

The Weekly News of Cooke County

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Cooke County, Texas

January 25, 2023

Cooke County's LARGEST and MOST READ Newspaper!

King Around Town

by Grice King

Keeley Putting on the Luck!
Kids can be so cute.... Last week the Dallas Cowboys played their first playoff game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Monday Night Football. Well I am a huge sports fan, so naturally most of my kids have some sort of Cowboys, Stars or Mavericks gear and the kids are used to hearing me hoot and holler from the living room during game times. That Monday night game was no different. We had started the game with two consecutive 3-and-outs and were not looking good. My youngest daughter Keeley pops her head in to check the score and went "I NEED TO GO PUT ON SOME LUCK!"

She took off running upstairs with a thundering roar. A few minutes later she crashed back in the living room wearing her Cowboys shirt saying "Here we go." After she put on that shirt we went on 4 straight scoring drives on the way to rout the Buccaneers. She was so happy the luck did its trick! She refused to wash the shirt to make sure and "leave the luck on it." Proud dad moment. Now in hind sight maybe we should have washed it because the luck wore out last night against the 49ers....but that subject is still a sore one for us Cowboys fans and...a story for another day.

Here is some more of what's happening around town this week.

Hunger has no offseason! Join GISD and Cooke County 4H to tackle hunger at this year's Souper Bowl of Caring. Your donations of peanut butter crackers, raisins, canned protein, instant oatmeal, fruit and pudding cups in single serve sizes will help support VISTO's Backpack Buddy weekend food program.

Deliver all donations on Game Day, Wednesday, February 1 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm to VISTO, 1305 N. Culberson in Gainesville. For more information please contact 940-634-0928 or visit vistohelps.com.

Callisburg Community Club will have their monthly (Continued on Page 7)

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Gainesville to Sign with P3 Works for Consulting

By Delania Raney
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – Gainesville City Council approved at the Tuesday, January 17 regular city council meeting a resolution of the city of Gainesville, authorizing City Manager Barry Sullivan to sign an agreement with P3 Works for consulting services related to the city of Gainesville Public Improvement District and Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone.

Councilmembers voted on the resolution and three other items including a resolution directing publication of notice of intention to issue combination tax and revenue certificates of obligation following an executive session.

"This would be issuing bonds to do utility improvements throughout the city," Sullivan said of the resolution. "This is just the first step in providing that notice to the public." The bonds will be for water, sewer, water treatment, wastewater treatment. "That is what this bond will be going for, improving our basic infrastructure throughout the

city," he said.

In addition, councilmembers approved a resolution authorizing the city manager to sign a legal services agreement for development work with Messer, Fort & McDonald PLLC.

"This is specifically so we can work on a MUD [Municipal Utility District] that we are currently negotiating out with a local developer to the north of the city and so their services for this particular issue would be paid for through a professional services agreement," Sullivan said.

After approving a legal services agreement, councilmembers voted to authorize the city manager to sign a professional services agreement with amendments by MESA Real Estate Partners, L.P.

The council also approved amendments to the City of Gainesville Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual (2009) Reference No. 5.02 and Reference No. 6.05.

The policy changes don't provide additional vacation time for employees but do allow workers to earn their vacation time ear-

lier, Sullivan said. "We found out we were offering, when we did

a study of other cities, we were (Continued on Page 6)



Gainesville Honors Employee of the Month – Gainesville City Manager Barry Sullivan, right, presents an award to city of Gainesville Employee of the Month Community Services Secretary Ester Solis. (The Weekly News Photos)

GISD Approves Superintendent Contract Renewal, Move Closer to Decision on Academic Calendar

By Delania Raney
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – Gainesville Independent School District administrators approved a one-year contract extension and four percent pay increase for Superintendent Dr. Des Stewart at the Tuesday, January 17 regular board meeting. The four percent increase falls in line with teacher salary increases for the current school year.

In addition, the district is still considering a change to a four-day class week.

Stewart said during his monthly superintendent report, the 2023-2024 school calendar is "one of the hot talking points around town."

He said he presented information on calendar options, including a four-day week, during a second town hall meeting held prior to Christmas.

The next step is to gauge public support for the calendar via surveys of GISD parents, staff and teachers.

As for the final decision on a



GISD Student Artwork on Display – Students of Gainesville Intermediate School art teacher Kelly Stogner had their artwork featured at the Tuesday, January 17 regular GISD Board of Trustees meeting. (The Weekly News Photos)

four-day versus a five-day school week, Stewart said he doesn't have a preference.

"I'm not married to either one," he said. "As superintendent of schools, it's my job to provide options to our constituents that fit the bill for us here in GISD."

He said when he began researching the 4-day calendar last fall, 41 Texas schools had already transitioned to the four-day calendar. Many of the schools were in smaller, rural districts.

Same larger districts such as Little Elm are now transitioning to the four-day calendar, he said.

Stewart also said during the report, facility needs for a growing student population and hiring additional educators are two top priorities as GISD heads into the spring.

The district is up 30 students in overall enrollment over this time last year, he noted, adding growth is primarily at the elementary level.

"With our smaller students, we're seeing an increase in those enrollments," he said. "Actually, (Continued on Page 2)

Suspect in Gainesville Double Homicide Turns Himself In

By Delania Raney
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE - Samuel Gary Lee King, 17, has been into custody in connection with the January, 16 shooting deaths of Antonio Delgado, 19, and a 16-year-old

male near North Culberson Street and West U.S. Highway 82 in Gainesville.

King turned himself in at the Gainesville Police Department Monday, January 23 and was taken into custody at 9:25 a.m. without incident, according to a Gaines-

ville Police Department news release. King has been transported to the Cooke County Justice Center.

Officers discovered the bodies January 16 after responding to an area of North Culberson Street and Highway 82 to a report of shots fired. Officers found the two

victims near a silver-colored truck, a GPD reported stated.

The victims were transported to a medical facility and later succumbed to their injuries.

Both victims were Gainesville residents, and it is believed the two were acquaintances of King.

GAVA Plans Annual 'For the Love of Art'

GAINESVILLE – Gainesville Area Visual Art's 10th Annual "For the Love of Art" is at the Historic State Theater and Backstage Venue in Downtown Gainesville on February 3, 2023 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. This FREE event will include new art, live music from Oliver White, wonderful food from Georgie Brown and of course libations! All of the amazing art from thirty four GAVA members will be available for purchase to support a great scholarship – 20% of all sales goes to the GAVA Scholarship.

Show Chair Joe Conner is excited to announce the four Marquee Sponsors

for 2023 are the Employees of Safran Seats USA, Lee Russell – Edward Jones, Jim Goldsworthy – State Farm Insurance, & TalkIT. These sponsors are not the only local companies & businesses showing their LOVE of ART, and GAVA thanks them all for their continued support of GAVA's scholarships for Cooke County High School Seniors! Checkout each of these sponsors within the event program.

The Original Art Raffle features a stunning photograph from Jeffrey Rolinc, a wonderful mixed media collage by Crystal Nelson, a beautiful oil painting

from Jeanne Lloyd, and an amazing collage created by Joe Conner. You get to choose which piece of art you'd like when you purchase a ticket. The raffle tickets will be available on the night of the event and are \$5 each or three for \$10 – and all money raised from the raffle goes directly to the GAVA Scholarship. Tickets can also be purchased now from the GAVA website.

The 2023 GAVA scholarship is for a graduating Cooke County senior who is planning on majoring or minoring in a field of visual art... from the fine artist to the architect, photographer or potter, landscaper or

cake decorator - all qualifying visual artists are invited to apply for the scholarship. Public, private and homeschooled students are eligible - check with your local high school counselor or visit the GAVA website for an application.

All applications must be received by March 1, 2023. Students will be asked to provide samples of their work as well as academic records. The 2023 application is available from GAVA's website: WWW.GAINESVILLEAREAVISUALARTS.ORG

For additional information contact: Joe Conner info@gainesvilleareavisualarts.org.

GISD Approves Superintendent Contract Renewal, Move Closer to Decision on Academic Calendar

(Continued from Page 1)

Chalmer is +28 in comparison to where it was last year and Edison is at +42."

He said an increase of 30 students "sounds like a very small number" but "in the grand scheme of things, 30 can make or break a school system such as ours... where many of our campuses, right now, are near capacity."

A group of 30 students hitting a particular campus at once would force the district to utilize alternative classroom space including portable buildings.

"On the flip side of that, we also monitor attendance," he said. This is not just a GISD issue, he continued. "School districts across our nation are battling school attendance," he said.

He said GISD campuses have increased attendance compared to last year.

The board also voted to hold a May 6 election day for the board of trustees. Three seats are currently

up for election – Place 1 held by Laticia Hendricks, Place 2 held by Marvin Royal and Place 3 held by Dan Doss.

The first day to file for election was January 18. The last day to file is February 17.

As mentioned previously, Stewart said the district is looking hard at long range planning. Facilities continue to be a concern for the district which operates on an approximately \$34 million budget, he said.

Of the budget, roughly 80 percent goes to payroll, he said.

"The remaining 20 percent pays for utilities, building maintenance and renovation, operating costs," he said. "And so, in the grand scheme of things [\$34 million] may sound like a lot of money but when you talk about renovating and upkeep on school facilities, it's very, very minimal..."

Stewart said he is going out for an updated demographic report and a third

party updated facilities assessment.

Many academic campuses are operating at or near capacity, he said.

"What we want to make sure we are able to do, is accommodate each and every student within the envelope of the school building without the need for portable buildings," he said.

Administration is also expected to evaluate safety and security focusing on cameras, alarms, door locks, badge access and secured vestibules.

The district is also looking to expand its international teacher recruitment program to include ten additional teachers.

Next, GISD Director of Finance Alyce Greer presented a snapshot of the district's 2023-2024 budget calendar. She noted the 2023-2024 school budget year begins September 1 but planning for the new budget year began in December 2022.

Each campus will sub-

mit its budgetary input for the upcoming year in early 2023. The district will receive preliminary property values from Cooke County Appraisal District in April. Budget workshops (Continued on Page 7)

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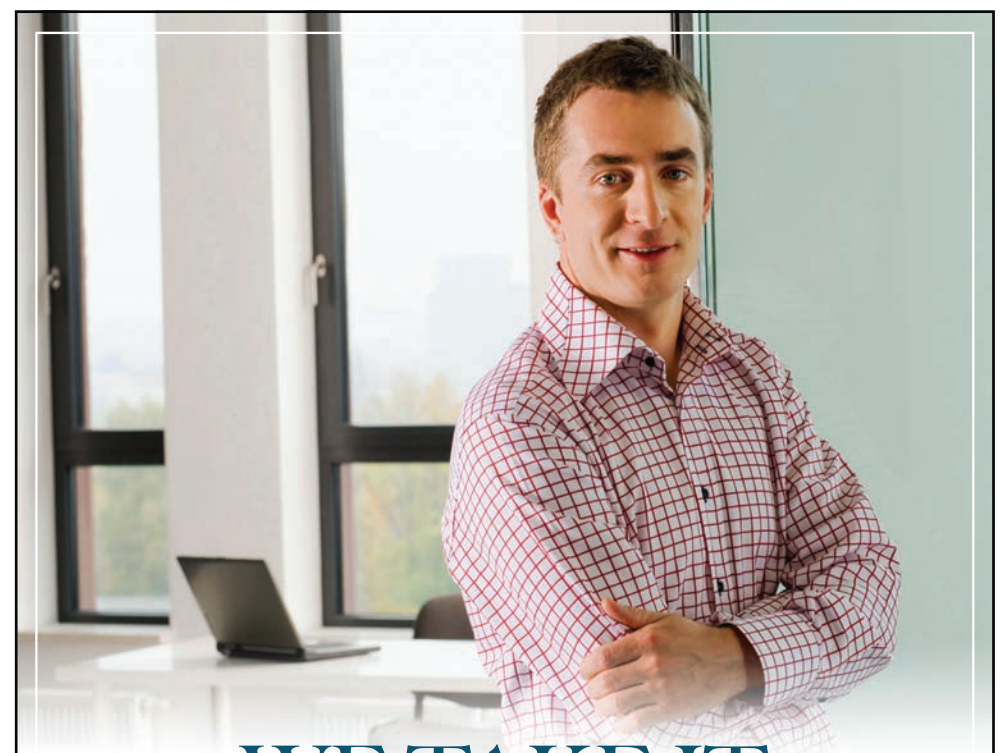
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Obituaries



Louise Miles

Services

The family of Mary Louise Russell Miles mourns the passing of their beautiful loved one. Louise left our wonderful Earth at the age of 93 on January 20, 2023 and is peacefully at home with her Heavenly Father.

A funeral service is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. Interment will follow at New Resthaven Cemetery.

History

Louise was born in Sivells Bend, Texas on March 22, 1929, to Willie Imogene Ellis Russell and Millard Patrick Russell. She grew up in Sivells Bend, attended Sivells Bend Elementary School and graduated from Gainesville High in 1945. Cooke County was her lifelong residence. She is preceded in death by her parents, her sister Flora Russell Lawler, and brother Dick Russell.

