

# The Weekly News of Cooke County

© 2025 The Weekly News of Cooke County

Volume 21, Number 36 Cooke County, Texas February 5, 2025  
The LARGEST and MOST READ Newspaper in Cooke County!

## Commissioners Postpone Vote on Freeport Tax Exemption

By Delania Raney  
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – Cooke County Commissioners postponed a decision on a county freeport exemption at the Monday, January 27 commissioners court meeting. Gainesville Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors Vice President Will Presson and GEDC Executive Director William Meyers again presented their recommendation to approve a county Freeport Exemption for GEDC. The EDC officials advocated

for the freeport – a personal property tax exemption on goods detained in Texas for 175 or fewer days – at the January 13 commissioners court meeting. The freeport exemption is available for existing businesses and can also be an effective recruitment tool for attracting new businesses, Meyers said. Presson and Meyers had hoped county officials would approve the tax exemption at the January 27 meeting. “Guys, we’ve kind of beat this horse down the road a little bit,” Presson said alluding to the

court’s previous discussion on the initiative. “You know, what we’re asking today is you guys vote and approve the county freeport exemptions,” Presson said. “...Freeport good is a good that comes into Texas, part of your personal inventory, it would come into Cooke County for a temporary period of time which is described as 175 days or less and then it’s shipped out of state.” He said at the end of the day, the freeport is “hold harmless” to the county. “Whoever qualifies if they file

a timely application by 4/1, the appraisal district approves that percentage of those goods that would qualify for that,” Presson said. “That amount of dollars are exempted from the roll based on their prior year sales.” Depending on how many qualifying businesses file, the amount exempted ranges from 23 percent to 93 percent. There are currently 11 businesses in Gainesville that qualify for the freeport exemption. “I think it’s about 1.6 percent of your total levy,” he said. “Your (Continued on Page 2)

### King Around Town

by Grice King

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee wanted me to pass on a Special Thanks and Recognition to all those who helped with this year’s event. “Our sincerest thanks to all individuals and businesses who helped to make the Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Celebration a success. We appreciate your contributions and recognize you for your generosity. May the blessings of God be with you and yours. We encourage you to continue to make a difference in the community.”

+++++

And ... Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow so here comes six more weeks of winter. Feels like he got that wrong with this week’s temperatures. Hope you all have a wonderful week.

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

+++++

The Super Bowl of car-ing will be at First Christian Church Sunday February 9 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. This event benefits our local food bank VISTO. Please come and enjoy some awesome soups and help our community

+++++

GAVA’s 12th Annual “For the Love of Art” is planned in the Santa Fe Depot Museum, 605 E California St., Gainesville on Friday, February 7 from 6:00 to 9:00pm. This FREE event will include new art, live music from Oliver White, wonderful food from Mom’s Donuts and of course libations!

All of the amazing art from thirty-two GAVA members will be available for purchase to support a great scholarship – 20% of all sales goes to the GAVA Scholarship. Come support the local arts and have a great evening!

+++++

(Continued on Page 2)

## Muenster Hospital District Board of Directors Approve Audit

By Delania Raney  
The Weekly News

MUENSTER – Members of the Muenster Hospital District Board of Directors approved the

fiscal year 2024 audit as presented by Christa Worley of FOVIS at the January 30 regular meeting. The audit reflected a clean opinion, Worley told the board

and included some suggestions about segregation of duties in a small hospital environment. She said a bottom line loss of \$631,000 was originally reported.

“After the cost report was prepared, it actually decreased that loss by about \$26,000,” Worley said. “Overall your bottom line was \$605,000. We audit a lot of hospitals and you can have some huge swings between what you see and what the end result is after the audit. What this tells me is that your management is giving you good data from month to month.” The balance sheet indicated a cash decrease of about \$260,000 – most of which went to payment of debts and the purchase of some capital assets. “You bought about \$500,000 worth of capital assets,” Worley noted. “You debt decreased about, I think it was, \$250,000.” Some grants helped cover the cost of the capital assets, she added. “Between the loss you reported this year and the payments you made for capital assets, your cash went down \$264,000. Much of the data was “pretty much consistent with prior years,” Worley said. “No big shifts.” (Continued on Page 9)



## Gainesville Hospital District Orders Election, Approves FY 24 Audit

By Delania Raney  
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – Gainesville Hospital District Board of Directors approved a financial audit by Clifton Larson Allen, LLP for fiscal year 2024 and issued an order for an election at the Monday, January 27 regular board meeting. There are three expiring terms on the board for seats held by Brenda Anderle, Emily Lewis and Gerald Smith. The election is May 3. The financial statement for the first quarter of the fiscal year, indicated the district finished with \$2.273 million to a budget of \$1.7 million, North Texas Medical Center Chief Financial Officer Mike Ducote said during presentation of the district’s latest financials. The statement of net position showed a slight decrease in cur-

rent assets at \$17,494 as of December 31, he noted. The district finished the first quarter with a depository account increase of \$467,960 from the prior fiscal year. The interest and sinking fund was up by almost \$1.1 million. Maintenance and operation showed a small decrease of \$48,997. Interest income for the quarter was \$141,398, Ducote said. The statement of cash flows also showed an ending balance of \$467,960. Board members approved the financials. A hospital report presented by board vice president Jeff Isbell contained some positive updates on the facility. Admissions were up in December. Births remain down. Isbell said births at the facility have not yet reached their pre-COVID levels.

He also noted patient days are up. Gastrointestinal procedures have been slower than usual owing in large part to the transition of a new surgeon. Emergency department visits were up as were wound care visits. Total imaging procedures were also up. “We’re close to getting \$15 million a month in gross [income],” Isbell said. “Which we thought we’d be there this month, which is the highest we’ve ever had. Largely, that is due to inpatient revenue which is up. However, that is less profitable.” He noted an emphasis on rural clinic services is planned to try to bolster income on that front. He also noted the first group of nurse residents graduated in November. “Also, we’re on track to get our center for nursing excellence,” Isbell said noting the hospital has been working on the designation

for about ten years and will be the first and only hospital in the CHC organization to reach the status. Officials are also looking to add a neonatal intensive care unit. The process could take as long as three years. The LED lighting project is still ongoing. The board also approved minutes of the November 18, 2024 meeting. The board agreed to a resolution changing the dates for the May and November meetings. Both meetings fall on or near holidays, senior executive assistant Christy Daughtry said. The May meeting is now set for Monday, May 19. The November meeting date was changed to Monday, November 17. Also approved were a payment to E3 Entegral Solutions, Inc. for \$299,125 for services rendered (Continued on Page 8)

Find us on Facebook

# Commissioners Postpone Vote on Freeport Tax Exemption

(Continued from Page 1)

total levy is about \$24 million on a \$7.6 billion tax base. That 1.6 percent, and it's rough numbers, 100 percent of that number is \$400,000. Because of the increasing value, your values were up 11 percent last year, year over year... You're in a market where your values are increasing year over year and you have the past 30 years," he said. "It's a hold harmless tax for your taxpayers. You get it back in your effective rate."

Meysers noted many business prospects disqualify Gainesville from consideration if the area doesn't offer "triple plus freeport" -- county, city and school tax exemptions. Having hospital districts and other taxing entities onboard is a plus, he added.

"We don't even hear about the potential for these prospects if we don't have triple freeport," Mey-

ers said. "We're not just coming to you looking to forgo taxes. We're looking for you to provide us with an economic development tool that will help us recruit more tax base including existing industry. Not just new industry coming in."

Presson and Meyers planned to address other entities including North Central Texas College and Gainesville Independent School District about the exemption. The city of Gainesville and Gainesville Hospital District have already approved the freeport exemption.

County commissioners still had questions after the second freeport presentation.

"I don't deny one bit that it's great," Precinct 2 Commissioner Jason Snuggs said. "And I would like to see it in place at some point. It's just... There's still so much discussion on the number. You know, the number that we're going to lose in year one... I want to make sure that we know that number before I make a decision. I feel like it's a great chess move in the future of Cooke County... I just, I want to know the number before we do."

The commissioners decided to hold a workshop and revisit the freeport exemption request.

In addition, the commis-

sioners approved a request for an extension on the specific use permit for Edge of the Lake Wedding Venue and Wine Production Facility, preliminary plat for Elmview Estates for a proposed six-lot development in precinct 4, accepting the award of the fiscal year 2024 State Criminal Alien Assistance Program in the amount of \$21,407.

Commissioners also discussed a phone system upgrade and approved Nortex as the vendor.

The commissioners took no action regarding a malfunctioning door at the Cooke County Library. Maintenance Director Ricky Kerr is expected to get some quotes related to the door repair and present them to the court at a future meeting.

Also approved was an additional road crew position for Precinct 2.

The following consent agenda items were approved.

Deliberate and consider possible approval of minutes for the January 13, 2025 meeting.

Receive and file for record departmental reports for EMS- December 2024 and Library- December 2024.

FY24 Budget Amendments.

FY25 Budget Amendments.

Payment of monthly bills.

Payroll and related expenses.

Allowing the County Judge to sign the TexPool Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives, adding Susan Wells, County Treasurer as an Authorized Representative.

Receive and file for record the 2024 Continuing Education Certificate for the Cooke County Clerk.

Receive and file the Criminal History Reporting Completeness Reports for the years 2019-2023.

Mutual aid agreement with North Shore Volunteer Fire Department.

Mutual aid agreement with Callisburg VFD.

Cell phone allowance for Transport Officer M. Ybarra.

Road Bore Construction and Indemnity Contract with Woodbine Special Utility District in Pct.1 at CR 107 Property ID#327754, 255 CR 173, 459 CR 163, 69 CR 146.

Road Bore Construction and Indemnity Contract with Woodbine Special Utility District in Pct. 2 at CR 262 Property ID#326750 and 112 CR 234.

EMS applying for NCT-TRAC Program Participation Funds.

Indigent Cremation of G. Wright.

The 2025 Cooke County Homeland Security Grant Projects.

Transfer of asset tag

#15174, Dell HP Laserjet Printer from LT. to the 235th District Court and transfer of asset tag #3272, HP Lasterjet Printer from the 235th District Court to LT.

Cooke County Library to apply for the 2025 Pen Tex Energy Charitable Foundation Grant.

Allowing the Cooke County Library to apply for the 2025 Texas Book Festival Grant.

