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NACOGDOCHES COUNTY - ANGELINA COUNTY - SHELBY COUNTY



JANUARY 2023



Happy New Year!



Lamp-Lite Theatre Pays Tribute to Founder Sarah McMullan

by Katherine P. Whitbeck
Lamp-Lite Board of Directors, Publicity

On December 3, 2022, Lamp-Lite Theatre paid tribute to its Founder and Managing/Artistic Director Sarah McMullan following her death on November 15, 2022. After the worship service at Christ Episcopal Church celebrating Sarah's life, Lamp-Lite Theatre hosted a reception at Lamp-Lite.

In addition to giving Lamp-Lite Players and Patrons from across the 50+ years of Lamp-Lite's existence time to reminisce and study the photographs from productions at Lamp-Lite, Board President Ric Berry recognized Sarah's four grown surviving children Amanda, Melanie, Annabel, and Paul Barber, and eight grandchildren; gave the audience the opportunity to hear Sarah speak in an interview conducted by Erica Steed; invited Shirley Watterston to share her remembrances of Sarah; and sang "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You" with other Lamp-Liters, under the direction of Debbie Dalton and accompanied by Shirley Watterston.



Sarah McMullan stands in front of her portrait painted by Patrick Choate.

McMULLAN - Page 2

How the Lord Used a Pastor Who Survived an F5 Tornado to Help Me Through My Storms

by Todd Stallings

Before moving to Nacogdoches to be closer to family, Pastor Kirk Lewis survived the last recorded F5 tornado in the United States. The tornado formed in Moore, Oklahoma on May 20, 2013. "Our home was greatly damaged, and only one room was untouched. We were in the bathroom and the Lord gave me great peace through the storm that all would be well. A great Elm tree fell next to the house, and I believe the Lord used it to break the wind enough to protect us in the room that we were in."

One thing the Bible promises believers is that storms will come into their lives. Whether those storms are weather related, or they come in the form of difficulties with people, finances, health, or emotions, Bible Believers are guaranteed storms will come their way. However, the Bible does promise that God is a refuge in the storm. The actual Ark in the story of Noah's Ark is a picture of God's people finding refuge in Him during a storm.

If you've lived for any amount of time you've had storms come into your life. Whether you're a Bible Believer or not, everyone experiences trouble. For me, 2020 was probably the worst year of my life, and 2021 wasn't much better. At the start of 2022, I'd lost just about all joy. Over the past 7 years I'd been blessed with more professional success and accolades than most people will ever achieve in their entire lives, so how could I have lost so much joy? The answer is in how I handled storms that came into my life. Just like severe weather storms do damage, constant storms in your personal life will eventually wear you down

STORMS - Page 2



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McMULLAN

In 1971, Lamp-Lite Theatre was born under the direction and inspiration of Sarah McMullan. Sarah moved to Nacogdoches from her native state of Mississippi where she founded the Hattiesburg Little Theatre and served as Arts/Entertainment Editor of the *Hattiesburg American*.

She directed over 300 productions for the Lamp-Lite Theatre and guest directed for SFASU's Summer Rep program in Rusk. She directed the Sesqui-centennial play *Nacogdoches: Gateway to Texas* as her contribution to the community historical celebration.

Sarah said she fell in love with the theatre when she first appeared on stage at the age of five in a Christmas play and her love affair continued throughout the years. As recounted to Katherine Whitbeck, who presented Sarah with her Nacogdoches AAUW Woman of the Year Award in 2011, Sarah was always surrounded by poetry in her home, with her grandfather and parents reading to her. She studied speech art as a child and began acting and directing in high school. She worked with Fletcher Collins at Mary Baldwin College in Virginia and holds a B.A. in theatre from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Sarah furthered her knowledge of current theatre by "field trips" that she travels at least once a year to the East Coast, sampling the new theatre season in New York and Washington to select the best new plays for East Texas. Consequently, Lamp-Lite audiences saw *On Golden Pond* and *Crimes of the Heart* before they became motion pictures. By the same token, *Greater Tuna* and *Social Security* played in Nacogdoches a season before appearing in most community theaters in the area.

Occasionally, Sarah returned to her first love, acting, with appearances as The Ghost of Christmas in the Lamp-Lite Annual Production of *A Christmas Carol* at Millard's Crossing Present and with appearances onstage at Lamp-Lite. Favorite roles at the theatre included the Actress in *The Elephant Man*, Julia in *The Cocktail Party*, Dorothy in *Inspecting Carol*, Mrs. St. Maugham in *The Chalk Garden*, Lettice Douffet in *Lettice and Lovage*, Vada in *The Exact Center of the Universe*, and Queen Aggravaine in *Once Upon a Mattress*.

She also guest acted at The Southern Playhouse (a summer stock theatre), in chancel drama in Washington, D.C., and at the Modern Language Association in New York and Chicago. She conducted workshops at Lamp-Lite Theatre and enjoyed bringing out new talent as well as working with "old pros."

Many Lamp-Liters have fond memories of Sarah McMullan calling them and telling them, "Ah, I have a part for you. I would like you to play. . . in . . ." Lamp-Lite Players also remember Sarah always sitting in her director's chair outside the curtained entrance to the auditorium watching them perform. While Sarah is no longer physically present, the Lamp-Lite Players know that she's still watching their performances.



Sarah McMullan watches one of the many performances at Lamp-Lite Theatre from her director's chair outside the curtains to the auditorium.

STORMS

too if you're not prepared for them.

The Bible has the well-known story that while Jesus and His disciples were at sea, a great wind storm pounded their ship with waves. The disciples woke Jesus and asked Him "Master, carest thou not that we perish?" Jesus responded and said, "Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

The lesson is that God controls storms. He has the power to send a storm like He did in the story of Noah's Ark, and He has the power to stop a storm as He did when His disciples were fearful at sea. This story also teaches that trusting Jesus is the way to make it through storms.

The Bible tells of another storm at sea. During this storm, the Disciples looked out and saw Jesus walking on the water and were troubled. However, Jesus told them "Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid." Peter got out of the ship and began walking toward Jesus, but when he took his eyes off Jesus and looked at the storm he began to sink. Afraid, Peter cried out "Lord, save me" and immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

Again, the Bible Believer learns to trust Jesus as He is in control during the storms.

I grew up going to Church, but soon after I finished college I stopped attending regularly. Storms would come and go in my life over the next 20 plus years, and each year there seemed to be more and more. I finally started asking myself "Why is God bringing so many storms into my life and why are they getting worse?" I joined Friendship Baptist in March 2022 and God used this local Church with doctrine in line with scripture to help answer this question.

Originally started in May of 2016 in the home of Pastor Kirk Lewis, Friendship Baptist Church is a church plant sent out of Beth Haven Baptist Church.

Pastor Lewis grew up on a farm in Yates Center, Kansas and later trusted the Lord as his savior in 1964. For a time, he owned his own business as a heavy equipment operator, but in 1977 he told his wife Janice that he needed to sell it so that he could go about God's work. Fifteen minutes later the phone rang and an independent Baptist church in Fritch, TX contacted him about being their new pastor, which he went on to do. Lewis would then go on to start new Baptist churches in Blackfoot, Idaho and Harper, Kansas, and later served on staff at Beth Haven Baptist Church of Oklahoma City and as the Vice President of Beth Haven Baptist Seminary.



Pastor Kirk Lewis

Lewis' heart's desire is to reach people with the gospel, to see them saved and to help them as they work through the issues of life and grow in their love for the Lord.

"Our Mission, first and foremost, bringing glory to God by reaching souls for Christ, but not just stopping there; encouraging continual growth in Christ and helping people apply Biblical principles to deal with real, everyday problems. One of the ways we accomplish that is by preaching the whole counsel of God's Holy Word, and letting God use His Word to make the changes we need in our lives."

The Gospel message is "that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day." The Bible teaches "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" and "the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." So, "if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

The Lord uses storms for many purposes. For me, the Lord was drawing me back to a local Church with storms so I could better learn from Him through His Word how to handle the troubles that come in life without losing my joy. I have noticed the difference, and others around me have as well. If you are experiencing storms in your life, the Lord may be using storms to draw you to Him to trust in Him.

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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.

Publisher - David Stallings - 936.554.5822 - aroundthetown@mail.com
 Advertising Manager - Sharon Roberts - 936.552.6758
 Advertising Account Executive - Tracy Broadway - 936.591.1939
 Advertising Sales - David Stallings - 936.554.5822
 Graphic Design - James Aston - 936.553.1927
 Features Editor - Terri Lacher - 936.488.8701
 Distribution - Josh and Mandy Bradford

Our Pledge . . .

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

At 81, Pastor Lewis has walked with the Lord long enough and learned to trust Him enough that an F5 tornado didn't even rattle him. He learned how to have that kind of peace on the inside from the storms that God brought into his life on the outside, and by learning to not take his eyes off of Jesus during those storms.

Friendship Baptist Church is located at 1901 NW Stallings Drive Nacogdoches, TX 75964. Services times are Sunday School at 10:00 a.m., Sunday Morning Service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday Evening Service at 6:00 p.m., and Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting and Service at 7:00 p.m. Contact (405) 760-0676 for more information.

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RANDY JOHNSON

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- Lifelong resident of Nacogdoches
- Graduate of Texas A&M University, BBA Degree 1978
- Owner of Johnson Furniture and Appliance
- Third generation of local family business Est. 1959
- NISD School Board Trustee - 15 years
- Former NISD School Board President
- Former Nacogdoches City Council Representative
- Active in downtown and community
- Member of First Baptist Church Nacogdoches
- Randy and Brenda have 2 children, 4 grandchildren

LET’S ALL WORK TOGETHER

- Listen to each other and work together to solve problems
- Develop a clear vision for our community
- Improve communication between the city and residents
- Develop priorities based on community engagement
- Balance capital needs with common sense spending
- Grow Nacogdoches while protecting our historic town
- Respect our customers - the residents of this city

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Through the years with *Milford's Barber Shop*

Milford's Barber Shop has been a Nacogdoches County Tradition with four generations of family barbers, beginning in the 1930s. The Milford Family hopes that you'll enjoy this pictorial history and that you'll visit them at 110 North Church Street in Nacogdoches.



Ocie Milford in the 1930s.



Ocie Milford's first shop on the south side of East Main Street in 1938. Ocie began barbering in 1930 before a license was required.



Ocie Milford, father of James and Gene Milford.



Front of second shop on East Main Street next to Shaw's Department Store in 1993. The shop was originally called the Palace Barbershop in 1951.



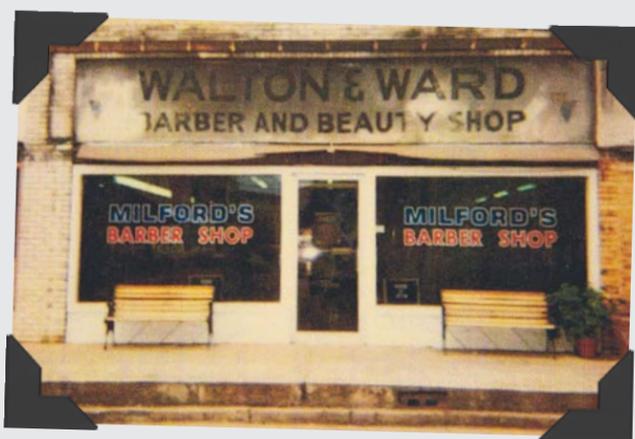
Milford's first staff on East Main St. in 1938. L-R: Howard Acre (Shoeshine Man), Ocie Milford and Fred Sanders.



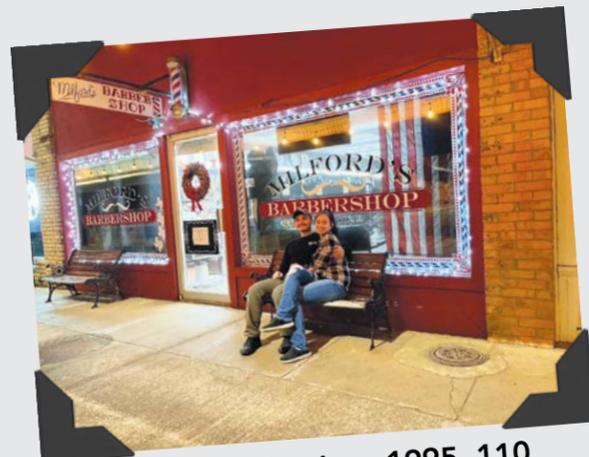
Barber Billy "Bull" Wingate (foreground) at Milford's second shop at 119 East Main St. Ocie Milford is the barber in the background.



James Milford shortly after high school in the mid-50s - The "Jerry Lee" look!



When adding an awning to the current shop several years ago, the old Walton & Ward sign was revealed.



Front of Milford's since 1995, 110 North Church Street - Pictured: Lily Hartman (4th generation barber) and Grant Partin.



