention Services, City of Lufkin
Discover resources that will help you understand your customer and increase sales.

December: Pricing Models for Successful Business - Dec.15, 2021

Instructor: Jackie Polk, LeeTrans Services
Set prices, calculate costs, assess competitors and much more.

January: Marketing 101 - Jan. 19, 2022

Instructor: Crystal Williams, Founder, Lemon Seed Marketing
Define marketing and understand its vital role in the growth of your business.

February: Sales - Feb. 16, 2022

Instructor: Chris Carraway, VP Branch Manager, Commercial Bank of Texas
Review sales plans and other tools to get your product or service into your customer/consumer's hands.

March: Staying Legally Compliant - March 16, 2022

Instructor: Jule Fenley, General Counsel, Brookshire Brothers
Staying compliant with state and federal business laws. Your legal responsibilities will depend on your business and location.

April: Employee Recruitment and Retention - April 20, 2022

Instructor: Julie Walker, Operations Manager, Chick-fil-A
Strategies to help you locate, recruit, and retain talented employees.

May: Customer Experience & Closing Reception - May 18, 2022

Instructor: Tara Watson-Watkins, CEO/President, Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce
How do you capture customer attention, retain engagement and foster customer loyalty? When delivering a customer experience, how do you identify and fill the gaps in customer engagement? Use these resources to improve the purchasing experience for your customers. This session will guide you through what you need to do to design the customer experience process.

For more info and to join Chamber FIRST, email Director of Events & Engagement, Tara Hendrix at THendrix@LufkinTexas.org or call 936-634-6644.



A Salute to our East Texas VETERANS



Danny and Shannon Mounger, along with their staff, appreciate and respect the service of all U. S. Military Veterans. The Moungers serve East Texas families in Nacogdoches, Shelby and Polk Counties with care and professionalism. It is their honor to present this monthly feature in *Around the Town*. Should you have a suggestion for a veteran to be featured, please send your name and contact information to AroundTheTown@mail.us.

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Larry Hume: Serving His Country with Integrity and Honor

by Terri Lacher, talacher@sbcglobal.net



CM Sgt Larry Hume.

Long time Shelby County residents, Larry Hume and his wife, Theresa are well known in this area for their work through the local Veterans of Foreign Wars organization since 2001. Over the years, Retired Command Chief Master Sergeant, Larry Hume has served as Post Commander of Post 8904 from here in Shelby County, and he has served as Post Quartermaster since 2007. He has also served as Commander of the Texas VFW District 19 from 2006-2007, and was responsible for twenty other posts in the state. In addition, he served at the State level as State POW/MIA Chairman, and as the National Home Chairman and State Inspector. He was awarded the Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars District All State Commander award. Other honors through the VFW included All State Quartermaster numerous times and he received the J. T. Rutherford Award, a distinctive medal presented yearly to three outstanding members of the Department of Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars for their past and present contributions to the organization. Larry and Theresa are present at various military holidays and others, with a gathering of other local veterans to honor those who have gone on before, but not forgotten.

Larry's military career began in the United States Air Force in 1961, not long after his graduation of high school at California High School in Moniteau County, Missouri. He did his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, and attended Personnel Specialist Technical Training at Greenville Air Force Base in Mississippi. He was promoted to Airman Third Class and graduated in January of 1962.

His first assignment was at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma, which was a SAC (Strategic Air Command) base with B-52 bombers and KC-135 Tankers. He was assigned to the Consolidated Base Personnel Office, and then promoted to Airman Second Class and Airman First Class while there.



Airman Hume.

In December of 1965, Larry volunteered

and was sent to Bien Hoa Air Base, in Vietnam, and served through 1966 processing troops in and out of country. In February of 1967, he was assigned to Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base in Grandview, Missouri, which was a suburb of Kansas City, as a noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the Air Force Reserve program. He was promoted to Staff Sergeant in May of 1967.