Allowing the County Judge to sign the TexSTAR & LOGIC Updated Signer Documents, adding Susan Wells, County Treasurer, as a Primary Authorized Individual.

No action was taken following an executive session.

All commissioners, the county judge and the county auditor were present for the meeting.

## King Around Town

by Grice King

(Continued from Pg 1)

Just in time for Valentine's Day, the North Texas Medical Center Auxiliary has partnered with Nothing Bundt Cakes for a special fundraiser on Feb. 13. Representatives from Nothing Bundt Cakes will be in the NTMC lobby that day from 10 am to 3 pm with nine different flavors of cakes in gift packaging. All proceeds benefit the NTMC Auxiliary.

+++++

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office is hosting their Tri-County Farmer and Rancher Symposium on Tuesday, February 25 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Registration opens at 8:00 am and takes place at First Christian Church located at 401 N. Dixon in Gainesville. Fee is \$50 per attendee and includes CEU's, light breakfast, drinks and lunch.

Contact Leslie Kittrell at 940-668-5414 or email Leslie.Kittrell@ag.tamu.edu.

## 235th District Court Cases Filed, Decided

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

### Cases Filed

Jaclyn Kate Johnson vs. Tavis Johnson, divorce.

David Altamirano vs. Gloria Pinales, divorce.

Roberto Aquilar Alanis, Maria Del Carmen Ramirez and Felipa Cervantes Roque vs. Edwin Ocha and Mother

Trucker Haulin LLC, injury or damage with a motor vehicle.

Christi Renee Secrest vs. Tom Ray McElvain Jr., divorce.

Cooke County et al. vs Robert Craig Erlandson, tax cases.

Cooke County et al. vs. Travis Matthew L. Hollandsworth, tax cases.

### Cases Decided

Jessica Laura-Ann

Creech vs. Robert James Creech, agreed judgments, divorce.

Trevor Kubis vs. Mackenzie Kubis, final judgment/non-jury, divorce.

**WE REFILL NITROUS**

**151 GARAGE**

Head Mechanic: Eric Carter  
Mechanics: David Watson

2308 CR 151  
Gainesville, TX 76240  
940.727.1637

Mon-Thur 7a-6p | Fri 8a-4p

**RENAISSANCE CARE CENTER**

Short-Term Rehabilitation after Orthopedic Surgery  
Outpatient Occupational and Physical Therapies  
Skilled Nursing Care after Hospital Stay  
Advance Wound Care • IV Therapies  
Private Medicare Suites • Long Term Care

**940-665-5221**  
**1400 Blackhill Dr.,**  
**Gainesville, TX 76240**  
**(located across from NCTC)**

**Call us for all your plumbing needs including new construction and service work!**

**REO PLUMBING, INC.**

**940-284-5506**  
**Robert Orsburn**  
RMP#44208

**Jason Snuggs**  
**940-727-1010**

Licensed & Insured

REOplumbinginc@gmail.com

Keeping you happy & healthy throughout the holidays!

**MUENSTER FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC**

**SAME DAY SICK VISITS!**

**ADDITIONAL SERVICES:**

- ROUTINE HEALTH CARE
- WEIGHT MANAGEMENT
- HORMONE REPLACEMENT

(940) 759-2502

**STEPHANIE FNP-BC, AMY FNP-C, SYDNEY FNP-C**

Facebook: facebook.com/whitesboroFMC  
Instagram: MUNSTERFAMILYMEDICALCLINIC



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.

THE WEEKLY NEWS OF COOKE COUNTY (ISSN 3065-6370) is published weekly by KGK Corp., LLC., 216 W. Pecan St., Gainesville, TX 76240. Periodicals postage is paid at Gainesville, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: THE WEEKLY NEWS OF COOKE COUNTY, 216 W. Pecan St., Gainesville, TX 76240.

# The Weekly News of Cooke County

216 W. Pecan • Gainesville, TX

940.665.2320

www.TheWeeklyNewsCC.com



**Owner / Publisher / Advertising**

**Grice King**

Grice.King@TheWeeklyNewsCC.com



**Editorial Staff**

**Delania Raney**

Delania.Raney@TheWeeklyNewsCC.com

# Obituaries



**Kathleen McLeroy**

**Services**

Memorial service for Kathleen McLeroy will be held at the Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home on Friday, February 21, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

**History**

Kathleen McLeroy was born in Dallas, TX on May 20, 1955, to Margaret Ann Isbell McLeroy and Robert Lee McLeroy M.D. She died January 27, 2025 in Gainesville, TX.

Kathy was raised in Gainesville and graduated from Gainesville High School in 1973. She graduated from the University of Texas with a degree in speech pathology,

and from the University of North Texas with a master's degree in Audiology. Her career included working for ENT physicians, and independently in her own business. She began working in Sherman, TX for Dr. Frank Looney and later began Plano Hearing Aid Company. She also worked for the Veterans Administration in Belton, TX for a few years. She worked for Entific for several years, helping ENT surgeons surgically place cochlear implants in the operating room for patients with severe hearing loss. Her sales numbers were the best in the United States one year and the best in the world the next. Eventually she moved to Pendaries Village, NM, working for Alta Vista hospital in Las Vegas, NM, until her retirement.

Kathy was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis at age 25. She was told she would live about 30 years at best. She struggled with independent living until that became impossible. Her determination and tenacity were an inspiration

to many who knew her. Kathy was a committed Christian who believed in the salvation of her soul by faith in Lord Jesus Christ.

She was preceded in death by her parents Dr. Robert Lee McLeroy and Margaret Ann Isbell McLeroy, and her sister Rebecca Schafer.

**Survivors**

She is survived by her siblings Dr. Robert R. McLeroy and wife Melodye, Patricia Poore and husband Ralph of Arlington, TX, and LeAnn Santone and husband Ken of Las Vegas, NV., numerous cousins, nieces and nephews, wonderful friends, and her pet dog Cowboy.

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



**Palma Gene Hildebrand**

**Services**

Palma Gene Hildebrand, 97, of Gainesville, Texas passed away January 29, 2025 at Wesley House Assisted Living Gainesville, Texas.

Graveside services will be at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2025 at Fairview Cemetery in Gainesville with Pastor Adam Spore officiating.

**History**

Palma was born on July 11, 1927 in Gainesville, Texas to Palmer and Au-

gusta (Lance) Purgason.

She grew up in the oil fields of Oklahoma, her family had to travel a lot because her father was a pipeline welder in the industry. Her and her family finally settled in Gainesville when she was a senior in high school. She met the love of her life, Charlie Hildebrand and they were married on May 6, 1949 at the First United Methodist Church of Gainesville. For many years Palma worked for the county extension office at the court house in Gainesville until she had her children and then became a stay at home mother for them until they were teenagers. She then went on to become a Real Estate Agent and worked until her retirement at the age of 70. She was a life long member of the First United Methodist Church of Gainesville, Texas. She loved to participate in Church activities. She was also a member of the garden club, bridge club and book club.

**Survivors**

Palma is survived by her son Kent Hildebrand (Linda), daughter Andrea Hogue (Chris) and their 3 children, granddaughters; Misty Wolfe and Krista Hildebrand as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents and her son Pal Hildebrand.

Thank you for your support.

Also see [www.geojcarroll.com](http://www.geojcarroll.com).

Texas where he graduated from Plainview High School in 1957.

He entered the U.S. Army in 1958. While serving at Fort Sill, Oklahoma he met Nancy Lee Spears. They married in November 1959 and had three sons: Steve, Mark, and Jeff.

Bill graduated from Wayland Baptist College in Plainview on the G.I. Bill. He taught Mid-management at Cooke County College from 1975 until retiring in 1998. He continued as a substitute teacher for Cooke County schools.

He met Ollie Sue McDonnell at a teachers conference in 1995 and married in June 1996. Thirty years together created one big, beautiful blended family.

**Survivors**

He is preceded in death by his parents, Elon and Nora Herrington, older brother Larry Gene Herrington, son Mark Gregory Herrington, and nephew Brad Herrington. He leaves behind his wife Ollie Sue Herrington, brother Eddie Joe Herrington (his wife Sue and son), son Steve (wife Rebecca, and 2 children), son Jeff (and three children), daughter Carrol McKnight (husband Jerry and four children), daughter Suzan Heydenreich (and four children), son Sam Clark (wife Melissa and one child) and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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

**History**

Norma Jean was born on November 7, 1937 to Ernest and Faye Hinkson in Little Rock, Arkansas. Her dad's career with Rock Island Lines moved their family to San Antonio, Texas when she was young. She accepted Jesus as her savior and was baptized at their family church.

As a railroad family, they sometimes rode the train to visit grandparents, creating a lifetime of train-riding memories. During these early years, Jeanie developed a love for the outdoors and fondly recalled these days of tree-climbing, swimming, and adventures with her brothers. Their family dog, Skipper, was a part of many adventures, and slept at the foot of her bed. In her teen years, her family moved to Wichita Falls, Texas. After graduating high school in Wichita Falls in 1955, Jeanie began her first job at Sheppard AFB.

Jeanie met George Sparkman at a local soda shop in Wichita Falls in 1954. After a year and a half of getting to know each other, Jeanie married George, the love of her life, at Faith Baptist Church in Wichita Falls on July 29, 1955. Jeanie was an excellent homemaker and mother. They welcomed their first daughter, Robbie, in Wichita Falls. During the next several years they moved to several small farming communities in Texas as their family grew. Tina joined the family in Merkel. Doug was born in Seymour. Terri was welcomed in Lamesa. Finally, Greg was born one Easter morning in Lockney.

Jeanie had a lifelong desire to learn, and instilled a love of learning in each of her children. Each child has special memories with her of reading, studying, grammar, speaking Spanish, etc. She learned to play the piano at church as a child and throughout her life continued to have a love of music which she passed on to her children, insisting that all of them have some musical training during their childhood, including piano, guitar, band, and singing in church choirs. While raising their family, Jean was very involved in her children's lives including youth/school trips, riding bikes, leading girl scouts, camping, skiing, coaching softball, concerts, recitals, livestock shows and sales, and even attempting to ride a unicycle. As her children grew up and began to add grandchildren to the family, Jeanie and George moved to other towns in Texas and then across the country to Massachusetts and Illinois. In 2003 they

(Continued on Page 8)



**Billy Wayne Herrington**

**Services**

Services for Billy Wayne Herrington are scheduled for Saturday, February 1, 2025. Visitation will begin at 9:30 AM, followed by the funeral service at 10:30 AM, both at First Baptist Church, Gainesville, TX. Interment will follow at Collinsville Cemetery, Collinsville, TX.

