

# The Weekly News

## of Cooke County

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Volume 21, Number 8

Cooke County, Texas

July 24, 2024

The LARGEST and MOST READ Newspaper in Cooke County!

## City Awards Bid to Acadia for Elkins Lift Station, Sewer Line Project

By Delania Raney  
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – Gainesville City Council awarded a bid for a \$11.1 million wastewater project to Acadia Services LLC at the July 16 regular council meeting.

Public Works Director Allen McDonald said roughly 80-85 percent of the city's wastewater collects into the Elkins Lift Station southern sewer line before it enters the municipal water plant.

A lift station lifts or moves wastewater from lower to higher elevations especially where the elevation of the source is not suf-

ficient for gravity flow, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website.

The plan is for a large diameter water line and large lift station to convey wastewater from 80 to 85 percent of the city.

"We've bid this project in two different ways," McDonald said. "We had a base bid going up to Burns City Road and then a bore under Burns City Road to finish out the entirety of the project. Depending on funding, we'll see where we're at."

His recommendation is to move forward with the bore, McDonald said.

"We recommend doing that for a couple of different reasons," he continued. "One, if we do it now, it would certainly be cheaper than if we had to bring [a contractor] back in. We'd have to rebid and go through that whole process again. And also, we already have all the easements there."

He also said the current sewer line is under a home. The sewer line under a home will be capped off and filled.

"Staff recommends we go ahead and do that second part and then the total cost is going to be \$11,103,000," he said.

The line will be placed between homes rather than under them, he added.

Additional agenda items included recognition of Employee of the Month Belva McClinton of Gainesville Police Department.

McClinton is currently GPD communications supervisor. She began as a police officer with the department.

"I can tell you she's always calm and collected," City Manager Barry Sullivan said. "She's always there to support [communications officers] either by doing some of the work to help them

(Continued on Page 8)

## King Around Town

by Grice King

Maybe it should be called "Queen Around Town" this edition since it's all about that little girl's birthday party. I can't really call her princess anymore she is growing up so fast. Hard to believe Keeley, my youngest, turned 11 this past week. She is the theatrical one and also the baby of the family so of course she got a small party with family and a bigger party with friends at the trampoline park.



Happy Birthday Keeley Grice, we all love you!

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Workforce Solutions Texoma announces that Friday, July 26 will celebrate the 34th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). ADA is a civil rights act that prohibits discrimination in public life. Today, one in four people in the United States have a disability and 1 in 3 will have a temporary disability before the age of 65. Creating a more accessible world started on paper in 1990 now it is up to each of us to remember history, (Continued on Page 6)

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**Celebrating City Workers** – In the photo above, Gainesville Mayor Tommy Moore hands a proclamation marking Zookeeper Appreciation Week to Frank Buck Zoo Director Susan Kleven at the July 15 Gainesville City Council meeting. In the photo on the right, City Manager Barry Sullivan presents the employee of the month award to communications supervisor Belva McClinton. (The Weekly News Photos)



## Gainesville Area Mosquitos Test Positive for West Nile

By Delania Raney  
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – The city of Gainesville had one of three positive tests in Cooke County for mosquitos with West Nile, according a release from Com-

munication & Outreach Special Paulina Schutt-Swiatkoski.

She noted the test was from a trap on South Weaver Street in Gainesville. The other two positive tests were recorded in the Lake Kiowa area. The positive tests in the county put us at a

medium risk level. In response, Gainesville officials are initiating the larvicide program protocol, aimed at controlling the mosquito population and reducing the risk of West Nile Virus transmission to residents.

The city coordinates testing

with Cooke County Emergency Management. Testing occurs with the Public Health Laboratory Division of the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Cooke County Emergency Management Coordinator Ray Fletcher said the county continues collecting mosquitos in designated areas for testing.

If positive tests in the county continue for three weeks in a row, the city will spray, in accordance with high risk level protocol, Schutt-Swiatkoski wrote in the release. The larvicide program will involve the placement of mosquito dunks in public areas. Mosquito dunks are a safe and effective method of mosquito control, releasing a larvicide that specifically targets mosquito larvae in standing water. This proactive measure is designed to curb the growth of mosquito populations before they become a high-risk threat.

"We are taking these positive test results very seriously," said Gainesville City Manager Barry Sullivan. "Our top priority is the health and safety of our residents. The larvicide treatment aims to reduce the risk of West Nile

(Continued on Page 9)

## Gainesville ISD Gears Up for New School Year

By Delania Raney  
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – The Monday, July 15 Gainesville Independent School District meeting included updates for the approaching school year.

Hiring is still underway for all campuses with the exception of Chalmers Elementary School, Superintendent Dr. Des Stewart said, adding Chalmers is "100 percent hired."

As of July 15, there were some teaching slots open as well as sev-

en open aid positions.

Stewart also reminded the board of upcoming back to school events.

Meet the Teacher sessions are slated for Thursday, August 1. Head Start Meet the Teacher is 3-4 p.m., Edison Meet the Teacher is 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., Chalmers Elementary School Meet the Teacher is set for 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Gainesville Intermediate Meet the Teacher is 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Gainesville Junior High Meet the Teacher is 4 to 6 p.m. and Gainesville High School Meet

the Teacher is planned for 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The district convocation is Aug. 2 and beginning at 8 a.m. with faculty and staff breakfast followed by a welcome and introduction of the speaker at 9:15 a.m.

The first day of classes is set for Thursday, August 7.

A Back to School Bash for faculty, staff and their families is planned for 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 5 at Leonard Park.

Dana Dudenhoeffer presented (Continued on Page 10)

# Local Organizations, Auto Group Donate Cars to Tornado Victims

GAINESVILLE – While residents displaced and battered by the May 25 severe storm and tornado continue putting their lives back together, a group of volunteers is helping some victims get back on the road.

Cooke County residents Bryson McGilvary and Jennifer Browning were

ly 25 cars per year, Voth said.

ProjectFixMyRide is a Cooke County Hope Alliance program, Polk said. He and Voth are both on the Hope Alliance Board of Directors, he said.

“We do an annual event called FixMyRide where we fix recipient’s vehicles,” Polk said. “It’s a one-day

Glenn Polk dealerships to find trade-in vehicles appropriate for donation.

Among the vehicles earmarked for donation were a Chevrolet Malibu and a white Lincoln Town Car. Both were checked by mechanics and deemed in good condition.

The organizers of the donation also made sure the

resources available, Voth added.

Jones said after Voth and Polk reached out to the VOAD regarding the car donation effort, VOAD administrators analyzed their case files.

She said members of the VOAD reviewed applications submitted for the vehicle donation and determined by consensus which individuals would benefit

the most from having one of the vehicles.

Cooke County residents have an amazing habit of stepping up to help, Jones added.

“Nobody ever says no,” she said. “They always respond with ‘what can I do to help?’”

In addition to financial challenges, tornado victims are also still dealing with

(Continued on Page 8)



**Tornado Victims Receive Cars** – Cooke County residents and May 25 tornado victims Bryson McGilvary and Jennifer Browning were the recipients of cars donated by Glenn Polk Auto Group. Various organizations worked together to make the donation possible including Cooke County Volunteers Active in Disaster, Cooke County Hope Alliance, Project-FixMyVehicle and Ken Blanton Insurance. (The Weekly News Photo)

recently the recipients of donated cars.

The car donations are the result of a community effort which included Cooke County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster led by Bekki Jones of Volunteers in Service to Others and Andrea Gangruth of Cooke County United Way, Trent Polk of Glenn Polk Auto Group, Brandi Voth of Cooke County Hope Alliance, ProjectFixMyRide and Ken Blanton Insurance.

ProjectFixMyRide was a catalyst for the car donation effort.