Louise was mother to Sue Dillard Campbell and Joe "Pinky" Dillard. She raised them and gave her children the experience of the country life in the farming/ranching community of Sivells Bend. The young family actively participated in the community especially the Sivells Bend Elementary School and the Bear Head Baptist Church. The family was involved in the 4-H Club - Sue and Pinky as club members and their parents as adult leaders. While living in Sivells Bend, Louise was an active participant and member of the Home Demonstration Club. She also enjoyed her Eastern Star membership in the Marysville, Texas Chapter. She moved from Sivells Bend in 1965 to Gainesville, Texas where she lived the remaining years of her life.

When she was not working at the Gainesville National Bank, Farm Bureau, Weber Aircraft,

Superior Pipe Threading, Cooke County Courthouse or Winstar Casino she enjoyed playing volleyball, swimming, and having friends and family visit her to "talk about old times". Louise loved people and was a "people person". She was a member of the First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Texas.

Survivors

Louise is survived by her children, Sue and Pinky, and wife, Alexis; grandchildren, Shannon Dillard and Lance Campbell; and great-grandchildren, Chloe Campbell, Jack Campbell, and Claire Campbell. She is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

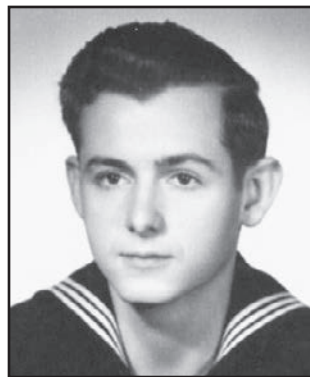
Donations

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Noah's Ark Animal Shelter, Gainesville, Texas made in memory of Louise Miles and her beloved yorkie, Gracie. Donations are accepted by phone at (940) 665-9800 or by mail to: Noah's Ark, P.O. Box 465, Gainesville, TX 76241. You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.

and his father Jerry Threadgill Sr. He is survived by his mother Juanita Threadgill, and his sisters Carmen Dewey, Treon Kindiger, Deana Prince, and Cheri Smith.

Survivors

Jerry is survived by his 5 children: Michelle Threadgill Taylor and Gerald Taylor, of Gun Barrel City, Jory and Jamie Threadgill, of Frisco; Jerry Threadgill III., of Gainesville; Courtney Threadgill, of Gainesville; and Chase Threadgill and Jamie Gorsett Threadgill, of Gainesville. He is also survived by his 16 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.



Don Woodruff

Services

Don Winston Woodruff, 97, of Gainesville, Texas, passed away peacefully January 18, 2023 surrounded by family at his home.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM Saturday, January 28, 2023 at First United Methodist Church with Rev. Adam Spore officiating. Graveside services will be privately held at Fairview Cemetery with military honors. A visitation is scheduled for 6:00 PM Friday, January 27, 2023 at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home.

History

Don was born August 27, 1925 in Gainesville to A. C. Woodruff and Leola Barrett Woodruff. He joined the Navy at the age of 17 to serve as a gunnery instructor during World War II. He returned home to marry the love of his life, Marjorie Kaden. After the war, he attended the University of Texas and became a pharmacist. He owned Woodruff Pharmacy until he retired, but continued working in pharmacy, commuting to Wilson N. Jones Hospital in Sherman and also working at the Muenster Pharmacy. He enjoyed playing golf, going out to the "farm" and

tending the horses. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge. He loved God and his church and has been a long-time member of First United Methodist since the age of 11, serving on many committees.

Survivors

Don is survived by his wife of over 74 years, Marjorie Kaden Woodruff; his three daughters: Linda Boyer and husband Steve, Claudia Bourland, Susan McDonald and husband Doug; grandchildren: Leslie Russwurm and husband Clayton, Bryan Bourland, Allie Rich and husband Justin, Lindsey Barghi and husband Cameron; 7 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Woodruff was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Dennis Woodruff.

You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.

aunts, uncles, and friends.

You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.



Jackie Dale Eaton

Services

Jackie Dale Eaton, 79, of Gainesville, Texas, passed away peacefully on January 13, 2023 in Gainesville, Texas. Family and friend visitation will be held Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. A memorial service will follow.

History

Jackie was born on January 6, 1944 in Gainesville, Texas to Lee Roy and Lillie Eaton. He married Linda Eaton on October 9, 1992 in Gainesville, Texas and they were happily married for 30 years. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Collinsville. Jackie owned and operated Eaton Construction his entire adult life. Jackie thrived on being outdoors. He was always happiest when he could be on his backhoe or dump truck, especially helping others in a time of need. He was always willing to lend a hand. He was a fun-loving granddad, best known as Jackie Pa!

Survivors

Jackie is survived by his wife, Linda Eaton of 30 years; two daughters and three grandchildren: Darla Knauf, Alex Knauf, Delana and Ron Mazdra, Sarah Mazdra and Leah Mazdra.

Jackie was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Fess; and his brother, Wayne Eaton.

You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.



Ralph "Bob" Robert Skinner

Services

Ralph "Bob" Robert Skinner passed away on January 15th, 2023, at his residence. Memorial service will be held on Monday, January 23rd, 2023, at 2:00 PM at the Meador Funeral Home Chapel in Gainesville. Visitation will be held from 1:00 PM until service time.

History

Chris was preceded in death by: grandparents Larry Bowling and George W. Mitchuson; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Survivors

Chris leaves behind to cherish his memory: wife Xiemena Johnston of Gainesville; daughter McKenna Mitchuson; son Jacob Mitchuson; son Mathias Mitchuson; son Lakota Mitchuson; mother Sandra Walls; father Larry Mitchuson; grandmother Katherine Bowling; grandmother Barbara Mitchuson; sister Britany Ward; nephew Thomas Ward; and many cousins,

Ralph Robert Skinner was born on February 9, 1957, in Henrietta, Texas. He was the youngest of 3 boys. He graduated in 1975 from Henrietta High School, where he played football and ran track. He attended Sheet Metal Worker school in Wichita Falls and Dallas and turned out as a Sheet Metal Journeyman in 1982. Bob later became a pecan farmer, and then straw bale home builder in the North Texas area.

Bob married Julie Moose on June 20, 1980, and they had one child, Rain Skinner, born in 1991. He loved being outside, watching the birds and enjoying the natural world. In later life, he took up woodworking. He absolutely loved music of all genres, and there wasn't anything he enjoyed much more than going to a live music concert of one of his favorite bands, especially The Flaming Lips or The Avett Brothers.

Bob Skinner was the most courageous and honest man you could ever meet, kind and generous to family, friends, and strangers. He loved conversing with people about their lives and philosophies. His strength in the face of life's challenges was inspiring to all who knew him.

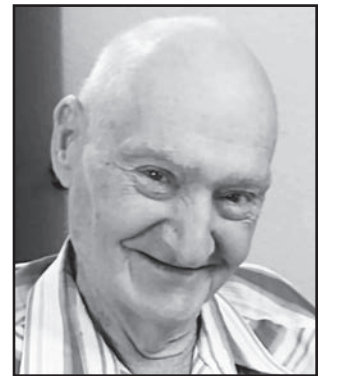
Survivors

He is survived by his wife Julie Moose Skinner of Gainesville, TX; child Rain Abigail Skinner of Norman, Ok; brothers David Skinner of Tulsa, Ok and Andrew and wife Julia Skinner of Ponder, TX; nephew and family Evan Skinner and Lindsay, Holland and Remi all of Elmhurst, IL; niece and her family Jess Skinner and Huck of Fish Creek, WI; nephew Will Skinner of Carrollton, TX; mother-in-law Martha Moose of Henrietta, Tx.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents Jack and Wilma Skinner. He is also preceded by other family members Fred Skinner and Bruce Skinner.

Donations

Memorials may be made to Thunderbird Clubhouse, Norman, OK or PFLAG Norman.



Lawrence Albert Neusch

Services

A Mass of Christian Burial for Lawrence Albert Neusch, 85, of Lindsay, will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2023, at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Lindsay, with the

(Continued on Page 9)

Newsday Crossword

ALL THE HITS by Steve Faiella
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Brunch or dinner
- 5 Maternity ward event
- 10 Moisture on lawns in the morning
- 13 Female choir voice
- 14 Savory taste
- 15 Pepsi or Coke
- 16 Plod along
- 17 Poe's black bird
- 18 Signs, as a contract
- 19 Persevering with one thing
- 22 "Later!"
- 23 Italian scooter brand
- 27 Blocked a car at the curb
- 32 Breakfast strip
- 35 Breathing organ
- 36 Hockey surface
- 37 Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
- 38 Major blood vessel
- 39 Big jump
- 40 Easy toss
- 41 Doily fabric
- 42 Lacked, informally
- 43 Athlete with three expert skills
- 47 Sight or smell
- 48 Be fearful of
- 51 Bart and Maggie's dad
- 57 Mystical glow
- 60 Vicinities
- 61 ___ cost (free)
- 62 Ship captain's staff
- 63 Starr of the Beatles

DOWN

- 1 Church service
- 2 Historic immigration island
- 3 Make amends
- 4 Entered username and password
- 5 Chest of drawers
- 6 Mosque leader
- 7 Sitar master
- 8 Anti-counterfeiting guys, for short
- 9 legs (dog's rear extremities)

10

- Put on, as sneaker
- 11 Moose cousin
- 12 Used to be
- 15 Autumn apple drink
- 20 Large city in France
- 21 Actress Longoria
- 24 Took to the slopes
- 25 Nut in southern pies
- 26 Highly capable
- 28 Swell up
- 29 Sway suddenly
- 30 Walk inside
- 31 Org. for Tiger Woods
- 32 Flashes of lightning
- 33 Love, in Italy

34

- Log house
- 38 Pub beverage
- 39 Tardy student's admission slip
- 42 Do damage to
- 44 Old-style oath
- 45 Zodiac feline
- 46 Phonograph inventor
- 49 ___ crow flies (in a straight line)
- 50 Start of a warning
- 52 Scratches up
- 53 Buffalo's lake
- 54 Tear to shreds
- 55 Epic story
- 56 "Nay" votes
- 57 Star pilot or pitcher
- 58 Large coffee server
- 59 American flag color

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Opinions

Froma Harrop

Population Shouldn't Be a Ponzi Scheme



By Froma Harrop

China's shrinking population, we are told, poses an economic threat to that country, as well as an economic drag for us.

Here are the numbers: Deaths exceeded births in 2022 by 850,000. That leaves over 1.4 billion Chinese. That's over four times the U.S. population occupying about the same land mass. More than 1 billion people would be a lot of people in anybody's book.

Two reasons for concern are flawed. One is the idea is that an economy needs more people to grow. The other is that aging societies need vastly more young people to support their elderly.

Start with the notion that fewer workers restrain

economic growth. That might hem in the gross domestic product, but what does that big number mean to the average worker? The GDP could stay the same, but if it was applied to fewer people, the average product per capita would go up.

Worries about worker numbers often ignore gains in productivity. Labor shortages often spur technological advances that let a worker produce more in the same amount of time. (In a fair world, the worker shares the rewards of improved productivity.)

Longer life spans mean there are more people we consider old, but they also reflect a slower aging process thanks in good part to modern medicine. Therefore, more people in their late 60s, 70s and beyond can remain in the workforce, especially in jobs that don't require heavy lifting. Oddly, China has one of the world's lowest retirement ages of around 60.

China's falling population has several causes. The country's one-child policy is, of course, a driver. It was imposed several decades ago to stop an ongoing population explosion

that could have led to mass starvation and related social chaos.

But another factor lowering birthrates -- seen all over the industrial world -- has been of people moving to cities and becoming richer. That helps explain why China dropped the one-child policy a few years ago but hasn't seen a significant increase in births.

Somehow a falling population sounds more desirable than a massively growing one, especially in the country that is already the biggest emitter of planet-warming greenhouse gases. China produces almost twice the amount of carbon as the United States.

Some economists express alarm that we might lose China as the world's biggest source of cheap factory labor. That could mean higher prices for the Chinese stuff we buy and thus raise inflation in this country.

But that doesn't sound like a terrible thing for American workers, who lost their jobs to Asian sweatshops. And if both Chinese and American workers earn higher wages as a result, that would be good all around.

In any case, the pandem-

ic-related disruptions of supply chains have already started a trend whereby American manufacturers are bringing their operations back to these shores. Life has gone on, and despite that trend, inflation has started to moderate.

There are also quality-of-life benefits to a steady or modestly declining population. Was the U.S. a bad place to live in 1950, when there were half as many Americans as there are today?

Housing was certainly

more affordable for average earners. Some fret about how a falling population would affect China's crazy real estate sector, which has fueled much of the economy. But Chinese homebuyers might well appreciate lower prices for shelter.