His assignments stateside took him to Headquarters Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs Colorado from June of 1968 through June of 1972, serving as a Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of Officer Promotion Programs, and it was during that time that Mr. Hume graduated from the ADC Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Hamilton Air Force Base in California. He was promoted on November 1, 1969 to Technical Sergeant. He began taking night college courses at Southern Colorado State College, and was later selected for promotion to Master Sergeant in June of 1971. He was reassigned again to Richards-Gebaur AFB in Missouri, where he was in the Headquarters of the Air Force Communications Command, and it was here where Mr. Hume was able to continue his education, receiving both a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business, and a Master of Arts degree in Management from Park University, Parkville, Missouri and Webster University, in Webster Groves, Missouri in 1975 and 1976. He also graduated from the Senior Air Force Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Gunter AFB, Alabama during this time.

Larry's military service in the Air Force took him to various assignments in the United States, including Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska as a Non-commissioned Officer in Charge of the Consolidated Base Personnel Office.

A few months later he was selected as the Commandant of the Alaskan Air Command Professional Military Education Center. During his command there, along with his staff, the first NCO Academy in the Alaskan Air Command was built and operational in 1977. In 1978 he was selected as one of the "12 Outstanding Airmen of the US Air Force. Larry was reassigned to McConnell Air Force Base in Kansas, and later to Carswell Air Force Base

Continued on top of next page

in Texas as a Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Commander, 381 Strategic Missile Wing and 19 Air Division, a position now known as the Command Chief Master Sergeant. In October of 1981, Mr. Hume retired from the US Air Force in the grade of Command Chief Master Sergeant with 20 years and one month of service.

Throughout the years he served, Larry Hume was highly decorated with numerous honors and awards including: the Meritorious Service Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters, Presidential Unit Citation, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding Airman of the Year Ribbon with bronze star, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 3 bronze stars, Air Force Longevity Ribbon, with a silver oak leaf cluster, Air Force Professional Military Education Ribbon with oak leaf cluster, Small Arms Expert Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with palm (a unit award) and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. He served proudly because he believed in his country.

"Service to your country is both noble and honorable whether it is for a couple of years or a career. In some way all citizens should give back to our country and to the communities in which we live. Be proud of yourself and as a United States Citizen," Larry said.

Larry Hume has been giving back year after year. He writes articles on past Shelby County veterans, bringing their stories of heroism and courage through our local papers, as well as through the Shelby County Museum website. It has helped families and the community to celebrate the bravery and patriotism of military personnel from a variety of their service in several wars, past and present.

"In 2012, I was approached by a family about a World War II veteran that was killed and buried overseas. They asked if I could find where. I began prowling around the Internet and found the information they wanted, and it just piqued my curiosity about how many other Shelby County veterans were buried overseas and why. It became a passion to ensure that here in Shelby County, Texas their service and sacrifice was not forgotten.

Today, more than one hundred and forty of those stories of brave men and women have been shared in the *Light and Champion*, *Shelby County Today* and the *East Texas Press*. Through years of research, Mr. Hume has been able to identify over 880 veterans at the 100th Anniversary of World War I, and they were honored at the Veterans Day Program held at VFW Post 8904. Since that date in 2018, that list has grown to 1,013, through persistence and much wandering around through cemeteries, because he says, "you never know what and who you will find."

Larry and his wife Theresa, a member of the VFW Auxiliary and the many other local veterans and their spouses have done a great job keeping the Shelby County VFW Post 8904 active. Although it is not necessary to be an active member of a VFW, it certainly is a plus to the organization. Their participation helps give the national and state leaders a voice on veteran issues.

"There is not a piece of veteran legislation that does not have the fingerprints of the Veterans of Foreign Wars all over it. We fight for all veterans. "Together we cannot be ignored."