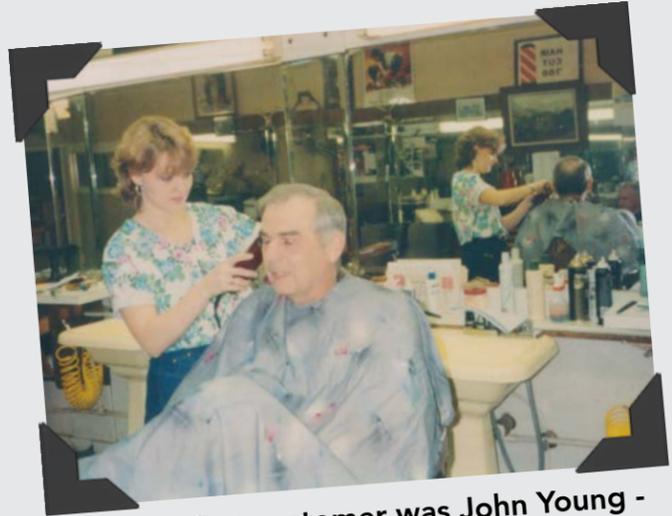
Two local legends/barbers, James Arriola and Gene Milford.



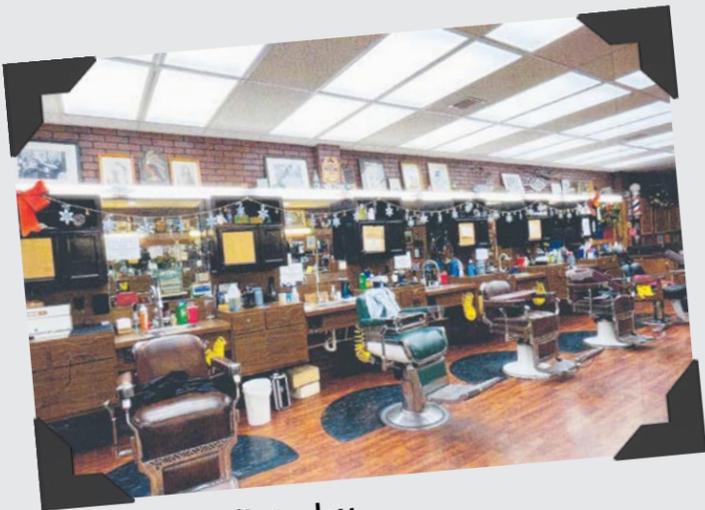
The late Bobby York (L) with Gene and James Milford.



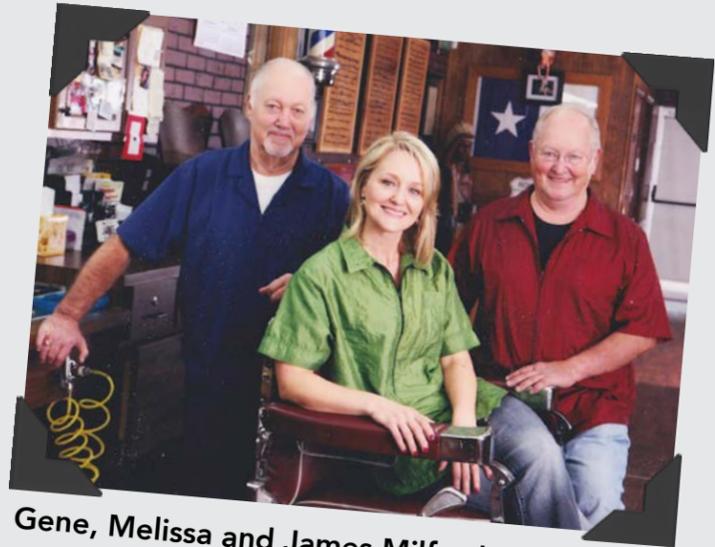
The late Gene Milford with grandson, Harrison Milford, and daughter-in-law, Meagan Lyon-Milford.



Melissa's first customer was John Young - 1992.



Inside Milford's today.



Gene, Melissa and James Milford in 2013.



Current Milford barbers. Standing L-R: Craig Pennington, Caleb McGowen (4th generation), Santa (Bobby Fulks), Melissa Milford McGowen, Sam Grounds, Carol Allen Ruby. Lily Hartman (not pictured) is also a soon-to-be 4th generation barber at Milford's.



Current barber, Carol A. Ruby with James Milford.

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My Favorite Christmas Story

by Taylor Millard

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. For those that know me, you know that the Good Lord blessed me with a body to be Santa Claus without the need of any artificial belly. This has led me to don the red suit on occasion and one special year comes to mind. Many years ago, in the mid-nineties, my friend Rob Meyers had a radio talk show on KSFA 860.

To call it a radio show would be an exaggeration, it was more of like a wreck on the side of the road, you didn't want to look, but you wanted to see what happened. Rob and I enjoyed witty banter and were pretty good at it. It has been a generation ago and people still will approach us, recalling something we said between 6:30 and 8:00 AM Monday through Friday. Close to Christmas one year I spoke on the show of dressing as Santa on Christmas Eve and surprising my friends that had young children, like myself at that time.

I would dress up in a borrowed suit from my friend Debbie, who had her Dad's old suit, a really nice one with a great white beard and hair to match. I drove a red Suburban at the time and the looks from kids and adults in cars as I drove around were priceless. I would randomly stop, unannounced and ring the doorbell to the great surprise of parents and of course young children.

After the show I received a call from a lady that asked if I really did the Santa thing and I said yes. She told me of a poor woman that had been through a bad divorce and her ex had taken her two young children, a boy and a girl. She had no money and the court finally caught up with him and she was getting her children for Christmas. Her meager job and legal expenses had given her almost nothing to provide her children Christmas presents. The kind caller worked with the distraught mother and asked if I would go by to surprise them. I agreed immediately.

I told my friends and a fund was quickly put together for gifts. My friend Debbie, dressed as a cute elf, and I appeared at the little rent house on Christmas Eve. We had multiple wrapped gifts for the children and a paper bag filled with cash for Mom.

We knocked on the door and the young mother answered with I am sure pure shock. Who were these people? The children screamed with delight at the sight of the fat man in the red suit. We passed out the gifts and watched the children open their gifts. The mother could only look at Debbie and I with wonder.

When we left, they all hugged us and the mother walked us to the door. She said thank you with happy tears, and then asked, "Who are you?" I simply answered, "Santa Claus." Those children are now close to forty years old, but if you ask them if they believe in Santa Claus, they will say without a doubt, Yes!



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

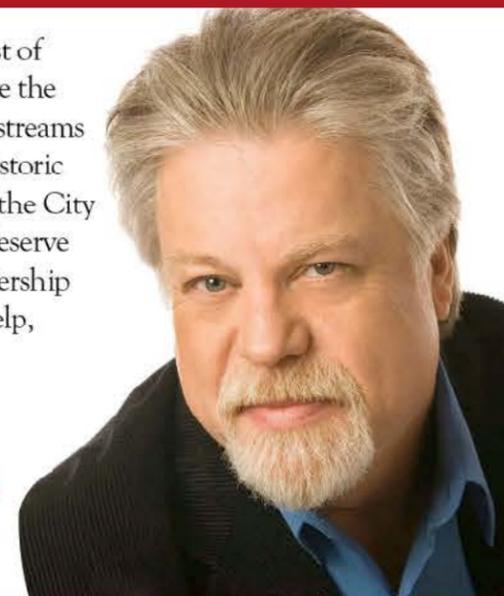


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"I chose to live out the rest of my life here because I love the pine trees, the lakes and streams and this extraordinary historic town. I want to serve on the City Council because we all deserve a voice and we need leadership that listens. With your help, that's what I will do."



- West Texas born and raised
- Came to Nacogdoches in 1972 to attend college
- SFA Graduate - Bachelors of Fine Arts Cum Laude, 1974
- 30-year professional career in Los Angeles
- Two-time nominee, Best Supporting Actor - Daytime Emmy Awards
- Returned to the quiet & peace of Nacogdoches in 2005
- In the 17th year as a lecturer in filmmaking at SFA
- Local homeowner and taxpayer
- Board Member - Nacogdoches Historic Landmark Committee
- Board Member - Friends of Historic Nac
- Board Member - Dean's Circle, SFA
- Member - Sons of the Republic of Texas

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The Love the Arts Ball Fundraiser Coming in Feb.

The Love the Arts Ball, a fundraiser benefiting the Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative, will be held on Saturday February 4th, 2023 from 7-10 PM at Mast Hall in downtown Nacogdoches.



The Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative is a non-profit supporting our community's talents in the visual arts, dance, music, theater and creative writing, and they are raising funds to support arts-based programming for the community, as well as kicking off their capital campaign for a permanent home in Nacogdoches.

The Love the Arts Ball will be a fun and festive evening with delicious food and drink, great music and lots of treasures for sale in our live and silent auctions, including fine art from favorite local artists, beautiful jewelry and so much

more. Come dressed as your favorite artist or work of art or just come dressed to celebrate! Join in the fun and be a part of establishing an arts center that will foster and promote creative talent from all over the community. Single tickets are \$40, couples are \$75. Check out the details on the Nacogdoches Art Collaborative website at nacartscollab.com.



Lisa Steed of the Nacogdoches Arts Collaborative (R) presents Sharon Scifries (L) with her prize for winning ArtWalk Challenge 2022: a pair of tickets to the Love the Arts Ball being held Saturday, February 4, 2023 from 7-10 PM at Mast Hall in downtown Nacogdoches.



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A Great Big ‘Thank You’ to All of You From Millard’s Crossing

Good Day to you,

It has been a pleasure working at Millard’s Crossing for the last year. Enjoying, the growth of staff, volunteers, and new things happening, has been a blast. I say this to say, none of this could have been possible without the help of our sponsors, volunteers, and community. I would like to say a huge thank you to our Sponsors, asking forgiveness up front, because I am sure to forget someone in this process. Bright Foundation, NIBCO, Nacogdoches Junior Forum, BP Photography, CBTX, Loblolly Properties, Axley & Rode, Brookshire Brothers, Tipton Ford, Ed Pool, Med Post, EXT Realty, UBank, Ellis Timber, Henson House Moving & Leveling, Perry Auto Plex, Badders Law, Carla Foshee, Citizens 1st Bank, Austin Bank, Clear Springs/Auntie Pastas, Eastex Glass, Carney Roofing, Edward Jones – Greg Nichols, Castilaw Environmental, Nacogdoches Eye Associates, Henson House Moving & Leveling, R&K Distributors, Encore Music, Spanky and Jenny Jenny, *Around the Town*, Reliable Waste, Roselake, Daddy G’s Christmas Tree Farm, Walmart, Splash Kingdom, Grandough Baking Company, and anyone I may have left off this list.

We have some wonderful talent, some like the few listed here, just wanted to sing and play: Alpha Norris, Miki Lynn, Gent Mountain Grassburs, Jacob Wheeler. More talented and awesome performers are: Kaden, Joe Cuellar, Tin Top Road, Bryan Blaylock & Jimmy Mitchell, Chase Johnson, Cabla Johnson, Cindy Greyson, and anyone I may have forgotten.

Our Magician: Tim the Magician
Lamplite Theater - Performing *A Christmas Carol*

Countless hours of our volunteer base. School students needing some hours, college students always here and ready to help. Wonderful Staff and our Board.

Our Community for coming to our events, teachers and home school groups for bringing their classes and children out on field trips, and our guests that have just come to visit.

Please remember our OPEN MIC, which is known as the Stew, Stroll, and Strum will resume on the 12th of January, and then once a month throughout the winter. Depending on weather, we may be in the Chapel. Please feel free to bring your own beverage and chair to this event.

Up coming **HAPPENINGS AT MILARD’S CROSSING**:::::
FEBRUARY 11, 2023 - Valentines Meal and Dance - DEADLINE FOR TICKETS (FIRM) JAN 27, 2023

\$50.00 per person Covers - Dinner, Music, Dancing, Complementary goodies, and door prizes. Will have a cash bar as well.

Our Easter Event will be April 1st 10:00am – 7:00pm. We will have a lot of fun things to do, keep watching here and Social Media for more information.

From Millard’s Crossing, we hope you have an **AMAZING HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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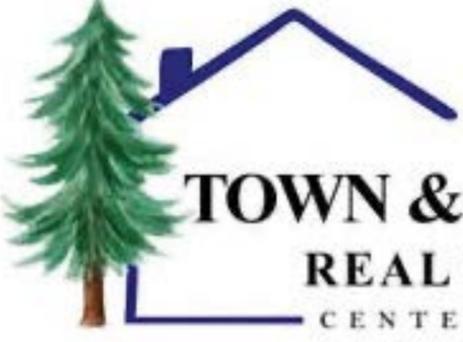
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Capital Needs Advisory Committee Appointed

The Nacogdoches City Council appointed 21 members to the newly formed Capital Needs Advisory Committee.

In November and December of 2021, City Council received reports from City department heads concerning a variety of Capital Improvement needs – these needs ranged from replacement of sewer lines and fire stations to new playgrounds, new public restrooms and street repairs. Almost \$200,000,000 worth of projects were presented and prioritized into tier 1, tier 2 and tier 3 projects with tier 1 projects being of highest priority.