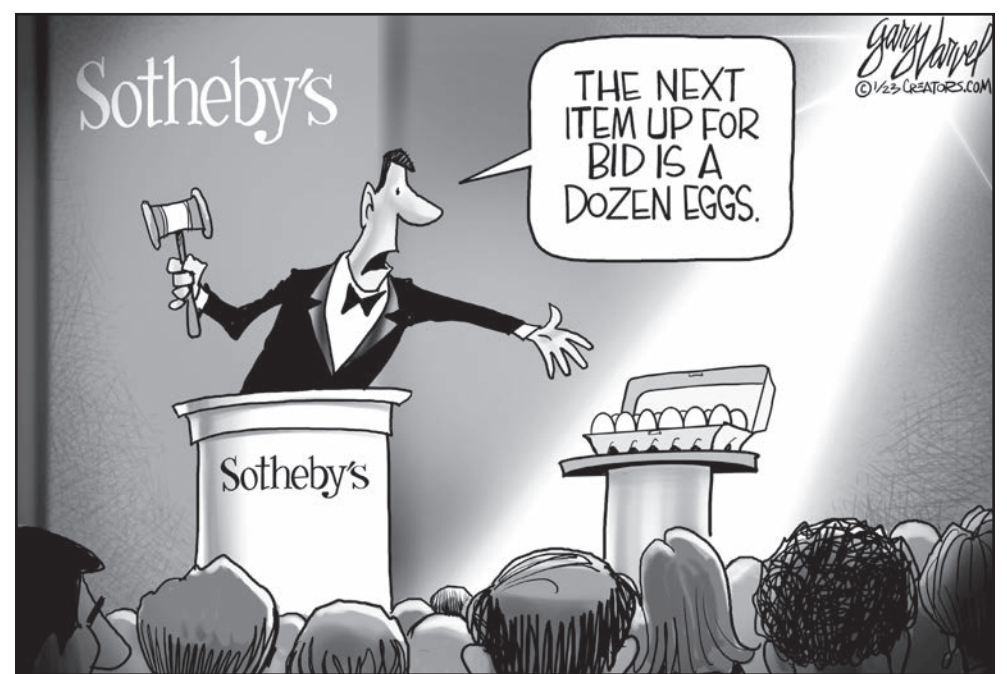
The idea that prosperity must rely on strong population growth is greatly exaggerated. At bottom, it's a kind of demographic Ponzi scheme, whereby the success of a society is fostered by an ever-larger younger generation supporting the

smaller one before.

There are ways to provide for the unique challenges facing every generation. That should be true here, as well as in China.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com. To find out more about Froma Harrop and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators webpage at www.creators.com.

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Mona Charen

Why Johnny Might Finally Learn to Read



By Mona Charen

If you're a parent with kids in public school, you are doubtless aware of the roiling controversies about the teaching of critical race theory and about policies governing the participation of trans athletes in sports. Those things are not trivial, but you're probably not hearing much about a far more consequential matter: how schools are failing to teach kids to read.

That's right -- failing badly. Even before the dramatic learning loss caused by COVID, only one-third of American fourth and eighth graders were reading at grade level. How is that not a massive scandal? If only one-third of traffic lights were working properly, or one-third of army

tanks could fulfill their mission, or one-third of firefighters knew how to use a firehose, we'd properly call that a government failure. And yet the failure to teach kids the basics of reading -- despite widespread scientific and scholarly consensus about the best way -- has dragged on year after year and decade after decade.

It was 1955 when "Why Johnny Can't Read" became a bestseller. It argued that a retreat from phonics instruction -- teaching kids to sound out words based on the sounds letters make -- was handicapping American students. It was 1983 when a blue ribbon commission issued "A Nation at Risk," the most often quoted section of which warned:

"The educational foundations of our society are presently being eroded by a rising tide of mediocrity that threatens our very future as a nation and a people. ... If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might well have viewed it as an act of war. As it stands, we have allowed this to happen to ourselves."

Some of the findings of "A Nation at Risk" didn't hold up. For example, they cited

declining SAT scores as evidence of educational malpractice but failed to consider the increase in the percentage of high schoolers who were applying to college and therefore taking the exams. Still, the report's endorsement of phonics in reading instruction does hold up, as yet another blue ribbon commission, the 2000 National Reading Panel, convened by Congress, confirmed. The panel examined more than 100,000 reading studies conducted over many decades and concluded that, yes, "explicit instruction in phonemic awareness" was the best way to teach reading.

But little changed. Year after year, decade after decade, most schools failed to incorporate this insight. As a 2019 American Public Media report put it, flawed ideas dominated reading instruction. "Elementary schools across the country are teaching children to be poor readers -- and educators may not even know it."

Education gurus became entranced with "whole language," a theory that children are natural readers just as they are natural speakers. The old "drill and kill" had to go. Children should be "joyful readers." A 2019 survey of 674 teachers from around

the United States found that 72% employed a "balanced literacy" approach, discouraging sounding it out. Teachers were told to encourage students to guess at the meaning of unfamiliar words based on context or pictures, a method called "three-cueing." That technique becomes a problem in upper grades when texts no longer feature pictures.

American education has been plagued by fads. Remember "new math?" Satirist Tom Lehrer skewered it as a method "designed to help students understand what they're doing, (SET ITAL) rather than (END ITAL) to get the right answer." Reading fads have had different names over the years, but all of them were united by their lack of scientific evidence and their romantic ideas about how children learn to read. The alternatives to phonics were all supposed to be liberating and fun and empowering for children. Instead, they did terrible, avoidable harm. As one dissatisfied public school mother put it, when children don't learn to read, "They doubt their ability to do anything in life."

State legislatures around the country are finally coming to recognize what brain science and academic studies

make clear: Reading is not like speaking. It is not innate, but must be taught, and the easiest and best way to create readers (the joyful comes later) is to teach them that letters make sounds and sounds combine to make words and with basic sounding out, they can decode them.

In Tennessee, a new law signed by Gov. Bill Lee requires that elementary school teachers be trained in phonics-based instruction. Eleven other states have passed similar legislation, and some are already reaping the benefits. Mississippi (long the butt of jokes for its poor showing in educational outcomes) reformed reading instruction

in 2013 to stress phonics. Since then, fourth graders have jumped from 49th in the nation to 29th in 2019. Richmond, Virginia, public schools saw historic improvements in reading scores just one year after switching to a phonics-based curriculum.

After decades of reading wars, is it possible that we are nearing a victory for science and evidence? If so, it may permit our more literate citizens to better understand matters like critical race theory and transgenderism.

Mona Charen is Policy Editor of The Bulwark and host of the "Beg to Differ" podcast. COPYRIGHT 2023 CREATORS.COM

Letters to the Editor...

Editor's note -- Letters to the Editor reflect only the opinion of the author and not that of *The Weekly News of Cooke County*. Facts contained in Letters to the Editor are claims of the author only. The (...) denotes areas that have been edited.

To the Editor,

An Act of Kindness

My lady friend and I were shopping recently at

the Gainesville Walmart. Our shopping cart was full. We were preparing for a celebration dinner for several guests, and we had a lot to purchase.

In line behind us was a gentleman with only two items. We invited him to go ahead of us, since our purchases would probably take some time. He politely declined, saying he was not in a bind for time.

As we were finishing up and bagging our items, I asked him about the two items he was purchasing.

They appeared to be specialty soaps, most likely for men's grooming. He explained to me why he used the product and how it benefited him.

It appeared to be a good product which I thought I would take a closer look at in a future shopping trip.

We completed our purchases, and as we were walking away, the gentleman asked us to hold up a moment.

He told the cashier to scan one of the soap bars, then he handed it to me,

with his compliments.

I was astonished by his unexpected act of kindness. I vowed to myself to repay his thoughtfulness by doing my own random act of kindness for someone in the near future.

My thanks once again, to the large man in the University of Texas garb, for the soap and for the reminder of the importance of kindness to our fellow man.

Henry E. Koehler
Gainesville

The
Weekly News
of Cooke County

Letter Policy

The Weekly News of Cooke County invites its readers to submit letters to the editor. Letters should include the author's name, address and daytime phone number. No letter will be printed without confirmation from the author. Letters should be brief and to-the-point.

Lengthy letters may require condensing. Confirmed letters will be printed as space allows. Letters that are not signed, contain personal attacks or ask that the author's name be withheld will not be printed.

Letters to the Editor will be printed without corrections of spelling or grammar. Inappropriate language will be removed.

Only one (1) letter will be published per month that are written by the same person.

Published letters reflect only the opinion of the author and not of *The Weekly News of Cooke County*.

Letters should be submitted to:
The Weekly News of Cooke County
216 W. Pecan Street
Gainesville, Texas 76240

or e-mail letters to:
Grice.King@TheWeeklyNewsCC.com

Cooke County Junior Livestock Show Results

GAINESVILLE – This is the part 2 of results from the Cooke County Junior Livestock Show held Monday, January 2 through Friday, January 6. The show was established to support the 4-H, FFA & FCCLA youth of Cooke County and is a Cooke County United Way partner. Part 1 of the results was published in the January 18, 2023 edition of *The Weekly News of Cooke County*.

Market Goats – Medium Weight Division, Class 4
1- Kyan Cain, Muenster FFA
2- Cooper Graves, Muenster FFA
3- Maddox Sewell, Muenster 4-H
4- Katie Walterscheid, Muenster 4-H
5- Emma Walterscheid, Muenster FFA
6- Huchton, Debra Market Goats Muenster FFA 80 591
7- Abigail Mote, Gainesville FFA 81 67
8- Samantha Groce, Era FFA 80 29
9- Talon Hemphill, Callisburg FFA
Med. Weight Division Champion - Kyan Cain
Med. Weight Division Res. Champion - Cooper Graves
Market Goats – Heavy Weight Division, Class 5

1- Kinley Dangelmayr, Muenster FFA
2- Brooklyn Bewley, Valley View FFA
3- Rosson Smith, 4-H Livestock Club
4- Kade Branson, Lindsay FFA
5- Blakely Clark, Valley View FFA
6- Blakely Hall, Valley View 4-H
7- Isabel Rojas, Gainesville FFA
8- Bryson Baker, Valley View FFA
Market Goats – Heavy Weight Division, Class 6
1- Lawson Bewley, Valley View FFA
2- Kade Branson, Lindsay FFA
3- Chanlin Smith, 4-H Livestock Club
4- Brynlie Graves, Lindsay FFA
5- Brooklyn Bewley, Valley View FFA
6- Abigail Mote, Gainesville FFA
7- Aubrey Schneider, 4-H Livestock Club 114 245
8- Rachael Schneider, Valley View 4-H
9- Julissa Medina, Gainesville FFA
10- Colton Bateman, Era 4-H
Heavy Weight Division Champion - Kinley Dangelmayr
Heavy Weight Division

Res. Champion - Brooklyn Bewley
Grand Champion Market Goat - Kyan Cain - Muenster FFA
Reserve Champion Market Goat - Claire Graves - Muenster FFA
Dairy Goat Grand Champion - Hank Hennigan - Muenster FFA
Breeding Goat-Meat, Class 1
1- Debra Huchton, Muenster FFA
2- Hank Hennigan, Muenster FFA
3- Maddox Sewell, Muenster 4-H
4- Cash Fuhrmann, Muenster FFA
5- Rosson Smith, 4-H Livestock Club
6- Aubrey Schneider, 4-H Livestock Club
Breeding Goat-Meat, Class 2
1- Claire Graves, Muenster FFA
2- Cooper Graves, Muenster FFA
Breeding Goat-Meat, Class 3
1- Chanlin Smith, 4-H Livestock Club
2- Talon Hemphill, Callisburg FFA
Grand Champion Breeding Goat - Debra Huchton - Muenster FFA
Reserve Champion Breeding Goat - Hank Hennigan - Muenster FFA
LAMBS
Market Lamb – Dorper/Haired Sheep, Class 1
1- Reagan Osterman, Valley View FFA
2- Cody Kirkpatrick, Valley View FFA
3- Greyson Osterman, Valley View FFA
4- Gideon Land, Red River 4-H
5- Joshua Zimmerer Jr., Red River 4-H
6- Samantha Zimmerer, Red River 4-H
Breed Champion – Reagan Osterman
Res. Breed Champion – Cody Kirkpatrick
Market Lamb – Dorper/Haired Sheep, Southdown, Class 1
1- Carter Wolf, Lindsay FFA
2- Dekan Cope, Lindsay FFA
3- Kyra Richardson, Gainesville FFA
Market Lamb – Dorper/Haired Sheep, Southdown, Class 2