As far as serving in the United States Air Force, Mr. Hume had this to say, "As an 18 year-old kid fresh out of high school and not really knowing what I wanted to do with my life, my service in the Air Force gave me purpose and meaning. I was taught discipline, organization, and leadership skills that I do not believe I would have received otherwise. I've been places, experienced things, met great people and have friendships that have lasted to this day. Sadly, some are no longer with us, but they are alive in my heart and memory. In short, I am proud to say, "yes, I am a United States Veteran."



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Kissin' Kuzzins

by Dickie Dixon

(1) A 60 Year Anniversary – It's been 60 years now since my father Hershel Dixon, Jr. took the risk on August 1, 1961 and opened his very own furniture store on Laure and Atkinson originally owned by Bobby Medford and built about 1947 by Darcy Faircloth, Sr. to lease to Brookshire Brothers. My father had never borrowed much money on time in his life; this time he only borrowed \$2500 to start it up. From this, he had to pay the rent deposit, the rent, and buy a pickup, and Swang Williams was his first employee, even though Daddy told he had nothing to pay him with. Dr. Gail Medford made the first purchase: a used iron bedstead.

Daddy had worked a few months over twenty-five years selling furniture in Houston, Lufkin, and Nacogdoches (at Gilbert's Furniture on Virginia Street). For a short period of time after we moved back from Houston after school was out in 1955, he was a partner in Good House-keeping Furniture with O. L. McFadden.

We came so close to moving back to Houston; my sister's friends had already given her a going away party. Had it not been for the intervention of his hunting friend Jimmy Jenkins, we would have moved.

I was only 10 when my father opened his store and couldn't do much to help out, but I did perform two tasks: (1) I swept the floor of the whole building for the first time and (2) with a razor blade scraper I scraped the name of the previous business off the front window: Buccaneer Stamp Redemption Center. My brother Ardie painted the interior walls with white paint. From the word "Go," it was a family business!

(2) The Deep East Texas Archeological Society is honored to have Penny Clark from Lamar University as the speaker for its meeting on Monday, August 2, 2021 at about 7:15 p.m. at the Iris and Anne Howard Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton, Texas. Sandra Litton and Company will serve desserts and refreshments at 6:30 p.m. right before the short business meeting. Penny will discuss her new book Beaumont's Civil Air Patrol in World War II. For more information, contact President Ruth Dusan at (409) 379-5946 or jrdusan@windstream.net or Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@gmail.com

Logging Camp and Sawmill Reunion Slated for August 14th

(3) The Angelina County Genealogical Society is pleased to host the Logging Camp and Sawmill Reunion on Saturday, August 14, 2021 at the Fellowship Hall of Keltys United Methodist Church in Lufkin Texas.

Presentations begin with Bob Flournoy remembering growing up at the sawmill community of Manning south of Huntington. Sabine County historian Ronald Barlow will follow with a discussion of Bronson, a saw-mill town in Sabine County. At 3 p.m. Dan Shaddock will talk about his father's mill at Wiergate in Newton County close to Burkeville. From 4-5 p.m., those attending with connections from other sawmill communities can contribute their memories. Kendall Gay and the Texas Forestry Museum have been invited, and Linda Reynolds, Archivist at the East Research Center on the second floor of the Ralph W. Steen Library will be invited, too.

For more information contact Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@gmail.com

ANGELINA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS
A LOGGING CAMP AND SAWMILL REUNION

1 p.m. Bob Flournoy "Growing Up at Manning"
2 p.m. Ronald Barlow "Bronson: A Sawmill Town"
3 p.m. Dan Shaddock "My Dad's Sawmill at Wiergate"
4-5 p.m. Reunion: Catching Up and Networking"

Saturday August 14, 2021 1-5 p.m.
Fellowship Hall Keltys
United Methodist Church
1867 Old Mill Road - Lufkin Texas 75904

For more information contact
Dickie Dixon (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@gmail.com

To submit an item to this column email it to dixonhershel51@gmail.com by phone to (936) 671-1419 or by mail to Kissin' Kuzzins P. O. Box 151001 Lufkin Texas 75915-1001. For a book review mail a complimentary copy to the above address.

