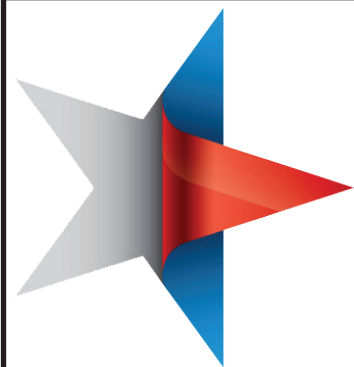




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2019

Edition

One Dollar Vol. 18 No. 46 PUBLISHED IN THE FREESTONE COUNTY SEAT, FAIRFIELD, TEXAS Wednesday, November 13, 2019

City Hall Project Moves On To New Options Citizens Vote 'NO'

Following the results of last week's Special Election, the City of Fairfield is moving on from the Navarro campus acquisition and starting a new City Hall project.

Mayor Kenneth Hughes has put out an invitation to Fairfield residents to join the new City Hall committee. Applications as available at City Hall inside the Conference Center at 839 E. Commerce Street.

On the ballot last week was a Proposition to approve the issuance of \$2.65 Million of Certificates of Obligation.

These Certificates of Obligation were earmarked for several city projects, including the acquisition, renovation, and equipping of the former Navarro complex for a new city hall; rehabilitation of the Love Street Water Tower; and the Construction, Improvement and Repair of City Streets (including Oak Street) and Sidewalks, along with drainage improvements.

The Citizen's Petition that triggered the Special Election focused on the acquisition and renovation of the Navarro complex, which was estimated to cost \$1.4 Million.

The Proposition failed with 65.6% of citizens voting against the issuance of the Certificates of Obligation, thereby forcing Fairfield City Council to re-evaluate *all* of the proposed projects.

The final tally was 141 voting "For" and 269 voting "Against."

Fairfield City Council met on Friday, November 8th and discussed several items in closed Executive Session, including Real Estate Deliberations - City Hall project; Consultation With Attorney - Update on City of Teague vs. City of Fairfield lawsuit; and the hiring of a new dispatcher for the Fairfield Police Department.

No action was taken in Open Session concerning the City Hall project, and no action on the Teague vs. Fairfield lawsuit.

Julie Lawrence was hired as a new dispatcher.

Fairfield Council will meet this Tuesday, November 12th for a regularly called meeting. On the agenda includes discussion and possible action to award the Oak Street paving bid.

For citizens interested in joining the new City Hall Project committee, applications must be returned by Monday, November 18, 2019.

Citizens will be selected by Mayor Hughes to join the new committee along with Councilman Landis Bayless, and City Administrator Nate Smith. The committee will evaluate options and make plans for a new City Hall for Fairfield, Texas.

Karen Leidy reporting.

Fires Wreak Havoc

A call for a car fire went across the scanners at 5:58 p.m. on Thursday, November 7th, 2019.

Mexia Fire Department was first on scene at 6:07 p.m.

The Isuzu Rodeo was fully engulfed in flames, but all occupants were safely out of the vehicle with no injuries.

There was no additional fire in the surroundings.

Teague VFD and DPS Troopers also responded to the scene of the fire.

An electrical plug started a fire in a mobile home late night Wednesday, November 8th, 2019.

Smoke and fire was visible from outside the home when the Teague VFD arrived on scene.

The firemen of E92 entered the residence and put the fire out and all others helped with cleanup.

Assistance was requested from Dew VFD and Fairfield VFD.

Again, always have a smoke detector and change the batteries every fall when times changes.



Football Season Turns to Playoffs

COACH JOHN BEAR AND STUDENT TRAINER Jaylon Strawther tend to Eagle #20, Tyler Haynes, after he suffered a "stinger" in the last District game of the season. Although losing this game to Salado, the Fairfield team will enter the playoffs, along with Freestone County teams of Teague and Wortham. Turn to Section C for more high school sports action. (Photo by Shae Garcia)

County Schools Close For Illness

Two school districts in Freestone County have already closed due to illness.

Teague ISD and Dew ISD closed last Friday, November 8th 2019 to sanitize the schools due to the high rate of illness they have seen.

It is very important during this time of the year to remember how to help prevent spreading illness.

Wash your hands, cover your cough and sneeze, and clean your hands are the four ways most people remember.

There are other ways though, such as:

--Do not get in close contact with someone who is sick.

--Do not touch your eyes, nose and mouth.

--Do frequently sanitize touched services at home, work and school.

--Do stay at home to avoid spreading germs to others around you.

Remember washing hands properly and when necessary is the number one way to cut down on the spread of illnesses.

So stay healthy and strong.

Texas Amendment Election Results

Texas Amendment Election Results

Amendment results are in, and everything passed except one.

Proposition 9 barely passed with 51.6% voting for it, and Proposition 10 strongly passed with only 6.25% voting against.

Proposition 1 was **rejected**. It was to allow person to hold more than one office as a municipal judge at the same time.

Proposition 2 was **passed**. It

is to allow for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds by the Texas Water Development Board.

Proposition 3 was **passed**. It authorizes the legislature to provide for a temporary exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion of the appraised value of certain property damaged by a disaster.

Proposition 4 was **passed**. Changing the way an income tax would be voted into existence.

Proposition 5 was **passed**. It dedicates the revenue received from the existing state sales and use taxes that are imposed on sporting goods to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and The Texas Historical Commission.

Proposition 6 was **passed**. It authorizes the legislature to increase by \$3 billion the maximum bond amount authorized for the cancer prevention and research institute of Texas.

Proposition 7 was **passed**. It allows increased distributions to the available school fund.

Proposition 8 was **passed**. It provides for the creation of the flood infrastructure fund to assist in the financing of drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects.

Proposition 9 was **passed**. It authorizes the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation precious metal held in a precious metal depository located in this state.

Proposition 10 was **passed**. It allows for the transfer of a law enforcement animal to a qualified caretaker in certain circumstances.

Candidate Filing Opens For March 3rd Primary Election

Filing officially opens this week for Republican and Democratic Primary Elections.

County positions up for election this term include:

--County Attorney
--County Sheriff
--Tax-Assessor Collector
--County Commissioner - Pct. 1 and Pct. 3
--Constables - Pct. 1, Pct. 2, Pct. 3, and Pct. 4

Candidates may file with their respective County Chair from November 9-December 9, 2019.

Contact either Doug Sanford, DVM - Freestone County Republican Chair or Richard O'Dell - Freestone County Democratic Chair.

Primary Elections will be held in the State of Texas on Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

CALENDAR

FAIRFIELD
FHS Drama Club Production
Nov. 16 - 7pm | Nov. 17 - 2pm
FHS Auditorium
\$6 Adults, \$4 Students



INSIDE

High School Sports
Section C
Big Boy Locomotive
Page 4-D

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Save the Date:

Freestone Community Events

THURS., 13TH
-- Freestone County Senior Center will host their pre-thanksgiving dinner contact 903-389-5800 for more information.

THURS., NOV 14TH
--Bingo at the Fairfield Center, Freestone County Senior Services at 10:30 a.m. 903-389-5800 for more information

FRI., NOV 15TH
--Fairfield Market Days at the Fairgrounds. For more information contact David Fairly 281-515-2249

SAT., NOV 16TH
--Fairfield Fest Downtown Market at the Courthouse Square. For more information contact Amy Ralstin 903-391-0258
--Fairfield Market Days at the Fairgrounds. For more information contact David Fairly 281-515-2249
--Rise-n-Shine Hike at Fairfield Lake State Park at 9:30 a.m. meets at the Nature Trail. Contact Fairfield Lake State Park 903-389-4514 for more information.
--Art on the Go! At Fairfield Lake State Park at 2:00 p.m. meet inside the Dining Hall. Contact Fairfield Lake State Park 903-389-4514 for more information.

--Teague Young Farmer's Barn Dance with special guest, Jordan Nix from 7:00 p.m. to midnight at 4 Oaks Venue. Tickets are \$15 at the door, or \$10 presale from the Teague Ag Dept. 903-644-6347 for more info.
--FHS Drama Club presents "A Rose By Another Name" beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the FHS Auditorium. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for students, and free for age 5 and under.

SUN., NOV 17TH
--Fairfield Market Days at the Fairgrounds. For more information contact David Fairly 281-515-2249

--FHS Drama Club presents "A Rose By Another Name" beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the FHS Auditorium. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for students, and free for age 5 and under.

TUES., NOV 19TH
--Bingo at the Fairfield Center, Freestone County Senior Services at 10:30 a.m. 903-389-5800 for more information
--Music Night at the Fairfield Center, Freestone County Senior Services at 6:00 p.m. 903-389-5800 for more information

WED., NOV. 20TH
--Annual Food Drive at The Lord's Community Storehouse in Teague.

THURS., NOV 21ST
--Teague Nursing and Rehabilitation will have their Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
--Fairfield Nursing and Rehabilitation will have their Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the dining room.
--Fairview Healthcare Residence will hold their Thanksgiving Feast starting at 5:30 p.m. for residents and family members. Bring a covered dish, 903-389-4121 for more information and they ask you to RSVP.

SAT., NOV 23RD
--Mutton Bustin' Fall Series Finale at Camp Shayla beings at 5:30 p.m.
--Spooky Stories & S'mores at Fairfield Lake State Park at the Volleyball field from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Contact Fairfield Lake State Park 903-389-4514 for more information about this costume optional event.

SUN., NOV 24TH
--Donie Community-Wide Thanksgiving Dinner at the Donie Community Center between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. for the Donie residents. Contact the First Baptist Church at 254-359-4332 for more information.

THURS., NOV 28TH
--Thanksgiving Day

SAT., NOV 30TH
--Plaid Saturday – Shop Local event in Fairfield. Shop for the holidays in your hometown for sales and giveaways.
--Campfire Time Travel at Fairfield Lake State Park at 3:00 p.m. meet at the Volleyball Field. Contact Fairfield Lake State Park 903-389-4514 for more information.
--Christmas In Teague – Downtown Festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. with Caroling, hot chocolate, cookies, "Business Bingo," carriage rides, Polar Express Train, ornament crafting and more. Christmas In The Park Lighting will begin at 7:30 p.m.
--Turkey Bash Goat Roping at Camp Shayla. Time to be announced.



Get The App Today

Have you heard of the GO FAIRFIELD app, downloaded it, and check on it regularly?

If you answered no, you are missing out on a lot of seriously useful information. GOFAIRFIELD is an app for smartphones that helps you keep up with local events, works as a directory, and it is even an informative guide.

When you open the app, the very first thing on the top is a scrolling banner named Events & Activities. Click this and BAM - instant access to upcoming things in Fairfield.

Need to pay your city water bill? Ok, you can do that too.

As a directory, you can pick from a variety of categories that give information about all the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce business members.

Essentially, this phone app is a simple way to keep Fairfield on goings nestled in the palm of your hand.

The app is available FREE from the App Store or get it on Google Play. Simply search GO FAIRFIELD and treat it like you would any other app.

Yep, it is free. So go get it downloaded now, and never miss your favorite activities.

GO FAIRFIELD is the official mobile app for City of Fairfield and the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce, powered by *Freestone County Times*.



The City of Fairfield is accepting applications from citizens to become a member of the New City Hall Committee.

Citizens will be selected for the new committee by Mayor Kenneth Hughes.

Applicants must be residents of Fairfield, Texas and live within the city limits.

Applications are available at Fairfield City Hall, located inside the Conference Center at the fairgrounds (839 E. Commerce Street).

Deadline to submit applications to be a member of the New City Hall Committee is **5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2019.**

For more information, contact City Hall at 903-389-2633.

Thanksgiving for Seniors

Local Nursing homes and the Freestone Senior Community Center are planning their Pre-Thanksgiving meals.

Freestone County Senior Center will host their dinner on Thursday, November 13th, 2019. Contact 903-389-5800 for more information.

Fairfield Nursing and Rehab will be having their dinner in the dining hall on Thursday, November 21st, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., and it is open to all residents and their family.

Fairview Healthcare Residence will be hosting their dinner Thursday, November 21st, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. for residents and family

members. They ask that you bring a covered dish and to contact 903-389-4121 for more information and to RSVP.

Teague Nursing and Rehabilitation will have their Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 21st, 2019. It is open to residents and their family. Freestone County Senior Center will host their dinner on Thursday, November 13th, 2019. Contact 903-389-5800 for more information.

Everyone has their plans in motion, and are ready to make this a great meal for all.



Tickets On Sale NOW for Polar Express™

Tickets are on sale now for the 2019 season of THE POLAR EXPRESS™ at Texas State Railroad. The first POLAR EXPRESS™ of the season heads to the North Pole on Friday, November 16. Ticket prices start as low as \$20 per child, depending on the date and time of departure.

The Palestine depot offers a festive holiday-setting featuring lights, tinsel, garland and costumed characters sure to excite and inspire every child in your group ... from age 2 to 92. The adventure is even more entertaining when families and friends show up in their pajamas! Make sure those PJs are warm and cozy...it's cold at the North Pole!

The magical story comes to life the minute

the train departs the Palestine Depot for the journey to the North Pole. Every coach becomes a stage for a LIVE musical performance as the Cocoa Chefs serve hot chocolate and cookies while dancing and singing. Children are captivated as train staff recites the classic children's book, The Polar Express, by Chris Van Allsburg. It is encouraged to purchase a book along with your reservation so your child can read his/her own book along with the Cocoa Chefs.