**History**

Billy Wayne Herrington was born September 13, 1938 in a farmhouse outside Tishomingo, Oklahoma to Elon Preston Herrington and Nora Lee Craft Herrington. Six years later they moved to Cotton Center, Texas, then two years later to Plainview,



**Norma Jean Sparkman**

**Services**

Norma Jean Sparkman went home to be with her Lord on the afternoon of January 30, 2025 with family and friends gathered around her bedside worshipping together and singing hymns.

A funeral service will be held at Calvary Baptist Church in Gainesville, Texas on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 10:00 AM. The committal service is scheduled for 3:00 PM later that afternoon at Post Oak Cemetery in Jack County. Visitation will be held Tuesday evening at George J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home, Gainesville, from 5:00-7:00 PM.

**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](http://www.acwia.org)

**Eighty-Two Wash Co.**

**940-612-5342**  
**WWW.82WASH.CO**

- TRASH BIN WASHING
- DUMPSTER WASHING
- PRESSURE WASHING

**Newsday Crossword**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Harpoon or javelin
  - 6 Wipe clean
  - 11 Fl. oz. fraction
  - 14 Fictional Scarlett
  - 15 Medicinal amounts
  - 16 Part of APB
  - 17 Vulnerable one
  - 19 Summer zodiac sign
  - 20 Goes out with
  - 21 Annoyed
  - 23 Forced open
  - 27 Linen fabrics
  - 29 In the vicinity
  - 30 Teflon company
  - 31 Clever and funny
  - 32 Gets set, for short
  - 33 Put to work
  - 36 Arthur \_\_ Stadium (pro tennis venue)
  - 37 Impressive deeds
  - 38 Big smile
  - 39 Definite article
  - 40 San Antonio landmark
  - 41 Wasn't serious
  - 42 Indy 500 drivers
  - 44 Go back on a deal
  - 45 Bewitching
  - 47 Shuffled along
  - 48 Be very fond of
  - 49 Bonnets and beanies
  - 50 AFL merger partner
  - 51 Engage in a pointless show of bravery
  - 58 "May I help you?"
  - 59 Musical speed

**DOWN**

- 1 Plea at sea
- 2 \_\_ Beta Kappa
- 3 Erode
- 4 Curator's concern
- 5 Filled with dried grapes
- 6 Barely defeated
- 7 Fishing poles
- 8 Tempe sch.
- 9 Wall St. regulator
- 10 Native Alaskans, historically
- 11 Gets down to business
- 12 Aerodynamically designed
- 13 Walks wearily
- 18 Anything essential
- 22 Sped away on foot
- 23 Chide
- 24 From Dublin
- 25 Nursery rhyme byline
- 26 TV remote button
- 27 On account of
- 28 Smartphone software
- 30 Vial measures
- 32 Gem from the sea
- 34 Extended battle
- 35 Completed
- 37 Pooch pest
- 38 Departed
- 40 Takes to be true
- 41 Actress Alba
- 43 Basketball's contents
- 44 IRA variety
- 45 Thanksgiving parade sponsor
- 46 French farewell
- 47 Georgia city
- 49 Syringe, for short
- 52 Director Spike
- 53 Qty.
- 54 Web-video gear
- 55 Common Korean surname
- 56 Historical age
- 57 Persona \_\_ grata

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15						16		
17					18						19		
				20					21	22			
23	24	25	26				27	28					
29						30							
31						32				33	34	35	
36						37				38			
39				40					41				
		42	43						44				
45	46								47				
48							49						
50					51	52	53			54	55	56	57
58						59				60			
61						62				63			

CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2025 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 02/05/25

**MKGAF**  
940-665-5546

**SWAP IT TO ME!**

**BUY, SELL, SWAP OR GIVE AWAY ANYTHING!**

**MORNINGS 8:30 TILL 9**

# Opinions

All Statements, Cartoons, Political Columns or Letters to the Editor on this page represent the direct opinions of the writer/artist named and are not endorsed by *The Weekly News of Cooke County*. They are intended to provide local, personal or national political opinions not the beliefs of this newspaper or its staff.

*Jamie Stiehm*

## Mercy Is Not Part of Trump's Plan



By Jamie Stiehm

The president has declared war on the nation, the nation as we have known it. -- Anonymous

If you ever go to Canterbury Cathedral in England, drops of blood from ages ago are still there on the altar floor. Legend has it that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Becket, was brutally murdered by four knights serving King Henry II, whom Becket crossed.

Henry had medieval knights; Donald Trump has legions of rioters, whom he pardoned and freed.

In a sermon from the Canterbury Pulpit, the Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde of the Washington National Cathedral urged the new president to show "mercy" toward immigrants and LGBTQ Americans.

Budde, the Episcopal bishop of Washington, as-

ended to becoming a voice for the voiceless all over this land. At the prayer service, she had the rare chance to address Trump directly and seized the moment. In a tone gentle and low, she confronted him on a mission of mercy.

"One final plea, Mr. President," Budde concluded. "I ask you to have mercy upon people in our country who are scared." She specifically named people who pick crops, clean office buildings, work in meat and poultry plants, and take the night shift for tending the sick in hospitals.

But Trump's threatened roundups and deportations of undocumented immigrants have already begun in the first week in office. So has an assault on the federal government workforce. Transgender members of the military are now banned, just like that.

Budde also prayed for compassion for gay, lesbian and transgender youth, at a time of heightened despair, when suicide lines are jammed. The heroine brought a ray of light through the neo-Gothic stained-glass windows.

Trump sat his huge frame in the front row, not even 15 feet away from Budde, and glared at her. He was on the hook, forced to listen to a woman's words in a sacred space.

In politics, he's a master at belittling and slandering women, as he did to presidential opponents Hillary Clinton and Kamala Harris. It's practically what he does for a living.

When it came to Budde's appeal, which made waves across the city and country, Trump demanded an apology.

To be challenged in public, especially by a woman, is a cardinal sin. So mercy did not win the day.

Yet Trump did grant clemency to 1,500 rioters in the Jan. 6 mob who injured 140 police officers and stormed the Capitol, including leaders of the Proud Boys and the Oath Keepers. These extremist groups essentially acted as personal militias for Trump.

I was a witness to the 2021 attack, amid the breaking glass, tear gas and gunshots in the Capitol. Clearly that sacred space was more fragile than we knew.

Once we thought an American president would never incite political violence against his own people, would he? Well, now we know the answer to that question. Nothing should surprise us about Trump anymore.

The Canterbury Pulpit is carved from stone from Canterbury Cathedral. The Rev. Dr. Martin Lu-

ther King Jr. preached his last Sunday sermon in the grand Washington Cathedral pulpit days before he was murdered in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968. The Nobel Peace Prize winner was 39.

Henry's famous hint to his knights during a church-state feud: "Will no one rid me of this meddlesome priest?" That line was Becket's death warrant.

I'm not saying Trump's rage at Budde will come to blood, though she may be in danger. I am saying that Trump had no problem with his nemesis,

then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), being hunted in the Capitol by a murderous mob. They never found her, but it was a close call.

Two other distinguished women were treated to Trump's tirades lately: Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen.

Trump scolded Bass publicly about the devastating fires in her city and the recovery effort.

On a lengthy call with Frederiksen, over 45 minutes, he badgered her to have Denmark cede the

arctic real estate to the United States.

What kind of American president treats allies like that? On edge, European leaders are asking that question right now.

Becker's bloodshed tells a tale of an unchecked leader bursting his bounds.

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).

COPYRIGHT 2025 CREATORS.COM



*Michael Barone*

## Trump Is Moving Fast & Breaking Things



By Michael Barone

Move fast and break things. That's the original operating philosophy of Facebook founder and Meta mogul Mark Zuckerberg, and it seems to be the operating procedure of President Donald Trump in these first weeks of his second term.

That makes a certain sense. In a largely successful society, unrocked by revolution, institutions come to be in need of repair, revamping and reconstitution. Just as tools rust, barnacles adhere and roofs leak, institutions and professions, government agencies and private industries need to be reformed or even abolished.

The high-tech firms that now dominate the American -- indeed, world -- equity markets moved fast and broke many of the business plans of many long-established entities in the early 2000s. Now, with the sudden support of many of their leaders, Trump in his first two weeks of his second term is moving fast and breaking things.

And so far with surprisingly little backlash. As these major changes go into effect, it's a fair question

to ask about the long-term consequences.

Start with Trump's executive orders dismantling the misnamed diversity, equity and inclusion apparatus. Opponents started changing the names of DEI programs, and someone in the Air Force said the order required nonmention of the Tuskegee Airmen. That's a variation of what the late Washington Monthly editor Charlie Peters called the "shut down the Washington Monument" strategy, to which incoming Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth quickly put the kibosh.

More importantly, Trump's executive order repeals the 1965 Lyndon Johnson order that got the government and large parts of the private sector fighting racial discrimination with racial discrimination. DEI bureaucracies and enforcement were stepped up after the death of George Floyd in May 2020. Now private companies, subject to lawsuits for discriminating against Asians and whites, are scrambling to defund their DEI commissars.

Not many will miss them. Polling, and referenda in California, has shown large majorities disapproving racial preferences. Controversy over Black Lives Matter's leaders' purchase of a \$6 million house and the implosion of Ibram X. Kendi's academic center suggests a weariness even among DEI recipients.

DEI repeal seems likely to be, as Christopher Caldwell writes, "the most significant policy change of this century."

Likely in second place are

the highly publicized deportations of criminal and other illegal immigrants from so-called sanctuary cities. Illegal border crossings, already vastly reduced last spring when then-President Joe Biden, facing defeat, started using powers he had said he didn't have and changed the open-borders policy evidently inspired by those in-this-house-we-believe-no-human-being-is-illegal signs you see all over affluent metro Washington, D.C., neighborhoods.

Now illegal border crossings are reduced to a trickle, and Trump's first-term "Remain in Mexico" policy seems back in force. Trump's X post Sunday afternoon threatening 25% tariffs and visa shutdowns had Colombia's left-wing president reversing within minutes his ban on incoming deportees. Venezuela's left-wing president reciprocated preemptively this week.

