

THE LIBERTY GAZETTE

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Tuesday, February 10, 2026

AGENDA

MEDICARE BENEFITS COUNSELOR

DAYTON - On Wed., Feb. 11, Benefits Counselor Zelda Earvin with the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Area Agency on Aging will be at the Jones Public Library from 1-3 p.m. to meet one-on-one with disabled and older Texans. She will provide information regarding traditional Medicare, Medicare Advantage Plans (Medicare Part C), and Part D prescription plans that are available to seniors. This service is offered on a first come first served basis free of charge to area seniors. The Jones Public Library is located at 801 S. Cleveland Street. For more information, call the library at 936-258-7060.

PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

HARDIN - The Olive Bethel Church family welcomes the public, family and friends to the 19th year Pastoral Anniversary of Pastor Gregg L. Bellard and First Lady Kay F. Bellard on Sunday, February 15, at 3 p.m. Pastor Tommy Johnson and First Missionary Baptist Church of Barrett Station, Texas, will be the guest speaker and guest church. Come and be blessed by honoring the man of God. The church is located at 5830 FM 1011.

LENTEN FISH FRY

DAYTON - The Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters of St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church will be hosting their annual fish fry Ash Wednesday, February 18, and then each Friday during Lent through March 27. They offer dine-in or drive-thru options from 5-7 p.m. each night at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 806 S. Cleveland Street. Plates are \$13 (cash/check) or \$15 (card) and include fish, fries, coleslaw, hush puppies and dessert.

DAYTON ROTARY GUMBO LUNCHEON

DAYTON - The Dayton Rotary Club will host its annual All-You-Can-Eat Gumbo Luncheon on Friday, February 20, in the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. The chicken-sausage gumbo will be served from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. or until sold out. Take-outs are available. Tickets can be purchased from any Dayton Rotary member or pay at the door. Proceeds benefit the scholarship fund and their other community efforts.



ABOVE: Torchbearer Mable McKnight addresses the crowd at the 1996 Liberty Relay Event with other Liberty County and Southeast Texas torchbearers behind her. (That's Larry Wadzeck at far left; Sharon Davis is to the right of Mable.) **LEFT:** Mable posed for a moment beside Hwy. 90, west of Dayton.



SHC honors local Olympics involvement

by Lisa Meisch, Archivist/Curator, Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center

LIBERTY - As Southeast Texans gear up to watch the 2026 Winter Olympic Games, held Feb. 6-22 in Milano Cortina, Italy, the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center (SHC) in Liberty is shining a spotlight on the area's past Olympics involvement and offering a new presentation to local groups. Archivists from the Center are available to visit organizations and share a slideshow including historic photographs and collection materials, answer attendee ques-

tions and provide guidance on how to get started with archival research.

The area has its own special connection to the Olympics. Did you know that the Olympic Torch Relay passed through Southeast Texas ahead of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, 30 years ago? The relay always begins at a ceremony in the city of Olympia, Greece, the site of the ancient Olympic Games. The Olympic flame began its journey on March 30 and arrived in Los Angeles, California, on April 27, 1996. During its jour-

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Black Excellence Day @ The Museum set for Sat., Feb. 21

DAYTON - The Colbert-Rosenwald Corporation invites the public to attend 2026 Black Excellence Day @ The Museum, a community celebration honoring educators and connecting generations through history, service, and legacy, held in celebration of the 100th observance of Black History Month.

Originally established in 1926, Black History Month marks 100 years (1926-2026) of recognizing and celebrating Black achievement, heritage, and contributions in the United States.

The event will take place Saturday, Feb. 21, 2026, at the Colbert Gymnasium in Dayton. On-site registration begins at noon, with the official program starting at 1 p.m. Admission is

free, and door prizes and refreshments will be provided.

This year's theme, "Honoring Educators. Connecting Generations," highlights the enduring impact of education within the Colbert-Rosenwald community. The event will recognize three important groups:

- Former educators of Annie E. Colbert School, a historic Rosenwald School



- Alumni who pursued careers in education

- Descendants of alumni who followed the call to teach

Together, these individuals represent a powerful continuum of educational excellence that shaped generations in Dayton and beyond.