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FIRST RESPONDERS



Danny and Shannon Mounger, along with their staff, appreciate and respect the service of all First Responders. The Moungers serve East Texas families in Nacogdoches, Shelby and Polk Counties with care and professionalism. It is their honor to present this monthly feature in *Around the Town*. Should you have a suggestion for a First Responder to be featured, please send your name and contact information to AroundTheTown@mail.us.

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Fire Chief Keith Byndom – Saving More Than Lives, Hearts, and Homes

by Terri Lacher, talacher@sbcglobal.net



Behind a desk at the fire station in Center, Texas sits a quiet, soft-spoken man who is always ready to jump into action and head out the door to whatever emergency fire or accident comes out over the scanner. During one calm morning interview, Fire Chief Keith Byndom sat, with his hands folded, and a huge smile as he told a little bit about himself.



Chief Byndom was born and raised here in Shelby County, Texas. His parents were V. K. and Esterlene Byndom, also Shelby County natives. His father worked and retired from Center Plywood (now Hallmark Fixtures), and his mother worked as a Head Start teacher. He is married to Cristy, now retired from the Center Elementary School after more than twenty years as a grade school teacher, and they have a son, Christopher, who is now in college studying criminal justice.

Keith graduated in 1985 from Center High School. He continued to work at the grocery store for a few years. He had purchased a police scanner around that time, and found he could follow just about everything, especially accidents and house fires. While he was working at H & S Grocery stocking shelves he received a visit from a well known local volunteer firefighter, Jim Forbes. They conversed for a few minutes as they always did, about a house fire the night before. Then Jim smiled and asked Keith a question.

"Keith," Jim said, "You need to come down to the fire station and fill out an application for a volunteer fireman. You know more about what is happening in Center than I do." Keith did exactly that, and in October of 1990, he was voted to be a part of the Center Volunteer Fire Department. At that time, the fire station was located on the Center Square, where there was always something going on. Keith loved his job. After working for about three years, he was approached once again to consider going on full-time as a firefighter for the Center Fire Department. He accepted and then went forward with more training as a firefighter. He had spent a week at Texas A & M at a Firefighter I school prior to going full time. Keith felt it was one of the best schools ever for preparing volunteers to be ready to face the emergency situations they would

see as volunteers. He continued taking classes at Kilgore College Fire Academy, graduating in 1993 as a firefighter. His training was ongoing, including an ECA (Emergency Care Attendant) class and went through driver's certification, which included obtaining a Class "B" exempt, allowing them to drive the larger emergency vehicles. Most firefighters in the Center Fire Department have the classification as firefighter/driver, because often they may be the only one at the fire station at the time an emergency call comes out.

In 2004, Keith was again approached about making a change in his career. The current fire chief, Tommy Fenley, was getting ready to retire. After much consideration, Keith accepted and became the Fire Chief of Center, Texas Fire Department at the age of 34. That position included taking more training, including classes in Firefighter Intermediate, Inspector, and Fire Chief.

Today, Fire Chief Byndom loves his job as much as he did in the early days. The fire station facilities are much improved since their early days on the historic Center Square. The facilities include a large classroom training center, a bunk room, and a kitchen/recreation room. The classroom is set up to make the continuing firefighter education easier and more convenient, especially for the volunteer firefighters.

"We now have the ability for the firefighters to take their continuing education classes right here at the station." This local training eliminates the need to travel and having to make overnight accommodations.

The fire station houses several emergency fire vehicles, including a ladder truck, pumper trucks, grass trucks, and a rescue truck. One of their newest pieces of equipment is a battery-operated "Jaws of Life,"

A Salute to our East Texas

OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF THE MONTH



Danny and Shannon Mounger, along with their staff, appreciate and respect the service of all First Responders. The Moungers serve East Texas families in Nacogdoches, Shelby and Polk Counties with care and professionalism. It is their honor to present this monthly feature in *Around the Town*. Should you have a suggestion for a First Responder to be featured, please send your name and contact information to AroundTheTown@mail.us.