My bet is that the threat of further deportations and workplace enforcement will prompt hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants to, as Mitt Romney put it in 2012, "self-deport" to the Americas and Middle East, just as the housing market collapse prompted similar numbers of illegal immigrants to self-deport to Mexico after 2006.

That effect may be reduced if the courts, as I think likely and justifiably, reject Trump's assertion that the 14th Amendment does not confer birthright citizenship. The excesses of Biden immigration policy have reduced public support of and Democratic politicians' demand for the

mass legalization advanced as necessary for compromise immigration bills in decades past.

A third change that didn't get front-page headlines but is likely to endure will come from incoming Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy's overturning of the Biden electric vehicle regulations. These were effectively, though not labeled as such, bans on gasoline-powered cars in the 2030s.

This may cause short-term problems for Detroit-based auto manufacturers who have been muscled to ramp up production of money-losing EVs. But over the longer run, they're likely to be grateful: It's easier to sell cars consumers want.

In the meantime, the case that outlawing gas-powered SUVs will preserve the planet is being undercut by events. Whether EVs reduce emissions depends on how the electricity that powers them is produced, and the artificial intelligence boom threatens huge increases in demand for electricity, fulfillable perhaps only by emission-emitting coal.

Simultaneously, the Los Angeles County wildfires have shown that the green policies for which California politicians preen themselves don't cut net emissions if those politicians don't fulfill their less glamorous duties to fill reservoirs and cut back flammable brush.

Not all the Trump initiatives are likely to be successful, and his Democratic and journalistic opponents, as the reaction to his aid cutoff proposals showed, are ready to pounce on any am-

biguity or weakness. But it's striking so far how subdued the response has been to the volley of Trump's recent actions.

The DEI lobby, which bulldozed corporate America, the open-doors immigration lobby, which purported to speak for the nation's fastest-growing electoral bloc, the climate control lobby, which muscled past concern over purple Michigan's electoral votes -- all these forces prevailed utterly in setting Biden administration policy and succeeded mostly in setting the boundaries of

permissible debate.

Now, as Trump moves and breaks things, they are responding not with a bang but a whimper.

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.

COPYRIGHT 2025 CREATORS.COM

### 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**

# Cooke County Sheriff Reports

COOKE COUNTY – The Cooke County Sheriff's Office responded to 495 calls for service during the time period from Friday, January 24 through Thursday, Jan. 30.

CCSO received eleven 911 hangup/open line calls – five from Gainesville, one from Muenster, three from Valleu View, one unknown, one from Lindsay.

Four calls about abandoned vehicles were received – one in Valley View and three in Gainesville.

The office received six calls for agency assists – five from Gainesville, one from Muenster.

Six alarm calls were received – two from Muenster, three from Gainesville, one from Valley View.

The agency received two

animal problem calls – one from Whitesboro, one from Valley View.

One assault was reported in Gainesville.

Two burglary calls were received from Valley View.

The agency received 75 burn calls – 31 from Gainesville, two from Pilot Point, five in Collinsville, 17 from Valley View, four from Era, three from Rosston, four in Muenster, two in Forestburg, one in Sanger, one unknown, three in Whitesboro.

Three citizen assists were requested – two from Gainesville and one from Valley View.

Eight calls for civil matters were received – three from Whitesboro, two from Callisburg, two from Valley View, one from

Gainesville.

One civil process call was logged from Gainesville.

One criminal mischief call was received from Muenster.

Five domestic disturbance calls were received – three from Valley View, one from Gainesville, one from Whitesboro.

One drug related call was received from Gainesville.

Seven calls for extra patrol were received – four from Valley View, two from Whitesboro, one unknown.

Six fires were called in – three from Gainesville, one from Valley View, one from Muenster, one from Rosston.

Two structure fire calls were received from Gainesville and Valley View.

The agency received ten follow-up calls – six from Gainesville, one from Sanger, two unknown, one from Thackerville, Okla.

One harassment call was received from Whitesboro.

One hospital death was reported in Gainesville.

Two reports of ID theft/fraud were reported in Gainesville.

The agency received 33 information calls – 14 from Gainesville, two unknown, two from Muenster, one from Sanger, seven Whitesboro, five from Valley View, one from Gordonville, one from Lindsay.

A juvenile problem was reported in Gainesville.

Three lift assists were called in from Gainesville.

Four calls about loose livestock were received –

two in Valley View, two in Gainesville.

The agency received 107 medical calls – 87 from Gainesville, nine from Valley View, one from Era, one from Myra, two from Forestburg, one from Rosston, one from Muenster, one from Lindsay, one in Collinsville.

The agency received three medical transport calls – two from Muenster, one from Gainesville.

Three mental health calls were received – one from Gainesville, one from Valley View.

The agency received seven motorist assist calls – six from Gainesville, one from Muenster.

The agency received 19 motor vehicle accident calls – 13 from Gainesville, three from Valley View, one from Thackerville, Okla., one from Forestburg, one from Muenster.

Four noise complaints were received – two from Gainesville, two from Valley View.

The agency received 19 calls about reckless drivers – two from Muenster, 13 from Gainesville, two from Valley View, two from Muenster.

Two repossession calls were reported – one from Valley View, one from Gainesville.

The agency received five calls about road hazards – one from Collinsville, four from Gainesville.

Two security check calls were received from Callisburg.

A sex crime was reported in Gainesville.

Two reports of shots fired were reported – one from Gainesville, one from Whitesboro.

One call about a suicidal subject was received from Gainesville.

Fourteen calls about suspicious activity were received – five from Valley View, six from Gainesville, one from Lindsay, one from Muenster.

One test call was logged in Gainesville.

The agency received two theft reports – one from Gainesville, one from Valley View.

The agency reported 82 traffic stops – 36 in Gainesville, ten in Valley View, 25 in Muenster, three in Lindsay, two unknown, one in Era, two in Whitesboro.

The agency received three transport calls from Gainesville.

Four trespass calls were received – one from Muenster, three from Gainesville.

Eleven warrant service calls were received – ten from Gainesville, one from Valley View.

The agency received eight welfare check calls – four from Gainesville, one from Muenster, three from Valley View.

Darontay Lamar Dashield, murder, a first degree felony offense.

Darrian Paige Kemp, possession of a controlled substance less than one gram, a state jail felony offense.

Davon Dwight Sanders, credit card or debit card abuse, a state jail felony offense.

Devinski Lee Thomas, possession of a controlled substance less than four grams, a third degree felony offense; unlawful carrying weapon, a Class A misdemeanor offense.

Donald Smith Jr., public intoxication, a Class C misdemeanor offense.

Elizabeth Rene Odom, possession of a controlled substance less than one gram, a state jail felony offense; possession of dangerous drug, a Class A misdemeanor offense; evading arrest detention, a Class A misdemeanor offense.

Erick Wilfredo Garcia, driving while intoxicated third or more if at trial, a third degree felony offense.

James Andre Jacobs, possession of a controlled substance less than four grams, a third degree felony offense.

James Andre Jacobs, possession of a controlled substance less than four grams, a third degree felony offense.

James Dwayne Whittington, possession with intent to promote child pornography, a second degree felony offense.

Jaylin Deshaun Person, engage in organized criminal activity use/exhibit weapon, a first degree felony offense, engage in organized criminal activity use/exhibit deadly weapon, a first degree felony offense, engage in organized criminal activity use/exhibit deadly weapon, a second degree felony offense.

Jonathan Michael Gailley, continue violence against the family, a third degree felony offense.

Joshua John Werner, four Class C misdemeanors.

Kerry Norman Kuykendall, driving while intoxicated third or more if at trial, a third degree felony offense.

Luis Paz-Rodriguez, assault causes bodily injury family member a Class A misdemeanor offense.

Marissa Lynn Clevenger, possession of a controlled substance less than 200 grams, a second degree felony offense.

Martin Santos Benavides, assault family/household member with previous conviction if at trial, a third degree felony offense, parole violation, a felony offense.

Mary Kristin Morris, possession of a controlled substance less than one gram, a state jail felony offense, fraudulent use/possession of identifying information, a state jail felony offense.

Patrick Leshawn Nicks, aggravated sexual assault, a first degree felony offense.

Ronaldo Cruz, theft of firearm by a felony, a state jail felony offense.

Staci Rene Baker, possession of a controlled substance less than one gram, a state jail felony offense; theft of property less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions, a state jail felony offense.

Trevor Alexander Rogers, assault causes bodily injury family member, a Class A misdemeanor offense.

## Two of Texas' Most Wanted Criminals Arrested in Houston

AUSTIN – Today, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) captured two more fugitives from Texas' 10 Most Wanted Criminal Illegal Immigrants List. Jorge Dionicio Hernandez and Omar David Zavala were arrested earlier today in Houston and Mesquite, respectively. A Crime Stoppers reward will be paid in Hernandez's arrest.

Jorge Dionicio Hernandez, 33, a criminal illegal immigrant from Mexico, was taken into custody in Houston on Friday, Jan. 24, by Special Agents from DPS' Criminal Investigations Division (CID), U.S. Homeland Security Investigations and the Harris Co. Sheriff's Office. He had been wanted out of Harris Co. since Jan. 2022, for indecency with a child by sexual contact. Back in 2009, Hernandez was convicted of multiple counts of driving while intoxicated in Harris Co. and was subsequently removed from the United States. In July 2021, Hernandez was arrested by the Houston Police Department for providing a false driver license/identification card and bonded out of jail. For more information, view Hernandez's captured bulletin here.

Omar David Zavala, 30, a criminal illegal immigrant from El Salvador, was arrested in Mesquite on Friday, Jan. 24. DPS Special Agents assigned to the Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) center in Houston and members of the U.S. Marshals Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Task Force coordinated with DPS Special Agents assigned to the Special Investigations Section in Garland, the U.S. Marshals North Texas Fugitive Task Force and the Dallas Police Department Drone Unit to locate and arrest Zavala. He had been wanted out of Harris Co. since 2022 for sexual assault, terroristic threat and obstruction/retaliation. In 2014, Zavala was arrested multiple times by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. In 2015, he was

removed from the United States. In May 2020, Zavala was arrested by the Houston Police Department for terroristic threat and obstruction/retaliation. For more information, view Zavala's captured bulletin here.