1- Katelyn Murphy, Gainesville FFA
2- Lainie Reiter, Lindsay 4-H
3- Nolan Reiter, Lindsay 4-H
4- Reiter, Isaac Lindsay 4-H
5- Reiter, Joanna Lindsay 4-H
Breed Champion Carter Wolf
Res. Breed Champion Katelyn Murphy
Market Lamb – Finewool Cross, Class 1
1- Kale Cope, Kale Lindsay FFA
2- Pamela-Lynn Young, Gainesville FFA
Breed Champion – Kale Cope
Res. Breed Champion – Pamela-Lynn Young
Market Lamb – Medium Wool Cross, Class 1
1- Madelyn Williams, Madelyn Lindsay 4-H
2- Natalie Medina, Gainesville FFA
3- Joanna Reiter, Lindsay 4-H
4- Kale Cope, Lindsay FFA
5- James Fleitman, Muenster FFA
6- Ali Fleitman, FFA
Market Lamb – Medium Wool Cross, Class 2
1- Kyle Kemp, Valley View FFA
2- Madelyn Williams, Lindsay 4-H
3- Ryker Smith, Valley View FFA
4- Carter Wolf, Lindsay FFA
5- Braylon Purvey, Gainesville FFA
6- Lainie Reiter, Lainie Lindsay 4-H
Market Lamb – Medium Wool Cross, Class 3
1- Ryker Smith, Valley View FFA
2- Dalan Smith, Valley View FFA
3- Isaac Reiter, Lindsay 4-H
4- Nolan Reiter, 4-H Market
5- Isaac Reiter, Isaac Lindsay 4-H
6- Ana Huerta, Ana Gainesville FFA
7- Dekan Cope, Lindsay FFA
Market Lamb – Medium Wool Cross, Class 4
1- Cierra Kemp, Valley View FFA
2- Katelyn Murphy, Gainesville FFA
3- Katelyn Murphy, Gainesville FFA
4- Madelyn Williams, Lindsay 4-H
5- Braylon Purvey, Gainesville FFA
Breed Champion – Ryker Smith (Class 3)
Res. Breed Champion – Dalan Smith (Class 3)
Grand Champion Market Lamb - Ryker Smith - Valley View FFA
Reserve Champion Market Lamb - Dalan Smith - Valley View FFA
Junior Showmanship - Kyle Kemp - Valley View FFA
Senior Showmanship - Madelyn Williams - Lindsay 4-H
Breeding Sheep Show
1- Laine Reiter, Lindsay 4-H
2- Isaac Reiter, Lindsay 4-H
Grand Champion Breeding

Sheep - Lainie Reiter
Reserve Champion Breeding Sheep - Isaac Reiter
MARKET STEER
Market Steers – Class 1
1- Sutton Bryson
2- Landen Moon
3- Elyssa Clark
Market Steers – Class 2
1- Ella Rauschuber
2- Kanin Crisp
3- Kamden Crisp
Grand Champion Steer - Kamden Crisp - Valley View FFA
Reserve Champion Steer - Sutton Bryson - Muenster 4-H
POULTRY
Breeding Poultry, Standard Pullet, Class 1
1- Joshua Zimmerer Jr, Joshua Red River 4-H.
2- Joshua Zimmerer Jr, Joshua Red River 4-H.
Breeding Poultry, Bantam Pullet, Class 2
1- Kenneth Scoggin, Valley View 4-H
2- Heidi Becker, Heidi Lindsay 4-H
3- Kyra Richardson, Gainesville FFA
4- Channing McCollum, Era FFA
5- Kyra Richardson, Gainesville FFA
6- Kenneth Scoggin, Valley View 4-H
7- Heidi Becker, Lindsay 4-H
Breeding Poultry, Standard Hen, Class 3
1- Mary Gomulak, Gainesville FFA
2- Mary Gomulak, Mary Gainesville FFA
3- Blaise Bayer, Lindsay 4-H
4- Camillus Bayer, Lindsay 4-H
5- Konrad Bayer, Lindsay 4-H
6- Blaise Bayer, Lindsay 4-H
7- Conner Williams, Era 4-H
8- Nate Becker, Lindsay 4-H
9- Isiah Foraker, Lindsay 4-H
10- Ariana Bayer, Lindsay 4-H
11- Nate Becker, Lindsay 4-H
Breeding Poultry, Bantam Hen, Class 4
1- Joshua Zimmerer Jr., Red River 4-4
2- Joshua Zimmerer Jr., Red River 4-H
3- Kenneth Scoggin, Kenneth, Valley View
4- Joshua Zimmerer Jr., Red River 4-H
5- Kyra Richardson, Gainesville FFA
Breeding Poultry, Standard Cockrel, Class 5
1- Nate Becker, Lindsay 4-H
Breeding Poultry, Bantam Cockrel, Class 6
1- Channing McCollum, Era FFA
2- Kyra Richardson, Gainesville FFA
3- Scoggin, Kenneth Valley View 4-H
Breeding Poultry, Standard Cock, Class 6
2- Jeremiah Richardson, Gainesville FFA
3 - Jeremiah Richardson, Gainesville FFA
1- Kyra Richardson, Kyra Gainesville FFA
Breeding Poultry, Bantam Cock, Class 7
1- Kyra Richardson,

Gainesville FFA
3- Kenneth Scoggin, Valley View 4-H
2- Kenneth Scoggin, Valley View 4-H
Grand Champion Breeding Poultry - Mary Gomulak - Gainesville FFA
Reserve Champion Breeding Poultry - Kyra Richardson - Gainesville FFA
Market Broiler Pens
1- Abby Noles, Valley View 4-H
2- Branton Noles, Valley View 4-H
3- Tyler Isbell, Valley View FFA
4- Chloe Sandmann, Valley View FFA
5- Tyler Isbell, Valley View FFA
6- Wyatt Isbell, Valley View FFA
7- Faith Huber, Valley View FFA
8- Chloe Sandmann, Valley View FFA
9- Faith Sicking, Muenster FFA
10- Faith Huber, Valley View FFA
11- Hayden Sicking, Muenster FFA
12- Reagan Brinkley, Valley View FFA
13- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA
14- Kyle Gunter, Callisburg FFA
15- Kennedy Neu, Lindsay FFA
16- Valor Bridwell, Red River 4-H
17- Liana Bridwell, Red River 4-H
Grand Champion Meat Pen - Abby Noles - Valley View 4-H
Reserve Champion Meat Pen - Branton Noles - Valley View 4-H
BREEDING RABBITS
Sr. Doe Class 3
1- Briyana Sharp, Callisburg FFA, Best of Breed
1- Morgan Greer, Era FFA
4- Zade Schilling, Muenster FFA
3- Zaley Schilling, Muenster FFA
2- Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA
Jr. Doe Class 1
6- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
4- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
3- Lincoln Idleman, Lincoln Lindsay 4-H
1- Eli Neu, Lindsay 4-H
2- Eli Neu, Lindsay 4-H
Int. Doe Class 2
2- Morgan Greer, Era FFA
1- Morgan Greer, Era FFA, Best of Opposite Sex
Jr. Buck Class 4
1- Zayley Schilling, Muenster FFA
Sr. Buck Class 6
4- Zade Schilling, Muenster FFA
3- Zaley Schilling, Muenster FFA
1- Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA, Best of Breed, Grand Champion
5- Zyden Schilling, Muenster FFA
2- Zane Reynolds, Valley View FFA
Pre Junior Doe
4- Zyden Schilling, Muenster FFA
3- Zade Schilling, Muenster FFA
8- Zayley Schilling, Muenster FFA
(Continued on Page 8)

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Gainesville Police Receive Reports

GAINESVILLE – Gainesville Police Department received the following incident reports.

Runaway juvenile was reported in the 300 block of North Denton Street.

A citation was issued for possession of drug paraphernalia in the 1200 block of North Grand Avenue.

Kimzie Moss reported burglary of vehicles in the 1800 block of North I-35.

Denise Dennington Huerta reported criminal mischief in the 2600 block of East Highway 82.

Megan Michelle Reed reported burglary of vehicles in the 700 block of North Grand Avenue.

Jennifer Marie Lilley reported forgery in the 200 block Santa Fe Street.

A citation for possession of drug paraphernalia was

issued in the 600 block of North Grand Avenue.

Alicia Rodriguez, Eddie Lopez, Eduardo Bacilio Aguillon reported deadly conduct-discharging a firearm in the 1000 block of North Commerce Street.

Forced into was made into a building in the 400 block of West Highway 82 where cash and merchandise were stolen.

Duty on striking fixture/highway landscape less than \$200 was reported in the 2100 block of North I-35.

Arrest Log

Dante J. Goree, 32, public intoxication with three prior convictions.

Page G. Moore, 41, misdemeanor warrant.

Jules V. Canuet, 33, misdemeanor warrant.

Jarred M. Miller, 34,

driving while intoxicated third or more, evading arrest/detention.

Talina L. Wilson, 48, misdemeanor warrant.

Jonathan A. Alsup, 36, two misdemeanor warrants.

Charles D. Taylor, 45, misdemeanor warrants.

Andron Mena, 25, misdemeanor warrant.

Brianna M. Carter, 22, three misdemeanor warrants.

Elizabeth N. Mercado, 32, public intoxication.

Treilyn N. James, 32, two misdemeanor warrants.

Venetta M. Poe, 31, theft of property less than \$750.

Jason R. Dinubilo, 36, possession of a controlled substance less than one gram/two misdemeanor warrants.

Mary L. Roberts, 33,

possession of a controlled substance less than one gram.

John P. Hughs, 62, two felony warrants.

Kristina M. Flores, 33, two misdemeanor warrants.

Guadalupe J. Basquez, 47, misdemeanor warrant.

Jacob A. Sanchez, 31, two felony warrants.

Nancy A. Mitcheson, 59, criminal trespass.

Amanda Y. Goss, 40, felony warrant, two misdemeanor warrants.

Fernandez M. Downey, 28, two misdemeanor warrants.

Robert D. Schultz, 38, public intoxication.

Sheri F. Perkins, 71, driving while intoxicated/open container, unlawfully carrying weapon.

Michael R. Burgan, 33, public intoxication.

Gainesville to Sign with P3 Works for Consulting

(Continued from Page 1)

offering about the same amount of time, but we took about five additional years to get there than [other cities] did so we just moved that up.”

The amendment also allows employees to carry over 160 hours instead of 140 and removes the 30-year cap for longevity pay, Sullivan said.

Next, the council reviewed and approved the investment policy for 2023.

The council approved a resolution authorizing the city manager, for and

on behalf of the city of Gainesville, to execute a professional service agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Clarifier and RAS Pump Replacement.

Sullivan said the clarifiers require repair.

“We’ve been running on one of these for a while,” he said. “We are going to be using some of the [American Rescue Plan Act funds] for this process.”

One of the approved uses for the federal grant money is for wastewater, Sullivan said.

Also approved was a resolution of the city awarding a bid for the Wastewater Treatment Plant UV Disinfection Project. The project will eliminate the use of chlorine.

“The total amount for this project is \$1.7 million,” Sullivan said. “All but the \$290,000 is coming from the ARPA.”

Council also approved the purchase of a 2022 F-250, Crew Cab 4x4 Truck for the city of Gainesville Water Distribution Division. The total amount for the truck is \$59,000. The new truck will replace a 13-year-old

truck. The old truck is slated to be sold at auction.

The council also approved unanimously minutes of the January 3, 2023 city council meeting.

Sullivan presented the January 2023 Employee of the Month award to Community Services Secretary Ester Solis.

All councilmembers were present for the meeting.

Marriage License Requests Received

COOKE COUNTY - The following applications for marriage were received by the Cooke County Clerk's Office.

Zachary Ryan Ridgeway, 32, Gainesville and Laura

Michelle Wild, 33, Gainesville.

Jammy Dale Shaw, 31, Wilson, Oklahoma and Elizabeth Nicole Rodgers, 25, Wilson.

Dawson Lucas Kneuper,

19, New Braunfels and Shyann Dawn Owens, 20, Gainesville.

Aaron Scott Havener, 32, Norman, Oklahoma and Kayla Brooke Faver, 27, Norman.

Sentences Issued for Felony Indictments

COOKE COUNTY - The following sentences were issued for felony indictments and filed in 235th District Court.

Mariano Gomez was convicted of the January 19, 2021 lesser included first degree felony offense of aggravated sexual assault of a

child and was sentenced to 14 years confinement in a state jail facility and court costs.

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Cooke County Sheriff Logs Incident Reports

COOKE COUNTY – The following incidents were reported to the Cooke County Sheriff's Office.

Possession of drug paraphernalia was reported at East Highway 82 and County Road 149.

Possession of a controlled substance less than one gram was reported at East 4th Street and North Walnut Street in Cooke County.

Possession of a controlled substance less than 400

grams was reported at Highway 82 and County Road 359.

Jeffrey Blake Walter reported burglary of a habitation in the 10000 block of North FM 373.

Arrest Log

Donald John Vaughan Jr., 47, possession of a controlled substance less than four grams motion to proceed to adjudication.

Jonathan Wane Nicholson, 29, driving while license invalid, failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to appear.

Joseph Wayne Winstead, 52, driving while intoxicated motion to revoke probation.

Angel Eduardo Lara, 26, dangerous drugs parole warrant.