The initiative was established to help individuals in need get car repairs, Voth said, adding the organization which began in 2021 repairs approximate-

annual event [where] we fix [cars for] single mom’s, people that are struggling. They have to fill out an application... We team up with local mechanics, parts stores and the technicians donate their time for free and fix their vehicles for free. NAPA [Auto Parts] gives us a really, really good deal on the parts.”

Polk said after the tornado hit, the organization learned many individuals and families didn’t just need their vehicles repaired. They needed vehicles.

“We reached out to VOAD and Bekki [Jones] and I and Brandi ... said ‘Is there some way we could all team up and help?’” Polk said.

Polk worked with all the

drivers were legally able to operate cars.

In the case of McGilvary, efforts were made to help him get his driver’s license.

“It’s hard to give away a couple of vehicles,” Polk said laughing. “There’s paperwork. They needed to be titled in their name. But the great news is that after the work Bekki has done with the VOAD and Ken Blanton with the insurance, these vehicles will be in their name.”

Voth said she and Polk have been working since 2020 to pull together ministry leaders, local organizations and people who “just wanted to do something to help people in Cooke County.”

The group held a roundtable discussion and de-

signed to be celebratory, Voth noted. “We have a bounce house for the kids. We have a DJ. We have breakfast and lunch and it’s just really a fun day to love on everyone while they get their cars fixed.”

Those affected by the tornado could still qualify for vehicle repairs, she said, noting car repair applications are open for tornado survivors until September 1.

Simple repairs may be made on the day of the event, she said. All repair requests are vetted by mechanics and depend upon

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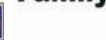
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The Weekly News reports the news and events of Cooke County and is distributed to households and businesses throughout Cooke County. The Weekly News is a locally-owned publication.



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Fax - 940.665.2162

News Line - 940.665.0733

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# Obituaries



**George Morgan**

**Services**  
 George Randal "Randy" Morgan, 74, of Gainesville,

passed away July 19, 2024. The family will receive friends during a memorial visitation scheduled for Saturday, July 27, 2024, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home, Gainesville, TX.

**History**

He was born July 13, 1950 in Abbeville, LA, to Woodrow Wilson and Margaret Lou (Reed) Morgan. He graduated from Rider High School in Wichita Falls, TX in 1969, then served in the U.S. Navy. He attended Nicholls State University and received a degree

in Petroleum Technology. He followed his father into a career with Texaco and after formal retirement, he established his own drilling consulting firm.

In his youth, Randy enjoyed hunting and fishing with his father and brothers. He married his love, Barbara Heusner on June 10, 1979 and they recently celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary. In their early years, Randy and Barbara enjoyed road trips to national parks with their children Margaret and Michael and later in life, they enjoyed a front row

seat to their grandchildren: Maisie, Piper and Nathan. In his free time, Randy enjoyed tinkering, photography, reading and rummaging through garage sales. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Gainesville.

**Survivors**

Survivors include: wife, Barbara (Heusner) Morgan of Gainesville; daughter Margaret Beth Boeneke and husband Edward of Colorado Springs, CO; son Michael Morgan and wife Megan of Fort Worth, TX; grandchildren Maisie, Piper, and Nathan; and sister-in-law Denise Morgan of Wichita Falls, TX.

Randy was preceded in death by: parents Woodrow Wilson Morgan and Margaret Lou (Reed) Morgan; brother Lance Morgan; sister-in-law Jo Ann Morgan; brother Ron Morgan; sister-in-law Carolyn Morgan; and brother Steve Morgan.

**Donations**

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Noah's Ark Animal Shelter, Gainesville, TX.

You may register your condolences online at [www.geojcarroll.com](http://www.geojcarroll.com).



**Vernon Ray Horneman**

**Services**

Vernon Horneman, 58, of Sherman, TX, passed away July 20, 2024 in Sherman.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home, Gainesville, TX. A graveside service is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 24, at Montague Cemetery, Montague, TX.

**History**

Vernon was born January 4, 1966 in Texarkana, TX. He was raised and attended school in Hope, AR. Mr.

Horneman graduated from Ouachita Baptist University (AR) and enjoyed his career in nursing. He married Cathy Hamilton on November 17, 2001 in Montague, TX. Mr. Horneman enjoyed fishing, playing golf, watching TV, playing dominoes with family, but was most passionate about music. He loved to sing and share music with others.

**Survivors**

Survivors include: wife Catherine Ann Horneman of Sherman, TX; brother Arthur L. "Renzi" Horneman and wife Tracie of Hope, AR; sister Teri D. Horneman; numerous nieces and nephews; mother-in-law Wilma Jean Hamilton of Montague, TX; and brother-in-law Chris Hamilton of Montague, TX.

Mr. Horneman was preceded in death by: parents Rich and Mary Horneman; daughter Amanda Lynn Horneman; and father-in-law G.C. Hamilton.

Recognized as pallbearers are James Moore, Keen Simpson, Rick Watson, Jim Duncan, and Chris Hamilton.

**Donations**

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

You may register your condolences online at [www.geojcarroll.com](http://www.geojcarroll.com).



**Joyce Marie Wilson**

**Services**

Joyce Marie Wilson, known affectionately as "Nanny," passed away on July 13, 2024, in Gainesville, Texas at the age of 78.

A funeral service to celebrate Joyce's life will be held on Thursday, July 18th, at 3:00 pm, at Stanford House, 401 West Garnett. Floral arrangements can be sent to: 1409 N Weaver Street.

**History**

Born on September 23, 1945, in Denton, Texas, to Elmer Tallent and Louise Dial.

Joyce's days were filled with the simple pleasures of life. She delighted in the exciting blend of skill and chance that Bingo offered, the quiet challenge of playing solitaire on her iPad, and the tranquility of her coloring, which she approached with a childlike delight.

Joyce's warm smile and kind-hearted nature will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Her legacy of love, patience, and nurturing will live on through her family, friends, and all the lives she touched.

The family would like to express their deepest appreciation to the staff at Pecan Tree Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center for the tremendous care and love they provided to Nanny and our family.

**Survivors**

Joyce is survived by her siblings Mary Jo Meek, Barbara Baker, and Johnny Wilson. Her loving children, Condo Parrent, Gary Meek, and Jimmy Meek. She was a proud grandmother to Nicole Wallace, Lindsey Coberley, Josh Meek, Joe Meek, and Ryan Hall. She had numerous great grandchildren. Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, John Wilson, her daughter, Parfina Hall, and her granddaughter, Taylor Hall.

**David C. Luskie**

**Services**

A graveside service for David C. Luskie, age 79, of Era was held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, July 18, 2024 at Era Cemetery with Steve Chism officiating. Mr. Luskie passed away on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 after a lengthy illness. Pallbearers were Todd Nelson, Steve Kliment, Brady Nelson, and Leroy Tafoya.