The City Council expressed interest in having citizens participate in the capital needs assessment process. In order to have citizen participation, the City Council has appointed an ad-hoc Capital Needs Advisory Committee to evaluate the desirability and necessity of the Capital Improvement needs, determine how to fund the projects and then provide this input to City Council.

Nacogdoches City Council conducted committee interviews on December 14th and 15th and appointed 20 community members and City Council Member Roy Boldon to this committee as well as designating a Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The Committee will work with City staff and consultants to study a broad category of capital needs and their project costs previously identified and determine if additional needs or projects should be further developed. The Committee has the authority to recommend a slate of capital projects to the City Council for an election to authorize issuance of bonds and other debt instruments to fund the needs or projects. They also have the authority to recommend no bond election, the size and scope of a bond election and other recommendations regarding Capital Needs.

The Capital Needs Advisory Meeting will establish time and date for committee meetings which will be posted on the City of Nacogdoches website in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

The full resolution and list of Capital Needs Advisory Committee members can be found on the City of Nacogdoches website at www.nactx.us.

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

What do you do 18 times a minute, 1,080 times an hour, 25,920 times a day, yet rarely notice? The answer: You breathe. If you are 40 years old, you have already taken more than 378 million breaths. Each of those breaths was a measured gift from the hand of God!

Your lungs are among the most important parts of your body. They furnish your blood with oxygen and get rid of carbon dioxide and water. A few minutes without breathing and you would lose consciousness. You could not survive much longer without oxygen.

The Bible tells us that the Lord holds in His hand “the life of every living thing.” (Job 12:10, NKJV.) God gives us those 26,000 gifts each day so that we might honor Him with the life they sustain.

A minister was at the bedside of an elderly Christian who was near death. When he asked her what Scripture she wanted him to read, she said, “Make your own selection, pastor, but let it be one of praise.” Although she was breathing her last, she wanted her parting testimony to echo the psalmist, “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.”

Have you thanked God today for His gift of life?

WHEN IT’S TIME TO BREATHE A PRAYER OF THANKS, DON’T HOLD YOUR BREATH!

A LITTLE HUMOR: A preacher went to visit one of his parishioners, and as he stood by the bedside, the man began to gasp and motioned for the preacher to hand him a pencil and a piece of paper which is what he did. He assumed that the man wanted to write something important. Just as he finished, the man gave one last gasp and died. The preacher folded the note up, put it in his pocket, and assumed that it was something that he would want remembered as his last words. He decided to leave the note in his pocket until the funeral service and then take it out and read it to the congregation so that they could hear the man’s last parting wish.

The time came for the service and the preacher walked out on the platform. Remembering the note, he reached in his pocket and pulled it out and read, “You are standing on my oxygen tube.”

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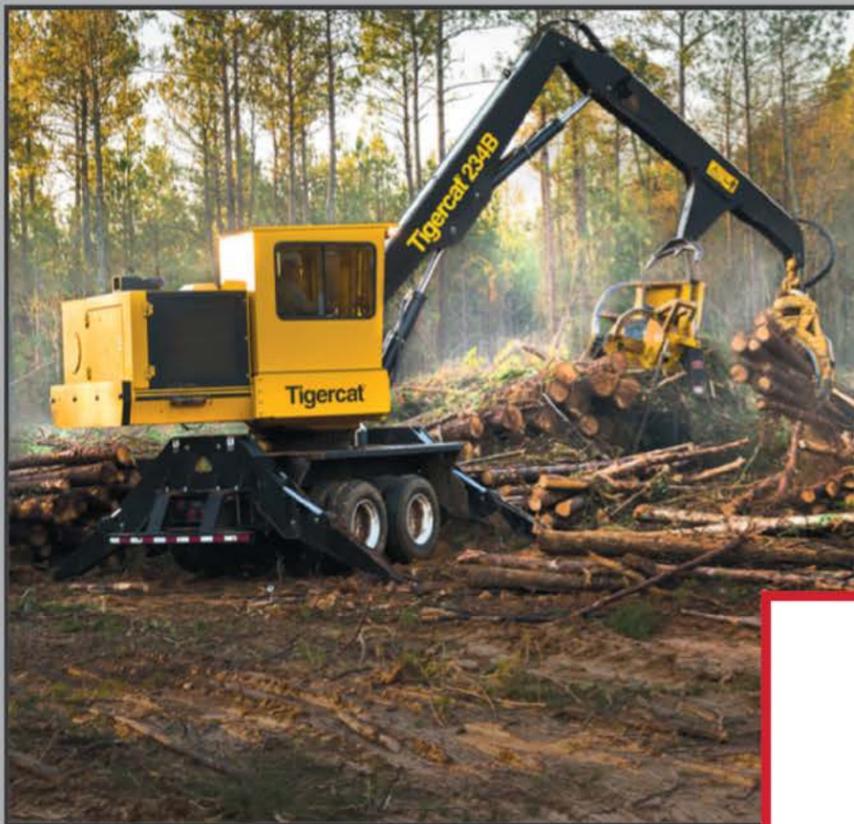
Lamp-Lite Theatre Will Host Clean-up Day

Lamp-Lite Community Theatre will host a CLEAN-UP DAY, Saturday, January 28, 2023, beginning at 9:00 am. Co-Building and Grounds Manager Brian Oswald encourages volunteers to bring work gloves and dress appropriately to clear brush and clean out the lumber storage building. "We will clean up outside, clean out and dispose of stuff we don't want in the pole barn and organize props and shop." Other volunteers will organize the Scripts Library and the Historic Archives



for Lamp-Lite. Oswald and Co-Manager Gerry Peacock will direct volunteers in their efforts. Anyone interested in assisting on January 28th is encouraged to email lamplitetheatre@gmail.com.





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CAP Cadets Aid with Wreaths Across America

Eleven cadets along with senior members of the Nacogdoches Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol conducted a "Wreaths Across America" Ceremony Saturday, Dec 17th at Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery.

Cadets presented individual wreaths honoring the fallen from each of the services after a cadet honor guard presented the colors at an indoor ceremony.

Additional wreaths were placed on graves in Oak Grove Cemetery by Daughters of the American Revolution.



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January 2023 Schedule

Tue 3rd	Guacamoles	Lufkin	6:00 pm
Thu 5th	Tia Juanitas	Lufkin	6:00 pm
Sat 7th	Naskila Casino	190 E	1:00 pm
Fri 13th	Naskila Casino	190 E	7:00 pm
Sat 14th	Naskila Casino	190 E	1:00 pm
Tue 17th	Guacamoles	Lufkin	6:00 pm
Wed 18th	Tia Juanitas	Lufkin	6:00 pm
Thu 19th	Ralph & Kacoos	Lufkin	6:00 pm
Fri 20th	Dance Club VFW	Lufkin	7:00 pm
Fri 27th	American Legion 402	Livingston	8:00 pm
Sat 28th	Crime Stoppers	Trinity VFW	8:00 pm
Tue 31st	Guacamoles	Lufkin	6:00 pm

The High Holy Days of Texas

by Tweed Scott

The Battle of Gonzales was fought on October 2, 1835. That is generally considered to be the first battle of the “Hot” war when shots were actually fired in anger beginning the Texas Revolution. You may know it better as the “Come and Take it” incident. A big fuss over a tiny cannon. It was enough to bring the growing tension to a head and a breaking point. I see it as the beginning of the “High Holy Days of Texas.”

Hostilities continued to mount over the next four or five months. We have now arrived at January again. The Texas Revolution is about to come into clear focus again. Santa Anna would arrive in San Antonio on February 23, 1836. The siege will last for 13 days before the general’s troops were unleashed on the defenders of the Alamo.

A couple of weeks later 350 other Texan prisoners were marched out on Palm Sunday into the fields near LaBahia in Goliad and executed. A few got away and were able to fight in the final battle in April at San Jacinto. The result of that battle was the capture of Santa Anna and his relinquishing of Texas to Sam Houston. That event resulted in the formation of the Republic of Texas—its own country.

There are many colorful stories surrounding the events that made up the Texas Revolution and all the personalities conducting it. In the weeks ahead, I’ll explore many of those events and the people involved with making them happen. I’ll even address the “Runaway Scrape.” That is a big story that doesn’t usually get the attention it deserves.

An old friend once told me, “Texas doesn’t so much have a great history, but it does tell one heck of a story! I believe there is a lot of truth in that statement. No doubt, Texas is a huge tapestry of colorful stories and equally colorful personalities. It is a huge stage for anyone to play out their dreams.

The “High Holy Days” are a special time. It is so special that our kids are taught a really healthy dose of Texas History. I dare say Texas children know more about their state and its history than most of the kids in other states. That’s because Texas’ state history is so heavily mandated in the public schools.

We have a lot to talk about in the coming months and I am looking forward to sharing that information with you. We’ll bear down on the Alamo in February. I invite you to join in as we explore the events & personalities of the High Holy Days of the Texas Revolution.



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Rhonda Oaks
Lufkin District Public Information Officer
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Holidays Offer New Beginnings

I was headed into town to do a little Christmas shopping when I passed an old pickup truck pulling a trailer with what appeared to be all they owned loaded on it.

As I got closer, I wondered where they were coming from or going to. Were they making a new start, just moving across town, moving to East Texas for new opportunity, and why were they moving during the holidays?

It really got me to thinking about how we have the wrong idea when it comes to Christmas. I thought as I watched that old truck drive around the Lufkin loop, that some people might be having a rough time making ends meet this Christmas. And while most of us shop for presents to go under the tree, the 'giving' part of Christmas shouldn't be about how much money we spend gifting to someone else. Holidays are about much more. Holidays for the family in the old truck could have been about a new beginning.

East Texas has some great agencies and individuals who wait all year to help others during the holidays. Some have one goal and that is to make sure every child has a gift to open Christmas morning. Others want to make sure there is food on the table for families in need. These are worthy organizations.

TxDOT is also about giving in a different way. We make sure almost daily that you are armed with the information necessary for you to arrive at your destination safely. I can hear some of you chuckle at classifying safety information as a 'gift.' But it is. How else would you know the best and safest routes to travel? And if you aren't sure you can get somewhere safely, why would you go?

Many of you will travel during the holiday season, while some will have family traveling to visit you. Some of you are already planning a New Year's Eve party to celebrate the new year, and I know we are all planning to begin a new year with hopes of good health and happiness.

We hope whatever your holiday plans include, that you will choose to keep safety in mind. No doubt, the roadways will be busier than usual in coming days. I hope you choose to drive sober and put the phone away. Stay alert and buckle up, because you don't know if the drivers around you are making safe choices. Visit drivetexas.org to check for road closures and conditions before you travel.

A new start, whether it is the beginning of a new year, a new destination, or moving to begin life somewhere else, will be more successful if you begin it with staying safe and practicing the safe rules of the roadway.

TxDOT wishes you all a safe trip to your chosen destinations for the holidays, and we hope that as we all turn the page and make new starts in the coming new year, we will remember and be grateful for how we safely arrived.

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NACOGDOCHES COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Nacogdoches County Farm Bureau grows relationships with community

Nacogdoches County Farm Bureau believes in supporting local communities and helping local youth grow an understanding of agriculture.

The county organization made a donation to Love INC, a local non-profit organization.

The county organization also hosted the annual Ag Day for fourth grade students in the county. During the Ag Day, there were several stations set up to give students a chance to learn about the diversity of agriculture in the area, as well as a look at wildlife. Students learned more about how animals are cared for, water conservation and possible careers in agriculture.

More resources are available at texasfarm-bureau.org/aitc to help grow agricultural awareness and literacy in local classrooms, or contact Texas Farm Bureau Field Representative Jodie Goff at jgoff@txfb.org for more information.



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In Times Like These

by Geri Grimes-Coats

How often do you hear someone say, "Life is just harder to make it in times like these"? I hear it said quite often. No, let me change that—I have heard it said quite often since I was born in 1932.

Times were difficult during the Great Depression; during World War II; through inflation, after inflation; through floods and droughts; through hurricanes and tornadoes; through civil turmoil; through Pandemics; through high gasoline prices; through high food prices. Must I continue? I think you get the point.

People respond to hard times in various ways. Some just learn to adapt and make sacrifices. Some give up and depend on help to survive. Some don't survive at all. Suicide is still a heartbreaking decision that some people make. Most people just work harder to make it through the worst of times.

What makes the difference in the way people respond? I'm sure there are many different answers to this question. I can only answer in the way I believe.

In 1943 when the war in Europe was looking so discouraging, a minister's wife in Pennsylvania wrote a song. It came from the depths of her heart.

Her name was Ruth Caye Jones and the song was called "IN TIMES LIKE THESE." George Beverly Shea sang it many times on the Billy Graham Crusades. The first time I heard it in the late 1950s I knew exactly what the writer meant. It worked for me. It has worked for many people through the years and it will still work for anyone in 2022.