Seats are limited in **Presidential, sky-view Dome** and **art-deco First Class** where keepsake POLAR EXPRESS™ mugs, hot chocolate and cookies make this a truly magical experience. **Deluxe Coach** featuring table-top seating for

parties of four, **Coach** with historic Pullman-style seating and the historic **Open-air coach** (no glass in windowpanes) also receives hot chocolate and cookies. All cars have large viewing windows, thrilling children as they get their first glimpse of Santa and the North Pole.

At the North Pole, Santa and his elves greet passengers and board the train. St. Nick gives everyone the first gift of Christmas – a silver sleigh bell (*only believers can hear ringing!*). On the ride back to THE POLAR EXPRESS™ train depot, the Cocoa Chefs lead passengers in singing joyous Christmas carols.

For more information, visit www.texasstaterailroad.net or call **855-632-7729**.

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Open House Public Meeting In December

Proposed I-45 Ramp Relocations and Frontage Road Improvements

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to improve the traffic flow of IH 45 Frontage Roads and Ramps within the Fairfield area. An informal open house is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2019 between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30p.m. at the Fairfield Elementary School in Fairfield, TX. TxDOT staff will display the proposed alternative and be available to discuss the project.

The existing frontage roads within the Fairfield section of IH 45 are two-way, one lane north and one lane south, with on and off ramps accessing the IH 45 main lanes. The existing frontage roads lanes are 12-ft wide with 4 to 5-ft shoulders bounded by open ditches. US 84 and FM 27 intersect both east and west frontage roads within the project limits. There is currently no frontage road south of US 84 along the east side of IH 45.

Proposed roadway construction along IH 45 extends from approximately 0.5 miles south of Church Street to approximately 1.6 miles north of FM 27 (total length of 4.36 miles) in Fairfield, Texas. Construction includes ramp reconfigurations, frontage road rehabilitation, frontage road realignment, new location frontage, intersection

improvements, and shared use paths. This project would require approximately 6.44 acres of new ROW along the east side of the existing ROW.

There are four (4) proposed northbound ramps including; new location exit ramp to Church Street, new location exit ramp to US 84, new location exit ramp to FM 27, Re-constructed entrance ramp from FM 27.

There are five (5) proposed southbound ramps including; new location, 2-way, entrance ramp from Church street new location exit ramp to Church Street, new location exit ramp to US 84, new location, 2-way, exit ramp to FM 27, new location, 2-way, exit ramp to west frontage road. All ramps would consist of a 14-ft travel lane with a 6-ft outside shoulders and 2-ft inside shoulders

The IH 45 East Frontage Road will be realigned at US 84 and FM 27. The remaining existing IH 45 East Frontage Road pavement will be rehabilitated. The IH 45 East Frontage Road will be extended south from US 84 to Church Street.

The IH45 West Frontage Road will be realigned at Church Street, US 84, and FM 27. The remaining existing IH 45 West Frontage Road pavement will be rehabilitated.

Between US 84 and FM 27,

the east and west frontage roads would be bounded with curb and gutter. Behind the curbed sections, there would be 10-ft shared use paths along both frontage roads with an offset of 5-ft

Both the IH 45 east and west frontage roads will be converted to one-way operation from Church Street to FM 27. Two-way operation will remain south of Church Street and north of FM 27 on the west frontage.

US 84 and FM 27 will be signalized at both intersections, improvements will be made with the addition of right turn lanes. Church Street will be stop controlled at both frontage road intersections with no additional turn lanes

The public is invited to attend and may come and go at their convenience. Information about this project is also available on the TxDOT Projects and Studies web page at <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/bryan/i45-fairfield.html>. Updated meeting displays will be available for viewing on the web page after the public meeting. Displays showing the design and other information regarding the project are also available for inspection at the District Office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Although additional right-of-way is required, no residential or non-residential structures will be displaced. Information concerning services and benefits available to affected property owners and information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition may be obtained from the district office at the address listed below or online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/forms-publications/consultants-contractors/publications/row.html>.

The project would not impact any section 4(f) properties or historical resources. There would be no encroachments on floodplains or impacts to wetlands. There would be no impacts to State and Federally Listed Threatened or Endangered Species.

Comments may be made at the meeting or in writing by December 27, 2019 to the TxDOT Bryan District Advance Planning Office Attn: IH 45 Fairfield, 2591 North Earl Rudder Freeway, Bryan, TX 77803, or by email or phone to Ms. Allison Kurwitz, P.E. with the Bryan District Planning Office at (979) 778-2165 or Allison.Kurwitz@txdot.gov.

Persons interested in attending the meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs, are encouraged to call (979) 778-2165. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the meeting. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al (979) 778-9719.

The environmental review, consultation and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated Dec. 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

For more information, contact Bobby.Colwell@txdot.gov or (979) 778-9764.



FAIRFIELD

POLICE REPORT

Chief David Utsey

- Monday, Nov. 4th**
11:16 AM-Officer Scarrow on report of suspicious vehicle.
1:20 PM-Officer Scarrow to meet a complainant over having subject evicted.
2:30 PM-Officer Scarrow on report of a burglary that had happened.
- Tuesday, Nov. 5th**
6:22 AM-Officer Scarrow on smoke alarm going off.
6:30 AM-Officer Scarrow on report of sheep in the roadway.
10:32 AM-Officer Scarrow and Sgt. Gallegos to store over employee issue.
4:05 PM-Cpl. Price to meet a complainant.
4:44 PM-Officer Scarow on suspicious vehicle.
5:04 PM-Officer Scarrow on alarm going off.
7:08 PM-Officer Cox and Cpl. Price on child custody issue.
- Wednesday, Nov. 6th**
4:30 AM-Officer Cox on alarm going off.
5:29 AM-Officer Cox on report of business alarm going off.
7:19 AM-Cpl. Markham on alarm going off.
10:05 AM-Cpl. Markham on report of wreck.
10:45 AM-Cpl. Markham to meet a complainant.
1:32 PM-Cpl. Markham on report of verbal disturbance.
8:43 PM-Officer Alexander on report of suspicious subjects.
11:00 PM-Officer Alexander on report of wreck.
- Thursday, Nov. 7th**
8:47 AM-Cpl. Markham on report of suspicious vehicle stopping in the roadway and female got out and started dancing.
2:20 PM-Cpl. Markham assist trooper with wreck.
3:40 PM-Cpl. Markham on report of wreck.
- Friday, Nov. 8th**
7:29 AM-Officer Scarrow on report of minor wreck.
2:15 PM-Officer Scarrow on report of reckless driver.
2:30 PM-Officer Scarrow assist Fairfield EMS on medical emergency.
3:39 PM-Officer Scarrow on report of disturbance in residence.
6:34 PM-Cpl. Price assist Fairfield Fire on fire call.
11:10 PM-Officer Cox arrest subject for DWI.
- Saturday, Nov. 9th**
12:20 AM-Cpl. Price on reported assault.
12:08 PM-Officer Scarrow to speak to a complainant.
2:18 PM-Officer Scarrow on report of dogs running at large.
7:00 PM-Officer Cox and Cpl. Price to restaurant of suspicious subject.
10:52 PM-Cpl. Price on report of reckless driver.
- Sunday, Nov. 10th**
2:37 PM-Officer Scarrow assist Fairfield Fire Department on truck leaking fuel.



PROGRESS IS BEING MADE WITH CONSTRUCTION of the new pavilion at the Teague City Park, as evidenced by this picture submitted by a reader last week. Residents are hopeful that construction may be completed in time to be enjoyed during the Christmas season. (Photo by Olaf von Sehrwald)

POLITICAL CALENDAR

**EARLY VOTING
FEB. 18-28**

**PRIMARY ELECTION
MARCH 3**

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PCT. 3
LLOYD LANE (R)

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PCT. 3
SONOMA ADKINS (R)

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PCT. 3
RONNIE FRENCH (R)

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Freestone County Times encourages submission of letters to the Editor, articles and/or photographs from our readers. **Letter to the Editor must be signed** and included hometown/state.

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--OBITUARIES



Rozanne Rae
Moore
McKinney

Rozanne Rae Moore McKinney died on November 4, 2019 in Corpus Christi, Texas after a brief illness. She had been living in Beeville, Texas for the last few months having moved from Fairfield, Texas, which had been ‘home’ for 25 years.

Rozanne was born in Kansas City, Missouri on January 23, 1953. She and her family moved to Whittier, California where she spent her childhood. After graduating from La Verne College in California, she moved to Houston to be closer to her parents who had moved there. In Houston, Rozanne attended law school at the University of Houston Law Center where she met her future husband Sam McKinney III. After graduation, Rozanne and Sam opened a law firm in Bellaire, Texas: McKinney & McKinney, P.C.

She and her husband, Sam moved to Fairfield from Houston in 1994, and opened a branch of their law firm. She loved being part of a small town and was interested in meeting people, joining organizations and learning all she could about the history of the area and of Fairfield. After her husband’s death in 2006, Rozanne closed their law firm but continued to use her legal skills to help her community by doing pro bono work and teaching part-time at McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas. She was an avid reader, a member of the History Club, member of the Fairfield-Harmony Presbyterian Church, church pianist for many years, pianist for various musical events in Fairfield and neighboring towns, dedicated long-time member of Common Cause, and was very involved in animal rescue.

Rozanne was preceded in death by her husband, Sam McKinney, III; her mother, Maxine Moore; her father in law and mother in law, Sam and Ottie Mae McKinney; her grandparents, Virgal and Otis Moore and her great aunt, Mary Blondin.

She is survived by her father, Ray Moore, of Memphis, Tennessee; sisters, Annette Sweet of Kirksville, Missouri and Cindy (Daryl) Bernskoetter of Springfield, Missouri; nieces, Samantha Sweet and Mariel Sweet of Kirksville, Missouri; Grace (Adam) St. Peter and Olivia Bernskoetter of Springfield, Missouri; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Dr. Frank and Dr. Anne Dehnisch of Beeville, Texas;; nephews, Rusty Dehnisch (Kelley Darling) of Silver Spring, Maryland, Scott Dehnisch (Jen Switzer) of Alexandria, Virginia; a grandniece, Ottie Mae Dehnisch, of Alexandria, Virginia, and numerous friends.

Rozanne was very loved and will greatly missed. She had a contagious laugh, was a very kind, thoughtful and generous friend and had a very tender heart for all animals and wouldn’t hesitate (for very long) to bring home and nurture kittens, cats, puppies, and dogs, as well as a surfeit of orphaned skunk kits and a mole, named Philby, that the cat dragged in.

The family wishes to thank the ICU staff and Palliative Care Team at Christus Spohn Shoreline Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas for their attentive care during the last weeks of Rozanne’s life. The family especially wants to thank Mearilyn Demmings of Fairfield, Texas who was a close friend and helper to Rozanne for the last years of her life: “You made life better”.

A celebration of her life will be held at the Fairfield-Harmony Presbyterian Church, 119 W. Main St., Fairfield, Texas 75840 on Thursday, November 14 at 10:30. The service will be conducted by Rev. Tom Prentiss. Burial will be at a later time at the Oakwood Cemetery in Huntsville, Texas where Rozanne will be laid to rest by her husband, Sam, in the McKinney family plot.

Memorials may be given to the Fairfield-Harmony Presbyterian Church (119 FW. Main St., Fairfield, Texas 75840), Common Cause (<https://www.commoncause.org>), or to the Limestone Animal Rescue Adoption Shelter (<https://www.larashouseshelter.org>).



IT WAS A BITTERSWEET EVENING Sunday night, November 3, 2019 at Calvary Baptist Church as the staff and congregation said “goodbye” to their youth minister and his family. Devin and Nikki DiGuilio moved to Fairfield 4-1/2 years ago and are leaving as a family of four. Riley (1-1/2 yrs old) and Jaxon (6 weeks old) were born during their time in Fairfield. Devin has accepted a call to a church in Magnolia, Arkansas. Giving their farewells are (left-right): Riley, Devin, Nikki and Jaxon DiGuilio and Randi and Terry Skinner, Calvary’s pastor. (Photo by Billy Patterson)

Stumbling Around in Grace

When I fall, when I falter, I find
Myself stumbling around in grace,
And I return to your altar
Seeking your face.

Because of myself
I have plummeted very low
Not knowing which way to go,
But your grace invisibly surrounds me
Until I almost can see it
When I am on my knees.

Your redeeming, exquisite grace
Is always sufficient for me.
When I look, it becomes infinitely clear
It comes to my rescue year after year.

Because of my eternal state of favor,
I know I should never waiver,
Yet I do, and I feel like a traitor.
When I find myself stumbling
Around in grace, I detect your embrace.

Life is all about grace;
It is where I discover
My soulful encounter.
It is where I find
My soul’s birthplace.

How blessed I am when I am
Stumbling around in grace.
It is my safety net;
You have paid my debt.

By ELM
November 2, 2019

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”
Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)

Meals On Wheels Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the Freestone County Meals on Wheels program.

Meals are delivered between 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and schedules can be worked around.

These meals provide area senior citizens with a third of their nutritional needs and help them stay independent in their homes longer.

Contact Freestone County Senior Services for more information or to volunteer. They can be reached at 903-389-5800 and are located at 201 N. Bateman RD Fairfield.