**History**

David was born on December 3, 1944 in Dallas to Frank Luskie and Lillie Mae (Bradley) Hockett. He was the youngest of four. His sisters Ruth, Frankie, and

(Continued on Page 8)

**Newsday Crossword**

**NO BONES ABOUT IT** by Jerry Clarkson  
 Edited by Stanley Newman  
[www.stanxwords.com](http://www.stanxwords.com)

**ACROSS**

- 1 Raises cash crops
- 6 Slip away from
- 11 Scottish cap
- 14 Deplete completely
- 15 VIPs' vehicles
- 16 Weed-removing tool
- 17 Funny stories
- 19 Form 1040 agcy.
- 20 Bet on \_\_\_ thing
- 21 U-turn from WSW
- 22 and crafts
- 23 Outstanding report card
- 25 Typical workweek start
- 27 Problem-solving meeting
- 32 Metal in pewter
- 33 Roaring Twenties designer
- 34 Makeup powder holders
- 38 *My Fair Lady* lady
- 41 Novelist Fleming
- 42 Frozen rain
- 43 Inn near a highway
- 44 Mail-routing abbr.
- 46 Devoured
- 47 Minimum personnel for a job
- 51 Gross, as income
- 54 Triple-decker sweet treat
- 55 "Good heavens!"
- 56 Follower of boo or yoo
- 59 Declared under oath
- 62 Fabric tear
- 63 Hard-to-pronounce words
- 66 Explosive initials

**DOWN**

- 1 Bear's hair
- 2 Region east of Europe
- 3 Insurgents, for short
- 4 Reciprocal, as admiration
- 5 Corkscrew shape
- 6 Reindeer relative
- 7 Dreadful
- 8 Last word of a hymn
- 9 Musical scale starter
- 10 Double-curve letter
- 11 Bronze medalist's
- 12 Major blood vessel
- 13 Untidy
- 18 Stop doing
- 22 Render invalid
- 24 Up in the sky
- 26 Clumsy person's comment
- 27 Rose's stalk
- 28 Measure of 2+ pounds
- 29 Part of BTU
- 30 Governor's domain
- 31 Targeted, as with a mailing
- 35 Be scared of
- 36 Lavish party
- 37 Meat-and-veggie meal
- 39 Spicy-tasting
- 40 \_\_\_-Seltzer
- 45 Scandinavians' ancestors
- 48 Breathe out
- 49 Modern music genre
- 50 "Pressure" appliance
- 51 Cruise stops
- 52 Safari beast
- 53 Drain completely
- 57 Nocturnal fliers
- 58 Bassoon relative
- 60 Philosopher
- 61 Red-headed Viking explorer
- 63 Crow cousin
- 64 ACLU concerns
- 65 No longer changeable

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# Goodbye Hooterville

Dean Smith,  
 may he rest in peace.

Your letters will  
 be missed by all.

# Opinions

*Michael Barone*

## Echoes of History in This Year's Campaign



By Michael Barone

For those of a certain age, or with more than a woke education, the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump brings back echoes of history.

Not exactly the history of the abysmal political year of 1968, which saw the murders of Martin Luther King Jr., 39, and Robert F. Kennedy, 42, riots in major cities across the nation -- especially violent in Washington D.C. -- and violent demonstrations and a pitched battle during the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. But just as Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York noted as Ronald Reagan was recovering from his gunshot wound, this time, the nation could take heart because the assassin's target survived.

The year 1968 saw an exhausted 59-year-old president, Lyndon Johnson, withdraw his candidacy for reelection, and conventional and (then) not widely disliked 55-year-old Richard Nixon win the election. Neither President Joe Biden, 81, nor Trump, 78, fits into this script.

The more illuminating analogy to the two transcendental events of recent weeks -- Biden's debate performance on June 27 and the attempted assassination of Trump on July 13 -- are things that happened some 104 years ago, in the presidential campaign cycle of 1920.

That's not a campaign cycle much remembered because of its politically incorrect result -- the repudiation of Democratic President Woodrow Wilson, a sentimental hero of liberals who applaud his scorn of constitutional limitations and conveniently forget his record as chief presidential enforcer of racial segregation in government.

Those were tumultuous times. Some 116,000 Americans died in 18 months during World War I, and even after the Nov. 1918 armistice, fighting continued in the former Czarist and Ottoman empires, including a temporarily independent Ukraine. There were Communist coups in Munich, Berlin and Budapest, and many feared that the totalitarians who turned out to tyrannize Russia for 70 years would do so elsewhere.

Including here. Revolutionaries in June 1919 bombed the Washington townhouse of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer, threatening his neighbors Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. Unknown radicals in Sept. 1920 set off a bomb on Wall Street across from the J.P. Morgan & Co. building, killing dozens.

Wilson's administration had jailed former Socialist presidential candidate Eugene Debs in 1918 merely for speaking out against the draft, but other targets of the raids organized by the young Justice Department lawyer J. Edgar Hoover were bent on violent overthrow of a system, much as violent pro-Palestinian demonstrators threaten on campuses and in downtowns today.

Other menacing events resemble those of recent years. There were numerous race riots in 1918 and '19, mostly with whites attacking Blacks, just as there were numerous "mostly peaceful" riots, mostly of Blacks destroying billions of dollars of

property, in 2020 and '21. There was a worldwide influenza epidemic, first experienced in U.S. Army camps, which killed millions here and around the world and resulted in varied restrictive measures: echoes of COVID-19, quite possibly likely incubated in a U.S.-financed Chinese laboratory.

The post-WWI economy oscillated between sharp recession and strong inflation, which Americans had not experienced for decades. Meanwhile, the vast Ellis Island immigration in the quarter-century before world war broke out led to demands for barring most newcomers from historically unfamiliar cultures.

Amid this turbulence, the American president was mostly absent. Wilson collapsed in Oct. 1919 on a cross-country train trip to rally support for the Treaty of Versailles he had negotiated, and for months was incapacitated by a stroke. His wife and doctor barred

access to Cabinet members, congressional leaders and the press. The required two-thirds majority of the Senate was willing to ratify the treaty only with reservations preserving Congress's constitutional power to declare war. Edith Wilson told them the president refused.

Wilson had won a second term by only a narrow margin in 1916, and opposition Republicans regained majorities in both houses of Congress in 1918. Theodore Roosevelt, defeated for a comeback third presidential term in 1912 (in a campaign in which he once insisted on delivering a speech after he had been shot in the chest) was back in the Republican fold and, at 60 in 1918, wanted to run again.

Astonishingly, so did the incapacitated Wilson, 62. Had there been polling then -- Dr. George Gallup didn't conduct his first random sample survey until 1935 -- Roosevelt would probably have been running far ahead,

but he died suddenly in Jan. 1919. Wilson, in shattered health, was persuaded to retire.

Foreign military involvement, antidemocratic demonstrations, bitter memories of the recent riots and pandemic, dismay with inflation, concern about immigration -- even in the jerky film clips of that era, you can see echoes of the issues concerning American voters today.

How did the 1920 election cycle turn out? The Democrats nominated a formidable ticket: Ohio Gov. James Cox, a Dayton newspaper owner whose media conglomerate would make his heirs billionaires, and the 38-year-old FDR. But disgust with the Wilson administration weighed them down and helped elect the Republicans -- Ohio Sen. Warren Harding, chosen in that smoke-filled room in Chicago's Blackstone Hotel, and the taciturn Massachusetts Gov. Calvin Coolidge --

who won by a 60% to 34% margin, the widest such margin in American history.

Such an outcome seems improbable in our current closely divided partisan politics. But voters' concerns, echoing those in 1920, combined with Biden's debate performance and Trump's gallant recovery, make the Republican ticket the favorite this year, which leads to the question of what lessons the mostly successful Harding and Coolidge administrations of the 1920s have to teach today.

Michael Barone is a senior political analyst for the Washington Examiner, resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and longtime co-author of *The Almanac of American Politics*. His new book, *Mental Maps of the Founders: How Geographic Imagination Guided America's Revolutionary Leaders*, is now available.

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*Jamie Stiehm*

## America's Summer Burn: Pride and Rage



By Jamie Stiehm

Washington is burning. This is America.

The mercury soars to 100 F, and people are sheltering in place. Death by heat wave or dehydration? No, that couldn't happen here.

And yet, consider the wild things that have happened here lately, turning the presidential race upside down since the end of June.

The shocking attempt on former President Donald Trump's life, a bullet whizzing by his ear, was a wakeup call that political violence is still "a war within" ever since the Jan. 6 Capitol riot.

Meanwhile, weakened in the eyes of his party, President Joe Biden stands on shaky ground after an abysmal debate with Trump

and a measure of presidential "immunity." So the New York judge, Judge Aileen Cannon can't do that, can she? (She was confirmed late in Trump's term in 2020.) Didn't we see pictures of boxes piled up at Mar-a-Lago as evidence of the purloined files?