Diana Maribel Celestino, 26, failure to maintain financial responsibility, no driver license when unlicensed (three offenses), display expired license plates/registration. Failure to appear.

Joshua Bryan Morgan, 47, driving while intoxicated.

Chester Ross Stewart, 44, failure to appear/driving while intoxicated (two separate warrants)

Abner Walter Rutledge III, 50, assault causes bodily injury/family violence, assault family violence – impede breathing.

GISD Approves Superintendent Contract Renewal, Move Closer to Decision on Academic Calendar

(Continued from Page 2)

are set for June and July. The board will approve the budget and adopt the tax rate in August, Greer said.

The board approved 7-0 the following action items.

Order Board of Trustees Election for May 6.

Amended 2022-2023 Return to Learn Plan.

G2 General Contractors as the Co-op approved job order contractor for the secure vestibule project at Chalmers Elementary School and in a separate item, approve G2 as contractor for the secure vestibule project at Gainesville Intermediate.

Select AUI Partners, LLC as general contractor for the GHS ag facility expansion project.

The board also approved the following consent agenda items

Minutes of Regular, December 12, 2022

Monthly Bill List

Financial Statement 2022-2023 Amended NCTC / GHS Dual Credit Crosswalk

JC Commercial Payment Application No. 11 - GISD Warehouse and Distribution Facility

In addition to other acknowledgements, Stewart noted January is School Board Recognition Month.

"These individuals volunteer their time far beyond that of what you see [during board meetings]," Stewart said. "These individuals dedicate countless numbers of their time taken away from their families to help us engage in the work and continue to make informed

decisions and what we feel are the best decisions for facility, staff and students here in GISD."

Communications Director Leslie Crutsinger presented a video program aimed at thanking the seven members of the GISD Board of Trustees.

Next, Gainesville Intermediate School art teacher Kelly Stogner discussed student art displayed during the meeting.

Leopard Pride Students of the Month were Caitlyn Gomez and Leonardo Elias of Gainesville High School, Marco Moran and Kashirah Bowen of Gainesville Junior High, AJ Henderson and

Avian Puente of Gainesville Intermediate School, Allison Price and Giovanni Lemon of Chalmers Elementary School and Jesse Ramirez and Ariana Torres Arredondo of Edison Elementary School.



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King Around Town

by Grice King

(Continued from Page 1)

235th District Court Cases Filed, Decided

COOKE COUNTY - The following cases were filed and decided in the 235th District Court.

Cases Filed

Kevin Gerald Sebade vs. Marilyn F. Sebade, divorce.

Charles Eric Smith vs. Jennifer Lacy, divorce.

Debbie Marie McCraw vs. Rodney Wayne McCraw, divorce.

Luke W. McClinton vs.

Kerri B. McClinton, divorce.

Louise Tate vs. Terry Tate, divorce.

Hailey Rene Byrom vs. Brand Kyle Poland, divorce.

Pilot Point Independent School District vs. Javier Rangel, et al, tax cases.

Cases Decided

Grady Moracin Lebrun vs. Laura Lebrun, agreed judgements, divorce.



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CD rates are fixed for the initial chosen term upon opening the account. A minimum balance of \$10,000 required to open the account and earn interest. At least 50% of the opening deposit amount must be "new money" to First United Bank. New money is defined as funds not deposited with First United Bank within the last 60 days. Offer not available to collateralized deposits, public funds, IRAs, or brokered deposits. Penalties may be imposed for early withdrawals. Fees may affect earnings. 1. Compared to the current rate for a First United Bank 12-Month CD as of January 18, 2023. 2. The Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of January 18, 2023.
Member FDIC. ©2023 First United Bank.

ALABAMA-COUSHATTA
TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM

Looking for Native American Indians, Alaskan Natives or Native Hawaiians needing assistance finding employment or vocation training

Must be a member of a U.S. Federally recognized tribe with a supporting document from a U.S. Federally recognized Tribe's Tribal Rolls and Records office and reside within our designated service area in Texas

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Section 166, 20 CFR 684.300(a) (1) An Indian, as determined by a policy of the INA program grantee; or (2) An Alaska Native; or (3) A Native Hawaiian.

Call 1-877-717-6101
or apply online at www.acwia.org

meeting and pot luck dinner on Monday, February 6 at 6:30 pm at the Community Building at 92 McDaniel Street. Following the dinner at 7:00 pm, Callisburg Mayor, Nathan Caldwell will be the guest speaker discussing growth development and water in Callisburg. Visitors are welcome.

+++++

Abigail's Arms Cooke County Family Crisis Center is inviting everyone to a free Agents of Change Community Education Presentation on Saturday, January 28 from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. They will be serving breakfast, lunch and providing tours of the facility. Learn about the free services and resources available to victims of crime in Cooke County and be an Agent of Change.

For more information email yknowland@abigailarms.org or call 940-665-2873.



WE ARE HIRING!
GAINESVILLE ISD CHILD NUTRITION

Apply for FT & PT Food Service Worker Today

Join the Food Service team at Gainesville ISD as we're serving up happy and healthy meals to students in our community. No experience required! Schedule is Monday-Friday with Holiday Breaks off and benefits available for full time employees. All shifts done as early as 2:30 PM.

-Go to www.gainesvilleisd.org
-Click on "Child Nutrition" at the top of the page
-Click on "Food Service Worker Opening" on the left side of the page

Gainesville ISD Child Nutrition (940) 668-3626



Cooke County Junior Livestock Show Results

(Continued from Page 5)

1- Channing McCollum
6- Isabell Rojas
7- Isabell Rojas
2- Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA Schilling, Zayley Californian Pre Junior Doe 8 McCollum,
5- Zyden Schilling, Muenster FFA
Pre Junior Buck
2- Zade Schilling, Muenster FFA
1- Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA
3- Zyden Schilling, Muenster FFA
Sr. Buck Dutch/Belt
2- Rebekah Gomulak, Lindsay 4-H
Sr. Buck Dutch/Black Variety
1- Kari Bayer, Lindsay 4-H, Best of Breed
Dutch/Blue
1- Kari Bayer, Lindsay 4-H, Best of Breed
English Spot Jr. Doe
1- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
2- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
3- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
English Spot Sr. Doe
1- Eli Neu, Best of Breed, Lindsay 4-H
English Spot Jr. Buck
1- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
English Spot Sr. Buck
1- Eli Neu, Lindsay 4-H, Best of Show
Flemish Giant Sr. Doe
2- Layla Allen, Gainesville FFA
1- Lily Allen, Gainesville FFA, Best of Breed
Harlequin Sr. Doe
1- Arianna Korson, 4-H Sharpshooters, Best of Breed
Himalayan, Sr. Doe
1- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H, Best of Show
2- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H, Best of Breed
Holland Jr. Doe
1- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA
2- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA
Holland Sr. Doe
5- Christian Motomochi, Red River 4-H
2- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA
Holland Jr. Buck
2- Jayseline Ray, Gainesville FFA
1- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA, Best of Breed
3- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA
Holland Sr. Buck
5- Kennedy Neu, Lindsay FFA
1- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA
2- Raegan Neu, Lindsay FFA
Holland Lop Sr. Doe
1- Dulce Sancen, Era 4-H
Holland Lop Jr. Buck
4- Anthony Sancen, Era 4-H
Holland Lop Sr. Buck
3- Sophia Thompson, Lindsay 4-H
Holland Lop/Broken Blue Sr. Doe
3- Junie Campbell, Era 4-H
Holland Lop/Broken Sr. Doe
4- Kailey Riley, Era FFA
6- Samantha Zimmerer, Red River 4-H
Holland Lop/Broken Tricolor Sr. Buck
4- Junie Campbell, Era FFA
Jersey Woolly
1- Kennedy Neu, Lindsay FFA, Best of Show
1- Samantha Zimmerer, Red River 4-H, Best of Breed
Mini Rex Sr. Doe
7- Ashlyn Garrison, Gainesville FFA
2- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay FFA
3- Lincoln Idleman
4- Lincoln Idleman
6- Lincoln Idleman
1- Lincoln Idleman, Mini Rex Sr. Buck, Best of Show
Mini Rex/Castor, Sr. Doe
1- Melanie Bayer, Muenster FFA, Best of Breed
5- Isabella Motomochi, Gainesville FFA
2- Isabella Motomochi, Mini Rex/Castor Sr. Buck
Netherland
4- Kennedy Neu, Lindsay FFA, Sr. Buck
3- Kennedy Neu, Lindsay FFA, Sr. Doe
Netherland Dwarf
1- Kennedy Neu, Jr. Doe

5- Elisheva Korson, 4-H Sharpshooters, Sr. Doe
6- Kailey Riley, Era 4-H, Sr. Buck
3- Colton Bareman, Era FFA, Orange Sr. Doe
7- Samantha Zimmerer, Black Otter, Sr. Doe
1- Samantha Zimmerer, Black Otter, Sr. Buck, Best of Show
6- Samantha Zimmerer, Blue, Sr. Doe
4- Colton, Bateman, Era 4-H, Broken Lynx
Polish
1- Braxton Fine, Era 4-H, Polish/Black, Int. Buck, Best of Breed
Rex
2- Kishilo Korson, 4-H Sharpshooters, Sr. Buck
1- Adelaide Bayer, Muenster 4-H, Broken, Jr. Doe
2- Lily Clayton, Era FFA, Blue Otter, Sr. Doe
1- Samantha Zimmerer, Red River 4-H, Broken, Sr. Buck, Best of Show
1- Izaiah Cardenas, Era FFA, Broken Black, Otter/TattooCT, Jr Buck
1- Gideon Land, Red River 4-H, Otter, Sr. Doe
3- Izaiah Cardenas, Era FFA, Red/Tattoo RM, Sr. Doe
Tan
1- Eli Neu, Lindsay 4-H, Sr. Doe, Best of Breed, Reserve Champion
2- Eli Neu, Sr. Doe
3- Eli Neu, Sr. Doe
1- Eli Neu, Jr. Buck
1- Eli Neu, Sr. Buck, Best of Show
Market Rabbits (Meat Pens)
1- Zane Reynolds, Valley View FFA 1 Grand Champion
2- Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA 2 Reserve Grand Champion
3- Zane Reynolds, Valley View FFA
4- Zade Schilling, Muenster FFA
5- Seyler Boaz, Valley View FFA
6- Adleigh Boaz, Valley View FFA
7- Landrie Huchton, Lindsay FFA
8- Zayley Schilling, Muenster FFA
9- Zayley Schilling, Muenster FFA
10- Zade Schilling, Muenster FFA
11- Zyden Schilling, Muenster FFA 11 869
12- Zane Reynolds, Valley View FFA
13- Eli Neu, Lindsay 4-H
14- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
15- Lincoln Idleman, Lindsay 4-H
16- Kenlea Reaves, Lindsay 4-H
17- Sydney Wylie, Muenster FFA
Eli Neu, Lindsay 4-H
Landrie Huchton, Lindsay FFA
Isabel Rojas, Gainesville FFA
Isabel Rojas, Gainesville FFA
Isabel Rojas, Gainesville FFA
Montoya, Natalie Gainesville FFA
Natalie Montoya, Gainesville FFA
Natalie Montoya, Gainesville FFA
Zyden Schilling, Muenster FFA
Zyden Schilling, Muenster FFA
Zade Schilling, Muenster FFA
Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA
Zec Schilling Muenster FFA
Zayley Schilling, Muenster FFA
Channing McCollum, Era FFA
SHOP-AG
Metal Shop/Small Metal
1- Owen Bayer, Muenster FFA
2- Owen Bayer, Muenster FFA
3- Canyon Savell, Era FFA
4- Jacie Brown, Era FFA
5- Owen Bayer, Muenster FFA
6- Levi Escobedo, Era FFA
7- Matthew Trout, Callisburg FFA
Medium Metal
1- Brock Baugh, 4-H Sharpshooters
2- Eric Taylor, Era FFA
3- Cash Cawthon, Valley View FFA
4- Jackson Clark, Callisburg FFA
Large Metal
1- McCray Swofford, Era FFA
2- Wyatt Isbell, Wyatt, Valley View FFA

3- Josey Grewing, Josey Muenster FFA 03 Large Metal 63
4- Garrett Shugart, Callisburg FFA
Grand Champion Metal Shop - Brock Baugh -4-H Sharpshooters
Reserve Champion Metal Shop - McCray Swofford - Era FFA
Wood, Small
1- Joshua Zimmerer Jr., Red River 4-H
2- Brooke Tyler, Muenster FFA
3- Mauryn French, Valley View FFA
4- Parker Hartman, Muenster FFA
5- Christian Murphey, Muenster FFA 04 Small Wood 844
6- Brooke Tyler, Muenster FFA
7- Brooke Tyler, Muenster FFA
8- Maylene Gutierrez, Valley View FFA
Wood, Medium
1- Ellie Hacker, Muenster FFA
2- Luke French, Valley View FFA
3- Jake Fisher, Callisburg FFA
4- Oriane de Vos, Valley View FFA
5- Brisan Hermes, Muenster FFA
6- Hector Hernandez, Valley View FFA
7- Emanuel Luna, Valley View FFA
8- Eric Clark, Valley View FFA
9- Gideon Land, Red River 4-H
10- Emily Taylor, Callisburg FFA
Wood, Large
1- Braden Hacker, Muenster FFA
2- Mason Bean, Gainesville FFA
3- Heath Peyrot, Era 4-H
4- Leonardo Hurtado, Gainesville FFA
Grand Champion Wood Shop - Braeden Hacker - Muenster FFA
Reserve Champion Wood Shop - Ellie Hacker - Muenster FFA
Leather, Small Leather Work
1- Madison Eaton, Era FFA