Simple words stating a powerful truth!

IN TIMES LIKE THESE

In times like these you need a Savior. In times like these you need an anchor. Be very sure—be very sure your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!

You can read and hear all of this song on the Internet. Please do.

Sometimes the most important lessons we learn come from things we experience during the worst of times.

Theodore Roethke said, "In a dark time the eye begins to see."

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New Year's Resolutions

by Jim Garrett

Happy New Year, Dear Readers. Thank you so much for being part of our readership as we begin the year 2023. We trust that as the new year begins, you'll tell your friends about *Around the Town* and all of the businesses which support it so that it can continue to be available to you and others FREE of charge.



Jim and Mary Beth Garret

As all of you well know, January is the month in which we make our New Year's resolutions. Based on what we see advertised on television, the predominant concern most people have is about losing weight and exercising in order to improve one's health. A big part of health improvement involves establishing reasonable eating habits as well. Enough said.

A few years ago, I was concerned about my poundage from having looked at a weight chart. So, what did I do? I went to see our family doctor. He agreed with my assessment and prescribed some "weight loss pills." I took them for about a day or two and decided that something was wrong because the pills made me as nervous as a cat in a room full of rocking chairs!! I went back to the weight chart and discovered that I had read it all wrong. I was not too fat; I was TOO SHORT! Based on my weight, I should be six-foot-six – which I am not. And since there was nothing I could do about my height, that ended my dependence on those little pills.

One thing an overweight person should avoid is weighing on those scales which verbally tell you your weight. One must also be very careful when stepping onto such a scale; otherwise, one will get an error message saying, "One at a time, please! One at a time!"

A New Year's Eve story: When our children were in high school, our son worked as a stocker at Brookshire Brothers and our daughters baby sat for numerous couples. One New Year's Eve our son was to pick up his sister when he got off work after midnight and before he came home. He drove across town in the old red pickup (described in an earlier article) and got her. He was on the east loop heading home when suddenly he saw the dreaded red and blue flashing lights behind him. The old red truck had a very loose steering mechanism and one had to constantly turn the steering wheel back and forth to stay within the lines on the asphalt. Apparently, the truck was weaving just a little too much and had crossed over the outside white line more than once. Our son stopped and as a Nacogdoches patrolman approached the truck, Wendy began to scream at her brother, "Confess, Jimmy! Just confess!". The officer must have heard the commotion and he wanted an explanation as to why they were out so late and if they had been drinking. Our son very calmly explained the situation and the officer gave them a warning ticket and sent them on their way.

A little humor: Some years later when Wendy was living in the Bryan/College Station area, she was driving home after being in Nacogdoches celebrating her mother's birthday. It was dusk on New Year's Eve and as she was approaching the city limits of her destination, she was pulled over by a state trooper. He approached her car and asked if there were a reason for her being in such a hurry. She replied, "My daddy told me to get home before dark because that's when the kooks come out!" The officer smiled, handed her a warning ticket and told her to slow it down!

The following poem was inspired by an illustration of the same name given in a sermon by Rev. Edwin McDaniel, pastor of Perritte Memorial United Methodist Church. I hope, Dear Readers, that you not only enjoy what is written but also benefit from what you see.

I Can Sleep When the Wind Blows

The old man advertised for help
With work around the farm.
But only one person applied -
Much to his alarm.

"What are your qualifications, son?
What do you do best?
Do you think you can do the job
When the work becomes a test?"

The old farmer was shocked
When fast came the reply,
"I can sleep when the wind blows -
If you'll let me give it a try."

Never had the old farmer heard such an answer;
But what choice was available to him?
No one else had even applied,
So, he hired the young man based upon a whim.

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Weeks later a squall line rolled in -
Late into the night.
The wind was blowin' up a storm;
The thunder and lightning were a fright.

The old farmer was jolted awake
And sprang from his bed.
He ran out to the barn
And then he checked out the shed.

The animals were all cared for,
Each one free from harm.
The gates were all closed -
As were the doors on the barn.

As the old man returned to the house
And passed the young man - asleep in his bed,
The farmer fully realized the meaning
Of what the young man had said.

His work was completed;
He was through for the day.
He could now sleep contented
When his body "hit the hay"!

As we begin this New Year, may this poem serve as an admonition to each of us to finish what we start and to do it in a timely manner. May we resolve to say with confidence: "I can sleep when the wind blows!"



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Nacogdoches Is Becoming a “Big Dill”

by Robert McCandless

Here amidst the clamor of Mark Cuban, Tom Brady, LeBron James and Anheuser-Busch forming professional teams and leagues and instituting a post-Christmas draft of pickleball players...

...here amongst all the national news coverage, broadcasting of tournaments, and formation of a pickleball cable channel...

...lies a part of the 5 million players in the U.S. who are growing at about 20 percent yearly, among all ages.

Here you will find the city of Nacogdoches and Old Town Pickleball.

A feverous growth in the sport has created a need for places to play, right here in the deep piney woods of East Texas. It began in church gyms and spread to parking lots and old dilapidated tennis courts.

In the last month 6 new public courts have been repaired by volunteers with city help and 12 new courts are under construction, as I write, because of a gracious anonymous donor.

With 18 courts in our city, tourists will be attracted, benefitting the city by bringing people in who will spend time and money here playing with friends and attending tournaments.

People have always planned vacations around sports like fishing, golf, SCUBA diving and now they are planning them around pickleball.

Old Town Pickleball is a group of all ages with over 150 members, growing daily, teaching all “newbies” who show up. We also invite experienced players as well. We have courts! Let’s play!

We invite you to come to the C.L. Simon Rec Center next to the library on North Street every weekday from 9:00 am till Noon to be introduced to the fastest growing sport in the U.S. and now Nacogdoches. We would also love to meet with you at Banita Park (next to the dog park) and show you what fun it is to play. Or, we invite you to the Maroney Pickleball Complex in the near future.

To keep up with what is happening with Old Town Pickleball contact us and post at: FACEBOOK: NACOGDOCHES PICKLEBALL.



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Bullying: What Is It and What Can Schools Do to Stop It?

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

As a school administrator, I regularly receive calls from concerned parents about bullying. Unfortunately, the term bullying has become synonymous with someone teasing or being mean to their child. Because of the loose use of the term bullying, I must differentiate between what is bullying and what constitutes teasing. Bullying involves much more than being a mean person. For schools, the Texas Education Code provides this definition of bullying:



a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct and that

- has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property;
- is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;
- materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school or infringes on the rights of the victim at school.

What can schools do?

Schools have many tools at their disposal when dealing with a bully. Some of the most common techniques involve placing the child in a disciplinary-based alternative school for up to one school year, assigning the student either in or out of school suspension, moving the bully or the victim to another school location (if available within the district), getting to the root cause of the bullying which usually involves counseling, or putting into place a stay away agreement between the students involved in the misbehavior.

The consequences of misbehavior at schools are typically progressive in nature. This means as the misconduct persists, the disciplinary measures become increasingly more severe. The primary purpose of a consequence should be altering a student's misbehavior and not be simply a punishment. Often, parents will learn of the consequences assigned to another child and express their frustration that it was not "severe" enough. I can completely understand a parent wanting "justice," however; stopping the misbehavior must remain the goal of the schools and the administrators.

Cyberbullying

Not all bullying is done in person. Cyberbullying is bullying that involves any internet-based communication tool. Schools will often be heavily involved in cyberbully instances because of SB179 which was passed in 2017. This legislation allows school administrators to assign consequences to a cyberbully if their attacks negatively impact another student's educational opportunities.

We can all agree, bullying and cyberbullying must stop in schools. As parents, we want our children to thrive in a safe learning environment. Educators also want students to excel and be free from harassment. Parents, community members, and business owners are encouraged to join their local school and district-level improvement and student health committees and work alongside educators in providing proactive solutions to this ongoing problem. Through the joint efforts of schools and communities, awareness of bullying and meaningful prevention measures can be created that will positively impact students and the community.

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Ashley Morgan
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Happy New Year!

It's that time of year where we rest, restore and reflect. We learn from the previous year and go forward with new knowledge and passion.

If you have not heard already, our amazing Sales Director Joanna Temple has stepped down to pursue other dreams. She'll still be local and working on events, just not under the Visit Nacogdoches umbrella. We're sad to see her go but support her in all of her future endeavors.

We know we can't replace Joanna, it's just impossible. The Sales Director job description has been re-written and adjusted to create an entry-level role. In the new year, that position will be filled. We are excited to bring a new person with fresh eyes to the team! Once that person becomes acquainted with their role, we'll start bringing some small-scale events back. In the meantime, we'll be strategizing and promoting local events to visitors on our website, app and social media.

With being down a staff member, we could use some extra help at the Visitor Center! Come volunteer with us any day of the week! Our volunteer shifts are great for locals looking to get out of the house and meet new people. You'll learn lots about the town's history, upcoming events, and even meet some cool tourists from all over the world! It's easy to sign up, just contact Mike Bay at info@visitnacogdoches.org or call 936-564-7351.

As always, if you're having an event and want it promoted through Visit Nacogdoches, submit it on our website at visitnacogdoches.org/events
Wishing you all a Happy New Year and a prosperous 2023!

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The Refuge

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

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



One Resolution—Love Well

“I have declared to them Your name... that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.” John 17:26

A spiritual miracle keeps manifesting itself by God’s grace in my life while on my way to heaven: I’m learning how to love well in order to live well. And it is a beautiful thing. The Bible is right—love covers a multitude of sins. It is to our shame as followers of Christ that we seem so unwilling, so obstinate in our refusal to love as our Lord and our God has loved us. The sin of disobeying Christ to love, adds fuel to the fires of hell that are already burning in the hearts of people around us—family, friends, neighbors, strangers—because they do not experience what we profess to believe, that God is love.

Only God knows how much time we have remaining in our earthly bodies to love. The Bible says God is the invisible God (Col 1:15). By loving people, the way Christians are commanded to love, those around us will see the invisible God we serve. I want to give you three ways we can resolve to love well in the New Year and beyond.

The first requires God’s indwelling love. Not the world’s version of love but true love. True love is spiritual and can only come from God. We cannot give to others what we have not received. God’s love is a gift, a spiritual blessing, the first fruit listed among the nine from the Holy Spirit. The Bible says in Romans 5:5, “the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” You must be born again by the Holy Spirit in order to have true love. Love stems from life. It is Christ’s life in us that ushers in God’s love. If you are not loving well, then perhaps you need to be born-again. This next point may be a prohibitive factor to loving well if you’ve been born again.

Love for lost souls is a by-product of God’s love. Do you share the gospel, the good news of salvation? Are you evangelizing, witnessing to people who need to know that God loves them as evidenced by His Son dying for their sins on the cross, forgiving all of their sins—resulting in eternal life? Love speaks. If withholding the gospel, we deceive ourselves that we love well. Finally, love surrenders.

Have you surrendered, fully entrusting everything you have to the Holy Spirit’s control, daily? Is there anything you are withholding from God’s use for His glory? If yes, then resolve in 2023 to give all to Him so that you may love well.

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Texas Ghost Lights

by Neal Murphy

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



Sightings of “ghost lights,” luminous, glowing phenomena usually in the shape of an orb, have been reported all over the world. They appear in various sizes and colors, floating just above the surface of the ground. Despite research, most “ghost lights” still defy any natural explanation.

The following characteristics are common to “ghost lights”: (1) They appear in rather remote areas; (2) they are very elusive; (3) when approached they usually retreat or disappear; (4) they are sometimes accompanied with a humming or buzzing sound; and (5) they are often associated with a particular physical location where a tragic, untimely death has taken place.

Two of the best known “ghost lights” have long haunted the Lone Star State. Far out west in the Davis Mountains, the “Marfa Light” has been observed since the 1880s. In the Big Thicket area of Southeast Texas, the notorious “Ghost Light of Saratoga” has been scaring the wits out of people since the turn of the last century.

The Marfa Lights are visible every clear night between Marfa and Paisano Pass in northeastern Presidio County as one faces the Chinati Mountains. At times they appear colored as they twinkle in the distance. They move about, split apart, melt together, disappear, and reappear. Presidio County residents have watched the lights for over a hundred years.

The first historical record of them is in 1883 when a young cowhand, Robert Reed Ellison, saw a flickering light while he was driving cattle through Paisano Pass. Puzzled, he was told by other settlers that they often saw the lights, but when they investigated they found no ashes or other evidence. Cowboys herding cattle on the prairies noticed the lights and in the summer of 1919 rode over the mountains looking for the source, but found nothing. During WW11 pilots training at the nearby Midland Army Air Field outside Marfa looked for the source of the elusive lights from the air, again without success.

Those who have viewed the lights over a long time personify them and insist that they are not only harmless, but friendly. Mrs. W. T. Giddings, who grew up watching the lights and whose father claimed he was saved from a blizzard when the lights led him to the shelter of a cave, considers the lights to be curious observers, investigating things around them.