Funded by the Governor's Public Safety Office, Texas Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards to any person who provides information that leads to the arrest of one of Texas' 10 Most Wanted Fugitives, Sex Offenders or Criminal Illegal Immigrants. In 2024, DPS and other agencies arrested 46 Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitives, Sex Offenders and Criminal Illegal Immigrants, including 17 sex offenders, 10 gang members and four criminal illegal immigrants—with \$32,000 in rewards being paid for tips

that yielded arrests.

To be eligible for cash rewards, tipsters MUST provide information to authorities using one of the following three methods:

1. Call the Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-252-TIPS (8477).
2. Submit a web tip through the DPS website by selecting the fugitive you have information about then clicking on the link under their picture.
3. Submit a Facebook tip by clicking the "SUBMIT A TIP" link (under the "About" section).

All tips are anonymous, regardless of how they are submitted, and tipsters will be provided a tip number instead of using a name.

DPS Special Agents work with local and federal law enforcement agencies to apprehend all the criminal illegal immigrants that have been identified and to select the fugitives that appear on the Texas 10 Most Wanted Criminal Illegal Immigrants List. You can find the current lists with photos on the DPS website.

Do not attempt to apprehend these fugitives; they are considered armed and dangerous.



CALLISBURG INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT					EXHIBIT C-3
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES					
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS					
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024					
Data	10	50		Total	
Control	General	Debt Service	Other	Governmental	
Codes	Fund	Fund	Funds	Funds	
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 8,780,392	\$ 1,236,874	\$ 435,357	\$ 10,452,623	
5800 State Program Revenues	5,931,261	176,928	259,602	6,367,791	
5900 Federal Program Revenues	-	-	1,433,351	1,433,351	
5020 Total Revenues	14,711,653	1,413,802	2,128,310	18,253,765	
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	6,668,082	-	898,692	7,566,774	
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	210,045	-	17,320	227,365	
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	23,898	-	13,267	37,165	
0021 Instructional Leadership	62,993	-	6,775	69,768	
0023 School Leadership	942,120	-	10,628	952,748	
0031 Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	248,439	-	71,354	319,793	
0033 Health Services	107,577	-	58,254	165,831	
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	538,399	-	-	538,399	
0035 Food Services	-	-	803,182	803,182	
0036 Extracurricular Activities	1,062,432	-	73,063	1,135,495	
0041 General Administration	703,157	-	10,456	713,613	
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	2,218,709	-	79,460	2,298,169	
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	119,624	-	55,602	175,226	
0053 Data Processing Services	309,226	-	-	309,226	
Debt Service:					
0071 Principal on Long-Term Liabilities	109,047	780,000	-	889,047	
0072 Interest on Long-Term Liabilities	12,418	409,457	-	421,875	
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	13,400	-	13,400	
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	42,056	-	-	42,056	
Intergovernmental:					
0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	1,122,939	-	-	1,122,939	
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	198,299	-	-	198,299	
6030 Total Expenditures	14,699,460	1,202,857	2,098,053	18,000,370	
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	12,193	210,945	30,257	253,395	
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	5,901,509	1,660,550	523,495	8,085,554	
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 5,913,702	\$ 1,871,495	\$ 553,752	\$ 8,338,949	

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

## Animal Adoption

Amy Rose is our pet of the week! Amy Rose is a 4 year old Pit Bull mix. She came in on October 8th when someone found her in Gainesville as a stray. We do not know anything about her history but we have gotten to spend a lot of time with her at the shelter. We know that



she can be a little shy at first, but is sweet as can be. She is fairly quiet so we do not think she would make much noise in a home. Again, we think she is around 4 years old so she is out of that puppy stage and ready to find a home where she can relax and enjoy. She has the most beautiful brindle and white coat that is smooth and shiny. This would be very easy to maintain and would not require much grooming. She is great with other dogs, great on a leash, and house broken. Her adoption fee will be completely covered this week so come meet her! We would love for her to have a home for Christmas! Noah's Ark, 2501 N. Weaver, 940-665-9800. <http://www.Noahsarktx.com>.

## Legal Notices

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Housing Authority of the City of Gainesville is accepting proposals from Certified Public Accounting firms to conduct an audit of all the Housing Authority projects for the years ending June 30, 2025 and June 30, 2026. Complete specifications may be obtained from the Gainesville Housing Authority office located at 715 E. California St., Suite A, Gainesville Tx 76240 or emailed to [brenda@gainesvilletxhousingauthority.com](mailto:brenda@gainesvilletxhousingauthority.com). Sealed bids will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. March 14th, 2025. **THE HOUSING AUTHORITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.**

02/12

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Housing Authority of the City of Gainesville will accept written sealed bids until 4:00 pm on Friday February 28th, 2025 for mowing and maintenance for Housing Authority grounds. Bid specifications may be obtained at the Housing Authority office located at 715 E California St., Suite A Gainesville Tx 76240 between the hours of 8 and 5, Monday through Friday. Bids should be delivered to the Housing Authority office in a sealed envelope marked, "MOWING AND MAINTENANCE BID". **THE GAINESVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.**

02/12

If you are looking for something hard to find, advertise it in *The Weekly New!* Just give us a call at 940.665.2320.

### Notice to Creditors For THE ESTATE OF JOHN WAYNE CALL, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of JOHN WAYNE CALL, Deceased, were granted to the undersigned on January 27, 2025 by the Probate Court of Cooke County, Texas in Cause No. **PR18556**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented in care of the Attorney for the Estate as follows:

**JANET E. COLE, Independent Executor of the Estate of JOHN WAYNE CALL, Deceased, C/O Cassidy Hundt, 100 E. Broadway St., Gainesville, TX 76240.**

02/05

### Notice to Creditors For THE ESTATE OF TERRY CLAYTON SAWYER, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of TERRY CLAYTON SAWYER, Deceased, were granted to the undersigned on January 27, 2025 by the Probate Court of Cooke County, Texas in Cause No. **PR18555**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented in care of the Attorney for the Estate as follows:

**LAURIE WILSON SAWYER, Independent Executor of the Estate of TERRY CLAYTON SAWYER, Deceased, C/O Cassidy Hundt, 100 E. Broadway St., Gainesville, TX 76240.**

02/05

### Request for Proposals Theatrical Sound and Lighting Replacement

North Central Texas College is accepting bids for Theatrical Sound and Lighting Replacement for its Gainesville campus. Specifications are available in Room 2503, NCTC, and 1525 West California Street, Gainesville TX 76240-4699, or via e-mail at [ddoss@nctc.edu](mailto:ddoss@nctc.edu). Calvin Russell, CPA Facilities Manager, is available to answer questions at (940) 668-3318 or by email at [crussell@nctc.edu](mailto:crussell@nctc.edu). A required pre-bid conference and tour will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 19th or February 20th, all bidders will be required to attend one pre-bid tour. Pre-bid tour will start at the First State Bank Center for the Performing Arts. Sealed bids should be submitted to Dan Doss at the address above and should be in a SEALED envelope with the word "CPA Sound and Lighting" printed on the outside of the envelope. Sealed bids must be received in Room 2503 by **2:00 pm March 4, 2025**. Bids will be opened the same day at 2:05 PM in Room 2503 at the Gainesville campus. NCTC reserves the right to reject all bids. NCTC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

02/12

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.

## Estate Sales

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 to find out how.

## For Sale

For Sale – Merits Electric Wheel Chair. Less than 150 hours of use. Paid \$3,000 brand new, will take \$1,300. Leave your name and number on message. 940-395-3412 or 940-395-1972.

01/22

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

07/17

## Help Wanted

### Maintenance Job

Callisburg ISD Is Currently Accepting Applications for a Maintenance personnel. Applications Are Available At The Callisburg ISD Administration Office Located At 148 Dozier St. Callisburg, TX. 76240 or on the CISD website. The position consists of: Assist the maintenance director to maintain a high standard of cleanliness, maintenance of facilities, safety, and preventative maintenance.

You May Contact Cory Huddleston @ 940-665-0961 ext. 365 with Any Questions about the Position.

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

*The Weekly News* Classifieds. 940.665.2320.

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](mailto:localhearts2019@gmail.com).

12/25

## The Weekly News is Hiring Outside Sales Representatives

Commission based salary to start with potential move to base pay. Schedule Flexibility!

Come in to fill out application at 216 W. Pecan in Gainesville or email resume to [grice.king@theweeklynnewscc.com](mailto:grice.king@theweeklynnewscc.com)

### Answer to current puzzle

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

Get all the local news  
for less  
than a cup  
of coffee!



For only \$52/year you can receive the best news coverage available in Cooke County at home!

The Weekly News  
of Cooke County

216 W. Pecan St. • Gainesville, Texas • Phone: 940.665.2320 • Fax: 940.665.2162  
[www.TheWeeklyNewsCC.com](http://www.TheWeeklyNewsCC.com)

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.

# Classifieds

## Services

**PHI Heat & Air**  
Repair, Replace, Contracts  
**940-768-8586**  
TACL34857C

We Honor  
**Most Pre-Arranged  
Funeral Plans**  
Regardless of When  
and Where it Was  
Purchased.

**George J. Carroll  
and Son**  
602 S. Lindsay  
940-665-3455

Classified Ads for  
as low as \$7.50 per  
week.  
.....  
**940.665.2320**



**Complete IT Services for all  
your Home & Business needs!**

- Desktop / Laptop Repair
- Network Support
- Virus Removal
- PC Sales

**(940) 759-2251**

406 E. California St. Gainesville

**ESCOBEDO'S  
TREE SERVICE**  
*Family Owned, Family Operated*



**All Your Tree  
Service Needs**

**FREE  
ESTIMATES**

**940-727-9883**

## JerRatt Technologies

*Serving Gainesville Since 1993*  
**SMALL BUSINESS SPECIALISTS**

**Corporate IT Services**

Servers - Networking - Remote Help Desk  
New Location & Relocation Experts

**All Services Fully Insured**

Local: 940-580-2245  
www.JerRatt.com

# Real Estate

**GALVAN**  
LANDSCAPE  
WWW.GALVANLANDSCAPE.COM  
• Sod Prep & Install • Landscape Design & Construction  
• Tree Installation • Drainage, Including French Drain  
• Retaining Walls • Dirt Work: Grading & Leveling  
*Locally Owned & Operated Since 1989*  
**214.546.0140**

Neil & Susie Bowie, Realtors®



**972-768-7085 (Neil)**  
**972-816-0467 (Susie)**

neil.bowie@cbdfw.com

susie.bowie@cbdfw.com

**"Best of Zillow" Premier Agent**

**COLDWELL BANKER REALTY**  
BowieHomeTeam.com  
**"Serving North Texas"**

## House For Rent

2 Bed, 1 Bath Newly Re-  
modeled House for Rent.  
\$1300/mo. Must apply in  
person at 216 W. Pecan  
Street, Gainesville.