Community Calendar

- FREESTONE QUILT GUILD**
1st Mondays – 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall – 1st UMC - Fairfield, Texas
- FREESTONE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**
1st Tuesdays – 5:30 p.m.
Fairfield Library - Fairfield, Texas
- VFW POST #5872**
1st Tuesdays – 5:30 p.m.
Sam’s Restaurant - Fairfield, Texas
- AWE - DINNER & BIBLE STUDY**
Wednesdays 5:45 p.m. (during school year)
1st United Methodist Church - Fairfield
- FREESTONE COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS**
1st Wednesdays, Even Months – 11:00 a.m.
local restaurant in Teague or Fairfield
903-388-1166 or cchappell321@gmail.com
- FAIRFIELD LIONS CLUB**
2nd & 4th Thursday - 6:00 p.m.
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FREESTONE COUNTY TIMES

903-389-NEWS

Chaplain’s Corner

by Chaplain Karen Hulsey

Gathering On The Hills

Each year the Chaplain’s from both the State Supported Living Centers and State Hospitals gather for a week in October for our Annual Conference. They are always such a great time to come together in such a beautiful setting, at Mo Ranch in Hunt, Texas. It is a time of training on different topic’s related to our roles on our campus. For our conference 2019 the theme was “Chaplaincy, Practicing the presence of God with dignity and vocation” with instructor Dr. Phil Helsel of Austin Presbyterian theological Seminary. He was outstanding, as he has served in the role as Chaplain also.

October 21-24th, we gathered for a wonderful week of fellowship and meeting some that are new to their jobs. Three of the Chaplain’s that

have over 25 years of tenure with Chaplaincy Services were from Kerrville, San Antonio and Mexia.

Our special guest each year is Scott Schalchlin the Associate Commissioner that expressed appreciation to us for our roles on the campus’ we serve. This year he encouraged us to please, be available to our direct care staff as their duties are often overwhelming and we can possibly help encourage them.

I appreciate Melinda and Tonya for allowing me to attend again this year. It was a blessing to me and all of us that get to attend. Those represented were from Big Springs, Kerrville, Austin, San Angelo, Lubbock, Richmond, Denton, Vernon, Wichita Falls and San Antonio.



David Fox
Years: 2/72 - 2/76
Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (at discharge)
Portsmouth Naval Hospital
then USS Brumby DE-1044 (a Destroyer Escort)

Donie Plans Community Thanksgiving Dinner

The Sixth Annual Community-Wide Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Sunday afternoon, November 24th at the Donie Community Center. The meal will be served between 4:00 and 6:00 pm and the entire community of Donie is invited to join in the celebration. Once again, the Donie Bank, Turner Feed and Fertilizer, and the Donie Water Works will join with the First Baptist Church in serving a traditional Thanksgiving meal to the residents of Donie, Texas.

If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact the First Baptist Church office at 254-359-4332 or by email at doniefbc@gmail.com or on Facebook at Facebook.com/firstdonie. We look forward to seeing you there.

Retired Teachers Meet Dec. 4th

Beginning in August 2019, Freestone County Retired Teachers are meeting the first Wednesday of the even months of the year at 11:00 a.m. at different locations.

Next meeting will be December 4th at Fairfield Harmony Presbyterian Church in Fairfield.



Alex Rodriguez
Currently serving



Gerald Green
U.S. Navy

It Seems to Me: Do You See This Vast Army?

by Pastor Steve Ellison

In our reading through the Bible, seeking out the questions God asks, we come to 1 Kings 20 where God asked in verse 13, *“Do you see this vast army?”* Have you ever felt like you were surrounded by a vast army, bent on destroying you and inflicting great humiliation and suffering upon you? That is exactly what King Ahab was facing. You probably remember Ahab. He was a wicked king of Israel, though not as wicked as his wife. Occasionally Ahab showed glimpses of spiritual understanding. In this case, he at first did not, but eventually showed some semblance of trusting in the Lord.

The ten northern tribes of Israel were just beginning the process of recovery from three years of drought which had ended at the word of the Lord through Elijah. Their country was weak and struggling. Ben Hadad II, ruler of Aram (Syria) just to their north, was feeling economic pressure from the growing power of Assyria. The Assyrians had taken over lucrative trade routes that had been under the control of Ben Hadad. Thus, he turned his attention toward the south, attempting to find new means of acquiring wealth from the Israelites. After a long siege, Ben Hadad sent messengers to Ahab, demanding heavy tribute including Ahab’s own family and personal wealth. Incredibly, Ahab neglected to consult God and sent word back agreeing to Ben Hadad’s demands. Ben Hadad, in his greed, sent the messengers back with increased demands. Ahab began to at least seek the counsel of the nation’s elders. They told him to refuse Hadad’s demands, which he did. Apparently, Ben Hadad was in the process of getting drunk when word of Ahab’s refusal arrived. Ben Hadad made a tragic error. His greed and foolish pride coupled with drunkenness caused him to go where no

man should go. He boasted of what absolute destruction he would bring on God’s people and prepared to attack.

Jehovah sent word through His prophet and said to Ahab and to us, *“Do you see this vast army? I will give it into your hand today, and then you will know that I am the Lord.”* What a beautiful example and illustration of the seeking, searching, delivering grace of God Almighty. Even though he was king over God’s people, Ahab had been for all practical purposes an enemy of God. Ahab is just as undeserving of mercy and grace as you and I. Ahab had seen God’s power up close and personal on Mt. Carmel, when Elijah faced down the 450 prophets of Baal. Ahab saw the emphatic, thunderstorm which ended the three year drought brought on by the God of Elijah. What more proof could a man need? Evidently Ahab needed more. There is no indication from Scripture that it even crossed Ahab’s mind to consult the Lord, much less to run to Him. And yet, a loving and merciful God broke into Ahab’s world with the simple declaration that not next week or next month, but “this day”, Ahab would have victory over his seemingly undefeatable enemy.

Giving victory was a great act of mercy and grace from God, but not the greatest in this passage. The greatest act of mercy and grace here is the reason for the victory, the result of the victory: *“I will give it into your hand today, and then you will know that I am the Lord.”* There sits Ahab, an enemy of God, a weak-minded man, suffering under a domineering wife, leading a totally decimated country from three years of drought followed by a protracted siege by Ben Hadad. Ahab was in a terrible fix. He was in exactly the same predicament that I was in before God Almighty did for me what He had done for Ahab. God revealed Himself to me that I might know Him as Lord.



Sydney Sleziak Davis – Sgt.
U.S. Marines



Scott Edward Sleziak
U.S. Marines

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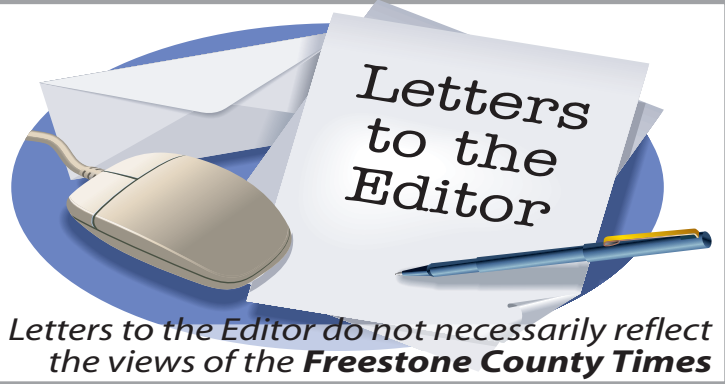
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--VIEWPOINTS



Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the **Freestone County Times**

Dear Ms. Pelosi,

I write to you out of utter disdain! You are as despicable and un-American as the traitor Jane Fonda. I am a soon to be a 75 year-old who has voted in every state and local election since 1966. I have voted for both Republicans and Democrats alike. I have worked on campaigns for both Republicans and Democrats, white and black. I served the country that I love in Vietnam, as my son did in the Middle East. I was awarded two bronze stars. I have been involved in politics since age 6 when my father was campaign manager for a truly great American Congressman,

Charles Raper Jonas, who worked for his constituents and his country, and was to be admired, unlike you.

You obviously haven't read the Constitution recently, if ever, the Federalist Papers, or even David McCullough's book on John Adams. You ought to take the time while riding around in your government provided luxury executive jet to do just that. You represent Socialistic and even Marxist principals that our founding fathers tried to avoid when setting out the capitalistic republican form of government represented by our Constitution.

I find it interesting that you and your husband are multi-

millionaires with much of your fortune being made as a result of your public service. You have controlled legislation that has enhanced your husband's investments both on and off shore. At the same time you redistributed the wealth of others. Our system of a free market economy is being destroyed by the likes of you. You ride around in a Gulfstream airplane at the tax payers expense while criticizing the presidents of companies who produced something for the economy. You add nothing to the economy of the United States; you only subtract therefrom.

I would like to suggest that you return to the city of fruitcakes and nuts and eat your husband's canned tuna and pineapple - produced by illegal immigrants and by workers who have been excluded from the protection that 90% of the legal workers in the United States have.

I await your defeat in the next election with glee...

Don't ever use the term un-American again for protesters who love this country and are exercising their rights upon which this country was founded. By the way, while I served in the

Army, I was spit on by the same type of lunatics who support you and who you probably supported in the 60s and 70s. You are an embarrassment to all of us who served so that you would have the protected right of free speech to call us un-American. But at the same time, I have the right to write you to notify you that I consider you to be un-American, as do the majority of the people of this formerly great country. You are a true disgrace to most of the people who served this country by offering themselves for public service in the United States Congress.

I feel certain your aides will not share this letter with you, but I intend to share it with many.

Dennis L. Guthrie
Charlotte, North Carolina

Let's help this man fulfill his 'commitment' to Pelosi by forwarding his thoughts!

Submitted by El Sellers
Fairfield, Texas

Editor's Note: This letter, penned by North Carolina attorney, Dennis L. Guthrie, was originally written in 2009 in response to an editorial about health care reform legislation written by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer and published in *USA Today*.

First Responder Dinner A Success Thanks To Community

First Responders of Freestone County were honored at a dinner sponsored by First Baptist Women's Ministry, Jones Chapel Methodist Church, and Freestone Medical Center on October 18, 2019 at the Christian Life Center of First Baptist Church.

On hand and leading the dinner were Master of Ceremonies and Greeter: Pastor Jeffrey Stachmus, National Anthem was Led by Akewa Tieman of Cornerstone Full Gospel Church, and Words of Encouragement was given by Pastor Andrew Weitner of New life Church and Pastor Don Suits of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

A special thanks to Freestone Medical Center who provided the main entrée for the meal.

Door prizes we provided by the following: Accessories Ect., Ace Hardware, Adrenaline Fitness, Armadillo Emporium, Aztec Express, Bella Nails, Brookshire Bros., Brush and Needle Art, Cafe Around the Corner, Capps True Value Hardware, Cherish Crosses, Constable Buck Bonner Pct. 1, Creations Florist, Dapper Designs, Déjà vu Boutique, Dollar Tree Store, Eddies Auto & Tires, Edward Jones, El Jimador Restaurant, Erica Owens Hairdresser, Fairfield Donuts, Fairfield Sonic, Fairfield Recorder, Frankie's Pasta & Pizza, Freestone Chrysler, Freestone Ford, Freestone Lone Star Chevrolet, Freestone County Times, Iron Horse Salon-Wortham, Joe Fridays Restaurant-Mexia, Joyful Treats by Kim-Teague, Juice-N-Aid, Juls by Jul, Kennedy's Corner, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Beaver, LaDonna's-Teague, La Sabrosita, Lena's Grooming and Boarding, Leon's Garage-Teague, Lofts Fitness, Map Services, fv1H Hill, Mi Frontera Restaurant-Wortham, Napa Auto Parts, One Hair Place-Wortham, Padrino's Restaurant, Plant World, Quick Lub, Randall's Barber Shoppe, Rick's Barber Shoppe-Teague, Sam's Restaurant, Something Different Restaurant, Subway/Texas Burger-Fairfield, Teague Auto Parts, Teague Chronicle, Teague Insurance, Teague Subway, Teague Tactical Supply, Texas Outfitters, Tri-County Country Club, Vanessa's Creations, Ward's Sign Company, Wilson's Janitorial, Withrow Furniture Company-Teague, and Wortham Antiques Mall.

Everyone involved in the appreciation dinner would like to thank the First Responders for all they do for our county.



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County Museum Hosts First Annual Veteran’s Day Celebration

Freestone County Historical museum opened their doors for the Veteran’s Day Celebration on Saturday, November 9th, 2019.

It was a beautiful and emotional celebration to honor those who make or have made sacrifices to keep our country free.

The Fairfield Chamber of Commerce together with Freestone Medical Center, Fairfield Nursing & Rehab, and various members of the community pulled together to show our local veteran’s how important they are.

Cub Scout pack #668 color guard did the Presentation of Colors immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Avi Hughes did a fantastic job singing the Star Spangled Banner for everyone in attendance, and later Don Thornton sang God Bless America immediately followed by the Armed Forces Medley.

During Thornton’s Armed Forces Medley he asked each veteran to stand during their branches song, bringing an even deeper meaning to words we all know well.

Sheriff Jeremy Shipley spoke with emotion on the true sacrifices asked of an American Soldier.

The celebration was a thought provoking way to go forward to Veteran’s Day to help us remember the words, ‘Thank you for serving,’ true meaning.