Well, yes, Cannon can delay and dismiss the case, just as she did. Senior judges advised her not to take the case at all, given her inexperience. From the start, she made questionable moves and decisions that raised suspicions of political motives.

Now, the unkindest cut of all: Trump named J.D. Vance, the clever and biting senator from Ohio, as his running mate.

That's a shrewd pick, for Vance will try to make mincemeat out of Biden -- and Vice President Kamala Harris. A former critic of Trump, he's like a Greek sophist.

A Yale Law school graduate and author of "Hillbilly Elegy," Vance has a way with words and brings a fresh face to Trumpland.

Vance will act as a vicious junior attack dog. In fact, he started his job before being officially named, in this statement:

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Vance will act as a vicious junior attack dog. In fact, he started his job before being officially named, in this statement:

and a measure of presidential "immunity."

Well, yes, Cannon can delay and dismiss the case, just as she did. Senior judges advised her not to take the case at all, given her inexperience. From the start, she made questionable moves and decisions that raised suspicions of political motives.

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The author may be reached at [JamieStiehm.com](mailto:JamieStiehm.com). To find out more about Jamie Stiehm and other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, please visit [creators.com](http://creators.com).

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### The Weekly News 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](mailto:Grice.King@TheWeeklyNewsCC.com)

# Gainesville Police Reports

**GAINESVILLE** – Gainesville Police Department received the following incident reports.  
Christian J. Gonzalez reported mail theft in the 1500 block of East Broadway.

A glass pipe was found at Dollar General in the 600 block of North Grand Avenue.  
Theft of property less than \$750 was reported at Wal-Mart Supercenter in the 1800 block of Lawrence Street.

Richard Justin Reed reported harassment in the 1300 block of south Howeth Street.  
William Bailey Colwell reported terroristic threat/harassment in the

800 block of South Dixon Street.  
Janna Lynn Nash reported a terroristic threat in the 800 block of South Dixon Street.  
Two bad checks were reported at Wolf Den in the 1900 block of West California Street.

reported theft of \$100 in the 1800 block of Lawrence Street.  
Jeffery Wayne Smithart reported burglary of a motor vehicle at Pizza Hut in the 700 block of North Grand Avenue.  
Raymon Henry Crow III reported assault in the 3700 block of North I-35.

**Arrest Log**  
Joseph T. Higgins, 35, Paris, possession of a controlled substance less than one gram. The arrest occurred after officers were dispatched to a reported overdose in the 3700 block of North I-35.

## PRO Gainesville Marchers Hope SCOTUS Takes Case

**GAINESVILLE** – Three PRO Gainesville protesters who were arrested in 2020 on charges of obstructing traffic are asking the U.S. Supreme Court to grant a review of their case.  
Justin Thompson, Torrey Henderson and Amara Ridge were participating in a rally in Gainesville calling for the removal of a Confederate statue on the east side of the Cooke County Courthouse.  
Thompson, Henderson and Ridge were later arrested and charged with obstruction of a highway or other passageway. In August 2022, the three were

convicted and sentenced to seven days in jail. Each was also ordered to pay a \$2,000 fine.  
After their latest request to halt sentencing was denied, Thompson said in a message to The Weekly News of Cooke County that he and the others will have to report to jail as early as this week.  
“They couldn’t hang us from a tree for dissenting as they did to Unionists during the Great Hanging of 1864. Instead, we are sentenced to jail for peacefully protesting the legacy of the Confederacy, with the state and

county officials demanding we serve our time now, before the U.S. Supreme Court has time to decide whether to grant review,” Thompson wrote in the missive.  
“While this news is devastating, I am inspired by the bravery and strength of those who fought for their right to protest and speak out before me. Their courage motivates me to stand up for justice and stand firm in my beliefs,” he wrote. “I remain optimistic that the U.S. Supreme Court will grant review of this case and correct an injustice.”

Theft of property less than \$100 via skipping scanning was reported at Wal-Mart Supercenter in the 1800 block of Lawrence Street.  
Theft was reported from an apartment in the 2000 block of North Interstate 35.

Circle K representative reported a subject who has been trespassed from the property was on the property.  
Tampering with a governmental record was reported in the 4900 block of North I-35.

Deandre D. Fugerson, 52, felony warrant arrest.  
Erick Macedo-Cruz, 26, Gainesville, driving while intoxicated.  
Jesse S. Killion, 31, Watauga, motor arrest lead to driving while intoxicated.

A skimmer was found on a credit card machine in the 600 block of Grand Avenue.  
Tampering with a governmental record was reported in the 800 block of East Highway 82.

Gregory Keith Harris reported a fraudulent check scam in the 1500 block of Newland Drive.  
Found property was reported in the 1200 block of Belmont Street.

Eduardo Cruz, 19, Gainesville, misdemeanor warrant, possession of a controlled substance less than four grams.  
Amanda M. Chatman, 45, Denison, public intoxication  
Joe M. Adam, 69, Gainesville, public intoxication.

Estevan Ramon Torres

## 235th District Court Cases Filed, Decided

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

Rufina Garcia vs. City of Gainesville, Texas, real property-other real property.

Om Pramukh, L.L.C. vs. Cooke County Appraisal district, agreed judgements, all other civil cases.

**Cases Filed**  
E&L Remodeling Services LLC vs. Lee Zieben, TXLS, LP, and the Cameron County Housing Finance Corporation, contract-other contract.  
Christie Dann Cuenco vs. January John Cuenco,

Dorian Lynn Earnhart vs. Smoot Raney Earnhart, divorce.  
**Cases Decided**  
Gainesville Hospitality LTD vs. Cooke County Appraisal District, agreed judgements, all other civil

Shannon Delagarza vs. Adolfo Delagarza, agreed judgements, divorce.  
James Aaron vs. Penny Dee Eiland, final judgement/non-jury, divorce.  
Carla Hutson vs. Jeffery Hutson, agreed judgements, divorce.



The following is a nationally syndicated crime and conduct column written by Matthew T. Mangino. Mangino is of counsel with Luxenberg, Garbett, Kelly and George, P.C. He is the former district attorney of Lawrence County, Pennsylvania. He also spent a six-year term on the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. He is an adjunct professor at Thiel College. Mangino's book, "The Executioner's Toll, 2010," was published by McFarland & Company. He has provided legal commentary for ID Discovery, A&E, CNN, MSNBC, FoxNews, Al Jazeera-America and National Public Radio.

## Let History Be Our Guide in These Tumultuous Times

Our country suffered a horrific tragedy in Butler, Pennsylvania. A former president, and current candidate for president, narrowly escaped assassination. A husband and father in the crowd lost his life, and two others were seriously wounded.

There is no question our country is in the midst of unsettling political strife. Americans are clearly divided, but violence should play no role in our elections and our governance.

We would be naive to think we are living in an era of unprecedented political violence. It has been 43 years since the last attempt on the life of a president or presidential candidate in the United States.

A brief review of history shows us that by today's standards, politics, at times, has been extremely volatile. Between 1865 and 1901, three presidents were killed while in office.

In 1861, Abraham Lincoln had to be secreted into Washington D.C. for his inauguration due to threats on his life. In 1865, Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theatre. There was a conspiracy to not only assassinate President Lincoln but to also murder Vice President Andrew Johnson and Secretary of State William Seward at the same time. Johnson's would-be assassin, George Atzerodt, backed out at the last minute, and Secretary Seward received serious injuries at the hands of Lewis Payne.

Lincoln's successor, Johnson, was later impeached as a result of his disregard for black civil rights, which emboldened white mobs to wage increasingly violent terror campaigns against black people throughout the South. The increasing political vitriol was a by-product of Johnson's failure to condemn the violence and his willingness to pardon thousands of secessionists.