## RV Park / Storage

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

## Reel Plumbing

M19717

*Established 1998*

**Any and all plumbing needs!**

**940-641-0272**

**ARMS  
SELECT**  
**940-727-3877**  
armsselect.com  
10041 FM 51  
Valley View, TX 76272

**BRUCE'S  
PROPERTY SERVICES**  
LAWN CARE • LANDSCAPING • IRRIGATION  
INSECT AND WEED CONTROL  
DRAINAGE SYSTEMS • FERTILIZATION  
SOD INSTALLATIONS  
Kevin Bruce 940-665-3004  
brucespropertieservices.com

**EMPIRE**  
SURFACE SOLUTIONS, LLC  
RYAN BARTUSH  
PRESSURE & WINDOW  
WASHING  
**940-768-8011**

**C & L SERVICES**  
OWNED AND OPERATED  
BY CHAD BAYER  
HEATING AND AIR  
(940)736-7661  
CHAD.BAYER@YAHOO.COM  
LIC. # TACLA95809E

## END OF SUMMER SPECIAL

**Get \$100 off  
the first full  
months' rent!**

at the  
**Shadowood  
Townhomes**

For Leasing Info  
Please Call:

**Karl Klement  
Properties Inc.  
940-627-6362**

## MOVE IN SPECIAL

**Deposit  
Moves  
You In!**

208 Donnel  
1707 Weaver  
200 Second St.  
809 S. Weaver St.  
1516 E. Garnett  
Aspen Apts  
Lynwood Apts  
Stonehill Apts  
Edgewood Apts

For Leasing Info

Please Call:  
**Karl Klement  
Properties Inc.  
940-627-6362**

**TURNER APARTMENTS**  
1 bedroom apartments for persons age 62 or older in  
historic downtown Gainesville close to shopping,  
restaurants, churches and the post office.  
Energy efficient, non-smoking units. Range and  
refrigerator, central heat & air, water paid,  
laundry room on each floor.  
Rental assistance available for qualified applicants.  
**Contact Amber Sandoval, Property Manager at  
(940) 665-1747**

Newly renovated 2 and 3-bedroom brick homes  
located in quiet neighborhoods. Homes come  
with CH/A, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, dis-  
posal, and washer/dryer connections. Owner  
pays water and maintains the yard. Rent and se-  
curity deposit are based on income for qualified  
applicants. There are no application fees. Pick  
up your application today at 715 E. California  
St. or go to www.gainesvilletxhousingauthority.  
com, click on the Washington Court/Walnut Lane  
information at the bottom of the page to  
print out an application. For more infor-  
mation contact Amber Sandoval, Prop-  
erty Manager at (940) 665-1747.

## Now Accepting Applications for

- 1 Bedroom Apt - Gainesville
- 1 Efficiency/Studio Apt - Gainesville
- 2 Bedroom / 1 Bath House - Gainesville



## PULTE & KING - PROPERTIES -

Call us **TODAY** for a **FREE**  
Property Management Evaluation

**940-668-6868**

**Apply in Person at  
216 W. Pecan St, Gainesville, TX**

The Weekly News Classified Ads  
for as low as \$8.50 per week.  
**Just give us a call!**  
**940.665.2320**

# Obituaries

(Continued from Page 3)

returned to Texas and retired in Gainesville. As their grandchildren and great grandchildren were added, she was excited to welcome each one and celebrate many holidays, birthdays, and accomplishments. She always loved and prayed for each child by name.

Jean treasured the friendships, many deep and meaningful, she made in the many towns where they lived. An especially meaningful season was teaching a ladies' Sunday School class and sharing Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. She enjoyed working in her garden and watching birds in her yard. She took pleasure in sharing her flowers with friends and family when they stopped by.

From a very early age she attended church and learned about Jesus from her Daddy and Mother. When she was 8 years old, she came to understand what it meant to invite Jesus into her life. She was baptized at Northside Baptist Church in San Antonio, and her deep faith and relationship with Jesus continued to her last breath. She has a near perfect attendance at church over her 87 years, and instilled that longing in her children, too. She and George have consistently been involved in churches wherever they have lived, including helping to start many of them. She studied her Bible daily and modeled her faith for all her children and grandchildren. She prayed faithfully for each member of her family and for each of her friends. When she told someone she would pray, she brought each name and face to her Savior. When she said that she prayed for you, she truly spoke to Jesus about YOU by name. Until the day of her home-going, Jean sincerely wanted her family, friends, nurses, doctors, neighbors, and acquaintances to have a close relationship with Jesus, also, and never missed an opportunity to ask them. Now she is worshipping Him in heaven. "When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!"

Jean was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Dr. Tom Hinkson, sisters-in-law Glenda Hinkson and Sandra Alexander, brothers-in-law Cecil Sparkman and Bob Sparkman.

#### Survivors

Jean is survived by her husband of 69 years, George Sparkman, her brother Robert Hinkson, her children, Robbie Sparkman, Tina Presley (Henry), Doug Sparkman (Angela), Terri Johnson (Darrin), and Greg Sparkman (Kristi), her 12 grandchildren Tiffany Dossey (Lenard), Ashley Dittberner (Trey), Krysta Sparkman, Megan Presley-Wahlen (Michael), Danae Nelson (Clay), Dustin Sparkman (Brittanie), Erin Ghadiry (Amir), Allen Sparkman (Stephanie), Rachel Johnson, Sarah

Johnson, Emily Sparkman, Amanda Sparkman, and 16 great-grandchildren.

#### Donations

Gifts and memorials may be made to Calvary Baptist Church of Gainesville or Abigail's Arms in Gainesville, Texas or any charity of your choice.

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



Lee Shenk

#### Services

Leland Shenk went home to be with the Lord on January 28, 2025. A man loved by all he came across with a strength to satisfy his soul. Greatly missed but never forgotten by family and friends. A Husband and Father that was a beacon of light as a friend to all or to spread the word of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Services are scheduled for Saturday, February 8th, 2025 in Gainesville, Texas. The family will begin receiving friends at 10:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Gainesville with the memorial starting at 11:00 a.m. Arrangements have been entrusted to Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home.

#### History

Born on September 27, 1961 in North Kingstown, RI to Don and Jane Shenk. Lee graduated from Chipewewa Hills High School in 1979. He moved to Austin, TX to attend St. Edwards University where he studied political sciences and was a part of the training staff for the basketball team, graduating in 1983 with a Bachelors of Arts degree. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy upon graduation with his last assignment bringing him to San Diego CA. While working at Federal Bureau of Prisons at MCC San Diego he met his future wife Angie, with the continued joke that he and Angie met in prison.

In 1989 Angie and Lee were married in Kenosha, WI. Soon after moving to Colorado, their son Chris was born in 1990. Lee lived his life in service, not only through his strong faith, but also through his actions. Lee was always looking for ways to help others. Whether it was foster children, exchange students, unwed teens, stray pets or someone just needing a helping hand, Lee would open his heart and home to all.

Of the utmost importance to Lee was his family. As a trio, Lee Angie and Chris lived life to the fullest; traveling the country, visiting loved ones and creating new adventures. In 2016 Lee and Angie moved

to Gainesville and continued to strengthen family bonds. Lee never missed an opportunity to celebrate all of the graduations, weddings and birthdays of those he loved dearly. And always known as an avid sports fan, Lee especially loved wholeheartedly cheering during any Spartans or Tigers games.

Lee was an active member of First Baptist Gainesville and continued his life-long spirit of giving by heading local Gideons ministry as auxiliary President, assisting in the Youth group, serving as deacon for church and driving for senior activities.

#### Survivors

Lee was preceded in death by his wife Angie. He is survived by son Chris of Denver, CO. Brother Les and Kari Shenk. Niece Hailey; Nephew Ben. Brother-in-law Jeff and Theresa Clark. Nieces Nicole, Krista, and Courtney; Nephews Cordell and Curtis. Adopted Niece Hadley. Sister-in-law Sheryl Taylor. Nephews Larry and Randy; Nieces Rachel and Amanda. Brother-in-law Jeff and wife Ronda Richeson. Nephews Paul, Mark and David; Nieces Alex and Melissa. Brother-in-law Les Richeson. Nephews Johnny and Kyle; Niece Angeritt. Sister-in-law Pam Richeson. Lee was preceded in death by his father Don and mother Jane Shenk. Sister Carrie Clark. Brother-in-law Byron Taylor. Niece Erica. Father-in-law Jesse and Mother-in-law Nan Richeson.

#### Donations

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to First Baptist Gainesville. You may register condolences online at [www.geojcarroll.com](http://www.geojcarroll.com).

#### Harold Dwain Young

#### Services

Harold Dwain Young, 82 of Gainesville, Texas passed away on January 27, 2025 at his home with family.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 31, 2025 at 9:30 am with funeral service to follow at 10:30 am at Meador Funeral Home, 1204 E. California Street, Gainesville, Texas. Interment to follow service at Fairview Cemetery, Gainesville, Texas.

#### History

He was born on June 24, 1942 in Sidney, Texas to Charles Oscar Young and Annie Mae (White) Young. He married Suzette Young on October 15, 1990. Harold was a member of Temple Baptist Church, served in the U.S. Air Force and attended Harold Payne University where he earned his Bachelor's Degree. He loved to travel, ride his horses and work in his yard. Harold's loved to spend time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

#### Survivors

Harold is survived by his wife, Suzette Young; sons, Harold Dwain Young Jr.

and wife, Tina; Sammy Keith Young and wife, Lisa; 13 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren; sister-in-law, Vera Young; several nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by parents, Charles and Annie Young; siblings, Charles Young, Ryleen Young and Jerry Young.

#### Weldon Anthony "Poodle" Vogel

#### Services

Weldon Anthony "Poodle" Vogel, age 78, of Dallas went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 27, 2025.