*We see it clearly.
With freedom comes sacrifice.*

This Veterans Day, Gold Eye Clinic wishes to salute all the brave men and women who have served in our armed forces. We extend our deepest thanks and gratitude to you and your families for your sacrifice.

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DKG Tau Chapter Awards Four Grants

On Tuesday, October 8, 2019, four lucky first year teachers were awarded the Caroline F. Forsythe Grant-in-Aid Award from Delta Kappa Gamma's Tau Chapter. Mrs. Martha Kirgan, Tau Chapter Treasurer, is shown awarding the checks.

Ms. Elaine Bearden is the new Freshman and Senior English Teacher at Wortham High School.

Ms. Amanda Theiss and Ms. Traci Houston are beginning their teaching careers at McBay Elementary as Kg teachers in Mexia ISD.

Last, but certainly not least, is Ms. Hannah Spradlin. She is beginning her teaching career at Fairfield Jr. High as a 6th grade teacher.

This is her home and alma mater. She is looking forward to the rest of the school year.

Dr. Lisa Rogers, Tau Chapter president began the meeting with a welcome and opening prayer. Ms. Patty Manley gave the inspiration.

The group had time to order from the delicious menu at The Farmhouse. The restaurant graciously opened their meeting room to the group after the early morning fire at Gibbs Library last month.

Dr. Rogers led three interactive and challenging games teachers can use in any classroom. Two games used a single dice while one game was played like Charades with a new language.

All in attendance were able to take part. Each member was asked to wear pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness.

This month, on November 12th at 5 PM, Dr. David Lott will be speaking on "The Secrets of Staying Young." All teachers in Limestone and Freestone County are encouraged to come and listen to this wonderful presentation. We would love to have you join us.

Any active or retired teacher can sign up for membership. Please come and see what our organization is all about. We are key women educators. If you are one or know one, please refer them to our group.

Contact Lisa Rogers at 254-729-4101, ext. 2025 or email l.roger@groesbeckisd.net or Alicia Smith at 903-388-0950 or als75840@yahoo.com



Ms. Bearden, Ms. Spadlin, Dr. Rogers, Tau President, Ms. Houston, and Ms. Theiss. (Submitted Photo)

Rancher Risk Management Tool Offered, Signup Deadline Nov. 15th

By Kay Ledbetter

Pasture, Rangeland and Forage, or PRF, insurance is a risk policy designed to provide annual protection for farmers and ranchers who rely on forage products to support their cattle operations, said a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

"In the face of uncertain weather conditions, insurance becomes a critical component in producers' risk management portfolios," said DeDe Jones, AgriLife Extension risk management specialist in Amarillo. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency offers the PRF program

and policies covering the 2020 calendar year through crop insurance agents until Nov. 15. Premiums are billed on Sept. 1, 2020.

"While this coverage for ranchers haying and grazing perennial acreage has been available for a while, this year there is a change in the eligibility requirements," Jones said. "To qualify now, pasture/rangeland producers must have an insurable interest in the livestock grazing their land."

Producers are not required to insure all their acres for the entire 12-month period, she said. They can choose the acres and months most important to their grazing and/or haying operations.

Payment is not determined by individual damages, but rather area losses based on a grid system, Jones said. Producers can select any portion of acres to insure, but they must select between a minimum of two and a maximum of six two-month periods.

Coverage levels between 70% and 90% are available, Jones said. Once coverage is selected, the producer also chooses a productivity factor between 60% and 150%. The productivity factor is a percentage of the established county base value for forage.

The base value is a standard rate published by the Risk Management Agency for each county. It is calculated based on estimated

stocking rates and current hay prices.

Jones said the program uses a rainfall index to determine potential indemnity payments.

Additionally, she said alfalfa and other irrigated hay can be insured under a PRF policy at different coverage levels and higher base values.

A decision-support tool is available online to help producers determine coverage levels and intervals. For more information about the insurance and how it fits into a risk management plan, contact Jones at 806-677-5600 or dljones@ag.tamu.edu.

Take time on **'Veterans Day'** to celebrate the men and women who have served our country with honor and distinction.



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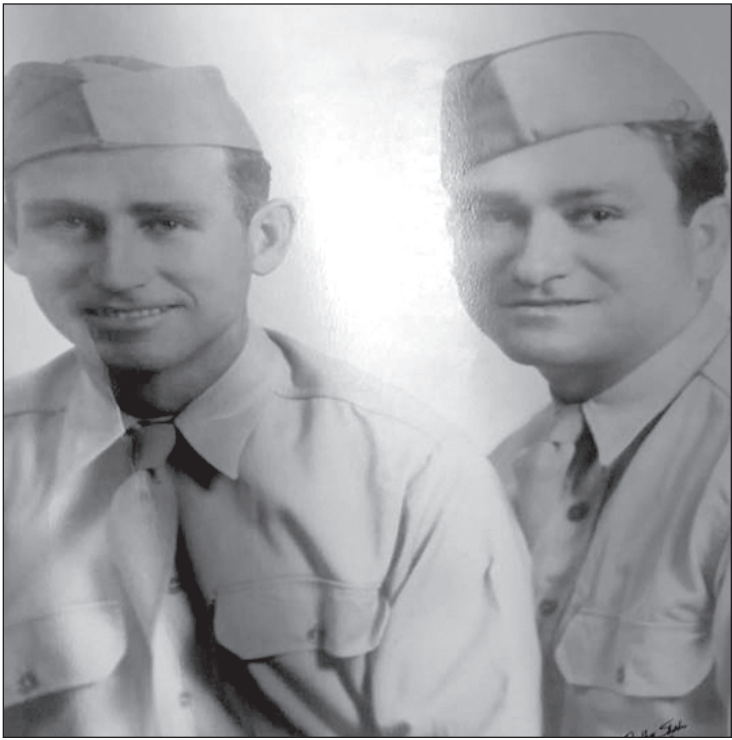


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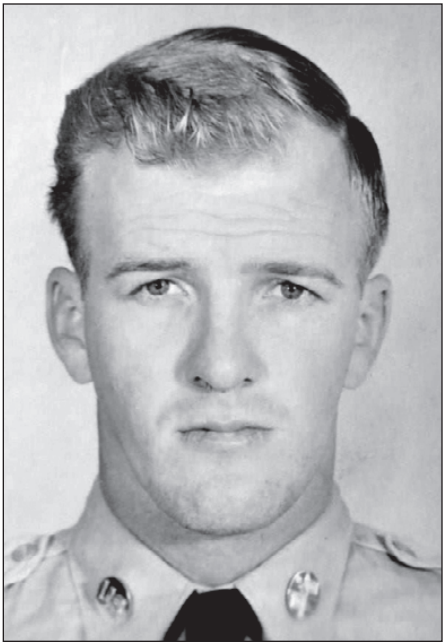
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Milton Travis McAdams and Ellis Floyd McAdams
Sons of Alvin Floyd and Myrtis (Childs) McAdams
Served in the U.S. Army



John Wayne Daniel
Son of David Daniel and Leonard
and Laura (Ivy) Denton
Served in the U.S. Army



David Floyd McAdams
Son of George Robert "Jack" and
Delia Bell (Daniel) McAdams
Served in the U.S. Marine Corps in
San Diego, California



Richard Roscoe McAdams (left)
Son of Alvin Floyd and
Myrtis (Childs) McAdams
Served in the U.S. Army



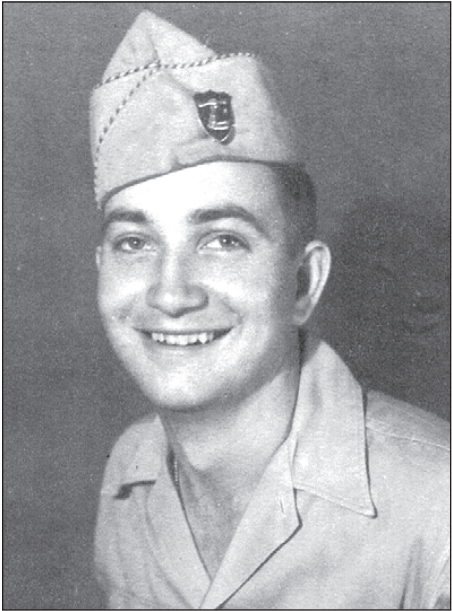
George Robert "Jack" McAdams
Son of Alvin Floyd and Myrtis
(Childs) McAdams
Served in the U.S. Army in Burma



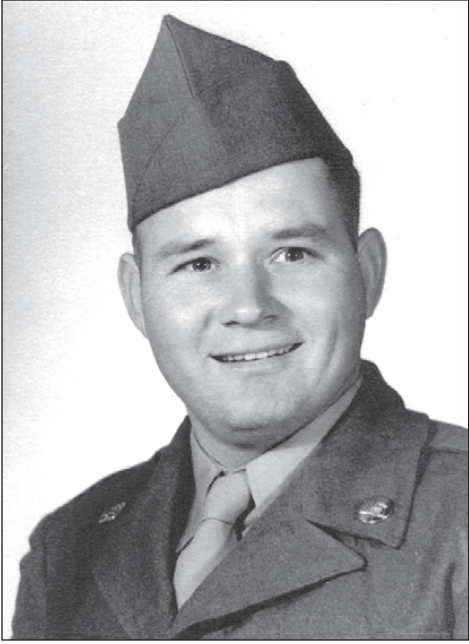
Kenneth Alton Beasley
Son of Carl Alton and Mary Jane
(Moncrief) Beasley
Served in the U.S. Army – Ft.
Leonard Wood, Missouri, then
to steno school in Indiana and
Criminal Investigation in Georgia,
Co. 504 M.P. School



Terry Randall Beasley
Son of Carl Alton and Mary Jane (Moncrief) Beasley
Served in the U.S. Army – Vietnam – M.P. in Office of
Criminal Investigation



Acie Troy Nevills
Son of Acie C. and Delma Nevills
Served in the U.S. Army – Camp
Chaffie, Arkansas, trained at El Paso,
Texas. Manila, Philippines 738 M.P.
Battalion.

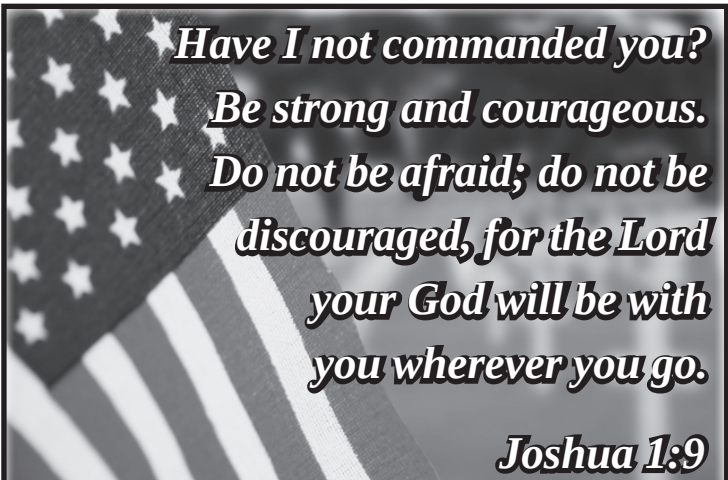


Billy Chappell
Son of Louie Sneed and Myrtle
Elizabeth (Day) Chappell
Served in the U.S. Army –Ft. Leonard
Wood, Missouri, then to Germany with
the 6th Armored Division



Alton Chappell
Son of Louie Sneed and Myrtle Elizabeth (Day)
Chappell
Served in the U.S. Army – Germany -- Cook

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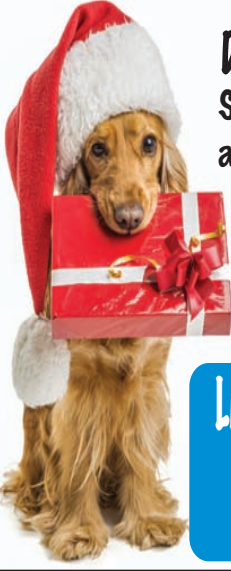


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Father, Son, and Two World Wars

Frank Harrison Marsters, Sr.

Frank Harrison Marsters, Jr.

Frank Harrison Marsters, Sr.'s career with the Mutual Telephone Company was interrupted in 1917 when he enlisted in the United States Signal Corps. The following two years, he served in France and was assigned to serve his war apprenticeship with a British unit in Belgium, but was with this unit only a short time when he was transferred to the United States Forces HQ Co. 313th Field Artillery and was promoted to Sergeant.

In 1919, Frank returned to the United States where he again took up relationship with the Mutual family as a member of the Construction Department.

Most of Frank's leisure time was spent on the golf course where he enjoyed competing with fellow employees.

He was described as a likeable and friendly person.

Frank Harrison Marsters, Sr. was born October 30, 1890 in Waterford, Pennsylvania, died Sunday, November 7, 1965 in Hamot Hospital in Erie, Pennsylvania. He is buried in Waterford, Pennsylvania.

Frank Harrison Marsters, Jr. was born on June 23, 1922 in Erie, Pennsylvania, the only child of Esta Bernice Ebaugh (1896-1922), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ebaugh of Bellevue (Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, and Frank Harrison Marsters (1890-1965), son of Ella Florence Carson, born 1855 (Kit Carson's niece) and William Harrison Marsters, born 1848, of Waterford, Pennsylvania.