Over the years many explanations for the lights have been offered, ranging from an electrostatic discharge, swamp gas, or moonlight shining on veins of mica, to ghosts of conquistadors looking for gold. The Texas Highway Department has constructed a roadside parking area nine miles east of Marfa on U.S. Highway 90 for motorists to view the curious phenomenon.

In the Big Thicket near Bragg, Texas, we find other paranormal phenomena called the Saratoga Light, or the Bragg Road Ghost Lights. This mysterious light can be found along Black Creek near the old ghost town of Bragg in eastern Texas. Viewed on a dirt road that leads into swamp land, this spook light carries the well known legend of the railway brakeman who was accidentally beheaded by a passing train, and who now searches the area for his head with a gas lantern.

The Big Thicket Ghost Light has been described as starting as a pinpoint of light among the swamp trees that grows to the brightness of a flashlight, then dims and fades away. Its color has been likened to that of a pumpkin. Skeptics say that the lights are those of automobiles in the distance, although no real research has ever offered a logical explanation of the light.

Perhaps the most interesting of all the “ghost light” accounts appeared in the Houston Daily Post in 1881. Near a small farming town south of San Antonio, eyewitnesses reported a “lurid light ascending in a circular shape and in various shades of color for several nights.” A brave fellow decided to try to catch the light. He was almost successful in his quest, but the close encounter nearly cost him his life. Approaching the spot where the “light” was hovering, he foolishly attempted to grab the light with his hands and arms. His contact left him badly burned, his face and arms scorched by the luminous ball. And for a time after the incident the newspaper stated that he was “senseless.”

If and when research provides answers to our questions, perhaps science can finally solve the riddle of “ghost lights.” Until that day, those haunting, bright-burning, spherical visitors that light up the night, causing wonder, fear, and superstition, will surely remain a time-worn mystery.

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Chamber Connection
by C. Wayne Mitchell
IOM, President & CEO,
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of Commerce

Nacogdoches and Pickle Ball

Last year at this time I never heard of “pickle ball.” Then, in April 2022, Robert & Gail McCandless, Old Town Pickle Ball, walked through my door. They suggested that pickle ball would be an appropriate event for the Texas Blueberry Festival.

My first thought was “this may be a prank someone is playing on me.” Because of their passion, I decided I would play along. After they left my office, I went to Google to see what pickle ball was all about.

Robert invited me to the Nacogdoches Rec Center to see pickle ball in action. It worked. I am now a fan of those women and men that choose to play this unique and fun sport. Pickle ball is a lot like tennis only played on a smaller court with paddles and something that resembles a wiffle ball. The court I visited had teams of two on each side. *I was hooked!*

What did I learn from this experience? I should not be too quick to dismiss the ideas and passion of others. Robert and Gail and their pickle ball friends have helped to develop several new pickle ball courts around Nacogdoches. More are planned to be built soon.

How will this help the businesses of Nacogdoches? Because of the efforts of this group and the support of the City of Nacogdoches, pickle ball tournaments will be held here in the next few years. People from all over will come to this county to stay in our hotels; eat in our restaurants and purchase goods and service. That is a boost to the local economy.

In addition, this new group will provide Nacogdoches residents of all ages the opportunity to develop their pickle ball skills. Who knows? Maybe the next pickle ball national champion will come from Nacogdoches, Texas!

If you are interested in joining the Nacogdoches pickle ball group, please contact the Chamber. We will be happy to put you in contact with this exciting new organization.

Our recent Chamber “ribbon cutting” event for the new pickle ball courts had dozens of people in attendance. The group was also honored to have Nacogdoches Mayor Jimmy Mize attend as well and many city officials. It was a great day for Nacogdoches!

This demonstrates what people with big ideas can do. When you talk about pickle ball with my friend Robert you can sense his passion and commitment to this new sport.

There are others in Nacogdoches County with big ideas. I would invite you to share them with us. You never know what you can accomplish until you try!



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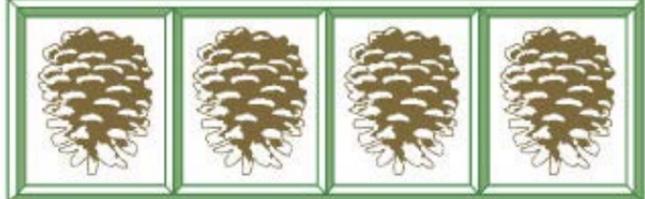
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So Whatever Happened to Pig Stands?

by Mike Mills

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

If you have read a few of my columns, you know by now that I tend to harken back to the days of my youth, when things seemed, well, normal. I often think of my teen years in Nacogdoches and some now long-gone eating joints like the Top Burger where, in high school, I could get a burger, fries and a Coke for 50 cents...I kid you not! There were also the late-night hangouts, like John's Restaurant on South Street, a favorite chicken fried steak emporium and, also on South Street—how many iced mugs of root beer did I drink from the old A&W stand? Who knows? And let's not forget the Caraban, way out north on U. S. 59; I think they had an especially good charburger.



But this story is not about the restaurant ghosts of Nacogdoches' past; I'm writing about Pig Stands. Now you probably won't remember Pig Stands unless you have quite a few decades under (over?) your belt, but there were more of them than you probably realize—more than 120, in fact, throughout the U. S. They started in Dallas in 1921, just when the automobile began to achieve some real popularity. Being quite a visionary, George Kirby took note of the increasing number of cars on the road and decided to offer them curb service food, complete with carhops, resulting in the first restaurant drive-in in the country.

The Pig Stand's signature sandwich, as you might expect, was the Pig Sandwich. This was a big hit before the world's insatiable craving for beef burgers took off. The Pig Stand also has the distinction of inventing fried onion rings! As the legend goes, one of the cooks wondered what it would be like to put some breading on onions and toss them into the fryer; the rest is history.

Now, let's fast forward 102 years. During the meantime, changes in ownership, bad business decisions and non-payment of taxes began a gradual winnowing of the restaurants over the years. Guess how many Pig Stands are left from the original 120 or so? If you said "none," you would have matched my guess. But imagine my surprise when Sandy and I, quite by accident, ran across the very last one in operation. It has been there since 1967, near downtown San Antonio, buried underneath an I-10 interchange. It



is rather shopworn, and the drive-in part is shut down, home now to a few junky vehicles. As you can tell from the photo, the sign has faded, and the pink art-deco design was out-of-date when the place was built more than 50 years ago. Also gone are the Friday night hot rod gatherings that were all the rage back then.

We had to stop there, of course. Luckily, we hadn't had lunch, and judging from the rundown look of the place, it had a potential for a death knell itself. We knew this could be our only opportunity ever to patronize a Pig Stand.

To our utter delight, the inside had the same corny décor of many restaurants of the '50s and '60s. We even gasped when we saw the juke box play selectors at the booths. Could this have gotten any better? And we hadn't even been seated yet! We were led to a booth by an ancient server in a waitress' uniform, of all things! I didn't get



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her name, as I usually do; my senses were overloaded as it was. Looking over at the juke box selector (I can't remember if there was a different term for them back when they were popular), I could see that the Beach Boys were still going strong, as were Elvis, Marvin Gaye and Buddy Holly. My nostalgic rush was so strong, I almost didn't notice when the menus were dropped on our table.



If you think I would leave there without eating one of their famous pig sandwiches, you would be wrong. That's what I ordered, and Sandy ordered a hamburger. Having no idea what their classic pig sandwich was like, I was a bit surprised when it arrived. It consisted of thick slices of pork loin and dill pickles between two hamburger buns lathered with barbeque sauce. While it was a decent sandwich, the pork loin was sliced too thick to be tender and, if it had been smoked, it was not really evident. I'm thinking it was just roasted in an oven.

Sandy's hamburger was declared to be "okay."

Okay, so the meal wasn't spectacular. It did not diminish, however, from the feeling I was young again and that Sandy and I were on a date, listening to Bobby Vinton crooning away from the jukebox. I was in heaven.

Looking around, we couldn't help but notice a vast collection of ceramic pigs in every pose and caricature you could imagine. You can see part of the collection in the photo. I especially liked the pig in a chef's uniform and the pig on a motorcycle.

I'm pretty sure all the pigs were for sale because an older couple were standing at the cash register in front, peering into a glass case at a selection of ceramic pigs inside. Our server was there, pointing to the various pigs, most of which appeared to be piggy banks. I overheard her say to the couple while pointing to one of the larger piggy banks, "Now, this one is two hundred dollars." I was a bit taken aback by this, but I didn't know if it was a rare artifact or if that was the going price. That's probably because I have not shopped for any ceramic piggy banks lately.



I guess I'll recover before long from this blast from the past. I even told Sandy I might try to get a ducktail haircut next time. Always a bastion of support, she said, "Well, you better hurry; that's about all you've got left."

Oh, the places we go and the places we've been. I hope sharing our travels brings back some good memories for you, too.



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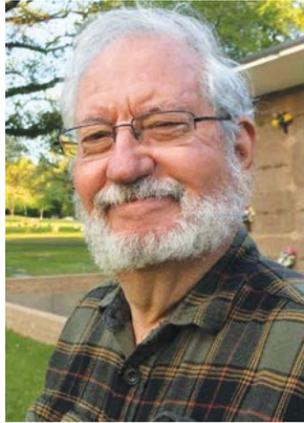
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A Little Bit of History...

by Hershel "Dickie" Dixon

Born in Lufkin, Texas to Hershel and Kathleen Hinson Dixon, Dickie Dixon is a sixth-generation Texan with deep roots in other parts of East Texas, too. His paternal g-g-grandparents, Zachariah Fenley and wife Rebecca, arrived in what is now Angelina County about 1837. Only a year later he was killed in the Cordova Rebellion, which caused Rebecca to gain an interest in the Old Stone Fort. All Dickie's ancestors were living in Angelina County by the 1880s, and one of them, Stanislaw John Pauszek (later Poskey) was a Polish immigrant.

Dickie holds several degrees and he served as a graduate assistant and grader at SFASU for Dr. Archie P. McDonald. Besides active roles in regional genealogy and archeology groups, Dickie speaks regularly at history events such as East Texas Historical Association conferences. Since 2016 he has written a weekly column on history and genealogy for several newspapers called Kissin' Kuzzins, a name which the column originator Carolyn Erickson authorized him to use after her retirement. Dickie is committed to keeping memories of all types of history alive.



Too Much Arabic Too Early

Being a Hebrew major at Dallas Theological Seminary, during the school year 1977-1978 I enrolled in a doctoral level Classical Arabic course. Arabic is a cognate of Hebrew and is useful especially in Song of Solomon for identifying the meaning of hapax legomenas (words only used once) in Hebrew.

To have uninterrupted time to study, I frequently arose at 3 a.m. to have my work done and be ready for class. This worked fine for me except in the winter months, it was hard to leave that warm bed to get up and study. My custom was to put the eggs on to boil, eat breakfast, and get right down to studying.

One morning, I think it was January, 1978, I got up and put the eggs on to boil but made the mistake of lying down on the sofa in the living room. Pow! woke me up, and I dashed to the kitchen to find the pot dry, an acrid smell, and the cooked egg yolks stuck to the ceiling. My wife Jana ambled in to the kitchen in her flannel gown with a sleepy, perplexed look on her face and said, "What happened?" We found eggshells in that kitchen for days.

The course taught by Dr. Walter Bodine*, a scholar's scholar, went fine. There were only two of us in that class who were Masters level students, and I was a little bit intimidated by being in a doctoral level class.

We finished the grammar, and Dr. Bodine assigned us papers to write and present. Mine was "The Interchange of Arabic Consonants," and to give us time to write our papers, when we came to class, he lectured. None of us, I suspect were prepared for the depth with which he would lecture.

The first day his topic was a 10th century rabbi Saadia Gaon; I daresay most of us had never even heard of him. Characteristically, Dr. Bodine was enthusiastic—actually enraptured with his topic.

Many years later, my path crossed with Dr. John Martin, one of those doctoral students, and I asked him: "John, have you brushed up on Saadia Gaon lately?" His response: "No, I haven't even thought about him."

**Walter R. Bodine was the grader for Thomas O. Lambdin, the author of our Hebrew textbook, when Dr. Bodine was at Harvard University. His work on the recension of the Greek text of Judges was published by Scholars Press. Dr. Bodine is a research affiliate at Yale University now, reading cuneiform texts.*



Winston Churchill, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Joseph Stalin at the Yalta Conference.



"Dvin, the diplomatic brandy"

The drunken encounter Winston Churchill had with a lady at a press conference is well known. She said something like "Mr. Prime Minister, you're drunk." To which he retorted something like "Madame, you're ugly, but in the morning I will be sober."