Rosary and visitation for Weldon Vogel will be held on Friday, February 7, 2025 at 6:00 PM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with a Memorial Mass on February 8, 2025 at 10:00 AM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

#### History

Weldon was born in Muenster, Texas on October 13, 1946, eleventh of thirteen children to Joseph and Frances Hartman Vogel. Weldon grew up on a farm five miles south of Muenster known as the Four Corners area. He had fond memories of helping neighbors during the harvest and hay seasons. A special treat was when neighbor, Lyton Coursey, would sometimes invite him and his brother Don for a flyover in his little yellow airplane. No parental permission needed, those were the days!

In his youth, Weldon attended Sacred Heart and Muenster Public School where he loved participating in all sports and FFA. He was always a big supporter of both schools, especially during football seasons when he would often inquire about how their games came out on Friday night.

As a staff sergeant, he served valiantly in the United States Army, 1st Cavalry Division Vietnam. A lifetime member of VFW Post 6205, Muenster, he was staunchly patriotic and

outwardly proud of having served his country.

After his duty in Vietnam, Weldon returned home and married Mary Sills of Houston, Texas. He was the father of three children: Dale, Kari, and Michael. He was PawPaw to eight grandchildren: Kyle, Travis, Tracy, Allie, Michael, Blake, Weldon, and Weston.

Weldon Vogel was self employed in pool construction for forty years. A man of integrity, he was well respected by employees and peers alike. Weldon was devoted to his family and friends and will always be remembered for his endless and selfless generosity, sharp wit and lively sense of humor. Some friends like to ride around the countryside with Weldon and would sometimes say he had a slight ornery streak.

#### Survivors

In addition to his children and grandchildren, Weldon leaves behind six siblings: Lil Walterscheid, Norma Muller, Corky Keys, Ginger Sherrel (Ken), Don Vogel (Janie), and Karen Hoenig (Danny). Also, sisters-in-law: Eve Vogel, Christel Vogel; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

#### Donations

At Weldon's request, memorial gifts may be made to the Muenster Volunteer Fire Department or a charity of choice in lieu of flowers.

#### Jeremiah Joseph Gaither

#### Services

Jeremiah Joseph Gaither, age 47, of Whitesboro, TX, passed away peacefully on January 28, 2025.

The family will receive friends on January 30th from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home, Gainesville, TX. A funeral service will be held at 10:00am on January 31st in the funeral home chapel, with committal service to follow at Liberty Cemetery, Gor-

donville, TX.

#### History

Jeremiah was born on August 25, 1977, in Arlington, TX, where he was raised and graduated from Martin High School. He went on to build a career as a general contractor, a profession that allowed him to work with his hands and do what he loved.

Jeremiah married the love of his life, Krysta Baker, on August 15, 2003, in Arlington, TX. Together, they created a beautiful life, eventually settling in Whitesboro where they raised their two children, Triston and Hannah. Jeremiah was a devoted family man who found joy in spending time with those he loved, especially in the great outdoors. He enjoyed fishing and offroad adventures.

Jeremiah was a true craftsman who took pride in every project he undertook. One of his favorite places to visit was Silverton, CO, where he enjoyed trails and the breathtaking landscapes.

A man of deep faith, Jeremiah was a member of OneChurch in Whitesboro, where he cherished his community and the fellowship with others. His selflessness, generosity, and thoughtfulness were the foundation of his character, and he will be remembered for the immense love he gave to all those around him. His heart was as big as his spirit, and his legacy will live on in the many lives he touched.

#### Survivors

Jeremiah is survived by his loving wife, Krysta Gaither, and their children Triston and Hannah, all of Whitesboro; his father, Tim Gaither, and wife Caroline; his mother, Stacey Billingsley, and husband Tom; his sisters, Loree Ingram and Jennifer Gaither; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

#### Donations

Memorial contributions may be made to Judy Nicholson Kidney Cancer Foundation.

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

The  
**WEEKLY NEWS**  
of Cooke County

## Subscription Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Then just mail in a check for \$52.00 to  
**The Weekly News**  
216 W. Pecan St.  
Gainesville, TX 76240

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

# Thank you!

## Gainesville Hospital District Orders Election, Approves FY 24 Audit

(Continued from Page 1)

prior to SECO reimbursement of grant funding. E3 provided LED services.

The LED makeover has helped brighten the parking lot and is an im-

provement for all 24-hour lighting fixtures.

"They first went in and everything that's on all the time got switched out," Ducote said, adding "The exterior of the building was a big improvement because of lot of those just

weren't working well."

Finally, the board approved disposition of some inventory including warehouse items, an 18-year-old lab analyzer and a PreVac steam sterilizer deemed to have no trade-in value.



# Muenster Hospital District Board of Directors Approve Audit

(Continued from Page 1)

She also said the district has paid off much of its debt and is starting with a clean slate after the issuance of bonds to fund the clinic/hospital roofing project.

Taking on the bond debt should be beneficial for the district, Worley said.

"You want to keep your cash as much as you can," she said. "And finance those capital projects with long term debt because you're going to be recovering the cost of that improvement through the cost report over time. So, as much as you can match the cash going out to the cash coming in, is really good."

Also approved were minutes from the December 4 regular board meeting.

Total assets/total liabilities are \$1.8 million. Total assets were \$7.1 million.

The district has \$5.2 million in excess assets over liabilities and about 50 days cash on hand.

She also noted the district is collecting its accounts receivable in approximately 30 days.

Worley said on a cash basis, the district broke even in 2024.

She said a study indicated prices have increased by 26 percent while the reimbursement hospitals are getting has increased six percent over the same period.

Another factor challenging hospitals is staff salary increases.

There was no physician credentialing and no changes to policies and

procedures.

Members approved the annual compliance plan and the annual contracts.

The board voted to hold a May 3 election for three at-large seats on the board of directors.

In addition, members heard and approved the financial report presented by Muenster Memorial Hospital Controller Debbie Neu.

Highlights included some small decreases in the number of acute admissions, swing census days and rural health clinic days while total patient days were about equal to the previous year.

Therapy visits, cardiac rehab and ER visits were all up as was average daily census in December 2024.

The statement of profit

and loss indicated \$1.152 million in gross revenue for \$6.749 million year to date – up five percent over last year. The increase was driven largely by a jump in outpatient revenue and two wound care accounts.

Net patient revenue was \$5.239 million compared to \$5.128 in December

2023.

Neu noted total operating revenue was down about \$200,000 compared to last year due to a significant donation which hit the books last year.

Salaries and wages also increased about \$50,000 compared to last year, Neu said, adding professional fees dropped over

\$100,000. Supply costs were down about \$30,000. Interest expenses increased due to the new bond.

Total operating expenses dropped from \$7.195 million in December 2023 to \$7.107 million in December 2024.

Future meetings are set for February 27, 2025 and March 27, 2025.

# Valley View ISD Third Six Weeks Honor Roll

VALLEY VIEW – Valley View Independent School District released names of students on the all A honor roll for the third six weeks of the school year.

The honor roll students are as follows.

Fifth grade: Z. Bewley, E. Cronce, J. De Lira, M. Miles and J. Neff.

Sixth grade: P. Barthold, E. Hamner, J. Luna, K. Nelson, L. Nevarez, D. Roden, J. Vasquez-Macias and W. Wittbold.

Seventh grade: G. Garcia, B. Howard, K. Maldonado, S. McCandless, C. York.

Eight grade: L. Archer, B. Bewley, B. Clark, A. De Luna, C. Delval, V. Frias Ramirez, A. Middlebrooks, B. Munoz, N. Nevarez, J. Prescher, R. Ritchey, R. Smith, J. Stewart, M. Thornton, B. Trejo.

Ninth grade: Aydin Advani, Layla Bell, M. Bush, T. Cawthon, C. Davis, A. Noles, B. Rogers, H. Womack.

Tenth grade: Josey Blevins, C. Buckaloo, E. Burney, M. Church, A. Cole, E. Galvan, P. Grounds, M. Helms, H. Hoffman, J. Howard, A.

Lybbert.

Eleventh grade: H. Acuna, A. Aviles, S. Brown, Lance Hieb, L. Hawkins, K. Jenkins, E. Moss, J. Prescher, K. Ratliff, B. Reynolds and E. Rojas Cipres.

Twelfth: Eric Barrientos, D. Cervantes, Jessica Codner, Taylor Eller, T. Goin, G. Harrell, H. Herbert, A. Neely, H. Newton, S. Newton, E. Orozco, J. Parnow, M. Puga, M. Quinonez Gutierrez, P. Redman, E. Rodriguez, C. Rojas, E. Tarrant, K. Thurman, L. Vossler and C. Womack.

# Gainesville Police Receive Reports

GAINESVILLE – Gainesville Police Department received the following incident reports.

Addy Kate Loyd reported tires were slashed in the 2000 block of North Interstate 35. The damage was set between \$100 and \$750.

Lisa Marie Gilley reported harassment in the 2000 block of North Interstate 35.

Wilbur Lawrence Manuel reported theft of property between \$2,500 and \$30,000 in the 800 block of Field Street.

Skip scanning between \$100 and \$750 was reported at Wal-Mart Supercenter in the 1800 block of Lawrence Street.

Nava Suarez and Adrian Isaias reported burglary of motor vehicles in the 1300 block of Noel Drive.

Theft/shoplifting between \$100 and \$750 was reported at Crossroads Liquor in the 900 block of West Highway 82.

Karaline Diane Wright reported criminal mischief approximately \$600 in damage in the 2000 block of North Interstate 35.

**Arrest Log**

Jason B. Martin, 33, Gainesville, public intoxication.

Stephen L. Durrett, 46, Ardmore, Oklahoma, public intoxication.

Steven J. Cole, 40, Gainesville, misdemeanor

warrant. Savannah L. Wright, 31, Ardmore, Okla., misdemeanor warrant arrest.

Gregory J. Dennington, 51, Gainesville, public intoxication.

Amos J. Wade, 42, Gainesville, possession of a controlled substance less than one gram.

Autumn R. Braudaway, 42, Gainesville, misdemeanor warrant.

Harlee B. Ryals, 25, Era, aggravated assault with deadly weapon.

Adam B. Anderson, 24, Gainesville, possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

Everette A. Bartley, 30, Sherman, misdemeanor warrant arrest.

# Sentences Issued for Felony Indictments

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

Dustin Keith Duncan, 40, was convicted of the Feb. 25, 2024 third degree felony offense of injury to child/elderly/disabled with intent to cause bodily injury and was sentenced

to five months of probation, a \$5,000 fine and the payment of court costs.