After graduating from Strong Vincent High School, Erie, Pennsylvania, Frank Marsters, Jr., attended Clemson A&M College, Clemson, South Carolina, majoring in chemical engineering. He served with the 37th Infantry Division, U.S. Army, in the Solomon Island campaign as a combat medic during World War II, and was awarded numerous medals of valor.

Frank Marsters, Jr.'s children are twelfth generation Americans (1651), and seventh generation Texans (1835). Frank passed away in 1983 and is buried in Stewards Mill Cemetery, Freestone County, Texas.

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I, Ronnie French, along with my wife and our families are long time Freestone County residents. I have 2 sons and a step-daughter. After graduating from Fairfield High School in 1988, I started working alongside my parents Ron and Jodi French in the family business of building homes and construction then in 2005 went into the oilfield operating and hauling equipment, driving trucks, supervising crews, and over-seeing the building of lease roads. I have held my commercial driver license for over 20 years.

As a Freestone County Commissioner of Precinct 3, my plan is to be a "Working" Commissioner. By utilizing my 30 plus years of experience in the construction industry I am proposing to be on scene to assess, evaluate, plan and facilitate the repairs of roads, find the root causes and begin to work the plan to renovate and reconstruct the repair of roads and roadways and not merely patch and fill. My experience will allow me to supervise and guide the employees of the Precinct 3 Road and Bridge Department and actively do in-house repairs on maintaining the equipment and vehicles, thus saving the tax payers money. If elected, I will do the job of a reachable Commissioner, not an absentee name or title. I will be available at the Precinct barn 2 nights a month and by phone 7 days a week for tax payers, employees and the volunteers of Freestone County to come and voice their opinions and discuss with me their concerns as well as any issues that I might be able to assist with or to be a voice for them in Commissioner's Court. I believe that everyone should have a voice in the decisions of our County. I feel that this position is more than just a 4 day 40-hour work week title.

As your Commissioner, I will pursue all information with relation to making "informed" decisions regarding your tax dollars and the usage of said tax monies and save in any areas possible. I believe that the Budget is our target amounts and it will take diligent efforts and constant monitoring to utilize it wisely and not wastefully. The plan is to develop an active and real rapport with the voters of Precinct 3, the residents of Freestone County and the employees and First Responders which are the lifeline of our County. I believe that a better financial plan can be worked out to save tax dollars and keep the employees satisfied. The Freestone County Precinct Commissioner, is the voice of the voters for representing policy for the Precinct, including setting long-term goals and evaluating their outcomes. Precinct Commissioners play multiple roles in Freestone County government, they adopt county wide budgets, present taxation and financial issues, adopt ordinances, and facilitate in making informed decisions.

It will be an honor to serve the voters, tax payers, volunteers, employees and residents of Freestone County. I would greatly appreciate your votes as the Republican Candidate in the Primary Election on March 3, 2020. I want to be Your Voice for Precinct 3.

Thank You and God Bless,
Ronnie French
Political Ad paid for by Ronnie French, Gene Chavers – Treasurer.

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Dominant West First Half Too Much For Lions

The Teague Lions have battled through injury and illness and could not have enough steam in the battle against the West Trojans. West built a 35-0 halftime lead and cruised to a 49-20 win to earn the third place spot in District 11-3A Division I.

Teague high school cancelled classes on Friday due to the sickness within the district and that did have an effect on the game with the Lions missing some key players on the offensive line that were not even in the building on game night.

West took the ball first and promptly put some points on the board. The running dominated offense handed the ball to Trey Janek and he raced 39 yards for the touchdown. Colby Skarpka added the extra point and the Trojans had the early 7-0 lead only 41 seconds into the

contest. Janek would add a second touchdown from 16 yards for a 14-0 lead.

Teague and West exchanged a possession and the Lions picked up their initial first down of the game on a pass to Nemier Herod from Jake Callahan to convert a third down. The drive would stall and Drew Satterwhite punted the ball down inside the five and pinned the West offense deep in their own territory.

West quickly flipped the field on the first play of the drive. Janek took the ball and ran through the Teague defense for a 90 yard run and was tackled by Satterwhite at the Teague five yard line. A couple of plays later, quarterback Landon Edwards pushed his way in on the quarterback sneak to build the lead to 21-0.

The Lions could not get moving offensively and Callahan was under pressure the entire half and the running game was held to minimal yardage. West would add two touchdowns in the second quarter, the first a 14 yard run by Lawson Kendrick and the final score of the first half was a pass back to Janek on the screen play and it went for 39 yards with 12 seconds remaining in the half.

Trailing 35-0 heading into the second half, the Lions could have folded the tent and taken a fourth place finish in the district standings but that was not the case. On the first play of the second half, Callahan dropped a short pass to Satterwhite and he used his speed to outrun the defense on a 62 yard catch and run. Roberto Escobedo



added the extra point and the Lions cut into the lead at 35-7.

West went to the air on the next possession and Nemier Herod leaped in the air and pulled the interception to give the Lions the ball back. Herod had the longest run on the night with a 47 yard bolt to the West 32. After a

-Teague Football-
Page 4-C

Eagles Run Past Fairfield

The Fairfield Eagles have found an effective way to run the football but they saw a clinic on the running game in a 42-21 Salado win in the battle for third place in the district standings.

Both sets of Eagles had soared at times this season but found themselves in the playoffs but vying for the final two spots. They had each lost to Conally and Mexia in different fashions and found themselves looking at a big offensive line on both teams.

The Fairfield loss sends them to Bruce Field in Athens for a rematch of last season's bi-district game. They will take on the Wills Point Tigers.

Fairfield had the ball first and went about their usual power football running game and finished a quick drive on a three yard run by Jar-Mychael Hudson. Hudson had a long run of 31 yards into Salado territory and added a personal foul at the end for a horse collar tackle. Tyler Haynes added the point after for the early 7-0 lead.

Salado wasted little time in getting points on the board. Vincent had several runs on the drive but Hunter Haire finished the drive on the keeper and knotted the score at 7-7.

The Salado Eagles would add a second touchdown, this one off of a Fairfield fumble and the short 26 yard drive ended in a three yard run for the 14-7 lead.

Justin Abram showed his running skills on the next drive. He took the ball on the first play and raced 62 yards up the middle and breaking to the near sideline to the Salado three yard line. He would finish the drive two plays later on a one yard run, again tying the score for the second time in the half.

Salado finished the first quarter and a large portion of the second quarter on a long drive that consumed several minutes and the 61 yard drive ended on a Haire one yard plunge

-Fairfield Football-
Page 4-C



Fairfield's Angel Limones #55 and Eli Martin #4 set their sights on an Opposing Eagle during the last District game of the season. (Photo by Shae Garcia)

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FFA Builds Handmade Trailer for Contest

by Erin Rachel
FHS senior and Eagle Beat copy editor

(photos attached contributed by FFA sponsor Clay Sherman)

The clang of metal against the concrete, the hiss of the welding gun, and the sweat dripping down a dirty forehead are evidence of a project coming together piece by piece. As the project grows, so does the excitement.

Students enrolled in ag mechanics are building a trailer to enter in mechanic competitions across the state. Five students, with the help of their ag mechanic teacher Clay Sherman, will complete the trailer by December.

“We are excited to complete this project,” senior Lex Thompson said. “We’ve worked hard enough to get at least a month ahead of schedule which will allow us to get more practice in before early and spring shows.”

Seniors Hayden Hardwick and Thompson along with juniors Madison Thaler, Brighton Bulger, and Colton Grandberry began building over a month ago.

“Anytime I get to help and teach students I enjoy it,” Sherman said. “The students come in whenever they have time off and have shown great work ethic.”

Parent Tracy Thompson made the request to build the trailer. He and the students will take it to Houston, San Antonio, along with either Fort Worth or San Angelo for shows.

“We’ll be competing against other projects in categories like showmanship, knowledge of our project, and craftsmanship,” Lex Thompson said. “We also could possibly win prizes.”

The trailer is made out of mild steel and parts bought from Sherman’s vendors. The metal will be welded to complete the 28-foot gooseneck, triple axle stock trailer.

“This had been a learning experience for everyone,” Thaler said. “Mr. Sherman has never built a cattle trailer so it’s a trial and error process that has been really interesting to figure out.”



Birthday Book Club

FAIRFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL celebrated the Birthday Book Club members for the month of October.

This amazing group of kids had breakfast together in the library. They also chose a book in their honor that will be in circulation for many years.

We appreciate the support of their families.

(Submitted Photo)



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FHS Senior To Perform Carnegie Hall in February

By Abbie Cunningham
FHS senior and Eagle Beat Editor in Chief

The anxiety welled inside of him as the day of his results marched closer and closer. When the dreary October afternoon ticked away, he received the news. His summer of clarinet practice paid off as he stared at the words glowing off his screen: “Congratulations, you’ve been accepted.” The feelings of worry left him as he began to fill with excitement.

Senior David Thomas placed in the Carnegie Hall Honors Band and will leave for New York on January 30. He will perform at Carnegie Hall on February 2.

“I feel like this experience will give me the opportunity to see the results of all my efforts for the past years,” Thomas said. “I am beyond excited, and I never would have dreamed of something like this happening. All I wanted to do was make the All-State Band, and I never thought past that.”

Thomas auditioned in the middle of June; he received his acceptance to the Carnegie Hall Honors Band on October 23 at his weekly jazz practice. He will receive his music sometime soon.

“I’m honestly okay with it being so far away because it gives me time to prepare for the concert,” Thomas said. “I will have to practice and know my music before I go to New York.”

To compete, students must receive a nomination or invite. Since Thomas made the All-State Band, he attained an automatic nomination to audition for the Honors Performance Series.

“I think this is an awesome opportunity to experience what a professional musician might get to do,” Thomas said. “Also, I will get to meet new people and play with one of the top youth bands in the world.”

Student musicians can apply to the Honors Performance Series globally. Competitors could apply to Carnegie Hall in New York or Musikverein in Austria. Although Sydney Opera House in Australia usually offers their venue for this program, this year they could not due to renovations in progress. Though Thomas considered Musikverein, he ultimately chose to apply to Carnegie Hall.

“I didn’t do the one in Austria because it’d be more expensive, and I’m also planning my senior trip for around that time,” Thomas said. “I chose New York because it fit best with my schedule, and it seems like a great opportunity.”

The world wide contest requires competitors to send their audition online as a recording. Auditions were three to five minutes long. Thomas played the suggested etude and part of a previous solo he learned.

“This opens the world to him and shows colleges and people that he is an available talent,” band director Bill Large said. “College scouts that can financially change his future will be at this event.”

Competitors sent recordings of their songs, an application form, and a performing biography along with payment. These documents furthered the judges capability to assess their skills.

“I felt kind of nervous sending in my performance biography because I didn’t know how many competitions other people won,” Thomas said. “I felt that that section might make me seem less appealing to the judges. Applying felt a lot more official than other contests.”

Thomas advanced to state in Solo and Ensemble since freshman year for a clarinet ensemble or clarinet solo; the state trip for Solo and Ensemble happens at the beginning of every summer break at Austin. Last year, he made the All- State Band and travelled to Austin to play in the band over a several day trip.

“It is truly an honor for both Fairfield High School and myself when a student really grasps the whole concept of music and competition,” Large said. “I hope other students can realize that success means a whole world of fun and glamor for their lives when they work.”

Although Thomas will be the first FHS student to perform at Carnegie Hall, he is not the first to perform in New York. Ten years ago, alumni Taylor Sharpe performed as the guitar player for iHeartRadio his freshman year.

“I can’t think of anybody more deserving than David,” Large said. “David works very hard and makes these changes possible because he’s determined to do it. He is a very exciting young man!”

Since sixth grade, Thomas has participated in the band program. He’s participated in every contest offered through the program.

“This accomplishment is special to me because it’s something that I didn’t expect to win,” Thomas said. “I put all of my effort into it and now I get to experience something not many people experience. It will be a sweet ending to my time at Fairfield High School.”



FHS SENIOR DAVID THOMAS will play clarinet in Carnegie Hall Honors Band. Photo by Abbie Cunningham.

Wortham Falls To District Rival 28-12

The Wortham Bulldogs had five drives end in Dawson territory but with no points and Wortham lost to Dawson 28-12 in a battle for second place in District 11-2A Division II.

Wortham clinched a playoff

spot last week for the first time since 2012 and will take on the Lovelady Lions on Thursday in Centerville in the bi-district round.

Wortham had the first possession and converted twice on third and fourth

down by drawing the Dawson defense offsidess to move the chains. The reached the goal line and fumbled, but maintained possession and could not convert a fourth down pass.

Dawson has played ball

control all season and went to work and used up the remaining time on the first quarter clock to move away from the three yard line. On the 13th play of the drive, Jakoby Moore took the handoff and raced 35 yards for the touchdown to complete the 97 yard drive and take a 6-0.

Wortham moved the ball inside the Dawson 30 on the next drive that ended with Brandon Coker throwing only his second interception all season to the five yard line. Moore picked it off and returned it to midfield and the Dawson offense returned to the field.

Dawson needed five plays, a key pass interference penalty to put points on the board. Brendan Horner scored on the two yard push into the endzone and the lead grew to 12-0.