Kissin' Kuzzins

by Hershel "Dickie" Dixon

(1) On November 11th, the Austin based group The Irons released a new song "It Was Never Meant to Be," which hopefully will be as successful as the last one "Goodbye Too Soon." Three of the band members hail from Lufkin: Caleb Tippit, Nathan Pittman, and Hayden Havard. Check them out on Spotify or Youtube.com

(2) Danny Shaddock will present "Growing Up in Wiergate" at about 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 to the Deep East Texas Archeological Society at the Iris and Anne Howard Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton, Texas. At 6:30 p.m. Sandra Litton will have the desserts and refreshments out for members and guests to enjoy, and at 7 p.m. Ruth Dusan will hold a short business meeting. The door prize will be "Nameless Towns" by Sitton and Conrad, and a copy of this book will be donated to the Newton County Public Library by one of the members. For more information, contact Ruth Dusan at (409) 379-5694 or jrdusan@windstream.net or Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@gmail.com

(3) Dickie Dixon will present "My Genealogical Journey with Genealogical Tips Along the Way" to the Hardin County Genealogical Society at 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 14, 2023 at the Hardin County Genealogical Society Library on 220 West Main Street in Kountze, Texas. For more information, contact Owen Vaughn at (409) 651-0990 or ovaughn@familysearch.org

(4) Kate Beaver will present "The Caroline Gilbert Hinchee House Project" at 5 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2023 to the Angelina County Genealogical Society at the Community Meeting Room of Kurth Memorial Library on 706 South Raguet Street in Lufkin, Texas. For more information contact Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@gmail.com

(5) Joe Liggio will present "The Watson Rare Plant Preserve" to the Deep East Texas Archeological Society on Monday, February 6, 2022 at about 7:15 p.m. at the Iris and Anne Howard Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton. Sandra Litton and other members will have the dessert and refreshment feast ready at 6:30 p.m., and Ruth Dusan will conduct a brief business meeting at 7 p.m. A book by Geraldine Watson will be the door prize, and a copy of it will also be donated to the Newton County Public Library by one of the members. For more information, contact President Ruth Dusan at (409) 379-5694 or jrdusan@windstream.net or Dickie Dixon at (936) 671-1419 or dixonhershel51@gmail.com

(6) The Newton County Genealogy Conference will take place on Saturday, February 25 2023 at the Iris and Anne Howard Civic Center on 213 East Court Street in Newton, Texas from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Selection of speakers is in process. The cost is \$20 including your meal. For more information contact John Jefferson at (409) 379-2109 or jeff75966@yahoo.com

(7) Dickie Dixon will present "Getting Started in Genealogy" to the Angelina County Retired Teachers Association on March 14, 2023 at Southside Baptist Church in Lufkin, Texas.

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 address just listed.

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MONUMENT CORNER

This month we are back in downtown Lufkin to review a monument on South Angelina Street at the southwest corner of the Lufkin ISD building. The monuments reads as follows:

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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!

I am hopeful that everyone reading this had a great Christmas and New Years' celebration. 2023 is off to a great start for us. I will be attending the Annual **Texas Association of Fairs and Events Convention** on January 5-8 in Galveston to see **Jerry Huffman**, former Lufkin Angelina Chamber of Commerce President and past president of the Texas Association of Fairs and Events, receive his name on the TAFE Hall of Fame. Jerry's work promoting and managing the Texas State Forest Festival for over 30 years will be recognized by other fair and event industry professionals across the state. This honor is well deserved.

You know, managing and operating a facility like the Expo has its unique challenges. To have the opportunity to gather with others in the industry over the last few years has become a great resource that helps me do a better job here in Lufkin. The relationships and great contacts made through TAFE have become invaluable. There are several cases where I was struggling with some issue related to our daily operation and thought... "Let me find out how they handle this at another facility"... and then pick up the phone. In every case, my counterpart at each Expo Center or Fairground understood my issue and was more than willing to offer any advice or contacts they had available. Hopefully, I'll meet a few new friends and possibly be able to help others in our business.

On January 7-8, we are proud to welcome back the **Junior High School Division / Region V of the Texas High School Rodeo Association** for their first event of 2023. They are halfway through the 2022-23 season and will compete for points to qualify for the State Finals and from there to Nationals.

On January 21-22, rodeo contestants who are members of the **Pineywoods Youth Rodeo Association** come back to Lufkin to compete for 2 full days!

As Lufkin is steadily becoming the headquarters for youth rodeo in East Texas and Western Louisiana, we continue to attract new events. We were flattered when approached last year by Mike and Sherrylynn Johnson about hosting one of their **Vegas Tuffest World Championship Junior Events** along with **Lawrence McCulloch and NextGen Roping Productions**. We are over the top proud to have them back in Lufkin on January 27-29. Young contestants will have the opportunity to qualify to compete in Las Vegas! Come out and see some great roping and barrel racing.

Make plans to come and attend.

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

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HEALTH

Resolving to Get in Shape in 2023? Don't Forget Your Feet

(StatePoint) While you may want to tone your abs, glutes and triceps in the new year, there's one often-overlooked area of the body that deserves your attention too: your feet!

"A lot of people hit the gym or dust off their home exercise equipment in January," says Danielle Butto, DPM, FACFAS, a board-certified foot and ankle surgeon and a Fellow Member of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS). "But without proper precautions, a new exercise routine can cause foot and ankle injuries that could sideline you just as you're hitting your stride."

According to ACFAS, here's what to know as you follow through on your resolution to get fit:

Common Injuries

- Don't play through the pain of an **ankle sprain**. Avoiding treatment can not only cause further damage to the ligaments which may take much longer to heal or possibly require surgery, but you may be overlooking a more serious injury – a stress fracture.

- A **stress fracture** may feel like an ankle sprain at first, but you'll notice additional warning signs, such as swelling without bruising, and pain even during normal activities or when touching the area. If you have any of these symptoms, have your foot and ankle evaluated by a foot and ankle surgeon as soon as possible.

- Pain or swelling around your Achilles tendon after a workout could be indications of **Achilles tendonitis**. Untreated, a stretched or strained Achilles tendon may worsen over time, leading to stiffness and fatigue in your injured leg. Worse yet, untreated Achilles tendonitis could result in a ruptured tendon requiring surgery and a rehabilitation of several months.

- **Heel pain** that lasts for more than a day or two, or worsens when you stand after sitting for an extended amount of time, may be plantar fasciitis. This common condition is a result of inflammation of the tissue extending from your heel to your toes. If caught early, your foot and ankle surgeon can recommend at-home conditioning. In late stages, plantar fasciitis is harder to treat and takes longer to resolve.

Prevention Tips

The good news? Many injuries are preventable. Foot and ankle surgeons offer five tips to help you keep your feet and ankles healthy:

1. **Be smart.** Consider consulting a personal trainer at first to ensure you're practicing good form, and to increase the duration and intensity of your workouts gradually and safely.

2. **Stretch.** Incorporate mobility and stretching into your fitness regimen, particularly before and after workouts.

3. **Be footwear aware.** Wear properly-fitting athletic shoes that support the arch of the foot, provide heel cushioning and are designed for the exercise in which you're engaged. These measures can help you avoid plantar fasciitis and neuromas. Wear cotton or nonslip socks to help prevent painful blisters, which can become infected and cause more serious issues, especially if you have diabetes.

4. **Guard against bacteria.** Sweaty shoes, public showers, exercise equipment and the pool deck are breeding grounds for fungus, viruses and bacteria. Wear water shoes in public areas, and after workouts, and get your feet clean and dry quickly.

5. **Book an appointment.** Foot and ankle pain isn't normal. It signals a problem that needs to be evaluated, diagnosed and treated by a specialist who fully understands this part of the body. To find a foot and ankle surgeon near you, use the "Find a Physician" search tool at FootHealthFacts.org.

"When you exercise, your feet and ankles do a ton of work holding you up and absorbing the shock of each step you take," says Dr. Butto. "So, as you kick off your new fitness routine, don't forget to protect them."



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Classmates Can Become Forever Friends

by Mary Francis Johannessen

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



It is difficult to describe true friendship, but I believe it may be someone who understands our past, believes in our future, relies on, connects with, and accepts each of us just the way we are today and have been at every stage in our lives.

Starting out very young in school, we soon find a new type of friendship among these classmates. We get a feeling of acceptance and belonging with a new sense of identity outside our homes at school.

Friendship levels can be defined in four ways – an acquaintance, a friend, a close friend, and a very best friend. As we progress through these four levels over the years, we find someone easy to talk with, who stands up and defends us, is there to help us at all times, one who makes us feel completely comfortable, has our back, and is always caring about our well being. A classmate now becomes a friend, companion, playmate, playfellow, schoolmate, buddy, peer, colleague, pal, bosom buddy, advocate, crony – only to list a few.

Friends often introduce new perspectives and experiences into our lives over the years. Long lasting friendships, even in our different locations and social circles, will still happen overtime.

Many friends reconnect in professional networks with goal driven ideas. What's greater than meeting your old friend's new family, while figuring out who has the most children or grandchildren.

An old Irish proverb states "a true friendship is like a four leaf clover, hard to find and lucky to have."

San Augustine celebrates their Sassafras Festival each October. During that weekend we have an event called – San Augustine High School Grand Reunion. All former SAHS graduates know the location and time for this meeting, which has been successfully celebrated for the past ten years. Each and every reunion is a special time to visit with prior classmates/friends from our sixty-seventy years ago. This yearly reunion affords us a time to catch up and bring together our past, plus think young once again. Many different new internet apps now can also be a means to keep in contact or locate old classmates/friends.

You might hear us saying, "Reunited and it feels so good, looking back at our beginnings, together once again, growing old at the same time, kids we once were, becoming golden, to be young again, oldies but goodies, it's not the end of the road, and/or not getting any younger but we still keep on keeping on."

My fellow 1960 SAHS graduates, followed by my Angelina College and SFA nursing school graduates are definitely some of my best friends today and will be always. All of them were warm, friendly, honest, loyal, trustworthy, polite, kind, sensitive, dependable, openminded and often knew me better than I did myself.

Thanks ever so much to my classmates who have maintained a forever friendship with me and especially all the memories we still share.

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MONEY

Resolve to Protect Your Finances and Your Family in the New Year

(StatePoint) After a holiday season spent racking up credit card bills, many Americans consider making financial resolutions in the New Year. However, now is the perfect time to not only reevaluate your saving and spending, but also commit to creating a more holistic financial plan designed to protect your finances and your family.

Consumers are seeking stability and preparedness in today's uncertain economic environment, according to a recent Consumer Sentiment Tracker study by Lincoln Financial Group. With ongoing inflation and market volatility, 56% of respondents cited protection from risk as being most important to them. When it comes to thinking about their finances, people said they have the greatest interest in protecting their family (39%) followed by their income (26%).

"Our research reinforced the importance of financial solutions that can help consumers navigate through market cycles and protect their loved ones," said David Berkowitz, president, Lincoln Financial Network, Lincoln Financial's wealth management business. "People are not only concerned about having enough to pay their bills, but also saving for retirement and preparing for the unexpected. It's important to have a well-rounded financial plan that can address those risks, protect assets and create positive outcomes for today's families."

To achieve a stronger financial future, don't neglect your finances in 2023 — instead, add a little TLC (Talk, Learn, Commit). Resolve to create a robust financial plan using these three tips from Lincoln Financial:

1. Talk about it. Financial conversations play a crucial role. Be transparent with your loved ones about financial priorities so you can set expectations and work toward your shared financial goals. Initiate ongoing discussions to stay on track with everything from saving for retirement to paying for a long-term healthcare event, which can happen suddenly and be very costly. Also, consider talking to a financial professional who can help identify solutions that best meet your individual needs, as well as drive better outcomes. Lincoln's research found those who work with financial professionals are more likely to prioritize retirement savings (26% vs. 10%).

2. Learn more about tax-deferred investments. Life insurance can be more than just a death benefit, with some types of policies offering income replacement for unforeseen events. It can also protect your financial security from the impact of taxes, market volatility and longevity. It's not just for individuals and families either, but businesses too. Also, consider diversifying your portfolio with an annuity, which can provide protected growth and monthly lifetime income to help cover expenses in retirement and ensure you have a stream of income.

3. Commit to maximizing your workplace benefits. Look into supplemental coverages like disability, accident and life insurance that may be available through your employer. Solutions like these protect against unexpected events that can disrupt your ability to provide for your family or drive you into additional debt. If you have an employer-sponsored retirement plan, make sure you are contributing and getting a match, if offered. Tap into any financial wellness tools offered at work to help provide you with an accurate picture of your holistic financial situation and lower stress.

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The Pros and Cons of Dressing Up Your Dog

by Steven Martin, *Owner of Martin Kennel*

There's no right or wrong answer, as long as you're not doing any harm. You know your dog's temperament better than anyone. If they have the patience and don't mind an occasional fashion show, go for it! Many dogs enjoy the extra attention. Then again, is your pet shy or sensitive? It's probably not a great idea. If you do go for it, make sure there are no hazards. For example, a scarf could get wrapped too tightly, and accessories can cause choking if swallowed. The first thing to keep in mind, always, is the comfort and well-being of your dog. Use your best judgment here.

Is there ever a legit reason to dress up your pet? Yes! Cold weather is an obvious one. For dogs with thin or light coats of fur, the harsh cold of certain climates just isn't manageable without a good coat or sweater. Exactly how cold your dog gets depends on the breed, size and age. There's a reason you see Chihuahuas bundled up for the cold more than, say, Newfoundland's.