2- Landen Moon, Valley View FFA
3- Madison Eaton, Era FFA
4- Madison Eaton, Madison Shop Era FFA
Leather, Medium Leather Work
1- Landen Moon, Valley View FFA
2- Josie Brown, Era FFA
3- Tristen Boyd, Era FFA
4- Madison Eaton, Era FFA
5- Karre Taylor, Era FFA
6- Madison Eaton, Era FFA
Grand Champion Leather Work - Landen Moon - Valley View FFA
Reserve Champion Leather Work - Madison Eaton - Era FFA
SWINE
Dark OPB, Class 1
1- Jayden Wade, Callisburg FFA
2- Chloe Hill, Callisburg FFA
3- Carter Hewitt, Valley View FFA
4- Rory Chisum, Callisburg FFA 153 5 643
5- Wade Schad, Muenster 4-H
Dark OPB, Class 2
1- Briley Henry, Callisburg FFA 209 2 863
2- Kaden Jenkins, Valley View FFA
3- Lindsay Zamora, Valley View FFA
4- Ana Huerta, Gainesville FFA
Dark OPB, Class 3
1- Elliott Rohrbough, Callisburg FFA
2- Kaylee Blevins, Valley View FFA
3- Haygen Beam, Callisburg FFA
4- Kourtney Nance, Valley View FFA
5- Marti Yousko, Callisburg FFA
Dark OPB, Class 4
1- Ashlyn Wandell, Callisburg FFA
2- Briley Henry, Callisburg FFA
3- Nathan Huchton, Lindsay FFA
Champion Dark OPB- Elliott Rohrbough Class 3
Reserve Champion Dark OPB- Jayden Wade Class 1
Berkshire, Class 1

1- Colt York, Valley View FFA
2- Morgan Greer, Era FFA
3- Hayleigh Yates, Valley View FFA
4- Garrett Shugart, Callisburg FFA
5- Brendan Daugherty, Valley View FFA
Berkshire, Class 2
1- Reed Lawley, Callisburg FFA
2- Cassidy Dawdy, Valley View FFA
3- Jayson Fleitman, Valley View FFA
4- Alexis Beard, Era FFA
5- Kadyn Waugh, Lindsay FFA
Berkshire, Class 3
1- Jayden Wade, Callisburg FFA
2- Wyatt Shaffer, Callisburg FFA
3- Rylie Christiansen, Valley View FFA
4- Kinsley Lemons, Callisburg FFA
Berkshire, Class 4
1- Remea McLaughlin, 4-H Livestock Club
2- Liberty Kirk, Callisburg FFA
3- Jackson Schad, FFA
4- Koti Wood, Valley View FFA
Duroc, Class 1
1- Race McLaughlin, 4-H Livestock Club
2- Remea McLaughlin, 4-H Livestock Club
3- Marti Yousko Callisburg FFA
Braylen Bruce Duroc Era FFA
Duroc, Class 2
1- Kaci Ford, Muenster FFA
2- Lexi York, Valley View FFA
3- Kourtney Nance, Valley View FFA
4- Josey Blevins, Valley View FFA
5- Angie Hermes, Muenster FFA
6- Kami Thorson, Era FFA
7- Brody Burch, Valley View FFA
Braylen Bruce, Era FFA
Duroc, Class 3
1- Jacey Thomas, Valley View FFA
2- Colt York, Valley View FFA
3- Cassidy Dawdy, Valley View FFA

4- Ryder Gann, Muenster FFA
Duroc, Class 4
1- Morgan Greer, Era FFA
2- Austin Christiansen, Valley View FFA
3- Stockton Bryson, Muenster 4-H
4- Ryder Gann, Muenster FFA
5- Alex Chisum Callisburg FFA
Duroc, Class 5
1- Ashlyn E Wandell, Callisburg FFA
2- Sydney McFarlane, Lindsay FFA
3- Lannie Cory, Callisburg FFA
4- Katelyn Murphy, Gainesville FFA
5- Ayden Schad, Muenster 4-H
Champion Duroc- Kaci Ford Class 2
Reserve Champion Duroc- Ashlyn Wandell Class 5
Hampshires, Class 1
1- Mason Stobaugh, Muenster FFA
2- Kaden Jenkins, Valley View FFA
3- Kaysen Beam, Callisburg FFA
4- Ryleigh Yates, Valley View FFA
5- Brett Burch, Valley View FFA
6- Wade Schad, Muenster 4-H
Hampshires, Class 2
1- Kaci Ford, Muenster FFA
2- Kale Peterson, Valley View FFA
3- Jacey Thomas, Valley View FFA
4- Hayleigh Yates, Valley View FFA
Hampshires, Class 3
1- Macey Savell, Era FFA
2- Pazley McCauley, Callisburg FFA
3- Catelyn Buckaloo, Valley View FFA
4- Landon Minhinett, Valley View FFA
5- Callie Sharp, Lindsay FFA
Hampshires, Class 4
1- Elliott Rohrbough, Callisburg FFA
2- Kade Cannon, Lindsay FFA
3- Hunter Sandmann, Lindsay FFA
(Continued on Page 9)

EXHIBIT C-3

CALLISBURG INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2022

Data	10	50	Total	
Control	General	Debt Service	Other	
Codes	Fund	Fund	Funds	
			Governmental	
			Funds	
REVENUES:				
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 8,767,039	\$ 1,330,501	\$ 108,710	\$ 10,206,250
5800 State Program Revenues	3,807,640	27,626	1,941	3,837,207
5900 Federal Program Revenues	-	-	1,367,972	1,367,972
5020 Total Revenues	12,574,679	1,358,127	1,478,623	15,411,429
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011 Instruction	6,321,735	-	525,316	6,847,051
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	182,170	-	-	182,170
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	15,400	-	16,386	31,786
0023 School Leadership	909,049	-	-	909,049
0031 Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	208,224	-	11,721	219,945
0033 Health Services	41,334	-	72,210	113,544
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	958,101	-	-	958,101
0035 Food Services	18,613	-	722,227	740,840
0036 Extracurricular Activities	899,154	-	-	899,154
0041 General Administration	663,007	-	-	663,007
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,599,460	-	23,959	1,623,419
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	258,736	-	6,120	264,856
0053 Data Processing Services	229,510	-	-	229,510
Debt Service:				
0071 Principal on Long-Term Liabilities	-	804,999	-	804,999
0072 Interest on Long-Term Liabilities	-	403,339	-	403,339
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	97,073	-	97,073
Intergovernmental:				
0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	732,697	-	-	732,697
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	170,682	-	-	170,682
6030 Total Expenditures	13,207,872	1,305,411	1,377,939	15,891,222
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(633,193)	52,716	100,684	(479,793)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7911 Capital Related Debt Issued	-	7,835,979	-	7,835,979
7914 Non-Current Loans	444,536	-	-	444,536
7915 Transfers In	-	-	470	470
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(470)	-	-	(470)
8949 Other (Uses)	-	(7,732,588)	-	(7,732,588)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	444,066	103,391	470	547,927
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	(189,127)	156,107	101,154	68,134
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	6,047,653	1,333,249	319,030	7,699,932
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 5,858,526	\$ 1,489,356	\$ 420,184	\$ 7,768,066

Obituaries

(Continued from Page 3)

Rev. Sam Maul as celebrant. Interment will follow at St. Peter's Cemetery. A Rosary with visitation will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, January 20, at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home, Gainesville. Serving as pallbearers are Jacob Neusch, Paul Fleitmann Jr., Duane Knabe, Evan Bendixsen, Rick Jobe, and Greg Rottmann.

History

Lawrence was born July 17, 1937, in Amarillo, TX, the fourth of five children of Leo and Rosa Voth Neusch. He attended Lindsay School to seventh grade. Lawrence married Clara Fleitmann on August 3, 1957, at Sacred Heart Church, Muenster. The couple lived north of Lindsay and were the parents of three sons: Michael Paul, born May 22, 1958; Gilbert Joseph, born June 22, 1959; and James Anthony, born July 9, 1964.

Lawrence worked in several different occupations, starting off with farming on the homestead, then on to working in the oilfield with his brother-in-law Victor Koelzer, until he started his water well business. Lawrence began the water well business shortly after the couple was married. After being unable to purchase a rig, Lawrence built his own service rig, which he used until the mid-1980s. In 1982, Lawrence and his son James bought a drilling rig and began drilling water wells in addition to the service work they were already doing. The drilling operation encompassed a four-county area in North Texas. In addition to building his first service rig, Lawrence innovated in many other ways, crafting his own tooling and fishing devices for the well business.

Lawrence was an avid gardener and enjoyed sharing his produce with neighbors and friends. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing, riding motorcycles, and riding his bicycle around the neighborhood in more recent years.

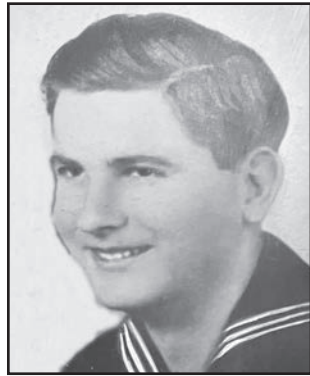
Lawrence was preceded in death by his parents; sister Marie Koelzer and brother-in-law Victor Koelzer; sister Bertha Knabe and brother-in-law Harold Knabe; brothers-in-law Joe Moster and Gene Pelzel; and nephew Brad Knabe.

Lawrence was also preceded in death by two daughters-in-law, Jeri Lyn (York) Neusch and Gina Annette (Sullivan) Neusch.

Survivors

Survivors include Lawrence's wife, Clara Neusch of Canton; son Michael of Canton; son Gilbert and wife Cathy of Weatherford; and son James and wife Laura of Lindsay. He is also survived by granddaughter Erin (Neusch) Bendixsen and husband Evan; stepdaughter Crystal York; grandson Jacob Neusch and wife Ciara; and granddaughters Patricia Neusch and Shawna Neusch. Lawrence is also survived by two great-granddaughters, Everleigh and Eleanor Bendixsen, and a great-grandson, Dakota Neusch.

You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.



Lee A. Killgore

Services

Lee Aldon Killgore, 98, of Gainesville, passed away January 6, 2023 in Oklahoma City, OK. A memorial service is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2023, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Gainesville.

History

Mr. Killgore was born January 21, 1924 in Fort Worth. He married Mary Louise Hager on December 31, 1943 in Jacksonville, FL. Mr. Killgore was a Naval Aviator

in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He retired from a fulfilling career with the State of Alaska as a social worker. Mr. Killgore was an avid golfer, member and officer of the Lion's Club, and a devoted member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. His greatest joy was spending time with his children and foster children.

Mr. Killgore was preceded in death by: wife of 76 years, Mary Killgore; parents A.C. and Ada (Morgan) Killgore; daughter Allison Killgore; daughter Gayle Killgore; and several siblings.

Survivors

Survivors include: daughter Sally Weprin and husband Matthew of Austin; daughter Becky Watkins and husband Lee of Anchorage, AK; grandchildren Beth Meade, Andrew Meade, Michael Watkins, Bohannon Watkins III, Melissa Weprin, and Shelby Weprin; 15 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Donations

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.

Ruth Helen Hayes

Services

Ruth Helen Hayes, 96, of Whitesboro, Texas was called home to a glorious reunion in Heaven on Thursday, January 19, 2023.

Funeral services honoring Helen will be held at 11:00 AM on Monday, January 23, 2023 at First Baptist Church of Whitesboro, officiated by Rev. Mike Flanagan. A private family burial will be held prior to the service at Oakwood Cemetery. The family will have a time of visitation for family and friends after the service in the commons area at First Baptist Church.