Wortham put together an effective drive to cut the lead in half. Coker had the majority of the runs on the drive and he completed a screen pass to Clayton Munster and he rumbled for 18 yards down to the two yard line. Coker

capped the drive with a two yard run and the conversion failed and the Wortham Bulldogs trailed 12-6 at the half.

Wortham forced a punt on the first Dawson possession of the second half and quickly moved into Dawson territory. On fourth down, Coker threw his second interception of the night down to the goal line and Isaiah Johnson picked it off and returned to the 24 yard line. Facing a third and long, Horner looked downfield and found Da-mariyea Hamilton running wide open and the pass covered 63 yards and the lead grew to 20-6 on the Hamilton conversion run.

Dawson stopped a drive on fourth down at their own 34 yard line and put their offense back in charge. The seven play, 66 yard drive ended with a Ja-mariyea Hamilton 23 yard run for the touchdown. James Drake added the conversion run and the hometown Bulldogs were ahead 28-6.

Wortham had another long drive in the next possession but they were three scores behind. The 69 yard drive

needed 12 plays and Wortham converted a key third down with another offsidess penalty by Dawson on the snap count. Coker had runs of 18 and 15 and finished with a two yard plunge into the endzone. The conversion pass was no good and Wortham had cut the lead to 28-12.

The Wortham defense got a stop on fourth and long and had an opportunity to get points before the night ended. The Bulldog offense committed a holding penalty, but the next play Coker connected with Munster and covered 17 yards to set up a third and five. The final two passes ended the game, the final on the third interception by the Dawson defense on the night, sealing the win.

The Wortham Bulldogs finish the regular season with a 7-3 record. It is the first winning season since 2004 when they also had seven wins. They finish the season with a perfect 6-0 record at home for the first time since they were 5-0 in 1999.

Scott Batts reporting.



DeMarcus Bullard running the ball for Wortham. (Photo by Jennifer Lansford)

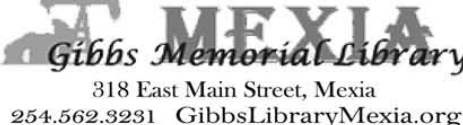
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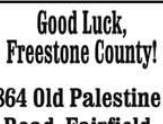


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-Teague Football-
Continued from 1-C

deeper into the lead at 35-14.

Hope began to spring when the ball bounced off of a West returner on the kickoff and the Lions recovered at the West 46. The possession was turned over on downs on a great open field tackle of Satterwhite by Billy Gann of the Trojans.

The Trojans completed a long drive on the first play of the fourth quarter when Janek scored his fourth touchdown of the night on a 27 yard run to extend the lead to 42-14.

Teague would quickly answer on a fourth down pass from Callahan to Juan Bernal across the middle into traffic and he made the catch and took a big hit but held on for the touchdown.

Janek would add a fifth touchdown late in the fourth to set the final score of 49-20.

Whitney claims the district title and Grandview is the runner-up. West with the win over Teague will take the third place spot and Teague earns the final playoff bid with a fourth place finish.

Teague will travel to Waco ISD stadium next Thursday to take on the District 10-3A Division I champion Troy Trojans at 7:30pm. The other matchups are Whitney against Lago Vista and West will draw the Cameron Yoemen. Grandview will play Rockdale in a battle of past state champions and will be one of the most interesting first round matchups in the state.

Scott Batts reporting. Photos by Monte Calame.

Freestone County Volleyball Playoff Update

Wortham Advances to Third Round

The Wortham Lady Bulldogs are a win away from the regional tournament and can earn that bid with a win over the Bremond Lady Tigers on Tuesday in Groesbeck.

Wortham (34-11) defeated Chilton in the first round at Axtell High School in straight sets to make the run of 60 consecutive sets won by Wortham, shattering the old school record of 57 set a couple of years ago. Wortham won 25-12, 25-12, and 25-13 behind 14 kills by Skylar Phillips and Samantha Wright. Rylee Goolsby had 12 kills and a couple of service aces and Megan Whaley and Brynn Bowden kept the offense going with a combination of 37 digs. Setter Reagan Stuver had 35 assists and added 14 digs.

The Lady Bulldogs moved to the area round and Riesel High School for the match against Bosqueville. They continued with another straight set win for the 10th ranked Wortham team 25-8, 25-20, and 25-17. Goolsby had 20 kills and four blocks to lead the dominating defensive effort for the Lady Bulldogs. Libero Megan Whaley had 17 digs and a service ace and Stuver had 25 assists.

The Fairfield Lady Eagles finish the season with a straight set loss to China Spring following a straight set win in the bi-district round over Center. Teague lost to Rogers in the bi-district round in four games. Scott Batts reporting.



EARNING THE TITLE OF AREA CHAMPIONS are the Wortham Lady Bulldogs! (Photo by Jennifer Lansford)

Stay Connected

With Your Hometown News



THE HARD-WORKING FAIRFIELD EAGLE OFFENSIVE LINE face off against Salado on their home turf during last week’s Varsity game. (Photo by Shae Garcia)

-Fairfield Football-

Continued from 1-C

for the go-ahead touchdown.

The score would be tied a third time in the half when the Eagles got the ball back. Fairfield went on a long drive of their own, mixing the running of Hudson, Abram and freshman Eli Martin. Martin would finish the drive for the Eagles offense on a three yard rip up the middle and the score would be tied into the locker room at halftime.

In the second half, the Salado Eagles went on a 21-0 run to take the win. Hunter Turk scored on the first drive of the second half after Vincent made some key runs. Vincent added a 38 yard run and Turk had a short touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

Waco Conally wins the district and completed an unbeaten season. Mexia wrapped up the second place spot last week and Salado will finish third with the Fairfield Eagles taking the final playoff spot. Scott Batts reporting.

Fairfield Football

Aug 30	@Rusk	Win - 47-34
Sep 6	@Brownsboro	Win - 14-6
Sep 13	Athens	Win - 45-25
Sep 20	Palestine	Loss - 56-35
Sep 27	Lorena	Win - 41-21
Oct 4	@Madisonville	Win 31-15
Oct 11	Mexia	Loss - 37-10
Oct 18	Open	
Oct 25	Connally	Loss - 40-35
Nov 1	Robinson	Win 26-20
Nov 8	@Salado	Lose - 42-21

Teague Football

Aug 30	Malakoff	Loss - 14-40
Sep 6	@Mexia	Loss - 49-22
Sep 13	Open	
Sep 20	@Lorena	Loss - 34-13
Sep 27	@Hempstead	Win - 48-47
Oct 4	@Grandview	Lose 52-7
Oct 11	Groesbeck	Win - 52-6
Oct 18	@McGregor	Win - 42-21
Oct 25	Whitney	Loss - 61-28
Nov 1	@Maypearl	Win 41-9
Nov 8	West	Lose - 49-20

Wortham Football

Aug 30	Itasca	Win - 20-18
Sep 6	First Baptist	Win - 70-66
Sep 13	Bartlett	Win - 24-0
Sep 20	@Cayuga	Loss - 24-6
Sep 27	@Cross Roads	Win - 36-20
Oct 4	Open	
Oct 11	Frost	Win - 36-23
Oct 18	@Mart	Loss - 63-0
Oct 25	Meridian	Win - 44-0
Nov. 1	Hubbard* (SN)	Win 26-20
Nov. 8	@Dawson	Lose - 28-12

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Winners Named in Annual Plant ID/Wildlife Contests

The Annual Range & Pasture Plant Identification and the Wildlife and Recreation Management Career Development Events were conducted on October 9, 2019. The Freestone County Soil and Water Conservation District and Anderson-Houston SWCD Hosted; in partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service provided the technical skills for setting up and conducting these events with help from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

In the Plant ID Contest, participants are asked to identify 20 to 25 plants indigenous to and/or adapted to Freestone County by name as well as various characteristics. The Plant ID Contest winners as follows: 1st Place –Cody Fowler, Teague FFA; 2nd Place – Allison Dycus Teague FFA; and 3rd Place – Maddie Tharp, Teague FFA. Pictured with them is FFA Teacher Thomas Cannon.

The Wildlife & Recreation Contest consists of four stops, each having its own criteria

to determine knowledge of facts related to wildlife and conservation according to the rules and regulations approved by the Texas Education Agency in conjunction with the Texas Agriscience 381 Wildlife and Recreation Management curriculum. The four stops are as follows: Wildlife Habitat & Management; Wildlife Biological Facts & Techniques; Game Laws & Safety; and Plant ID & Food Preferences.

The Wildlife & Recreation Management Contest individual winners were: 1st Place – Baylynn Hemphill, Normangee FFA; 2nd Place– Cody Fowler, Teague FFA; and 3rd Place – Emily Ecord, Groveton FFA. The Team winners were: 1st Place – Normangee FFA (Baylynn Hemphill, Tristan Ross, Blake Tesch & Ross Smith); 2nd Place – Groveton FFA (Emily Ecord, Hayden Lee, Kortney Bowersox & Brooke Mathis); and 3rd Place – Madisonville FFA (Adrian Edwards, Austin Longoria, Colby Sheppard & Tent Morris).



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESES TEAGUE FFA STUDENTS, who brought home awards in the annual Plant ID and Wildlife contests. (Submitted Photo)



COACH PHILIP PAGE KISSES THE LAMB held by senior Madi Isaacs. (Photo by senior Naydelin Espinoza)

Kiss A Lamb

By Meredith Awalt
FHS junior and Eagle Beat staff editor.

Coach Philip Page entered the pep rally with extra chapstick today to be ready for a special kiss.

The results of the “Kiss a Lamb” fundraiser were announced at the pep rally followed by the winner kissing the lamb. The student body will present the \$410 in funds to Kayla Grecu for medical expenses.

“When I heard the bleating, I couldn’t believe I had agreed to do it,” vice principal Keith Whitaker said. “I’m glad Page won, and it’s all for a good cause.”

Students were able to donate money for senior Kayla Grecu during the week in jars with four different teachers’ pictures on the jar. The teachers were Whitaker, Page, coach Tarsha Graves, and coach Peter Marotta.

The teacher with the most money donated had to kiss a lamb, with coach Page having the most out of the four teachers.

Remembering Former Student, Loved One Lighting Up The Sky

A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL SERVICE was held in honor of Jonathan Childers the night of Saturday, November 9th, 2019. The small lights are paper sky lanterns floating up into the sky to help with remembrance. (Photo by Victoria Keng)



Sonoma Adkins Announces Candidacy for 2020 Freestone County Commissioner Election

Sonoma Adkins announces her Republican candidacy for Freestone County Commissioner Precinct three in the 2020 election.

Adkins brings five years of government experience from positions in the offices of County Clerk, County Judge and her current position in administration for the Commissioner’s Office of Precinct three. Her experience and expertise in daily operations in the commissioner’s office, knowledge of budget and general county government, and extensive relationships throughout the county government qualify her as a County Commissioner candidate.



“As a candidate for Freestone County Commissioner Precinct three, I have an extensive background in law enforcement, the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and other state agencies,” said Adkins.

“I understand the importance of First Responders, public safety and making sure that all are equipped with the proper tools necessary to continue providing essential emergency services to Freestone County.”

Adkins highlights her platform. “I believe that leadership, transparency and public participation is needed to develop responsible plans to keep our county financially secure while giving priority to the vital services provided by Freestone County,” said Adkins. “I look forward to protecting Freestone resident tax dollars by ensuring that we cut wasteful spending and responsibly utilize available county resources.”

“I will also continue to ensure that all roads in Precinct three are properly maintained and safe for our children traveling on school buses, our First Responders and all county residents,” said Adkins. “As County Commissioner of Precinct three, I will make sure resident needs and concerns are not only heard but also addressed, just as I have been for the past three years in my position with the Commissioner’s office.”

Adkins ends her announcement on an optimistic note. “I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving the residents of Precinct three and consider it a privilege and honor to be your voice.”

The Primary election for County Commissioner for Precinct three will be held on March 3, 2020. For more information, connect with Adkins on her business Facebook page: Facebook.com/SonomaAdkinsForFreeco.

Sonoma Adkins is a Republican candidate for Freestone County Commissioner, Precinct three. She is a true servant leader that passionately loves her community and has dedicated her efforts to bettering it. For more information, you can connect with Adkins on her business Facebook page: Facebook.com/SonomaAdkinsForFreeco. Sonoma Adkins - Committed to community, dedicated to progress.

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Fairfield Band Names Beau and Sweetheart

This year’s Grand Band from Eagle Land Beau is Drum Major David Thomas and Band Sweetheart is Twirler Lyndi Wilson. (Photo by Shae Garcia)



Wortham Student Brings Home Blue Ribbon Heart Of Texas Art Contest

Blue Ribbon’s are not easily acquired, only the best get one. Summer Settlemyer, a Wortham ISD student, must be one of the best then.

Summer brought home a blue ribbon in pencil drawing at the Heart of Texas art contest.

When asked if she expected to win she responded, “I didn’t expect to win best of show in Wortham, much less win in state.”

Aside from the initial shock she felt at winning, she also was excited, proud and mixture of emotions.

Entering a large contest is not something Summer says she would typically do, but she definitely made the right decision with this one.

Summer prefers a cartoon style over a realistic one, even if her winning piece is a realistic one.

The picture she entered is a colored pencil grid of her adolescent kingsnake, Sweeny Todd.