Immediately after the presidential election of 1876, between Rutherford B. Hayes and Samuel Tilden, it became clear that the outcome of the race hinged largely on disputed election returns from Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina — sound familiar?

Tilden won the popular vote by 250,000. On the first count of the Electoral College, Tilden led 184 to 165. The three Southern states' electors were in dispute. A congressional commission was created and debated over the outcome of the election well into the year 1877.

In clandestine meetings between Republican candidate Hayes and Southern

Democrats, a deal was made to make Hayes president and to end reconstruction in the South. Although Tilden won the popular vote, and probably the Electoral College, Hayes became president.

President James Garfield was shot while boarding a train at the Baltimore and Potomac railroad station in Washington, D.C. on July 2, 1881. He died from his wounds 11 weeks later on Sept. 19.

On Sept. 6, 1901, William McKinley was shot by an assassin at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. He died eight days later. Garfield's vice president and successor was Theodore Roosevelt.

After completing Garfield's term, Roosevelt was elected to a full term as president of the United States. He retired and William Howard Taft was elected president. Roosevelt, disenchanted with the direction of the country, decided to run against Taft and Woodrow Wilson in 1912.

While campaigning in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the same position as Donald Trump — a former president, running for president — Theodore Roosevelt was shot in the chest before giving a campaign speech. His life was saved by the bullet only slightly penetrating his folded 50-page speech, which he carried in his breast pocket. He then proceeded, bloody and injured, to deliver his speech to the raucous crowd.

Twenty years later, in February of 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt, having been elected but not yet taken the oath of office, was attacked by a would-be assassin while driving in a motorcade in Miami, Florida. Although FDR was unharmed, a passenger in his vehicle, Chicago Mayor Anton Cermak, was killed.

Our current political unrest is enhanced by the unprecedented ability of candidates, and their supporters, to publish their thoughts and opinions in real time; an insatiable appetite for the 24-hour news cycle; and the pre-occupation, of some, with conspiracy theories.

As we try to make sense of what we see and hear, we would do well to look back at history to understand that our problems are not necessarily unique, and certainly not beyond our ability to solve.

Matthew T. Mangino is of counsel with Luxenberg, Garbett, Kelly & George P.C. His book "The Executioner's Toll, 2010" was released by McFarland Publishing. You can reach him at [www.mattmangino.com](http://www.mattmangino.com) and follow him on Twitter @MatthewTMangino.

## Sentences Issued for Felony Indictments

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

Jesse Manuel Gonzales, 26, was convicted of the Jan 1, 2017 and Jan 1, 2018 second degree felony offenses of sexual assault of a child and was sentenced to seven years of confinement for one count to run concurrently, 10 years of confinement for the second count to run concurrently and a \$100 fine plus court costs.

Martin Moreno, 21, was convicted of the August 8, 2023 state felony offense of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram and was sentenced to two years of probation and a \$500 fine plus restitution and court costs.

## Cooke County Sheriff Logs Incident Reports

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

Credit card abuse was reported at a residence in the 200 block of County Road 180.

substance less than 200 grams.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 1900 block of North Interstate 35 roadway.

Terroristic threat was reported at a residence in the 2900 block of County Road 300.

April Esquivel Galvan, 44, Gainesville, tamper/fabricate physical evidence with intent to impair.

Theft of property less than \$150,000 was reported at residence in the 5000 block of County Road 203.

Theft of property less than \$30,000 was reported in the Hillside Drive roadway.

Demitrius J. Havanis, 24, Nocona, unlawfully carrying weapon, possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

Theft of property less than \$30,000 was reported at a residence in the 300 block of Comanche Drive.

Theft of property less than \$2,500 was reported at a government building in the 300 block of County Road 451.

Jaylin Deshaun Person, 25, Lewisville, engaging in organized criminal activity.

Possession of marijuana less than two ounces, unlawful carrying weapon was reported in the West Highway 82 and FM 2739 roadway.

**Arrest Log**  
Zachary Royce Elbert Bryant, 34, Gainesville, possession of a controlled

Cody Ray Smith, 33, Valley view, assault causes bodily injury family member.

Larry Don Summers Jr., 40, Muenster, driving while intoxicated.

## Marriage License Requests Received

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

nifer Lynn Stewart, 43, Gainesville.

wald, 23, Gainesville, and Rebekkah Lynn Hill, 21, Gainesville.

Miguel Angel Covarrubias, 52, Gainesville, and Bertha Ledezma Chavira, 49, Sherman.  
William Ray Ausmus, 36, Gainesville, and Jen-

Daniel Joseph Stoffels, 66, Lindsay, and Anna Louise Bayer, 42, Gainesville.

Nathan Scott Sanders, 34, Gainesville, and Whitley Dawn Smith, 35, Gainesville.

Thomas Anthony Watts, 37, Oklahoma City, Okla., and Frances Marlene Pryor, 38, Oklahoma City.  
Caden James Gruen-

Sergio L. Cepeda Lopez, 48, Marietta, Okla., and Jahaira Maria Maldonado Cruz, 44, Bartow, Fla.

# 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

Hi! My name is Trinity! I am a pretty girl who is a Pit Bull Terrier mix. Now, don't judge me by my breed, AND anyway, I am sweet, and friendly, as most of us are! I am a quiet, gentle girl who loves kisses, giving them AND getting them.



I am housetrained, and good with other dogs. I had a home once, but now I am here wishing for that again, except forever this time. I am an adult but I am still playful and just wanting someone to see me and say "I want her". I am spayed, vaccinated, and microchipped and I get a free health exam at a local vet. You really have nothing to lose and we both have everything to gain! Come see me in person, Monday-Saturday, 11am-5pm, closed Thur and Sun. If you have time and love to give to me, I promise to give it back to you too! Don't miss out on the love and happiness a shelter pet can bring you. We are just as good as any other dog, ...come see for yourself. The hard work has been done and I am out of my puppy stage! I am move-in ready. Just give me time to settle in and learn the new rules. I promise I will be the best girl I know how to be. My adoption fee is only \$50. What a bargain! Noah's Ark, 2501 N. Weaver, 940-665-9800. <http://www.Noahsarktx.com>.

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. 07/26

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 Hudleston 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!

Trucks Drivers Needed. Class A CDL with Tanker Endorsement. Must have Truck Driving Experience. Tank Truck Experience Preferred. 401K, Health, Dental and Vision. Call 940-284-7059. 04/26

Warehouse help needed, part-time 20 hrs/week, warehouse experience preferred. Apply in person, no phone calls, at 1305 N. Culberson St., Gainesville, TX 76240. 07/26

**The Weekly News Classified ads for as low as \$8.50 /week. 940.665.2320**

## Legal Notices

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lloyd Dean Leach were issued on July 15, 2024, in Cause No. PR18472, pending in the County Court at Law Number 235th of Cooke County, Texas, to Debra Russell.

All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

c/o **Larry B. Sullivant**  
209 S. Dixon St.  
Gainesville, TX 76240

Dated the 15th day of July, 2024.

Larry B. Sullivant  
Attorney for the Executor of  
the Estate of Lloyd Dean Leach 07/24

Use *The Weekly News* for all of your legal notice needs. We service the largest number of clients of ANY paper in the Cooke County Area. Our legal notices are a low, flat rate price to help you fulfil your legal obligations. Give us a call to find out more, 940-665-2320 or visit us online day or night at [www.TheWeeklyNewsCC.com](http://www.TheWeeklyNewsCC.com).

## Animals Found

Remember: *The Weekly News of Cooke County* runs found animal classified word ads for FREE in an attempt to help reunite the animal and the owner. For more information, call 940-665-2320.