History

Helen was born on September 5, 1926 in Jacksonville, Texas to Melvin and Lena (Dover) Acker. She graduated from Jacksonville High School in 1944 and held both a bachelor's degree in Business from the Texas State College for Women and a master's degree in Education from North Texas State University. She married James William "Dub" Hayes on January 30, 1949 in Jacksonville and together they began a legacy of love that included raising their three children, Diane, Jim, and Bill. Helen worked for Sherman ISD as an educator and retired from Washington Elementary in 1992. She was a long-time member of First Baptist Church of Whitesboro and a member of the Faith, Hope and Charity Sunday School class, as well as a member of PEO Chapter A. Helen enjoyed reading and cooking; her kitchen was her happy place. She was a strong Christian woman who loved Jesus and loved sharing him with others. Her greatest pride were her children, her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Survivors

She is survived by her daughter, Diane Gibson and husband, Mark of Sherman; son, Bill Hayes and wife, Kelly of Whitesboro; grandchildren, Laura Wheeler of Denison; Robert Gibson and wife, Bre of Plano; Sarah Hayes of Omaha, Nebraska; and Charlie Hayes of San Antonio; great-grandchildren, Drew and Ben Wheeler; and sister, Marjorie Laney and husband, Bobby of Plano; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and other loving family and friends.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, husband, James W. "Dub" Hayes, son, Dr. Jim Hayes, and grandson-in-law, Ricky Wheeler.

Donations

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made in her name to either First Baptist Church building fund at 124 Center St. Whitesboro, Texas 76273 or to the Whitesboro Public Library at 308 W. Main St. Whitesboro,

Texas 76273.

To sign the online registry, please go to www.meadorfuneral.com.

Denis Keith Pilkilton

Services

Denis Keith Pilkilton, 61, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, after battling many health issues. The Celebration of Life service for Denis will be at Calvary Baptist Church in Gainesville, Tx, on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 7 p.m. with his brother-in-law Larry Kremling presiding.

History

Born April 4, 1961, in Waco, Texas, he was the son of Eddie and Jerry Pilkilton. He graduated from Denison High School in 1979, shortly after joined the Air Force being stationed in Colorado, Idaho and England working on F-111 Aircraft.

After serving the United States for four years, he returned home to Texas. He married the love of his life, Linda Hudgins and became the manager of Underwoods Barbecue in Gainesville, Tx. A few years later he went on to work as a pastry chef at the Worthington Hotel, then finished his working career, about two years ago, as a manager of Autozone in Benbrook, Gainesville, Sherman and Denison for 18 years. He and his family are very proud of his freedom from addiction for 36 years, serving as a sponsor and treasurer in Narcotics Anonymous.

Survivors

Denis Pilkilton was preceded in death by his loving and devoted wife, Linda Hudgins Pilkilton. He is survived by two sisters: Lori Kremling and husband Larry of Thackerville, Ok and Jana Dennis and husband Dale of Denison, Tx; nephews Cody Kremling and wife Megan of Yoakum, Tx, Ryan Kremling and wife Kayla of Gainesville, Tx and Zak Dennis of West Jordan, Utah, as well as a niece Ashley Beane and husband Randy of Richardson, Tx; a great-nephew Colton Kremling, great-nieces Audrey Kremling, Ender Beane, Maren Beane, Oswin Beane, and Landry Kremling and Linda's niece Becky Manning.

Donations

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Calvary Baptist Church of Gainesville Children's Ministry, PO Box 1379, Gainesville, Tx 76241.

You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.

Aaron Lara

Services

Aaron Lara, 16, of Gainesville, passed away January 16, 2023 in Denton. Rosary and visitation are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 22, 2023 at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Monday, January 23 at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery.

History

Aaron was born March 28, 2006 in Gainesville. He grew up playing soccer and enjoyed detailing cars. Aaron treasured most spending time with his family and friends, especially his daughter.

Survivors

Survivors include: daughter Aallyyah Lara; girlfriend Stefania Martinez; parents Homero Lara and Adela Saenz; grandparents Jose Lara, Guadalupe Robledo, Guillermo Saenz, and Marisela Huerta; brother Alan Lara; sister Jimena Lara; brother Ivan Lara; sister Ariana Lara; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

You may sign the online register at www.geojcarroll.com.

his time off. He cared deeply for many friends through the years, was a giving and tireless worker, father and friend.

Rocky passed away on Monday evening, January 9, 2023 after several agonizing months of severe lung disease and complications of Covid at the age of 74, just shy of his 75th birthday.

Survivors

He is survived by his wife Roberta 'Birdie' Dickerson; daughters: Cathy and husband Rick Carney, and Kristin and husband Joedi Walser; sons: Johnny Moster and Donald and wife Priscilla Dickerson; eight grandchildren; one great grandchild who he played and fished with and loved them all dearly. He will be sorely missed.

He is further survived by his sisters: Marie Tilley and Ruth and husband Hopie Hope.

He was preceded in death by his mother: Myrtle, in December 2006; brother: Donald Dickerson, in 2017; and oldest sister: Betty Dickerson Strawbridge, from Covid complications in 2021.

Sharla Kay Bailey-McGinnis

Services

Funeral service for Sharla Kay Bailey-McGinnis, age 64, of Wagoner, Oklahoma will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, January 14, 2023 at Scott Funeral Home in Saint Jo. Burial to follow at Mountain Park Cemetery in Saint Jo. Visitation will be held from 12:00 PM until the time of service at the funeral home. Mrs. Bailey-McGinnis passed away on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

History

Sharla was born on August 17, 1958 in Muenster, Texas to Joseph Hugh and Beulah May (Morrison) Bailey. She married Kevin Seay Bailey-McGinnis on June 12, 2009 in Heavener, Oklahoma.

Survivors

She is survived by her husband: Kevin Bailey-McGinnis of Wagoner, Oklahoma; daughter: Bailey and husband Chad Cordes of Coweta, Oklahoma; granddaughter: Everly Cordes of Coweta, Oklahoma; sisters: Carolyn Thompson of Longview, Texas, Joan Gragg of Fort Worth, Texas, and Nancy and husband Tom Holcomb of Leon, Oklahoma; and brothers: Paul and wife Glenda Bailey of Saint Jo, Texas, and Keith Bailey of Longview, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Joe and Beulah Bailey; and brothers:

Rocky Derrel Dickerson

Services

Mass of Christian Burial for Rocky Derrel Dickerson of Muenster was held at 10:00 AM on Monday, January 16, 2023 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Burial followed at Sacred Heart Cemetery. Rosary and Vigil was held at 5:00 PM on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at Scott Funeral Home in Muenster.

History

Rocky was born in Plainview, Texas on February 12, 1948 to Earnest Bill and Myrtle Ruth (Hayes) Dickerson. He grew up around the Plainview area and later after his mother remarried, he went to a Boys Home in Hollis, Oklahoma. From there, he went into the U.S. Army in 1969 for combat duty in Vietnam.

After his service days he settled in Muenster where he met and married his wife of 44 years, Birdie. Together, they have four children, eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Rocky worked at Weber Aircraft for 30 years, Rumber in Muenster, and most recently at Reliant Plastics.

Rocky loved to fish with his wife and children and play card games and dominoes with many friends during

Cooke County Junior Livestock Show Results

(Continued from Page 8)

Champion Hampshire- Macey Savell Class 3 Reserve Champion Hampshire- Elliott Rohrbaugh
Yorkshire, Class 1
1- Jayson Fleitman, Valley View FFA
2- Aaron Epperson, Valley View FFA
Yorkshire, Class 2
1- Emily Adams, Callisburg FFA
2- Luke Reiter, Lindsay FFA
3- Nathan Huchton, Lindsay FFA
4- Liberty Kirk, Callisburg FFA
Yorkshire, Class 3
1- Lexi York, Valley View FFA
2- Brooklyn Ort, Valley View FFA
3- Luke Reiter, Lindsay FFA
Champion Yorkshire- Lexi York Class 3 Reserve Champion Yorkshire- Brooklyn Ort Class 3
Cross, Class 1
1- Reed Lawley, Callisburg FFA
2- Carter Shaffer, Era FFA
3- Liberty Kirk, Callisburg FFA
4- Talon Hemphill, Callisburg FFA

5- Kadi Thorson, Era FFA
6- Lani Tollestrup, Era FFA
7- Atticus Brinkley, Valley View FFA
Cross, Class 2
1- Kaci Ford, Muenster FFA
2- Pazley McCauley, Callisburg FFA
3- Josey Blevins, Valley View FFA
4- Laston Terry, Valley View FFA 188 5 901
5- Canon Terry, Valley View FFA
6- Emeri Vogel, Muenster FFA
7- Tatum McCauley, Callisburg FFA
8- Paisley Graves, 4-H Livestock Club 181 9 706
9- Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA
10- Elena Morrison, Callisburg FFA
11- Luke Warren, Muenster FFA
Cross Class 3
1- Lexi York, Valley View FFA
2- Race McCaughlin, 4-H Livestock Club
3- Caden Buckaloo, Valley View FFA
4- Bentley Nance, Callisburg FFA
5- Ryan Langston, Valley View FFA
6- Tanner Thomas, Valley

View FFA
7- Jaxen Chisum, Callisburg FFA
Cross, Class 4
1- Reed Lawley, Callisburg FFA
2- Remece McCaughlin, 4-H Livestock Club
3- James Stobaugh, Muenster FFA
4- Anthony Schad, Muenster 4-H
5- Slayton Links, Callisburg FFA
6- Josey Schad, Muenster 4-H
7- Sydney McFarlane, Lindsay FFA
Cross, Class 5
1- Macey Savell, Era FFA
2- Ryder Gann, Muenster FFA
3- Tatum McCauley, Callisburg FFA
4- Zec Schilling, Muenster FFA
5- Alexis Beard, Era FFA
6- Riley Lambert, Valley View FFA
7- Alexis Lemons, Callisburg FFA
8- Kourtney Nance, Valley View FFA
Cross, Class 6
1- Kendra Ratliff, Valley View FFA
2- Caliegh Hill, Callisburg FFA
3- Morgan Greer, Era FFA
4- Macey Savell, Era FFA

Donald 'Harlin' Bailey, Gerry Bailey, and Glen Bailey.

Robert "Jerry" Sobczek

Services

Funeral service for Jerome Robert 'Jerry' Sobczek will be held at 2:00 PM on Friday, January 13, 2023 at Scott Funeral Home in Saint Jo. Burial to follow at Coker Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 6:00-8:00 PM on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at Scott Funeral Home in Saint Jo. Mr. Sobczek passed away on Saturday, January 7, 2023.

History

Jerry was born in San Antonio on November 20, 1930 to Robert Joseph and Rosalie Hedwig 'Rosie' (Skrzycki) Sobczek. His first job at the age of 16 was at Alamo Iron Works in San Antonio. He graduated from Breckenridge High School in San Antonio. While the draft was still in force, he preferred to join the Navy where he worked on refrigeration diesel engines. While he was in the Korean War he was injured during a blast of a gun going off too close to his ear and had to be lifted off ship for surgery the same day that the United States landed on the Moon. He had a medical discharge so he went to the University of Texas in Austin where he studied Mechanical Engineering. He graduated and went to work for Pearl Brewery where he remained until he changed to Associated Milk Producers Incorporated (AMPI) in San Antonio as the Southern Region Engineer which involved plants in Oklahoma City, Muenster, El Paso, Sulphur Springs, and Stephenville. He retired in 1992 and moved to Bowie to be a rancher.

Survivors

Jerry is survived by his loving wife: Ruth Coker Sobczek of Bowie; sons: Charlie and Irene DeWolfe of Bowie, Rev. Todd DeWolfe of Edmond, Oklahoma, and Robert Sobczek of San Antonio; daughters: Nadine and Jeff Berger of La Vernia, Texas, Lori Parker of San Antonio, and Sharon Mann of San Antonio; 10 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; brother: Clarence and Ollie Sobczek of La Vernia; sisters: Helen and Mark Lyssy of La Vernia and Frances and Erwin Moczzygamba of San Antonio.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Robert and Rosie Sobczek; brothers: Edwin and Herman Sobczek; and special uncle: Gene Skrzycki.

5- Carter Shaffer, Era FFA
Cross, Class 7
1- Emeri Vogel, Muenster FFA
2- Kendra Ratliff, Valley View FFA
3- Race McCaughlin, 4-H Livestock Club
4- Jaycee Bryson, Muenster 4-H
Champion Cross- Reed Lawley Class 4 Reserve Champion Cross- Emeri Vogel Class 7
White OPB, Class 1
1- Ryan Langston, Valley View FFA
2- Garrett Shugarrr, Callisburg FFA
3- Hunter Franklin, Gainesville FFA
White OPB, Class 2
1- Elliott Rohrbaugh, Callisburg FFA
Champion White OPB- Elliott Rohrbaugh Class 2 Reserve Champion White OPB- Ryan Langston Class 1
GRAND CHAMPION- Macey Savell- Champion Hampshire RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION- Remece McCaughlin Champion Berkshire JR. SHOWMANSHIP - Remece McCaughlin SR. SHOWMANSHIP - Kaci Ford

Classifieds

Classified deadline is 5 p.m. Friday. Payment is required at the time the order is placed. Cash, check or MasterCard/Visa/Discover is accepted. Call 940.665.2320 or e-mail Grice.King@TheWeeklyNewsCC.com.