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Sherry Harding – A Woman With A True Heart of a Servant

As told to Terri Lacher, talacher@sbcglobal.net

If you've lived in Shelby County, Texas for any time at all, you have probably run into Sherry Harding at least once or twice. Sherry has been the Director of Shelby County Outreach for seven years, serving Shelby County through a variety of different programs, including Meals on Wheels, the Helping Hands, and the Unique Boutique, a low cost thrift shop offering everything from gently used clothing to household furnishings at an affordable price.

Born and raised in San Augustine, Texas, Sherry attended and graduated from San Augustine ISD. Her parents are James and Shirley Blue. She has been married to Jeffery Harding for almost thirty-three years. They have lived in Shelby County for over twenty-five of those years.

"He (Jeffery) is my number one fan and has supported me through everything I have done. We were blessed with four children, Jessica, Brittany, Haley, and Hunter. God also blessed us with three wonderful sons-in-law, Kyle Jackson, Justin Gilchrist, and Lucas Harbison, and five "amazing loves of my life called grandchildren: Mia, Mason, Maddie, Hayden, and Harper."



Sherry Harding behind her desk at Shelby County Outreach Ministries.

Sherry said her grandfather, who was a preacher, was one of the biggest influences in her life as a little girl. "I knew that I wanted to be a minister since I was a little girl. I remember lining up my stuffed animals and preaching to them when I was young," Sherry said.

Sherry was ordained as a minister by Bronson Revival Center over thirty years ago. She has served in ministry in many capacities; Sunday School teacher, Youth leader, music ministry, and a Jail Ministry for men and women in San Augustine County. She has also had the privilege of going on several mission trips to Guatemala and being a foster parent. Currently, Sherry serves as Vice-President of the local Ministerial Alliance. She is continuing her course of study certification through Perkins School of Theology over the last four years.

Sherry worked for the San Augustine ISD for over 23 years. In addition to being the Executive Director of Shelby County Outreach, she also has two "compassionate, loving, and welcoming church families that I have the honor of Pastoring" for over five years. Every Sunday, Sherry divides her morning from serving as the pastor of the Short United Methodist Church at 9:00 am, located south of Center, and then on to Shelbyville United Methodist Church for worship service at 11:00 am.

Seven years ago, Sherry was looking for opportunities for her youth group,

and found herself at Shelby County Outreach Ministries. "I was over the youth group in my church and looking for ways to get them involved with the community. We volunteered at the Evening with George Foreman fundraiser in 2013 hosted by Shelby County Outreach, said Sherry. "I had previously met with the founder, Pam White, one evening. I explained to her how we were looking for opportunities for my youth and church. It didn't take long to feel as if we were kindred spirits. I recall her passion and commitment to helping and serving others. I explained that my heart's desire was to help and share the love of God. She looked at me and said, 'I don't know how or what exactly, but I do know that you are going to be involved with Shelby County Outreach Ministries somehow.' When she passed away and they were looking for a new Executive Director, I knew this is where God wanted me to be."



Through the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, Shelby County Outreach Ministries has seen growth and many wonderful changes. They have had an opportunity to serve more people than ever before. Due to the increase in local needs and limited funding, they have reached out to different organizations and have applied, and been awarded, numerous grants. Their Senior Programs, which are Meals on Wheels, and the Congregate Program have grown in numbers as well. As a result they have made many wonderful partners through grants and different agencies. In addition, they have updated the Unique Boutique, a thrift shop, run by clothing, furniture, and other donations by the community. They are also currently working on the Helping Hands building.