She explains in detail the difficult nature of coloring a black and white snake when use of the color black is forbidden.



The black scales are layered shades of indigo, blue, Tuscan red, and dark/burnt umber mixed till until Summer, “saw a void of a color.”

The white scales have silvers, grays, yellows, whites, off whites and a very light layer of indigo blue, and the eyes have white with a hint of yellows and greens.

This was accomplished with a mixture of colored pencil brands, “I used anything I could to get the look I wanted,” she explains.

The main parts of the art took her three months to accomplish, and had to have parts scraped away with a sharpened exacto knife.

She wants art to always be a part of her future, even has goals of attending art in schools to advance her skills.

“I hope to continue to have art by my side for whatever the future holds for me,” Summer says.

With your skills and a blue ribbon, Summer seems to be well on her way to accomplishing just that.

Victoria Keng reporting

Honoring the Veterans of Dew ISD and Community

Dew ISD recognizes their veterans and thanks them for their service:

- Ray L. Sanders
- Willis Pickett
- Dennis Pierce
- Robert Elom
- Kenny Smith
- Russ Teer
- Charles Morgan
- Kenneth Moore

- Eddie Irvin
- Haley Newsom Willis
- Jacob Jernigan
- Lynnie Lane
- Donald Hartley
- Jim Brooke
- John Blackwell

The students and faculty held a Veterans Day assembly on Monday, November 11, 2019.

Wortham Bulldog Band Members Recognized

On Friday, October 18, the Wortham Varsity Band honored some of their band members for their hard work during the week.

During the half-time activities, the band member of the week, Ben Havens, and the section of the week, the flutes, were announced.

The flute members are Shay Grant, Veronica Gutierrez, Dana Calame, and Briana Betts.

Havens is the drumline captain for the Bulldog Band.

Kennedy, and Isaiah Tull.

On Friday, November 11, the Wortham Varsity Band honored some of their band members for their hard work during the week.

During the half-time activities, the band member of the week, JJ Rojas, and the section of the week, the Battery, were announced.

The Battery members are Ben Havens, Summer Settlemyer, Jacob Heller, Jeremy Rogers, and Michael Chasteen.

The band’s next half-time performance will be Thursday, November 14, at the playoff game in Cernterville. The title of their half time show is “In A Heartbeat,” by Luke McMillian.

The Wortham Bulldog band would like to thank the community for their support and encouragement!

The Wortham Varsity Band is under the direction of Kevin Russell.

On Friday, November 1, the Wortham Varsity Band honored some of their band members for their hard work during the week.

During the half-time activities, the band member of the week, Senior Jackson Tacker, and the section of the week, the baritones, were announced.

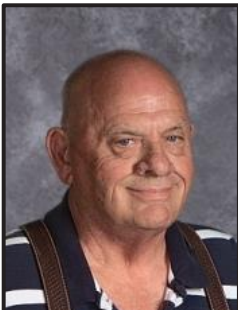
The baritone members are Breckyn Waggoner, Ashilyn Cartwright, Braeden



Thank You!

Fairfield ISD Board of Trustees and Administration wish to express sincere appreciation to all veterans, including employees of FISD, that put their life on the line to protect and serve our country, and for their continued service to our community!



 Logan Allcorn U.S. Army Maintenance Dept.	 Danny Castile U.S. Marine Corp Jr High Aide	 Rich Eubank U.S. Army Special Ed Co-Op	 L. C. Hightower U.S. Army Instructional Aide
 Russell Holland U.S. Army Band Assistant	 Charles Jones U.S. Navy Jr High Teacher	 Donald Jordan U.S. Army Transportation	 Tim Judkins U.S. Marine Corp Jr High Boys Coordinator
 Bill Large U.S. Navy High School Band Director	 Jason Pate U.S. Navy Tech/Transportation	 David Thill U.S. Army Tech Department	 Richard Hager U.S. Marine Corps (5th Marine)

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Historical Littlejohn House

To Be Reproduced for Museum Park



On October 14, 2019 during the last board meeting, a building contract was signed between the Dick Clark III Foundation donor advisor Sherry Matthews (formerly Sherry Smith of Teague and representative of the Littlejohn family) and board representatives, Linda Mullen and Don Awalt, to proceed with the reproduction of the 1900s Littlejohn home from the Shanks community.

Original plans were to have the uniquely designed home moved and restored. After much research and consultation with historic architect Mark Thacker of Tyler and others, the Littlejohn family learned that the structure was not stable

enough to be transported and less than 15% of the original house could actually be restored. A reproduction of the home, with its southern wings angled at 45 degrees, three porches, steep gabled roof with geometric wood shakes, and tear-drop wood siding, is now planned, using artifacts from the original home and new materials that will preserve the authenticity of the original construction.

The house, which will now be preserved for future generations, was designed and built by Lonnie B. Littlejohn (original inventor of a four-wheel drive) for the Littlejohn family on nearly 300 acres of farm land. Little is known of Littlejohn's education but according to historic preservation experts, he must have been well-schooled in math and geometry because of the complexity and precision of his design. He was a hard-working farmer known for his delicious peaches and grafting of rare species of fruits. He not only built everything on the farm (except for the Sears & Roebuck decorative screened doors and a few pieces of furniture he brought via wagon from Georgia in the late 1800s), he also made his own medicines and for a time drove a Ford convertible.

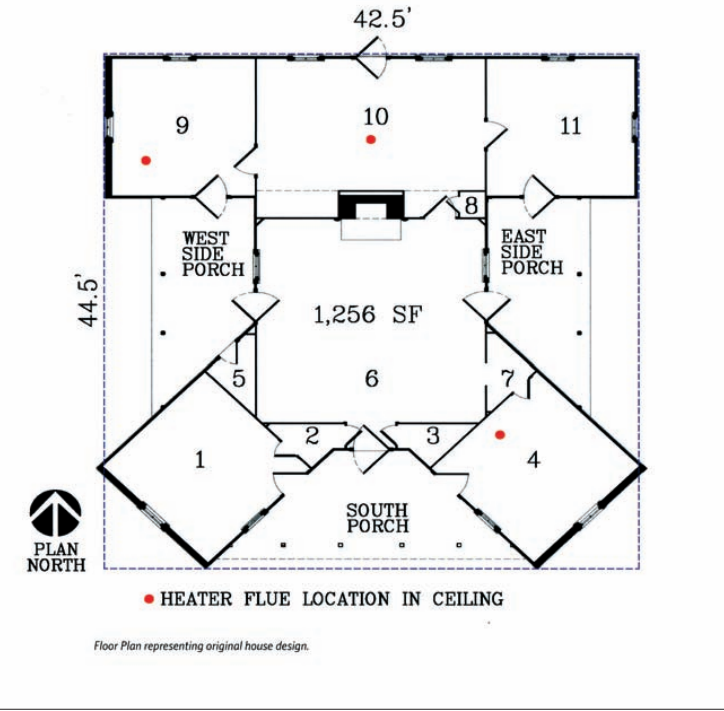
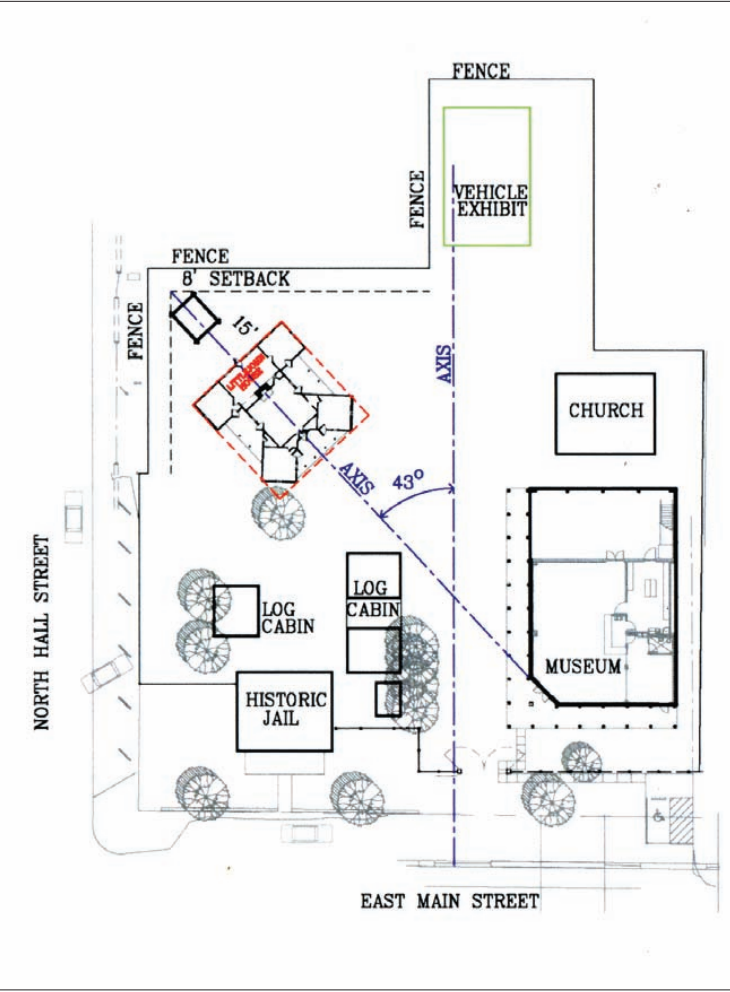
In addition to Matthews, family members involved in the preservation of the home are Harold Smith of Corsicana and Susan (Smith) Hodges and Nancy (Claridge) Norman of Austin. Littlejohn was their great uncle, and they either lived in or visited the home many times during their childhood. Their mother was Vivian Collins Smith Claridge, who was the niece of Littlejohn. She and her mother, Minnie Pearl Littlejohn Collins, were born in the Littlejohn House, and her mother died there at the age of 33. Littlejohn sold the farm, house and all mineral rights in 1949, and millions of dollars in natural gas were later mined by the new owners.

Earl and Carrie Thomas bought the farm and house a few years ago and graciously offered the house to the Littlejohn family for restoration and removal.

Friends of the Littlejohn family, Jean and Leon Schrader of Teague and Donnie West of Cotton Gin, also helped in the early efforts to preserve the house.

Late July, the "ugly pink house" on the museum property was razed in preparation for this project. Campbell Custom Homes, headed by Jason Campbell, Bullard, Texas, will be responsible for the construction. The museum board is very thankful to the Dick Clark III Foundation for completely funding the Littlejohn project. Clark was an award-winning FAIA architect who admired the Littlejohn house and was among those who wanted to see it restored. He died in 2017 but left his estate to a charitable foundation to fund worthy architectural and other special projects.

Booklets recounting the history of the Littlejohn house are available for viewing at the Freestone County Historical Museum.



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On behalf of the entire Nucor Steel Texas team, we would like to thank our nation's veterans for their sacrifice and service to our country.

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Receipts from Corsicana Livestock for Tuesday, November 5th, 2019 with 510 Head

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300-Down-----170-180

300-400-----160-172

400-500-----140-150

500-600-----128-140

600-700-----125-130

700-800-----118-124

Heifers/Best #1 Quality

300-Down-----140-160

300-400-----135-148

400-500-----118-132

500-600-----111-122

600-700-----107-114

700-800-----98-106

High Yield Packers

Best Cows-----44-49

Best Bulls-----72-75

Pairs

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SALE EVERY SATURDAY - 12 NOON

Receipts from Buffalo Livestock Marketing showed a total of 2,110 cattle on November 9th, 2019 with 272 sellers and 74 buyers.

Slaughter Cows

Cutter Cows-----38-55

Fat Cows-----37-52

Canner Cows-----10-38

Slaughter Bulls

Heavy Bulls-----60-83

Light Bulls-----45-66

Pairs

Choice Pairs-----nt

Good Pairs-----nt

Plain Pairs-----750-1000

Bred Cows 3-6 yr old-----750-1225

Steer/Bull Calve & Yearlings

150-200 lbs-----80-125

200-300 lbs-----115-192

300-400 lbs-----110-192

400-500 lbs-----100-180

500-600 lbs-----95-143

600-700 lbs-----90-133

700-800 lbs-----75-134

Heifer Calves & Yearlings

150-200 lbs-----80-140

200-300 lbs-----100-180

300-400 lbs-----90-146

400-500 lbs-----85-142

500-600 lbs-----80-137

600-700 lbs-----80-130

700-800 lbs-----75-122

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Receipts from Waco Livestock Auction on November 5, 2019

Head Count of 984

No. 1 Steers

Under 300 lbs-----140-165

300-400 lbs-----130-155

400-500 lbs-----125-150

500-600 lbs-----120-145

600-700 lbs-----115-130

700-800 lbs-----115-125

No. 1 Heifers

Under 300 lbs-----120-140

300-400 lbs-----120-140

400-500 lbs-----115-135

500-600 lbs-----110-130

600-700 lbs-----105-120

700-800 lbs-----100-115

Slaughter Cows

High Yielding-----45 to 54

Low Yielding-----30 to 40

Fats-----45 to 55

Thin & Shelly-----15 to 30

Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lbs)

Yield Grade 1&2-----50 to 76

Cow & Calf Pairs

Young Choice-----1100 to 1250

Young Fair-----900 to 1100

Aged Pairs-----600 to 900

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450 to 1000

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SALE EVERY THURSDAY - 12 NOON

Receipts from Groesbeck Auction & Livestock Co. LLC showed a total of 1097 head of cattle on November 7th, 2019 with a steady/higher trend.