## Garage /Estate Sales

**ESTATE SALE**  
Hunting, Fishing, Camping, Texaco and More!  
5225 W FM 922  
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July 25-28, 2024  
Thursday & Friday 8-4, Saturday 8-3, Sunday 8-2  
See [durhamstatesales.net](http://durhamstatesales.net) for pictures and info

Huge Garage Sale - Saturday Only - July 27th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at 2009 Brentwood Street in Gainesville. 07/24

Don't just hang signs for your Garage, Moving or Estate Sale, show it to the entire county! Advertise in *The Weekly News of Cooke County!* Give us a call 940-665-2320.

## For Sale

Hess Hay, new alfalfa, little bales and 3x3x8s and little bales of coastal. 940-665-7601. 07/17

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# The Weekly News of Cooke County

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For credit card payments, or business invoice, please call our office at 940-665-2320 or email [grice.king@theweeklynnewscc.com](mailto:grice.king@theweeklynnewscc.com).

# Thank you!

## King Around Town

by Grice King

(Continued from Page 1)

appreciate advances, and push forward to better horizons for those with disabilities. We all desire the same opportunities to share our talents and enjoy the world around us. Observance of ADA brings us closer to this reality.

Throughout this month, we've been actively discussing ADA on our social media channels. You can join the conversation and learn more about their initiatives. [www.instagram.com/workforce\\_solutions\\_texoma](http://www.instagram.com/workforce_solutions_texoma)

[www.facebook.com/WorkforceSolutionsTexoma](https://www.facebook.com/WorkforceSolutionsTexoma)

\*\*\*\*\*

NTMC and Valley Creek Church once again team up for a special Back to School Wellness Event on Thursday, July 25 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm in the GHS cafeteria. You can get free school supplies and backpacks while supplies last, and info from local organizations and businesses that can help a child start the school year healthy.

## Crossword Puzzle Answers

F	A	R	M	S		E	V	A	D	E		T	A	M		
U	S	E	U	P		L	I	M	O	S		H	O	E		
R	I	B	T	I	C	K	L	E	R	S		I	R	S		
	A	S	U	R	E		E	N	E			A	R	T	S	
		A	A	A	A						M	O	N	D	A	Y
S	K	U	L	L	S	E	S	S	I	O	N					
T	I	N			E	R	T	E			P	U	F	F	S	
E	L	I	Z	A		I	A	N			S	L	E	E	T	
M	O	T	E	L		A	T	T	N			A	T	E		
			S	K	E	L	E	T	O	N	C	R	E	W		
P	R	E	T	A	X				O	R	E	O				
O	H	M	Y			H	O	O			S	W	O	R	E	
R	I	P			J	A	W	B	R	E	A	K	E	R	S	
T	N	T			A	L	L	O	T			G	E	N	I	E
S	O	Y			Y	E	S	E	S			E	R	E	C	T



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# Classifieds

## Services

Wood Guy Tree Service. Tree trimming, removal and stump grinding. Call/text 940-232-8100. 06/19

Bulk Trash Haul Off – Scrap Metal Removal. Call/text 940-232-8100. 06/19

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**RV Park / Storage**  
Singletree RV Park. 940-255-6884. Monthly Rate \$350 plus electric. 2222 County Road 147. (RV Rental / Storage Available). 08/16

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**HOUSE AND ONE ACRE FOR SALE**  
House (1441 sq.ft.) for sale on one acre of land, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths with shop & storage buildings, 684 South FM 373, within one mile of the City of Muenster, Texas limits. Sealed bids can be sent to Duane Knabe at P. O. Box 160, Muenster, Texas 76252; phone number (940) 759-4010. Bids will be opened August 16th, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Seller reserves the right to refuse all bids.

Classified Ads for as low as \$8.50 per week.  
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**Storage Building**  
Storage building for rent in Gainesville. \$75 per month. Call 940-668-6868. 06/19

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Previous Editions are Archived for the past year at www.TheWeeklyNewsCC.com

# Obituaries

(Continued from Page 3)

Ode all preceded him in death. He attended Farmersville High School. After graduation in 1962, he enlisted in the United States Navy to serve during the Vietnam War. He married Alta J. Cleere on June 24, 1972.

In 1975, David was honorably discharged from the Navy. He and Alta then settled down in Texas where

David lived until his passing. He enjoyed spending time with his family when he wasn't traveling on an adventure with his wife, Alta. She passed on August 3, 2017.

## Survivors

David is survived by his son: Todd Nelson of Salina, Kansas; daughter: Stephanie Tafoya of Holcomb Kansas; 6 grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; special niece

and nephew: Dianna and Steve Klement of Muenster; and extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife: Alta Luskie; parents: Frank Luskie and Lillie Hockett; sisters: Ruth Brooks, Frankie Jurek, and Ode Price; brothers-in-law: Bland Dean, Richard "Fuzzy" Herr, and Bobby Powell; and sister-in-law: Patricia Cleere.

## Judicial Accountability is Topic for Aug. 1 Meeting for Republican Women

GAINESVILLE – The August meeting of Cooke County Republican Women will feature Jennifer Lundy, Executive Director of Texans for Judicial Accountability. The program will be held on Thursday, August 1 at the Fellowship Hall of First Christian Church in Gainesville. Doors open at 6:30pm, and the meeting will start

at 7pm. The public is invited to attend.

Jennifer Lundy has been a court reporter, senate staffer and advisor to numerous legislators and officials. She is a Precinct Chair in Denton County, serving as an Election Judge and on numerous committees, including as the volunteer manager for major events. She is a member of the

Texas Federation of Republican Women, where she was Vice-President of Membership 2023. She is currently the Scholarship Chair at her local club.

After hearing numerous stories of judicial corruption, and experiencing the same unethical behavior as a non-party to a legal proceeding, Lundy founded Texans for Judicial Accountability in response to long-standing and well-known issues with the judiciary.

"With the judiciary almost certain to rule on any new law, ensuring our judges follow those laws is critical" says Lundy. "This issue affects everyone, on both sides of the political aisle, and across every issue in our state and nation."

Find out more about Texans for Judicial Accountability, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, at [www.texansforjudicialaccountability.org](http://www.texansforjudicialaccountability.org). For more information follow CCRW on Facebook and at [www.cookegov.com/ccrw](http://www.cookegov.com/ccrw), or contact VP-Programs Karla Metzler, 940-902-3102, [kmetzler@stptexas.com](mailto:kmetzler@stptexas.com).

## CCSO Mourns Passing of K9

GAINESVILLE – Cooke County Sheriff Ray Sappington announced July 15 the passing of the department's K9.

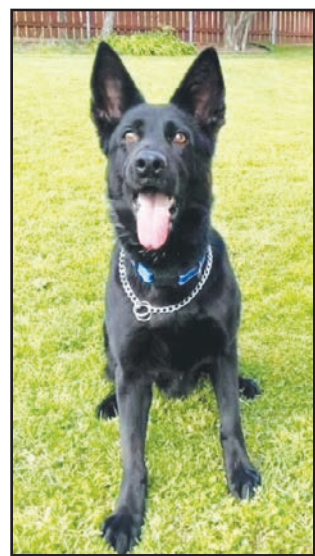
"We sadly announce the passing of K9 Onyx," Sappington wrote in a news release. "On July 12, 2024, K9 Onyx suffered a medical emergency as she and her partner, Deputy Ryan Thacker were preparing to come on duty. K9 Onyx was transported to a Collin County Veterinary clinic for emergency surgery and sadly passed away during the surgery."

Sappington noted Onyx was a valuable member of the department.

She was a full blood Dutch Shepard and began working for the department in 2020, he stated in the release.

"Onyx and her partner were responsible for nu-

merous narcotics arrests and large currency sei-



zures," the press released continued. "Onyx also provided assistance to the other law enforcement agencies in this county when needed. Onyx will be deeply missed."