Presently, they have nine employees and seven volunteers who help operate and implement the programs through Shelby County Outreach. Through this faithful and hard working group they were able to provide 15,386 Senior Meals, 2,386 Food Boxes, feeding over 5,140 people, and meeting the needs of 2,885 this past year. This adds up to 112,475 pounds of distributed food items, with an estimated value of \$266,623. Other equally important needs they are not able to effectively help are homelessness, rent assistance, utility deposits, dental care (such as dentures), hearing and vision needs, burial assistance, transportation to doctors, cancer treatments, etc. The list of needs is endless.

The staff at Shelby County Outreach all love Sherry and her kind and generous attitude toward others. "Sherry is the perfect person to be the Executive Director of Shelby County Outreach Ministries," says Josh Crawford. "She has a servant's heart along with great leadership qualities. She truly makes working here feel like home. We are all family here at the Outreach. It is a

Continued on top of next page

blessing to be able to come to work each day and work for a true Christian and fellow pastor. She makes the old saying 'when you love what you do, you don't work a day in your life,' ring true to all of us."

Lillie Standley says, "It is a real pleasure working for Mrs. Sherry. Her greatest quality is love. The only color she sees is the color of love. She looks through the lenses of love when judging matters at the Outreach. When leading people, love and humility are two characteristics you should possess as the Executive Director of the Outreach, and Mrs. Sherry has them both." "Sherry is the sweetest person I have ever worked for. She is always in a good mood and has a kind spirit when leading the Outreach," Vernell Hicks said. Patsy Jackson said of Sherry, "She makes everyone feel valued and important. The needs are great and often seem overwhelming at Shelby County Outreach Ministries.

"Our community, as well as our county, has seen many struggles in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Donations as well as fundraisers have been reduced and virtually impossible. This caused lower donations and we were not able to have fundraisers," Sherry said. "Our Unique Boutique operates by donations only. These donations consist of clothing, shoes, household items, furniture, and more. The donations are sold for funding. Also, the store helps clients that have lost their homes due to disasters such as house fires by providing basic things such as appliances, furniture, clothing, etc."

"For those who would like more information in how to contribute to Shelby County Outreach Ministries, they can donate items to our physical locations, mail a check to our post office box, or use PayPal, or shop online at smile.amazon.com. The links can be found at our website: shelbycountyoutreach.org. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 1029 Center, TX 75935," Sherry said. She believes having an opportunity to serve has given her an awareness of the physical need as well as spiritual need of Shelby County. "It also makes me appreciate all of life's blessings. Sometimes I think we take for granted having life's necessities. I've also seen the faithfulness of God in the life of myself as well as many others, Sherry said.

"It has built my faith by realizing that Shelby County Outreach Ministries, as well as my ministry to the church, is God's project. My job is to yield to Him and to trust in his ways," Sherry stated.

Sherry Harding, along with the many members of the staff and volunteers, have done just that: touching lives through Shelby County Outreach Ministries, and serving the needs of the people in Shelby County and beyond.

For more information, you may reach Sherry Harding or any of the volunteers at Shelby County Outreach Ministries at 906 Shelbyville Street, Center, Texas 75935 or call them at (936)598-4990. In addition you can check out their Facebook page or go to their web site at shelbycountyoutreach.org



Staff photo, from left to right: Josh Crawford, Vernell Hicks, Lillie Standley, Patsy Jackson and Sherry Harding.

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First Responders Continued from page 31.

making it much easier to get to the scene of an accident than the restrictions of the former hydraulic "jaws."

When asked what he felt was the most rewarding part of his job, Chief Byndom did not hesitate to answer.

"The best part of being a firefighter first and foremost is being able to rescue someone from a fire situation or a wreck, actually being able to help someone in harm's way. The next most rewarding part of my job is being able to see the smiles on the kids' faces. What is fun is seeing grown kids who now bring their own children to the fire station to see the fire trucks and get their pictures taken. They then tell me they remember coming to the station when they were in school."