Animal Adoption



It has sadly been 140 days of Hera being in our shelter. She came to us Summer of 2022 with 12 kittens that she was nursing. Hera was a rockstar and nursed and loved all her babies until they were ready to be adopted. Sadly that was many months ago and Hera has just been sitting here waiting for her turn at a forever home.

She is such a people cat and loves to greet you whenever you come into our cat room. She will rub up against you begging for some pets and is just always happy to be by your side. She gets along great with all the other cats so if you have cats already in your home she will fit right in! If you are interested in adopting Hera please give us a call at (940)665-9800 and we can set you up an appointment to come in and meet her! Our business hours are Monday-Saturday from 11am-5pm, closed Thursdays and Sundays.

Animals For Sale

Ducks and Chickens, Hens Laying for Sale. 940-595-7364 or 945-267-0499.

01/25

Valentine Corgi Pups for Sale. Available, Feb 4. Call Renee 940-395-6895.

01/25

Animals Found

Remember: *The Weekly News* runs all found animal classified word ads for FREE in an attempt to help the owner in locating their lost family pet. Call us at 940-665-2320.

Legal Notices

Notice to Creditors for The Estate of Charles Milton Beakley also known as Charles M. Beakley, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Temporary Administration upon the Estate of Charles Milton Beakley also known as Charles M. Beakley, Deceased, were granted to the undersigned on the 12 of July 2022 by The Probate Court of Cooke County, Texas. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same to Charles Mark Beakley within the time prescribed by law.

My address is
2855 Harbinger Lane
Dallas, Texas 75287

Temporary Administrator of the Estate of Charles Milton Beakley also known as Charles M. Beakley, Deceased.

CAUSE NO. PR18143

01/25

NO. PR18209 ESTATE OF JIM ALTON WILLIAMS, DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF COOKE COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jim Alton Williams, Deceased were issued on January 11, 2023 in Cause No. PR18209, pending in the Probate Court Cooke County, Texas to Kristina M. Ashcraft, Independent Administrator.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and into the manner prescribed by law, addressed in care of the representative's attorney, as follows:

Estate of Jim Alton Williams, Deceased
c/o David N. McNees
835 Ferguson Rd.
Whitesboro, Texas 76273

01/25

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07/27

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See durhamestatesales.net for pictures and info.

Don't just hang signs for your Garage, Moving or Estate Sale, show it to the entire county! Advertise them in *The Weekly News of Cooke County* for as little as \$7.50 per week. Just give us a call at 940.665.2320 or visit our website at www.TheWeeklyNewsCC.com.

Help Wanted

Callisburg ISD is accepting applications for Bus Drivers and Field Trip Drivers for the current school year. Applicants must be 21 years of age, must have a Class A or B CDL with passenger and school bus endorsement and be able to have a current or pass a DOT medical exam. Applicants must also pass a background check, driver's record check, and pre-employment drug test. Average morning and afternoon routes run 60-75 minutes. All buses are equipped with security cameras. Interested applicants may obtain an application at the Callisburg ISD Administration Office located at 148 Dozier Street, Callisburg, TX or at the Transportation Office located at 308 Dozier Street, Callisburg, TX. Interested parties may also contact Cory Huddleston at 665-0961 extension 365. We look forward to hiring new drivers who want to work for a district that respects the job they do!

Recently Widowed. Offering Free Room and Board for House Keeping and Errands. References Required, No Pets, Outside Job Okay. Call 940-727-9143 for Interview.

01/25

Neu Ranch House is now hiring Host/Cashier, Wait Staff, Cooks and Dishwashers/Busers. Apply in person to 1825 E. Hwy 82, Gainesville, TX 76240.

10/05

Caregivers needed!!! Local hearts is a non-medical home care business servicing Cooke, Grayson, Denton and Montague Counties. They provide assistance with transportation, medication reminders, grooming, housekeeping and pre/post-op care. Must be 18 or older, have some experience with helping seniors and providing non-medical home care. Shifts may vary depending on patients needs. Call 940-736-0496 or email localhearts2019@gmail.com.

The Weekly News Classifieds. 940.665.2320.

Services

Cleaning Service Sarah Bell. Do you need a deep cleaning? Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly. Call 903-271-9604.

01/04

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A	L	T	O		U	M	A	M	I			C	O	L	A	
S	L	O	G		R	A	V	E	N			I	N	K	S	
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	S	E	E	Y	A							V	E	S	P	A
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Commercial For Lease

Commercial land and building for lease. 5.6 acres, fenced, zoned C3. 50x80 shop with office space. 2916 US Hwy. 82, Gainesville, TX. \$5500/month. Contact 940-736-1095.

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8 am – 5 pm / Monday- Friday

P: (940)665-7651 F: (940)668-2587

E: cookecad@cookecad.org Web: www.cookecad.org

Take ADVANTAGE TODAY!

The Cooke County Appraisal District encourages you to take advantage of opportunities that may be available to lower your tax bill, see if you qualify.

Cooke County Appraisal District is open to serve you, the taxpayer via telephone, email, online portal/chat, or in the lobby .

If you received a letter and/or an application request to update information it must be completed and returned by the deadline stated on the letter or you risk losing the benefits of the exemption or special appraisal (Ag use).

EXEMPTIONS

Filing any application(s) for an exemption is free of charge.

An applicant may claim an exemption on only one piece of property that the applicant owns and must be a Texas resident to qualify for a homestead exemption.

GENERAL RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION (Tax code 11.13(a) and (b)): You may qualify if: (1) you own the property; (2) you occupy it as your principal residence; and (3) you or your spouse do not claim a residence homestead exemption on any other property. (4) Attach a copy of your driver's license. The address listed on your driver's license must correspond to the address of the property for which an exemption is claimed in this application.

Homestead Exemptions: reduces the assessed value of your home which could result in a reduction of your property taxes.

Available homestead exemptions include:

- **Schools:** All homeowners may receive a \$40,000 homestead exemption.
- **County:** Farm-to-market roads or flood control, a homeowner may receive a \$3,000 homestead exemption.
- **Age and Disability Exemptions:** Individuals 65 or older or disabled as defined by law may qualify for a \$10,000 homestead exemption for school taxes, in addition to the \$40,000 exemption available to all homeowners. They qualify as soon as they turn 65 or become disabled.
- **Surviving Spouses of the First Responders killed in the Line of Duty:** The eligible surviving spouse of a first responder killed in the line of duty is allowed a total property tax exemption on his or her residence homestead, if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the first responder.
- **Partial Exemption for Disabled Veterans:** For any property owned by a veteran who is disabled due to a service-connected disability. The exemption amount is determined according to the percentage of service-connected disability as defined by a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs Summary of Benefits. This exemption can also apply to spouses and surviving children of deceased disabled veterans.
- **Surviving Spouses of Members of the U.S. Armed Services Killed in Action:** Surviving spouses of veterans who qualified or who would have qualified for an exemption if it had been in effect at the time of the veteran's death are also eligible with certain restrictions. The surviving spouse of a member of the U.S. armed services who is killed in action is allowed a total property tax exemption on his or her residence homestead if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the armed services member.

OTHER EXEMPTIONS

Non-profit organizations, Miscellaneous Non-Profit, or Primarily Charitable:

Misc / Requires an Annual Application, Primarily Charitable Application is required every 5 Years.

An application for the above described exemptions must meet the statutory requirements for approval of the property tax exemption and must apply by a specific date.

Tax Abatements/Freeport Exemptions:

Deadline is April 30th / Annual Application Required

Deadline to file a late application is, June 15th for the year in which the exemption is requested. In the event that a late application is approved the property owner is liable to each taxing unit a penalty equal to 10 percent of the amount of taxes saved.

Granted by taxing units; ship inventory out of Texas that may be eligible for the **freeport exemption**; construct, install or acquire pollution control property; own and operate energy storage systems may also be eligible for statutory exemptions.

SPECIAL VALUATION (AG USE)

Texas Farmers and Ranchers may be granted property tax relief on land used for agricultural productivity.

Deadline for Special Valuation: April 30th.

If the April 30th deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, legal state or national holiday, the act is considered timely if performed on the next regular business day.

Agricultural Appraisal

The Texas Constitution authorizes agricultural productivity appraisal, 1-d-1 for property owners. The property must be used for agriculture or timber (*at this time Cooke County has no qualified timber use*), meet the degree of intensity generally accepted in the area, and has been used as such for at least five of the preceding seven years

Rollback tax will be imposed if qualified land is taken out of agriculture use and placed in non-agricultural use. Rollback taxes under 1-d-1 are based on the (3) **three preceding appraisal years prior to the change** to non-agricultural use. Calculations are found by using the difference between taxes paid under productivity appraisal and the taxes that would have been paid if the land had been on the tax roll at market value.

Wildlife Management

Annual Update Required

May receive special appraisal, however the land must have qualified for agriculture use in the preceding year. Land under wildlife management must also meet acreage size requirements and special use qualification.

BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Rendition(s) Required to be filed Annually

A rendition is a report that lists all the taxable property you owned on or controlled on January 1st; including inventory and equipment used by the business. Renditions can be mailed, faxed or emailed to businessrendition@cookecad.org

Deadline for filing a business personal property rendition is April 15th.

Property owner(s) may file a written request with the chief appraiser for an extension of May 15th. The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days for good cause.

If a rendition is not filled for 2023 there is an automatic **10% penalty imposed** for any business who has not rendered their taxable business personal property. If fraud has occurred, in addition to other penalties, a **50% penalty will be imposed**

TAX PAYMENT INFORMATION

Taxes Become Delinquent on February 1st. Penalties and Interest will accrue starting February 1st, and an additional 15% penalty in attorney fees will accrue starting July 1st on all unpaid balances.

NOTIFY the appraisal district of any change in your mailing address. CCAD has a form on our website, complete the form and you can email, fax, or mail it back to CCAD.

The law requires timely payments be made without regard to the circumstances of the property owner.

Missing Tax Statements Are presumed delivered when deposited in the mail, if not received it is the responsibility of the taxpayer to notify the appraisal district's collection department.

Full or partial payments are accepted.

Accepted Methods of Payment: Cash, checks, money orders, cashier's check, credit or debit card and e-check payments.

Access to Pay : Lobby, Drive-Thru Window, drop box (after hours), Mail (Postmark honored), Online: (www.cookecad.org), Telephone: 1(866)549-1010 / Bureau Code: 6657651.

FEES MAY APPLY TO SOME PAYMENT METHODS OR ACCESS METHODS.

Payment Agreements

Must be filed and accepted by CCAD

Available on delinquent taxes, limitations apply.

Quarter Payments

Must be filed and accepted by CCAD

Four equal installments Paid: January 31st, March 31st, May 31st, and July 31st. **Any missed payments will accrue penalties and interest.**

Available on a residential homestead property; if the property owner (1) occupies the home as their primary residence **AND** (2) qualifies for an Over 65, social security disability, or veterans' disability exemption.

DEFERRED PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Texas may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit at the Cooke County Appraisal District if they are:

- Age 65 or older;
- Disabled as defined by law.
- Qualified disabled veterans, their unmarried surviving spouse, or their unmarried children under the age of 18, if there is no surviving spouse; or
- Unmarried surviving spouses of U.S. armed service members killed on active duty and their unmarried children under the age of 18.

Taxes are DEFERRED — NOT CANCELLED

Deferred taxes accumulate **5 percent interest per year.**

A filed tax deferral affidavit keeps eligible home-owners from losing their homesteads due to delinquent property tax. Any pending sale to foreclose on the homestead's tax lien will also cease as a result of filing. In addition, no taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit to collect delinquent taxes once an affidavit is filed.

The law extends the tax deferral to the surviving spouse. The surviving spouse must have been at least 55 years old at the time of the applicant death.

All deferred taxes and interest **become due** when the homeowner or surviving spouse no longer own and/or live in the home.

If the tax debt remains unpaid at that time, penalties may be imposed and taxing units may take legal action to collect the past due amount.

Helpful Tips For our Website
www.cookecad.org

Property Searches Provided on our website offer great knowledge to most often sought after information. In order to conduct a search you need only know: Name, property ID, or situs address. You have the ability to change the tax year and view as you desire values of tax years when they become available, taxes owed and/or paid. This can also allow individuals seeking estimated taxes for a property purchase to see figures with or without exemptions by accessing the "Taxing Jurisdiction" tab once a property has been selected.

Map Search (Located in Property Search) Allows you to access a map for the property in question, or access the whole of Cooke County using the "Interactive Map" tab.

Calendar A familiar tab located easily on our website allows for you to access important dates that may pertain to you by the district or taxing entities.

Decreased Values You may file a "Report of Decreased Value" to notify the district of significant depreciation of your property. Located under our links tab you will select the Texas State Comptroller's Office, it will divert you to their website where you should search form "50-127, Report of Decreased Value" this is the required form. Examples contributing to decreased value include damage caused by storm, flood, or fire. The district will review the form and evaluate the property before assessing value.

A NOTE FROM THE DISTRICT

The appraisal district appreciates any feedback on how we can be of better service to the taxpayers.