## City Awards Bid to Acadia for Elkins Lift Station, Sewer Line Project

(Continued from Page 1)

out, calming them down or just bringing a peace to the office... She really works hard for the community."

Mayor Tommy Moore presented a proclamation to Frank Buck Zoo Director Susan Kleven. The proclamation was a recognition of Zookeeper Appreciation Week. In addition to Kleven, staff members were on hand for the presentation.

The council also approved a consent agenda which included minutes of the July 2 city council meeting and a resolution of the council calling for a public hearing on the proposed annexation of certain territory.

The council also heard the 2023 annual drinking water quality report from McDonald.

The city's drinking water meets every Texas Commission on Environmental Quality standard for water quality, McDonald said.

"I think it's really important that the citizens of Gainesville realize and understand our drinking water is as good or better than anyone else because of you people, your department, your employees," Mayor Pro Tem Ken Keeler said. "You're taking good care of us. I think our water tastes great, but it's also good to know that it's clean, pure and I don't have to worry about anything when I drink it."

McDonald also noted this is the city's 14th consecutive year receiving the Texas Optimization Program Outstanding Public Drinking Water Award by the TCEQ.

## Local Organizations, Auto Group Donate Cars to Tornado Victims

(Continued from Page 2)

the trauma of having faced a nature disaster.

Vehicle recipient Browning, a single mother of four has terrifying memories of the tornado which tore through FRF Estates west of Interstate 35 and headed down East Lone Oak Road.

Browning was delivering Door Dash orders at 10:15 p.m. May 25 when she and her daughter ended up in the heart of the storm. The weather didn't look particularly threatening and she said she learned about the impending tornado from a relative who phoned to tell them to take cover. The two sought shelter with about 60 other people in what was then the Shell gas station and travel shop at I-35.

Browning said she and her daughter were in the men's restroom when the ceiling collapsed. People were holding on to each other and the sounds the terrified people made were loud enough to drown out the storm, she said. There were prayers and screams. When the storm subsided, the crowd was trapped in the debris with some survivors holding up pieces of the collapsing ceiling until rescuers were able to reach them around 11:30 p.m.

Browning's car, parked a few spaces from the Shell station front door was a wreck when she saw it again... The windows were shattered, the sunroof gone. There was a hole in the roof.

News from the VOAD that she would receive a

car to replace her old one seemed too good to be true, she said. She and her daughter at first thought someone was trying to scam them.

Speaking at the ceremony held at the Glenn Polk dealership on Highway 82 in Gainesville, Polk handed her and McGilvray keys to their vehicles, Browning said she and her children are grateful for the act of kindness.

"From the bottom of our hearts, I thank everybody that was involved in it," she said. "I want to make this known what y'all have done."

McGilvray said having his driver's license and a car gives him renewed hope.

"The car gives me so much motivation to just push on," he said.

## Gainesville Chamber Plans Final Summer Sounds of the Year

GAINESVILLE – The Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce (GACC) is excited to return to the Gainesville Farmers Market for the final concert of the Gainesville Summer Sounds concert series this month.

Closing out the concert series on Friday, July 26, 2024 local favorite Blackout Betty will once again captivate the audience, with the return of fan-favorite Infinite Journey

headlining the final concert. Make sure to mark your calendars for these incredible musical events!

Gather your family and friends, grab your chairs or blankets, and get ready for unforgettable evenings of music under the stars at the Farmers Market located at 201 N Chestnut Street in Gainesville. Admission is free for the Gainesville Summer Sounds Concert Series. Please note that coolers are not permit-

ted on-site. Drinks will be available for purchase with cash only at the pavilion. The concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. and conclude at 10:30 p.m. on Friday, July 26th. Stay updated with the latest information by following the Gainesville Summer Sounds Facebook page at [facebook.com/GvilleSummerSounds](https://facebook.com/GvilleSummerSounds). Get ready to enjoy some fantastic music and create lasting memories at this exciting event!

### NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS

§ BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE

GRAYSON COUNTY

§

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Cooke County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on June 20, 2024 seized, levied upon, and will offer for sale the following properties, on the first Tuesday in August, 2024, the same being the 6th day of said month, at the East Entrance, Cooke County Courthouse, 100 S. Dixon Street of the Courthouse of the said County, in the City of Gainesville, Texas, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 10:00 AM, and will proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Cooke and the State of Texas, to-wit:

No. 1

Original Tax Foreclosure Sale: August 6, 2024

TX-06268: Gainesville Independent School District vs. Mary Elizabeth Carr

Account 54148: 2,247 square feet, containing 0.0516 acre, more or less, situated in the R. Alexander Survey, Abstract 13, Cooke County, Texas, as described in deed dated December 12, 1986, from Mary Mercer to Bill Carr etux, in Volume 751, Page 318, Deed Records of Cooke County, Texas.

(any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Grayson County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s), interest, penalties, and cost; and any property sold shall be subject to the right of redemption of the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the time and in the manner provided by law, and shall be subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

Dated at Cooke County, Texas, 6-20-24

Sheriff Ray Sappington  
Cooke County, Texas

By Liam Schemmel #219  
Deputy Liam Schemmel

### Notes:

The Minimum Bid is the lesser of the amount awarded in the judgment plus interest and costs or the adjudged value. However, the Minimum Bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgments against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or LINEBARGER GOGGAN BLAIR & SAMPSON, LLP, attorney for plaintiffs, at (817) 877-4589



# Area Law Enforcement Officers Practice Active Shooter Training

CALLISBURG – Members of area law-enforcement agencies trained for an active shooter scenario July 15-16 at Callisburg High School.

Cooke County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Sonny Privett and Lt. John Goble of Cooke County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division acted as safety officers for the training which was held to help officers hone their response skills in a shooter situation.

entered the school. Law enforcement officials have since analyzed the police response during which 40 or so officers waited more than an hour onsite while 19 school children and two teachers were killed.

The Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training [ALERRT] is part of a state-mandated course first responders must complete to maintain their law enforcement licensing. Its goal is to prepare officers

held last week at Callisburg drew officers from various agencies, Privett said.

"This year we have officers from Cooke County," he said. "We have officers from Gainesville PD, Fannin County SO, Savoy Police Department."

The training is next level, Privett said.

Officers carry SIG model weapons with simunitions [non-lethal ammunition manufactured for law enforcement training].

The first day's training was cerebral, Privett said – things like electronic data presentations, quizzes and classroom time were utilized. The officers also studied how to evaluate and approach areas within the school's many hallways, how to recognize other first responders, how to safely remove injured people.

For some it was the first time visiting Callisburg High School – a situation which made the scenarios more challenging and realistic.

The officers also practiced scenarios, learning to make doing the right thing second nature.

The training is an equalizer for various law enforcement agencies.

"Because we all have to go through the same training, Denton County could come up here and we'd all be on the same page when we go in so there's no confusion," Goble added.

"Officers in Amarillo are getting the same lesson plan, the same objective as the officers in Brownsville, Texas or Tyler or Cooke

County Sheriff's Office," Privett noted.

Mass shootings are nothing new, Goble said.

"It goes way back," he said. "Wedgwood Baptist Church [Fort Worth, 1999], the Columbine School [Littleton, Colorado, 1999]... If we knew why [it happens] we could figure it out and stop it."

ALERRT training is geared toward the school environment but could also be used to thwart mass shooters in churches, shopping venues, public events, Privett said.

The one certainty is that tragedies such as the Uvalde shootings will continue.

"It will happen again," Privett added. "We just don't know where."

The officers at the Callisburg active shooting training were preparing mentally and physically in



simulations designed to get their adrenaline going as it would in real life and death situations.

enforcement in any active shooter situation, Privett asked.

"To stop the killing," he said.

What is the goal of law



The need for better training stems from horrific incidents including the May 24, 2022 mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde where 21 people were shot to death by a gunman who

to isolate, distract and neutralize an active shooter.