Some of the services offered through the Center Fire Station are fire safety presentations, home inspections, fire escape planning and fire extinguisher training to local businesses. They have also had teachers bring their grade school children from Center Elementary School to the fire station and have a presentation geared to their age groups about fire prevention. Those visits were temporarily stopped last year due to Covid. Keith said it is very rewarding to know they can present a program to the children at their level which will stay with them after they leave the station. He said it was good to know that the children may have learned something that they will be able to remember in an emergency situation.



Being a volunteer firefighter, and then serving as a fire chief, Keith, as well as the many Center Fire Department volunteers, and firefighters know what an honor it is to be able to provide this service to their community. Each and every one of them hold up the privilege and do not take it lightly. As the Center Fire Department's mission statement says, "To protect the lives and property of the citizen's from natural and man made hazards and emergencies through prevention, education and active intervention."

Our hats are off to not only Chief Keith Byndom of the Center Fire Department, but to all firefighters who daily put their lives on the line to protect the lives, homes, and dreams of others.



MONUMENT CORNER

This month Monument Corner heads back east to San Augustine County. We travel west thru town on Columbia Street. Directly across the street from a previous monument introduced in this column, the Lewis Hotel, is a marker for an Early Texas Sawmill. The marker reads as follows:

ONE-FOURTH MILE NORTH TO SITE OF
EARLY TEXAS SAWMILL

TEXAS' FIRST MILLION-DOLLAR INDUSTRY—LUMBERING—WAS BORN TO RECORDED HISTORY WITH THE BUILDING OF TWO SAWMILLS IN 1819. ONE, LOCATED ON IRONOSA CREEK IN PRESENT SAN AUGUSTINE COUNTY, WAS RUN BY PIONEER WM. WARD; THE OTHER WAS IN NACOGDOCHES. IN 1825 YET ANOTHER MILL (ONE-FOURTH MI.N) WAS TURNING OUT ABOUT 500 BOARD FEET OF LUMBER A DAY. WM. QUIRK WAS MILLER.

IN THESE TIMES, TREES WERE FELLED USING AN AX AND A WEDGE. THEN ONE END OF EACH HUGE LOG WAS SLUNG UNDER A HEAVY CART AND DRAGGED TO A STREAM OR ROAD.

AT THE MILL THE LOGS WERE OFTEN STORED IN A MILL POND, TO KEEP THEM FROM ROTTING, AND THEN THEY WERE SAWED BY VARIOUS METHODS. TWO PRIMITIVE ONES—SOON ABANDONED—WERE PIT SAWING (A SLOW, EXHAUSTING TWO-MAN PROCESS) AND THE MULEY-MILL, POWERED BY ANIMALS. A LATER IMPROVEMENT WAS THE SASH SAW, WHICH WAS SO NEARLY EFFORTLESS THAT ONE OLD-TIMER CLAIMED THE ATTENDANT "COULD READ THE BIBLE OR THE 'GALVESTON NEWS' WHILE THE SAW WAS CUTTING".

IN THE MID-19TH CENTURY, LOGGING SERVED AS A PIVOT-POINT FOR DOZENS OF SUBSIDIARY INDUSTRIES; RAILROAD BUILDING AND LUMBERING HAD A STRONG MUTUAL INFLUENCE AND THE GUSTO OF LOGGERS' LORE IS STILL ALIVE IN THE RICH HERITAGE OF THE PINEY WOODS.

(1969)



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News from Shelby County Chamber of Commerce

by Deborah Chadwick, Director

"What Happens When We Fail" is the title of our 2021 Leadership Conference. John Grubbs is our Speaker for the Leadership Conference which will be held on August 12th, 8:00 am until 1:00 pm at the John Dean Windham Civic Center in Center, Texas.

Mr. Grubbs is a renowned author and key note speaker. He delivers relevant, high-quality information in a fun and entertaining way. His format is a very hands on, interactive approach.