Smaller, lighter, and less furry breeds are more comfortable in a sweater or a coat. The same goes for dogs with fresh haircuts, or dogs who are aging or sick. Dogs that are made for the cold have an extra layer of insulating fur built in. For them, too many layers could mean overheating, which is just as bad as getting a chill.

Okay, but how about booties? These are safer. Amazon-PawZ Dog Boots, Rubber Dog Booties, Waterproof Snow Boots for Dogs, Paw Protection for Dogs, especially if you regularly walk a neighborhood with salted icy sidewalks. Not only are they freezing cold, but they're also potentially harmful. Not sure which booties to get? Check out www.rover.com.

Anxiety Vests for Dogs

Besides keeping your dog warm, clothing can also help with anxiety. The sense of security that comes from a snug-fitting vest like the Thundershirt can be soothing for anxious dogs. Next time there's a thunderstorm in the forecast, or your town is planning a big fireworks show, try an anxiety vest. It can make all the difference in ensuring that your dog feels safe and comforted.

Finding the Perfect Fit

- *Consider materials.* Wool is warm, but it can be itchy—think about hiking socks, for instance. Cotton is breathable but doesn't dry as well.
- *Take measurements.* Clothing that's too tight or too big is seriously uncomfortable. The better the fit, the happier the dog! And remember they need to be able to relieve themselves, so shop accordingly.



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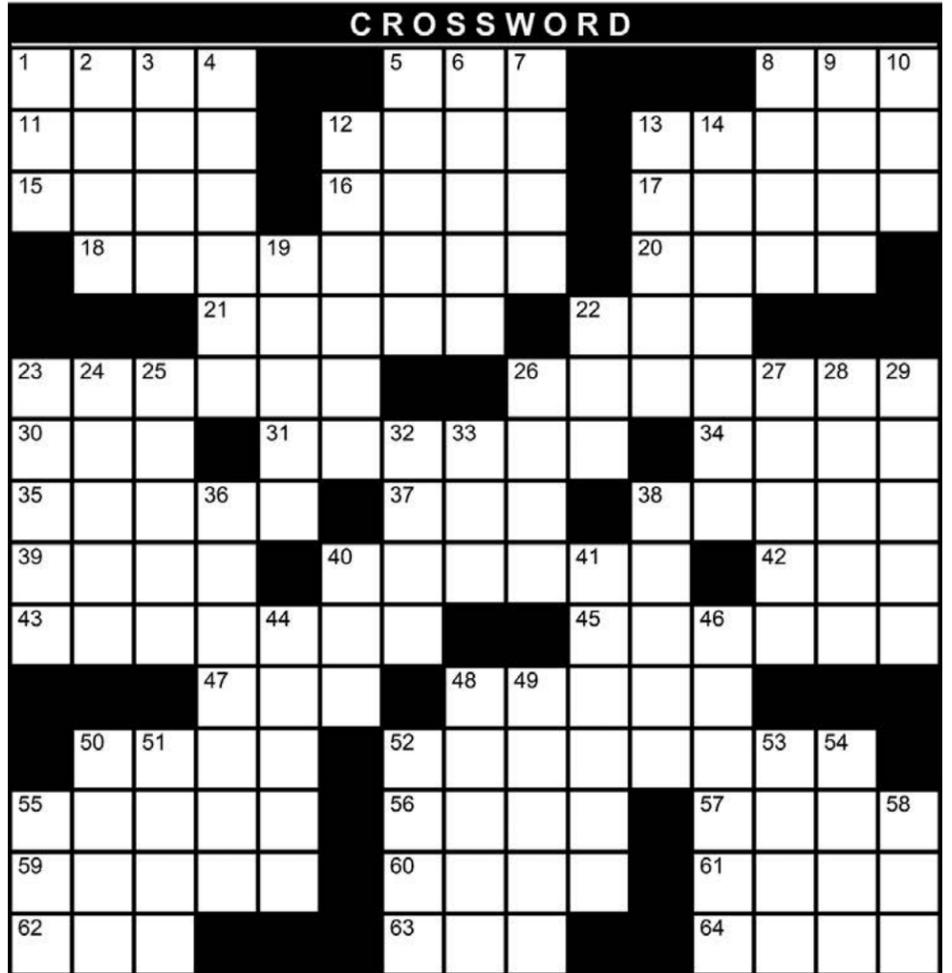
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- 22. Campaigner, for short
- 23. Traditional sock pattern
- 26. *Southeast Asian spiky fruit, pl.
- 30. ____-di-dah
- 31. Unequivocally detestable
- 34. Same as ayah
- 35. "That is," Latin
- 37. Urge Spot to attack
- 38. Chilled (2 words)
- 39. Observation point's attraction
- 40. *Soft and soft type of tofu
- 42. Ship pronoun
- 43. Thrusts out or causes to protrude
- 45. One way to steal gas
- 47. Without professional help, acr.
- 48. Energy to motion converter
- 50. H.S. math class
- 52. *Wasabi is popular in this cuisine
- 55. *Type of soda bread
- 56. g in 10 g
- 57. Francis Coppola's middle name
- 59. End of tunnel
- 60. Casanova, e.g.
- 61. In the thick of
- 62. Saturn's wife
- 63. Human limb
- 64. *Russian borscht vegetable

DOWN

- 1. *Brew from China, originally
- 2. *American ____ browns
- 3. Acreage
- 4. Sort of (3 words)
- 5. Marie or Pierre, physicists
- 6. Southeast Asia org.
- 7. Lowly laborer
- 8. Like a bug in a rug
- 9. Princess Fiona, by night
- 10. Square root of 100
- 12. Thwarted
- 13. SNL's fortÉ
- 14. *Nationality that gave us gelato
- 19. Administer
- 22. Wound fluid
- 23. Not dead
- 24. Radices, sing.
- 25. *Clarified butter of Indian origin, pl.
- 26. *Peking fowl
- 27. Mennonite's cousin
- 28. Jack Black's Libre
- 29. Martin of "Apocalypse Now"
- 32. Terrorist org.
- 33. Fat of olives
- 36. *Like certain meatballs
- 38. Tear-jerker
- 40. Hog heaven
- 41. Posthumous type of tax
- 44. Like 90 degree angle
- 46. Reassembled dwelling
- 48. Feudal dwelling
- 49. Poppy tears
- 50. Acid "journey"
- 51. Semis
- 52. France/Switzerland border mountain range
- 53. Not all

- 54. Canal in a song
- 55. U.N. workers' grp.
- 58. Banned insecticide, acr.



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Solution to puzzles found onpage 42.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

What's Happening in Shelby County!

by Deborah Chaddwick, *Director*

It is 2023! Happy New Year!! I hope everyone had a special Christmas with family and friends and is looking forward to a wonderful 2023. When trying to decide what to write for this issue of *Around the Town*, I googled Quotes for the New Year, thinking one would jump out at me and be the focal point of this article. But there are so many wonderful and thought provoking quotes, I have decided to share some with you.



SHELBY COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

“I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.” *Thomas Jefferson*

“Year’s end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.” *Hal Borland (American author and journalist)*

“On New Year’s Eve, the whole world celebrates the fact that a date changes. Let us celebrate the dates on which we change the world.” *Akilnathar Logeswaran*

“This year, be structural enough for success and achievement and flexible enough for creativity and fun.” *Taylor DuVall (writer, poet, musician)*

“We all get the exact same 365 days. The only difference is what we do with them.” *Hillary DePiano (playwright, fiction and non-fiction author)*

I challenge us all to make positive changes this year – in our personal life, at work, in our community.

May 2023 be bursting with fulfilling and exciting opportunities for everyone.

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Solution to puzzles from previous page.

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HOME

New Tax Credits Increase Appeal of Heat Pumps for Homeowners

(StatePoint) More and more people are turning to heat pumps to heat and cool their homes. It is estimated that 18 million American households already use them. With new energy incentives being offered, and more homeowners choosing greener technologies, that number is expected to rise dramatically.

What is a heat pump? Heat pumps are powered by electricity and transfer heat using refrigerant. Heat pump technology moves heat outside your home in warmer months and is able to pull heat into your home during cooler months. Here are three reasons to consider one for your home:

1. Sustainability. Heat pumps are electric and don't burn fossil fuels like furnaces do, making them more environmentally friendly. In fact, heat pumps are becoming the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) industry go-to for reducing consumers' carbon footprints.

2. Control. Newer two-stage and variable speed heat pumps offer high- and low-stage heating to warm your space when outdoor weather changes; they operate more efficiently for longer periods of time at lower speeds and use less energy. They provide more precise temperature controls and more consistent comfort. Both options contribute to managing humidity levels too.

3. Technology. Heat pumps today are more advanced than ever and handle both heating and cooling by redistributing air. Carrier's Infinity 24 Heat Pump with Greenspeed Intelligence operates at temperatures down to -15 degrees Fahrenheit, making heat pumps an advanced solution for mild and colder climates. Does your region get colder than that? Heat pumps can be combined with a gas furnace for a dual fuel system that is energy efficient and cost effective. Looking ahead, heat pumps that work in colder temperature are in development and will be available soon.

Get the Right Size

There are several factors that go into picking your ideal heat pump. The size of your home, climate, sun exposure, desired features and duct-work all play into the size of heat pump. An undersized unit will work overtime to hit target temperatures. A unit that is too large will achieve the desired temperature before its cycle is complete and waste energy. It is best to work with a professional dealer in choosing the heat pump that is best for your home.

Money-Saving Tips

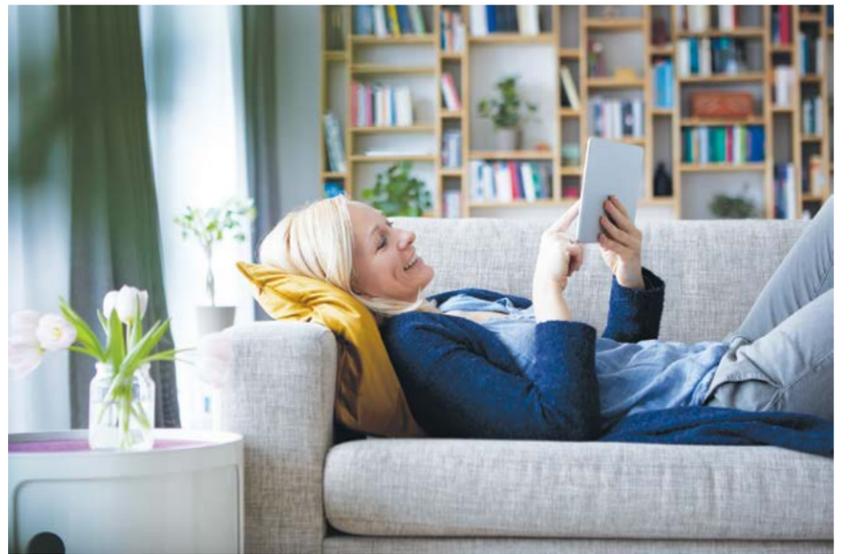
Heat pumps, including installation, can range anywhere from \$3,000 to \$15,000 or more. Thankfully, there are many cost-saving options for homeowners.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 includes federal tax credits that reward homeowners for purchasing certain high-efficiency HVAC equipment, including many of Carrier's line of heat pumps. Up to \$8,000 in tax credits are available for all-electric heat pumps.

Lower energy consumption means energy bill savings, up to \$500 on energy bills every year in some cases. Look for Energy Star certification and Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) ratings. The SEER rating is like your car's mileage per gallon – the higher the number, the greater the potential for savings.

Many manufacturers and utility companies also offer rebates and low-rate financing. For example, Carrier's heat pump rebate offerings are listed on their website. At the time of this publication, up to \$1,300 in rebates are being offered for most units.

Beyond the basics, today's heat pumps offer new comfort-enhancing, energy-saving features that could help you reduce your heating costs.