Slaughter Cows & Bulls

Cows-----25-

Bulls-----68-

Stocker Cows

Cows-----600-

Pairs-----N/T

Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings Steers Good & Choice

300-400 lbs-----172

400-500 lbs-----172

500-600 lbs-----140

600-700 lbs-----135

Heifers Good & Choice

300-400 lbs-----150

400-500 lbs-----140

500-600 lbs-----131

600-700 lbs-----125

Woods, Waters, and Wildlife

Texas’ Quails

by John Jefferson

I heard Robert Perez, TPWD’s program leader for upland game birds, speak last week on quail. Actually, it is more accurate to say he spoke on quails – plural – meaning all four species on Texas. We have four quail species in Texas?

Right. Most people know we have bobwhites – northern bobwhites, actually. Many have seen or heard bobs and their familiar “bob- WHITE!” call. If you’ll whistle it with a soft “bob” and a shrill “WHITE,” you’ll come close to what it sounds like. Do it enough and well and you might even call up yours or your neighbor’s cat. Feral cats are one of the worst offending predators of birds, and especially of quail.

I saw quail authority, Dr. Dale Rollins, Ph.D., at a recent Texas Wildlife Association Convention demonstrate his authentic imitation of bobwhites. A young lady had some caged quail in a demonstration booth and as she held one with both hands, Rollins let out a series of bob-white whistles. The bird replied each time Dale called.

In the brush, I’ve seen other hunters call back up quail that “busted” the covey when a hunting dog charged the covey on command to put the birds in the air. Those quail were rightly fooled, but the

TPWD UPLAND GAME BIRD PROGRAM LEADER Robert Perez holds Montezuma Quail taken by permit to gather DNA. The strikingly spotted quail is found only in isolated areas of West Texas. There is no open season on them. TPWD photo.

one the young lady held was nowhere quail habitat.

Back to the four species, bobwhites are found in about two-thirds of the state – only far West Texas is lacking bobs. But only three ecoregions are considered the top hunting areas: South Texas, the Rolling Plains and the High Plains. Although survey counts are below the all-time average, they are up from last year. In the Rolling Plains, Runnels County (Ballinger) looks good. According to Perez, the hunting gets better the farther north you go.

In South Texas, surveys showed the benefits of good rains and below average temperatures, leading to an above-average hunting

forecast. But Dimmit, La Salle, Webb and Jim Hogg counties were dryer – especially from Freer to Zapata.

Inadequate nesting cover is the major limiting factor. Larger tracts of habitat are desirable. Average covey size is 10-15 birds, and the average annual mortality of bobs from all sources is 80%.

Most people know that South Texas and West Texas have scaled quail, also known as blue quail. Covey sizes range between 25 – 100 birds. Lack of nesting cover also limits blues in all three regions: South Texas, the Rolling Plains and High Plains. Hens can nest several times. Most of the area was dry during the spring, limiting production,

except for the parts of South Texas that received rain. Hunting will be limited to those areas.

Gambel’s quail are found in far West Texas in limited numbers. They prefer warm desert with thorn brush nesting cover. I accompanied a hunter in Hudspeth County recently and saw two small coveys. They are legal during the quail season (now-Feb. 23) and count in the 15-bird bag limit.

A few Montezuma quail exist in the Big Bend area, but there is no open season for them.

JJ

Water Well Owner Training

Set For November 14 in Groesbeck

A Texas Well Owner Network, or TWON, training has been scheduled for 1–5 p.m. Nov. 14 at the Limestone County Courthouse, 200 W. State St. in Groesbeck.

The Well Educated training is free and open to the public.

Joel Pigg, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service program specialist and TWON coordinator, College Station, said the TWON program is for Texas residents who depend on household wells for their water needs.

Participants may bring well-water samples to the training for screening at a cost of \$10 per sample, due when samples are turned in.

“Water samples will be screened for nitrates, total dissolved solids and bacteria,” Pigg said.

Attendees can register at <http://twon.tamu.edu/> training or by calling 979-845-1461.

I would just like to take a moment to say Thank You to all who serve to benefit our great country. Words cannot express the feeling of gratitude for the opportunities your service to protect, has provided ALL Americans. God Bless

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Reflections from Red Oak Ranch

Freestone County, Texas by Jan Fielden

Sundance is very entertaining. She talks to me, lets me groom her and asks for more, loves oats, loves the concoction of raisins/apples/carrots that I give to her from time to time. She is also a mystery to me at times. The other day I put her up as we were going to have a round-up and I didn’t want her getting the cows in an uproar; not her Yearling Herd or the Middle Herd. She was quite content to be in the Paddock eating oats and hay. She didn’t put up a fuss to get out as she usually does when she sees her herd walking off. So, I am thinking, gosh she is finally learning the good reason why I put her up.

The next morning, I went down to let her out and lo! and behold! she wouldn’t go. I pushed the gate in and out thinking she was just being horsey. She just stood there. I couldn’t imagine why she wouldn’t want out. Sundance went down to her stable and I decided she must have her reason and maybe she would give me a clue later. Well, I didn’t make it back down to the Paddock area. But she was fine when I walked out in the yard and looked down that way.

Next day was the same deal. She wouldn’t budge and then it hit me. She was wanting oats before she went out. She only gets fed once a day but she was changing the time on me without letting me know in advance. Well, I guess she did let me know the first day she wouldn’t go out. I ended up practically pushing her out because I knew with the rain and cold front coming in, I was going to put her up for a couple of days. She needs to run, and she has a beautiful place to run on the Red Oak Ranch!

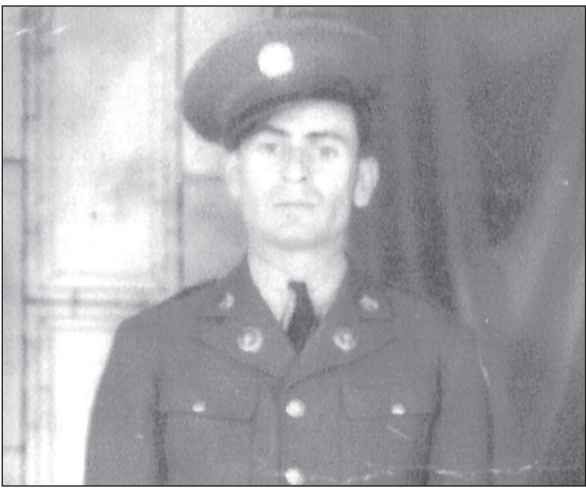
THANK YOU VETERANS

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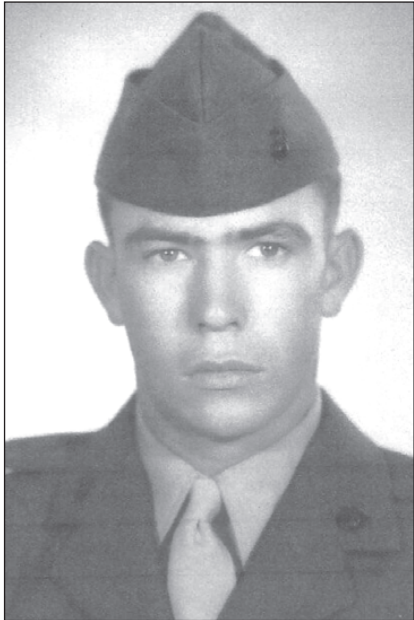
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Carl Seelye, Sr., Staff Sgt. - U.S. Army
Served in World War II



Ed Seelye - U.S. Airforce



Robert Seelye, Staff Sgt. - U.S. Marines



Carl Seelye, Jr. - U.S. Army



Bear Follett, Staff Sgt. (E5) - U.S. Air Force
Served in Vietnam



Brad Wedell - U.S. Army
Served in the Gulf War in Desert Storm

Movie Review: “Midway”

By Bob Garver

Veterans Day is not a holiday one typically associates with new movies, either in terms of box office or subject matter. With box office, there’s a clamor over which movie gets to dominate Christmas weekend, Thanksgiving, Easter, even the similarly military-themed Memorial Day, but ironically there’s not much of a battle over Veterans Day. In terms of subject matter, every year is going to bring a few war movies, but barely any of them choose to capitalize on Veterans Day, usually opting to open as a summer blockbuster or December awards-season darling. This year is different, however. This year, Veterans Day weekend was won by “Midway,” a war movie whose business strategy included conquering Veterans Day and not much beyond that. It beat out the too-late-for-Halloween “Shining” sequel “Doctor Sleep” by an estimated \$3 million and the too-early-for-Christmas “Last Christmas” by an estimated \$6 million. I guess the lesson is to open at the appropriate holiday.

Speaking of patriotic holidays, “Midway” is directed by Roland Emmerich, helmer of all-time holiday cash-grab champion “Independence Day.” He’s known for movies like that, “Stargate,” the 1998 “Godzilla,” and other critically-derided, special effects-driven blockbusters. It reminds me of another filmmaker with a similar reputation. In 2001, Michael Bay was known for overblown popcorn flicks like “The Rock” and “Armageddon.” He turned his attention to WWII and put out “Pearl Harbor,” which... immediately earned a reputation as one of his worst overblown popcorn flicks. Emmerich is taking some very familiar steps here, and yeah, the results are pretty much the same.

The film follows real-life WWII officers and personalities from the attack on Pearl Harbor to the Battle of Midway, a naval battle that gave the United States a crucial victory. Hotshot pilot Dick Best (Ed Skrein) becomes commander of his squadron and loses his trademark confidence when charging others with risking their lives the way he’s willing to risk his own. Intelligence Officer Edwin T. Layton (Patrick Wilson) was relatively sure that the Japanese were going to attack Pearl Harbor, and lives were lost because of his ineffectiveness. He and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz (Woody Harrelson) are determined to not let that happen at Midway... unless he’s wrong this time. Other key pilots include characters played by Luke Evans, Aaron Eckhart, and surprise movie MVP Nick Jonas. We get a glimpse of the Japanese officers as well, as they let their pride in their superior resources lead them into a fatal trap.

As with many war movies, after the initial action sequence (Pearl Harbor), much of the first half is spent getting to know the characters and much of the second half is spent in battle. The first half doesn’t work because the focus bounces around too much and the characters are mostly unlikeable anyway. Skrein especially is grating to watch. Didn’t Hollywood learn after he struck out as “The Transporter” that this guy shouldn’t be a leading man? As for the second half, it’s just a lot of incoherent flying, shooting, and exploding, complete with not-quite-convincing CGI fireballs. I’ll take the movie’s word for it that the Americans win (sorry if that’s a spoiler), but I wouldn’t have been able to tell from the action as opposed to the epilogue.

The heroes of Midway, among many other veterans, deserve to be celebrated, but with a better movie than this. Celebrate Veterans Day by seeking out a veteran and shaking their hand, not by seeing this well-intentioned but uninteresting misfire. And sorry, but I have to make the obvious joke that “Midway” is a fitting title for such a mediocre movie, if it even achieves that.

Grade: C

“Midway” is rated PG-13 for sequences of war violence and related images, language and smoking. Its running time is 138 minutes.

Contact Bob Garver at rrg251@nyu.edu.



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Recycle Day

Recycle Day will be this Saturday, November 16th from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the FHS Bus Loop on Post Oak Road in Fairfield, Texas.

Items that may be recycled each month include: newspaper, sorted office paper, mixed paper, cardboard, clean plastics #1-#7, water bottles, milk containers, soda bottles, laundry and bleach bottles, aluminum cans, and steel cans.

Glass NOT accepted at this time.

Sign up for reminders by testing @ffrecycle to 469-425-2522.

Monthly Recycle at Fairfield High School has changed to the third Saturday of the month to coordinate with the Fairfield Fest/ Market Days weekend.

Next recycle date with be December 21st.

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Big Boy Locomotive #4014 Rolls Through Jewett, Texas

What seemed to be thousands of people gathered in Jewett, Texas this past Saturday, November 9th, 2019 for a chance to see the Big Boy Steam Locomotive #4041.

People came from all over for this site; Brownwood, Longview, Magnolia are a few of the Texas cities represented inside the crowd. With, of course, people from the much closer cities of Buffalo, Fairfield, Groesbeck, Mexia, Teague, etc...

As the train drew close the excitement intensified throughout the crowd. The whistle on this locomotive is so powerful it makes your entire body vibrate.

Once the train was stopped and people were admiring the train; a few children grew so excited that the Railroad Police had to announce for them to, "get out from under the train."

The 132 foot long locomotive is the last active

of twenty-five similarly built locomotives, with seven on display throughout the nation.

The gargantuan locomotive can hold up to 25,000 gallons of water, and 56,000 pounds of coal.

Big Boy #4041 was returned to service to celebrate the 150 year anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad.

The locomotive is accompanied by an impressive array of varying from the George Bush 41 Presidential Library and Museum to the Experience the Union Pacific Rail Car.

While the train is no longer in Texas, it will continue to tour through Wednesday, November 27th, 2019.

The schedule is available at <https://www.up.com/heritage/steam/schedule/index.htm> in case you missed the train, and feel like a road trip.

Victoria Keng reporting



A RAILROAD POLICE STOPS TO THANK AIR FORCE VETERAN, John Keng of Brownwood, for his service. (Photos by Victoria Keng)

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