This year, the Texas legislature stipulated Alert Level 1 training as the benchmark for officers, Privett said.

The ALERRT training



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## Gainesville Area Mosquitos Test Positive for West Nile

(Continued from Page 1)

Virus in our community. There is no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for West Nile Virus currently

available. Residents are encouraged to take personal precautions to protect themselves from mosquito bites.

These include:

• DUSK & DAWN: Avoid being outside when mosquitoes are most active.

• DRESS: Wear protective clothing. Wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks when mosquitos are most active, typically dawn and dusk.

• DRAIN: Eliminate standing water. Remove standing water around your home, such as in flowerpots, gutters, buckets, and other containers to reduce mosquito breeding sites. Keep swimming pools clean and properly chlorinated, and stock ornamental ponds with mosquito-eating fish.

• DEET: Use insect repellent. Apply insect repellent containing DEET when outdoors. Picaridin and other protective ingredients could also work, but DEET

is considered the most effective op>on. Communication & Outreach (940)

West Nile Virus. Updates will be provided to the public as necessary.

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**Dusk & Dawn**

**Dress**

**Drain**

**DEET**

668-4500 www.gainesville.tx.us

The City of Gainesville will continue to monitor mosquito populations and conduct weekly testing for

For more information on the West Nile Virus and mosquito control efforts, visit visit <https://gainesville.tx.us/537/West-Nile-Virus-Prevention>.



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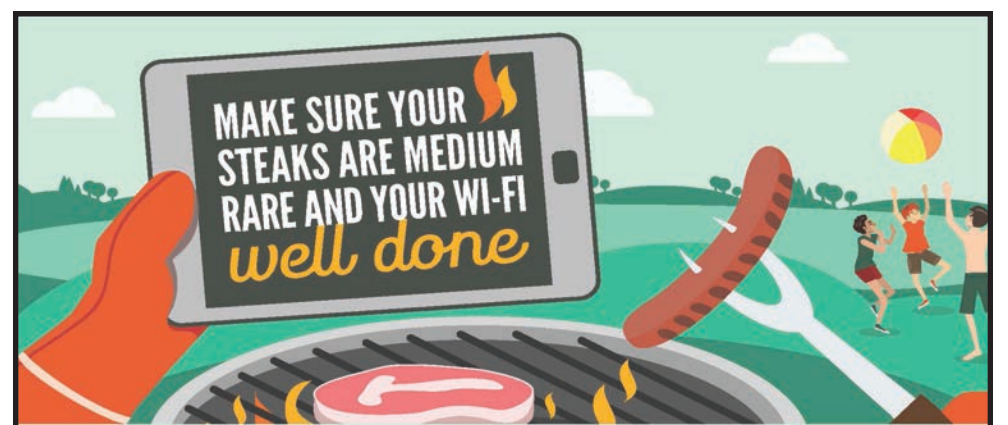


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# Gainesville ISD Gears Up for New School Year

(Continued from Page 1)

a curriculum and instruction update which focused on results of the STAAR and EOC spring testing.

Among the information gleaned from testing was a decrease in student performance for grades 3-8 in mathematics and science.

She noted the STAAR testing is all online and requires more interactive effort from students.

"It's still pretty new for kids," Dudenhoeffer said. "This is just year two."

Among the challenges for lower grade level students is having sufficient typing skills to take the test.

"Not only do they have to think through what they're going to write, they have to get there and start typing it," Dudenhoeffer said.

Amber Rains discussed federal program allotments for 2024-2025.

GISD applies annually for formula grant funds from the U.S. Department of Education through the Texas Education Agency. Most of the funding is based on census data, Rains said.

Every Student Succeeds Act funding [Title I-IV] totaled about \$1.31 million. A large part of the grant funds salaries. The grants also pay for supplies and some contracted services, Rains said.

Special education funding is around \$678,000. Much of that funding is also spent on salaries.

The district also received School Safety Standards Formula Grant funding of approximately \$217,180 and a Silent Panic Alert Technology grant for \$9,523.

resurfacing, custodial summer cleaning and waxing, Gainesville Junior High School lab renovation, and junior high school gym floor scratch and recoat.

The four-day education week compressed the schedule for summer work, he said.

"We have to tee up these

tween Sivells Bend ISD and Gainesville ISD. The agreement provides for Sivells Bend ISD to transport students to and from Gainesville ISD. Sivells Bend ISD has no high school.

Resolution for Extra-curricular Status of 4-H Organization and Adjunct Faculty Agreement. The agreement allows GISD students to take part in 4-H activities and competitions during the school day without penalty.

GISD District of Innovation Plan Revision. The revision allows GISD to hire retired teachers at GISD salary rates. The district of innovation plan previously required school districts to pay retired teachers at the salary at which they retired. The plan also imposes a surcharge for hiring a retired teacher. The surcharge has been left in place, Stewart told the board.

Board members approved the following consent agenda items.

Minutes of regular, June 17, 2024, minutes of budget workshop, June 17, 2024, monthly bill list, financial statement, budget amendment, employee handbook 2024-2025, AUI Partners, LLC payment application No.6-900 North Grand property.

Absent from the meeting were board members Dan Doss, Nathan Dempsey and Phil Neelley.



GISD Maintenance and Operations Director Joe Warren also recapped summer maintenance projects.

Work included an extensive renovation of the central administration building on North Grand Avenue, high-efficiency rooftop unit replacement at Gainesville High School, Chalmers and Intermediate School flooring replacement, GHS track

projects well in advance of March, April and May," Warren said. "These have to be shovel ready in January at the latest."

Action items approved included:

Memorandum of Understanding Between MSD of Decatur Township (Leaders Connect) and Gainesville ISD.

Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement be-

# Lindsay Gun Club Initiates Restoration for Historic Building

LINDSAY - The Lindsay Gun Club is excited to announce the commencement of a comprehensive restoration project for its historic building, originally constructed in 1913. This significant endeavor marks a pivotal moment for the club, which has been a cornerstone of community life in Lindsay for over a century.

The restoration efforts, initiated as part of a broader reorganization plan that began in January, will focus initially on critical repairs to the building's foundation. This includes leveling the structure and addressing drainage issues caused by accumulated gravel and silt around the foundation.

The Lindsay Gun Club has played various roles throughout its storied history, starting as a saloon and evolving into a theater and meeting place for the Gun Club members. Over the years, it has also served as a parish hall for Saint Peter's Catholic Church. Notably, the club's annual shooting competitions, a tradition brought from Germany by its founders, have drawn participants and spectators from near and far, cementing its cultural significance in Lindsay.

"We are dedicated to preserving this cherished landmark and restoring it to its former glory," said Kenny Bezner. "Many in our community have fond memories of weddings, social events, and annual picnics held here, and we aim to ensure future generations can enjoy this historic venue."

To finance these vital repairs, the Lindsay Gun Club has launched a fundraising campaign. The estimated cost to level the floor and reinforce the founda-

tion is \$20,000. Currently, the club has secured half of this amount and seeks community support to raise the remaining funds. A GoFundMe account has been set up to facilitate donations, and contributions can also be made directly to the Lindsay Gun Club account at First State Bank.

"We invite everyone who values our community's history and cultural heritage to join us in this endeavor," added Kenny Bezner. "In addition to financial contributions, we welcome new members to our club, which meets monthly and is open to all

adults interested in supporting our mission."

To stay updated on the Lindsay Gun Club's progress and upcoming events, including a planned dinner and dance fundraiser in late September, please visit and follow their Facebook page "Lindsay Gun Club." For inquiries and donations, please contact gunclublindsaytx@yahoo.com or mail donations to Lindsay Gun Club, 107 E. Main St, Lindsay, TX 76250.

Together, let's preserve and celebrate Lindsay Gun Club's legacy for generations to come.

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