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New Year

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 Angelina Manufactured Housing - 3907 N. Medford
 Be Blessed BBQ - 521 S. Timberland Dr.
 Big's - 2400 E. Denman
 Big's - 1203 S. Chestnut
 Big's - 1902 W. Frank
 Big's - 2701 N. Raguet
 Big's - 3644 Hwy 69N
 Big's - 3122 Adkinson Dr. (Hwy 103E)
 Big's - 4609 Hwy 103E
 Big's - 620 N. Raguet St.
 Big's - 1910 N. Timberland
 Bodacious BBQ - 2207 W. Frank
 Brookshire Brothers - 301 S. Chestnut
 Brookshire Brothers - 1807 W. Frank - Gaslight Plaza
 Casa Morales Mexican Restaurant - 1001 S. 1st St.
 Catfish King - 806 S. Medford

Chen's - 302 S. Timberland Dr.
 Comfort Suites - 4402 S. 1st St. (U. S. Hwy 59)
 Crown Colony Shell - 101 Champion Dr.
 Food Mart Exxon - 612 Frank
 Food Mart Exxon - 6480 Hwy 69S
 Guacamole's Restaurant - 2660 W. Frank (Hwy 94W)
 Holiday Inn Express 4404 S. 1st
 JR Food Mart - 1114 E. Denman Ave
 Lone Star Charlie's Family Restaurant - 1910 E. Denman
 Lucky's Valero - 3385 Tom Temple (Hwy 94W)
 Lucky's Valero - 1707 John Redditt Dr.
 Lufkin Barbecue - 203 S. Chestnut
 Lufkin Farm Supply - 1217 E. Lufkin Ave.
 Maddux Lumber & Hardware - 1603 Atkinson Dr.
 Manhattan Fine Dining - 107 W. Lufkin Ave.
 Massingill's Meat Mkt - 3728 Hwy 69N
 Maytag Washateria - 601 S. 1st
 Midway Shell #29 - 3008 Atkinson Dr. (Hwy 103 E)
 Mom's Diner - 420 W. Frank
 On the Road - 4110 S. 1st
 On the Road - 2902 E. Denman Ave (Hwy 69S)
 On the Road - 3503 S. Chestnut
 Pablo's BBQ & Mexican Food - 3900 Hwy 69N
 Pelican Pointe Cajun Kitchen - 1302 N. John Redditt Dr.
 Quality Inn - 4306 S. 1st
 Restoration Bistro - 210 S. 1st
 Tia Juanita's Fish Camp - 3102 S. John Redditt Dr.
 Timberland Chevron - 804 N. Timberland
 Tommy's Watch & Jewelry - 800 S. Timberland
 Walgreens - 102 N. Timberland
 Walgreens - 1000 W. Frank
 West Loop Chevron - 904 S. John Redditt Dr..

In Diboll:

Big's - 605 N. Temple (U.S. Hwy 59)
 Big's - 710 S. Temple (U.S. Hwy 59)
 Brookshire Brothers - 221 N. Temple (U.S. Hwy 59)
 Diboll Depot - 1605 N. Temple (U.S. Hwy 59)
 Diboll Public Library - 300 Park
 Los Jarritos - 903 N. Temple (U.S. Hwy 59)
 On The Road - 1580 N. Temple (US Hwy 59)

In Homer:

Homer Mini Grocery - 7075 Hwy 69S

In Hudson:

A'Deel's #2 - 1258 FM 1194 @ SH94
 Brookshire Brothers Express - 5750 Ted Trout/Hwy 94W
 Brookshire Brothers Express - 6564 Ted Trout/Hwy 94W

In Huntington:

New Way - 461 Hwy 69
 Little Boots Gro.- 101 Hwy 69S
 Brookshire Brothers - 104 N. Main
 Papa's Pit & More - 510 N. Main
 Dean's Country Cooking & Meat Mkt - 481 N. 3rd

In Pollok:

Brookshire Brothers/Polk's - 6925 Hwy 69N

In Redland:

JOC Stop Exxon - 5389 US Hwy 59 N

In Zavalla:

Coleman's Store - Intersection of Hwys 63 & 147

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY

In the City of Nacogdoches:

A & D Hydraulics - 2124 NW Stallings Dr.
 Appleby Sand Valero (just outside loop) FM 2609
 Auntie Pastas - 211 Old Tyler Road
 Barbecue House - 704 N. Stallings Drive
 Barkeeps - 3308 North St.
 Best Western - US 59 South
 Best Western - 4809 NW Stallings Dr
 Big's - University Drive @ SE Stallings Drive
 Big's - Center Hwy (Hwy 7E) @ Loop 224
 Boatman Tire & Service - 315 N. University Dr.
 Boles Feed - 913 South St.
 Brendyn's BBQ - 601 E. Main St.
 Brookshire Brothers - 1402 N. University Dr.
 Brookshire Brothers - 1216 South Street
 Butcher Boy's - 603 North St.
 Carney Real Estate - 3001 North St.
 Cataract, Glaucoma & Retina Consultants - 3302 NE Stallings
 Chamber of Commerce - 2516 North St.
 Charles Pool Real Estate - 3505 North St.
 CiCi's Pizza -3801 North St. #19
 Clear Springs - 211 Old Tyler Rd.
 Coldwell Banker Blueberry Realty - 112 E. Main St.
 Comfort Suites - US 59 South
 Cowboy Jack's Saloon - 422 E. Main St.
 Decades Downtown - 412 E. Main St.
 Dialysis Clinic - 4731 NE Stallings Dr.
 Doches Credit Union - 920 NW Stallings Dr. @ Hwy 21W
 Dr. Ronnie Hancock - Family Dentistry - 1302 Raguet St.
 Eastex Glass & Mirror - 3102 South St.
 El Rancho Restaurant - 123 King St.
 El Tia Beto - 4512 North St.
 Fitness 360 - 4822 N. University Dr.
 Fortney Home - 310 N. Mound
 Gateway Shell/Denny's - 2615 N. Stallings Dr.
 Goose Landing - 11332 S FM 225 (Lake Nacogdoches)
 Gound Chev - 1015 North Street
 Guacamole's Mexican Restaurant - 1315 North St.
 H & Z Texaco - Starr Avenue @ University Drive
 Hampton Inn - US 59 South
 Harry's Building Material - 7008 North St.
 Herman Power Tire - 222 South St.
 Holiday Inn Express - US 59 South
 IMPACT Store - 720 E. Main Stree
 J & S Small Engine Repair - 12769 State Hwy 7W
 Java Jack's - 1122 North Street
 Johnson Furniture - 106 E. Main
 K.J.'s Convenience Store/Exxon - 5713 South St.
 Kinfolks - 4817 NW Stallings Dr.
 Kline's Wrap-It-Up - 628 N. University Dr.
 Kroger - 3205 N. University Dr.
 Lehmann Eye Center - 5300 North St.
 Lucky Stop #6 - 4684 FM 343
 Luquette Chiropractic - 4712 North St.
 M & S Pharmacy - 917 E. Austin
 Ma's Jewelry - 2423 North St
 Martin Kennel - 512 CR 217
 McCoy's Building Materials - 4009 NW Stallings Dr.
 McWilliams & Son Air Conditioning - 2915 NW Stallings Dr.
 Meadow Ridge Archery & Gun - 1090 CR 231
 Mike Perry Motors - 3812 South Street
 Mike's BBQ - 1622 South Street
 Milford's Barber Shop - 110 N. Church St.
 CC's Smokehouse - 2709 Westward Dr.
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 Morgan Oil Chevron - Appleby Sand Rd. @ Austin St.
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 Nacogdoches Floral - 3602 North St.
 Nacogdoches CVB - 200 E. Main St.
 Nacogdoches Senior Center - 1601 W. Austin St.
 Napoli's Restaurant - 2119 North St.
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 RV Outfitters - 2631 NW Stallings Dr.
 Sam's Southern Eatery - 1220 North St.
 Smokehouse - 2709 Westward Trail
 Sombreros - 3000 North St.
 Ables-Land Office Supplies - 412 North St.
 Sunshine Food Mart - 2013 North St.
 Super 8 Motel - US 59 South
 Taquitos El Jaliscience - 3217 North St.
 Taqueria El 21 - 1422 Douglass Road
 Thrall's Grocery, Deli & Cafe - 7144 SH 21 East
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 Walgreens - 3004 North St.
 Windhill Apartments - 1324 Pruitt Hill Dr.
 Woden Rd. Quick Stop - Woden Rd @ SE Stalling
In Appleby:
 Sammy's Mini Mart - U.S. Hwy 59 N.
 Tom's Grocery & Shell - U.S. Hwy 59 N.
In Central Heights:
 Morgan Oil Chevron/Whataburger - Hwy 259 North
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 Taco Riendo - Hwy 259 North
In Cushing:
 7th St. Cafe - 754 7th St.
 Clyde Partin Monument Co. - Hwy 204
 Cushing Food Mart - Hwy 204
 Rawhide's Tire Service - 470 6th St.
In Douglass:
 Douglass Cafe' - State Hwy 21
 Douglass General Store - State Hwy 21
In Etoile:
 Etoile Shell - Hwy 103 @ FM 226
 Shirley Creek Marina Office & Cabins - 23177 FM 226
In Garrison:
 Bulldog Express/J & S Food Mart - U.S. Hwy 59
 Garrison Gas & Convenience Store Exxon - U.S. Hwy 59
In Martinsville:
 L & M Quick Stop - 13101 Hwy 7
In Reklaw:
 What the Fork Cafe' - Hwy 204

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In the City of Center:

Ace Hardware - 5438 Loop 500 East
 Boles Feed Co. - 101 Porter St.
 Boyd Adams Barber Shop - 504 Hurst St.
 Brookshire Brothers - 105 Hurst St.
 Chamber of Commerce - In the old jail on the square
 Covington Lumber & Bldg Materials - 1595 Teneha St.
 H & S Discount Foods - 705 Shelbyville St.
 Mathews Realty - 616 Teneha St.
 Piney Woods Seafood - 1003 Hurst St.
 Rancho Grande - 816 Teneha St.
 TR's Steaks & More - 892 Hurst St.
In the City of Joaquin:
 Brookshire Brothers - 113 Haslam Sawmill Rd. - Hwy 84
 NuWay Convenience Store - 13054 Hwy 84
 Quick Stop - 12762 U.S. Hwy 84

In the City of Timpson:

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

January 2023



East Texas Chamber Winds
2023 Winter Concert
Mast Hall Venue
Sat. Jan 7th: 7pm

Market on Main
305 E. Main Street
Sat. Jan 7th: 10am-2pm

Stew, Stroll, Strum
Millard's Crossing
Jan 12th 6-9pm

Nacogdoches Beefsteak Dinner
317 E Main St.
Jan 13th 7-9pm

G&S Gun Show
Nacogdoches Expo Center
Jan 13th 4-8pm; Jan 14th 9am-5pm;
Jan 15th 9am-4pm

American Bucking Bull Futurity
Nacogdoches Expo Center
Jan. 21st 9am-5pm

Adult Art Series: Embossing
Nacogdoches Public Library
Jan 24th 5:30

THEATRE CLEAN-UP
Lamp-Lite Theatre
Sat. Jan 28 9am-12pm

SFA School of Art presents
"Drawing Genesis"
Cole Art Center
Nov 22nd - Jan 19th

Lincoln Center Posters' exhibited
Cole Art Center
Dec 1st - Jan 20th

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

Friday Homestyle Dinner
Stone House Kitchen
Every Friday

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

Farmer's Market
Saturdays 9am-12pm

SFA Lumberjacks Basketball
William R. Johnson Coliseum
1/4: SFA VS New Mexico State
1/7: SFA VS Grand Canyon
1/25: SFA VS Texas-Rio Grande Valley
1/28: SFA VS Seattle Red Hawks

SFA Ladyjacks Basketball
William R. Johnson Coliseum
1/5: SFA VS Utah Tech
1/19: SFA VS Utah Valley
1/21: SFA VS Texas-Arlington
1/28: SFA VS California Baptist

Cottage Wine Bar
Live Music Every Thurs, Fri, & Sat
Sunday: Mimosa Brunch

Red House Winery
1/7: Live Music with The Habaneros 6-9pm
1/13: Live Music with Paula Ariza
1/21: Live Music with The Habaneros 6-9pm

Cowboy Jack's Saloon
Live Music Schedule:
1/6: Ana and Micah
1/13: Jwebb
1/14: Ian Chandler and Clint Alfors
1/20: Ian Chandler
1/21: Drah Show
1/27: Clint Alford

Flea Market Fabulous
Nacogdoches Trade Days
Sat, Jan 7th & Sun, Jan 8th 9am-5pm
Sat, Jan 21st & Sun, Jan 22nd 9am-5pm

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

Fredonia Brewery
Wednesday Game Nights & \$1 off pints,
Trivia Thursdays, Open Sundays 12-5pm
1/20: Sean Christopher
1/21: David Allen & The Drifting Outlaws
& Chilifest Cookoff!
1/27: Joshuah Mullin
1/28: Andrew Toole

Front Porch Distillery
Pickin' on the Porch
LIVE music and Food every Fri. & Sat.

Lumberjack Harley Davidson
1/14: Tent Event 9am-6pm
1/28: New Model Reveal Party 11am-3pm

Maklemore's Ale House & Bistro
Live Music
Triva Tuesday's
Wine Down Wednesday's

Naca Valley Vineyard
Pizza on the Pavilion:
Every Thurs. & Fri. 5-9pm & Sat. 12-9pm
1/7: Tyler Dhone Live @5:30pm
1/14: Randy C Moore LIVE @5:30pm
1/21: Tiffany Watkins LIVE @5:30pm
1/28: Justin Merritt LIVE @ 5:30pm

Banita Creek Hall
Thursdays: Ladies Night
Fridays: Dollar Night
1/7: Chris Wells
1/14: Cameron Sacky Band
1/21: Jacob Stelly
1/28: Randall King

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

LET US HELP PUBLICIZE YOUR EVENT!

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

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