Jess Joseph Kopin, 48, was convicted of the April 12, 2024 class A misdemeanor offense of assault against elderly or disabled individual and was sentenced to nine months and five days of confinement in a state jail facility

and the payment of court costs.

Jessica Ruth Green, 39, was convicted of the Nov. 25, 2024 state jail felony offense of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram and was sentenced to two years of probation, a \$500 fine and the payment of restitution and court costs.

Is your current property manager doing a good job for you? If not, give us a call and let us show you how good it can be!



**PULTE & KING**  
- PROPERTIES -  
216 W. Pecan | Gainesville  
940-668-6868  
**Scott Pulte & Grice King**  
Owners

Call us **TODAY** for a FREE Property Management Evaluation  
**940-668-6868**

**NOW HIRING**  
**2p-10p**  
**LVN/RN**  
**Monday-Friday**  
Apply Today at  
[www.swltc.com/careers](http://www.swltc.com/careers)  
  
  
**1900 E California St. | Gainesville**

# NCTC Regents Unanimously Approve Freeport Exemption

By Delania Raney  
The Weekly News

GAINESVILLE – North Central Texas College Board of Regents okayed a request from Gainesville Economic Development Corporation to enter into an agreement regarding the ad valorem taxation of freeport goods as authorized by Texas tax codes.

Freeport is a personal property tax exemption on goods held in Texas for 175 or fewer days. The exemption is available for existing businesses in the county. The freeport exemption does not include any oil or gas assets.

Gainesville Economic Development Corporation Executive Director William Meyers and GEDC Board of Directors Vice President Will Presson presented an overview of the freeport exemption as they have done for other officials including commissioners court.

Prior to the vote, Meyers noted only three county entities currently participate in the freeport exemption – Gainesville Hospital District, Muenster Hospital District and the city of Gainesville.

The primary target for freeport exemptions are manufacturers, Meyers said.

“They get the goods, the inventory in and freeport gives them the opportunity to claim an exemption if that inventory is transferred out of the state before 175 days,” he said. “If [the inventory] stays in the state for 175 days or more they have to pay tax on it.”

Existing businesses can also apply for the exemption.

The local companies who participate claim between 23 and 93 percent as free-

port, Meyers said.

GEDC officials are also hoping Cooke County, Gainesville Independent School, and other county entities approve participation in the exemption.

Meyers said industry is looking to do business in counties that offer the “Triple 3” or freeport exemptions with the county, the city and the school districts.

Areas that do not offer triple freeport are often removed from contention for certain types of businesses.

Freeport is a win-win for taxing entities, Presson said.

He reminded the regents the NCTC district can recoup any funding lost to the exemption via adjustments to the effective tax rate known now as the “no new revenue rate.”

“The gist of it is, it’s really hold-harmless,” Presson said.

“Over the last 30 years, your [taxable] values have continued to go up,” Presson said. “I think it’s about eight percent over the last 20 years... But where it would negatively affect you guys is if our values were going the other way. And then at that point, you would lose revenue on it.”

It is hoped a triple freeport exemption would add new businesses and industry to the tax roll thus easing the burden on local property owners, he said.

“That’s the idea of the freeport exemption,” he said. “That’s how it has worked historically for all these surrounding entities that have enabled that freeport exemption.”

Board member Dr. Lisa Bellows asked Presson how much progress he and Meyers have made

persuading other entities to approve the exemption. She also asked NCTC Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Dr. Van Miller his opinion on the inventory tax exemption.

“I think the net benefit for the college far exceeds any cost to the college,” Miller said. “I think if you look at our tax rolls, [a] huge percentage of what we receive is based on real property. We get very little revenue right now from personal property. It’s like, out of over \$7-\$8 billion worth of total value, less than one billion is personal property and the inventory is going to be a subset of that.”

The benefits would “definitely outweigh any perceived cost to the college,” Miller added.

Allowing the exemption would increase business opportunities for Gainesville, board president Karla Metzler added.

“Let’s get that industry in here,” she said following the vote.

In his chancellor’s report, Dr. Brent Wallace noted the college has been included in a two-year tuition and fee freeze announced by Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

Wallace admitted he’s not a fan of the measure.

“Legally that is not something the governor can do,” Wallace said. “...For community colleges, he cannot legally require tuition and fees to be frozen.”

He said college officials could ignore the governor’s edict, but they could face retaliatory funding cuts if they don’t comply.

Some colleges are fighting back with legal counsel, Wallace said, saying he doesn’t advise NCTC to follow suit.

Wallace also noted

spring enrollment is up 6.8 percent overall with officials noticing significant increases in the number of international students at NCTC.

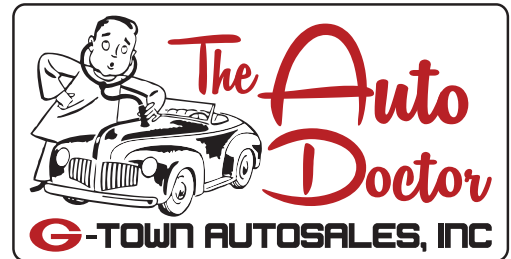
There’s a 112 percent increase in international students, Wallace said. The students are not undocumented, and they pay out of state tuition, he pointed out.

“That particular cohort of students is generating right around \$1.1 – \$1.2 million in tuition and fees a semester,” he said.

The board approved minutes of the October 21, 2024 meeting, consideration of personnel, adopting the 2025-26 academic calendar, adopting the 2024-25 catalog addendum and the first quarter investment report.

Also approved was a contractor for building renovations to the Graham Campus Health Sciences Center, an amendment to Great Western Dining Food Service meal rates for 2024-25, an amendment to the board of regents guidelines and criteria governing tax abatements by NCTC, a resolution of support for continued investment in the Dynamic Community College Funding Model and calling for a board election on May 3.

We work on all makes and models, gas and diesel!



940-580-3392 AUTODOCTORTX.COM  
3719 US-82, Gainesville, TX 76240

**GAINESVILLE EYE CARE**

940-668-7500

Dr. Kasey Warren, OD 311 E. California St.  
Dr. Andrew Warren, OD Gainesville, TX

**Most Glasses Ready Same Day!**  
www.gainesvilleeyecare.com

**Glasses Eye Exams Contacts**

**Commercial & Residential**



**FREE MOBILE SERVICE**  
• Insurance Claims  
• Lifetime Workmanship Guarantee  
• Truck & Heavy Equipment  
• All Makes and Models  
• Rock Chip Repair  
• Fully Insured

**940-665-3321**  
331 N. Chestnut  
940-665-3044 Fax

Shower & Tub Enclosures • Mirrors  
Doors • Storefronts • Home Window  
Repair • Courteous Service • Fully  
Insured • Serving Cooke County and  
Surrounding Areas

**For All Your  
GLASS NEEDS**

E-mail: [bwinters@gvillglassco.com](mailto:bwinters@gvillglassco.com)

**Family Owned & Operated  
Since 1945**



# Marriage License Requests Received

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

Luis Erasmo Manon-Medina, 54, Gainesville, and Maria Del Carmen Ramirez, 60, Benton, Ark.

Hunter Wade Cates, 29, Trenton, and Amber Nicole Old, 32, Gainesville.

Gabriel Alejandro Vilera Gonzalez, 33, Valley View, and Claudia Elizabeth Franco Franco, 27, Valley View.

Joshua Kenneth Holy-

Bee, 44, and Amber Dawn Briscoe, 41, Lone Grove, Okla.

William Randal White, 72, Lake Kiowa, and Cynthia Cegelski Anderson, 61, Lake Kiowa.

James Cargill Fuller, 28, Lindsay, and Tara Ann Bruce, 28, Lindsay.

Carlos Erick Palau, 25, Gainesville, and Stefany Gabriela Ruiz Pinos, 26, Gainesville.

Logan Brent Hall, 26, Valley View, and Madison Anne Snyder, 25, Valley View.

Xavier Nelson Longoria, 28, Gainesville, and Carolina Bibiano Morales, 28, Gainesville.

Pablo Antonio Martinez Sanchez, 34, Gainesville, and Maria G. Delgado Contreras, 35, Gainesville.

Trimel Christopher Walters, 30, Oklahoma City, Okla., and Asucena Martinez Medina, 33, Warr Acres, Okla.

Nicholas Tanner Latham, 19, Sadler, and Megan Lynn Marcell Taylor, 21, Sadler.

**EXPERIENCE  
love AT FIRST SITE**

**YOU’LL INSTANTLY LOVE FASTER INTERNET.**

Quicker downloads. Better Streaming. More enjoyable online gaming. And so much more.

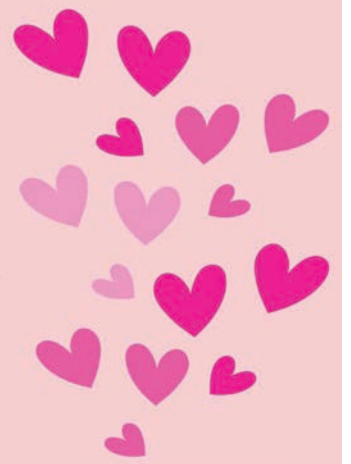
**YOU’LL ALSO LOVE \$10 OFF PER MONTH FOR A YEAR!**

Upgrade to the next higher speed tier of internet speed and get \$10 off your monthly bill for a year! We offer speed options up to 2 Gigs!

**CALL NOW TO UPGRADE!**

**Nortex**  
Communications

940 - 759 - 2251  
www.nortex.com



**COVARRUBIAS HOME REPAIR REMODELING SERVICES**

- FOUNDATION
- ROOFING
- PAINT FENCE
- TREE SERVICE
- SIDING
- FLOORING
- GRANITE CABINET
- CONCRETE WINDOWS
- DOORS

**MIGUEL COVARRUBIAS  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR**

**TEL: 940-580-5290**



**No Wonder We’re The One Place To Go**

**W**hat makes us the one place to go for all your financial needs? Services like online and mobile banking. Automatic bill pay and savings. Mortgage loans, car loans, personal loans, home equity loans...No wonder we’re the one place to go. We’re an equal housing lender..



**Muenster State Bank**  
Building trust, community, and financial security  
for another hundred years.

**Member  
FDIC**

[MuensterState.Bank](http://MuensterState.Bank)