Attendees will learn how to push out of their comfort zone, challenge how they see their life going forward and rethink failure in life. In a post-Covid world, we are all trying to navigate changes in society and in the workplace. Mr. Grubbs will also help us see how to use the pandemic as a pivot opportunity.

The cost for the Conference is \$20.00 per person which includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

Thank you for our Sponsors: **Presenting Sponsor**, Farmers State Bank; **Gold Sponsors**, City of Center and Tyson Foods; **Silver Sponsors**, Baldwin Tree Service and BTS Disposal, LLC.

For more information and/or to make a reservation, please contact the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce at 936-598-3682 or email secretary@shelbycountychamber.com.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

August 2021



<p>Farmer's Market Wednesdays 11am-1pm Saturdays 9am-12pm</p> <p>G&S Gun Show July 31st - Aug 2nd Nac Expo Center</p> <p>International Beer Day Happy Hour Friday, August 6th Lumberjack Harley-Davidson</p> <p>Tax Free Weekend Fri, Aug 6th to Sun, Aug 8th Shop local!</p> <p>Flea Market Fabulous Nacogdoches Trade Days Sat, Aug. 7th & Sun, Aug. 8th Sat, Aug. 14th & Sun, Aug 15th 9am-5pm</p> <p>Dancing with the Stars Sat, August 14th Nac Expo Center</p> <p>HipShot Live Nacogdoches VFW Sat, Aug. 14th</p> <p>Makemore's Ale House & Bistro Open Mic Mondays Wine Down Wednesdays Band Night: HateWaker, Spiral Eye, Ocean's Ego, End of Evergreen Sat, Aug. 14th</p>	<p>Nac Snack Friday Friday, August 27th 11am-4pm Food trucks around Downtown Square</p> <p>Luau Bingo Dinner presented by Boys & Girls Club of Nacogdoches Sat, Aug. 28th Fredonia Hotel</p> <p>Shriner Circus August 31st Nac Expo Center</p> <p>Cottage Wine Bar Susie on the Piano: Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 Jazz in the Garden: Thursdays 7-8:30</p> <p>HipShot Live Lugnutz Bar & Grille Sat, Aug. 21st</p> <p>Region V High School Rodeo Aug 27th - 29th Nac Expo Center</p> <p>Karaoke & Burger Fridays Lugnutz Bar & Grille Every week 8pm-12am</p> <p>Lumberyard 8/14 - Nickeldraft Band 8/21 - Anthony Riley Band</p> <p>Red House Winery 8/5 - White Farmhouse Baking Co. Pop-Up 8/30 - Monthly Wine Dinner</p>	<p>Naca Valley Vineyard 8/7 - Kelsie + Tyler 8/14 - Johnny Mullins & Enrique Munguia 8/21 - Gypsy Jamm 8/28 - Clint Alford Wine-A-Rita Wine Down every Friday Wood fired pizza every Friday 5-9pm & Saturday 12-9pm</p> <p>Banita Creek Hall Doors open 8pm 8/7 - Cody Hibbard 8/14 - Joey Greer w/ Holly Beth 8/21 - Jon Stork 8/28 - Kolby Cooper Ladies Night every Thursday!</p> <p>Fredonia Brewery Trivia every Thursday Now open Sundays 12-6! Live Music Schedule: 8/6 - Shay Dozier 6:30pm 8/7 - Meredith Crawford 6pm 8/20 - Jonathan Webster 6:30pm 8/28 - Michael Paul Jones</p> <p>Fredonia Hotel Music on the Patio Every Friday Night 8/6- Sean Christopher 7-10pm 8/13 - RC Moore 6-9pm 8/20 - Ryan Paul Davis 6-9pm 8/27 - Maryah & Martyn 6:30-9pm</p> <p>Pickin' On The Porch Front Porch Distillery Live Music and Food Trucks every week!</p>
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For tickets, information and more go to www.visitnacogdoches.org/events

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