The Annie E. Colbert School served the community from 1929 to 1970, standing as a beacon of opportunity during an era of limited educational access for African American children. As one of the Rosenwald Schools established to uplift Black communities through education, the Colbert School remains a lasting symbol of resilience, leadership, and hope.

The program will feature keynote addresses by Mrs.

Alpha Wright-Henderson, Ms. Betty Maxie Woods, and Dr. Travis O. Young, each offering personal insight and historical perspective on the transformative role of education in shaping lives and communities.

Community members, former students, families, educators, and supporters of local history are encouraged to attend and participate in this meaningful celebration. Alumni and legacy educators are especially invited to register in advance to be formally recognized during the program.

Registration is available online at <https://bit.ly/3M4qRfm> or by scanning the QR code (below).

The event is organized by the Colbert-Rosenwald Corporation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to preserving local history and strengthening community connections. While not a school-sponsored event, the program proudly supports historical engagement within Dayton ISD.

Black Excellence Day @ The Museum promises to be a powerful afternoon of remembrance, recognition, and inspiration honoring those who taught, those who learned, and those who continue the legacy.



Delicious pancakes at St. Stephen's, Tues., Feb. 17

LIBERTY - Long ago, during the 40 days of Lent, Christians gave up the eating of all dairy products, so keen housewives made pancakes to use up the supplies of eggs, milk, butter and other fats. The pancakes could easily be made and cooked in a skillet or on a griddle. Families had stacks of them

and pancakes were popular with all.

Well, it is that time of year again when people start to think about what to "give up" for Lent. But before giving anything up, come and enjoy an all-you-can-eat supper at the Annual Pancake Supper at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church on

Tues., February 17, from 5-7 p.m. Pancakes, sausage, and a beverage are included. Dine-in and takeout are available.

Tickets are \$12 a person, and can be purchased at the church office in advance, or at the door the day of the church is located at 2041 Trinity Street. The church office phone number is 936-336-3762. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday - Friday.

Funds from the supper will be used by the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) for outreach projects, such as assistance to local children and families in need, camp scholarships, and to victims of natural disasters.

Filing ends for Dayton election, Feb. 13

DAYTON - The City of Dayton will hold a General Election on Saturday, May 2, for the positions of Mayor and City Council Position #3. Candidate packets are now available from the city Secretary's

office, 801 South Cleveland Street, for anyone interested in serving the community. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The filing

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Dairyland Donkey Ball coming to Hardin High School

HARDIN - Are you ready to be entertained? Dairyland Donkey Ball is coming to Hardin High School. Don't miss out on the fun Monday, February 23, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gym.

In addition to the side-splitting fun, there will be both a live and silent auction where good stuff awaits. Donations of any kind are being accepted. The live auction will take place during half-time of the show.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. This event is a standing tradition and the largest fundraiser of the year. Come out and help the Class of 2028-2029 raise proceeds for the junior-senior prom. For information/donations contact, Amanda at 936-334-4252, Kayla at 936-346-1314, Trish at 936-402-8574 or Kristi at 832-683-1996.

History & Then Some to feature CO₂ pipelines

WALLISVILLE - This year's series of History & Then Some lectures at the Chambers County Museum at Wallisville is sponsored by a generous donation from Occidental Petroleum Corporation. History & Then Some is held on on the third Thursday of each month from 6-7 p.m.

The February presentation is set for Thurs., Feb. 19, and will feature OXY CO₂ Pipeline Operations in Chambers County. Nigel A. Quiroz, external affairs advisor at OXY/1PointFive, and Angie Contreras, technical consultant at OXY/1PointFive, will share their knowledge of pipeline operations in Chambers County.

The evening will be informative and focused on answering residents' questions and concerns.

Admission is free but seating is limited. Please make a reservation by calling 409-389-2252. The museum is located at 20136 I-10 East, Wallisville, TX.

To our Devers readers:
Devers City Secretary Miss Kristi has our free newspapers at her office at the Devers City Hall.

936.336.6471



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