

EARLY VOTING FEBRUARY 17-27

**RE-ELECT
JIMMY
BELT**
LIBERTY COUNTY
PCT. #2 JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

**ELECTION DAY
MARCH 3, 2026**

"Experience. Dedication. Integrity."

Pol. Ad paid for by Jimmy Belt Campaign. Joan Belt, treasurer.

View Olympic Torch Relay collection at SHC

Excerpted from original article
by Lisa Meisch, Archivist-
Curator, Sam Houston
Regional Library and
Research Center

This 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? As the Olympic flame journeyed across the continental United States, from Olympia, Greece, the relay passed for the first time through Southeast Texas on May 22. Liberty was one of only five cities in Texas where the relay stopped for a ceremony and lunch for relay participants.

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

The Sam Houston Center's Olympic Torch Relay collection documents the event in Liberty and the relay's passage through Southeast Texas. The collection includes photographs of the Liberty event and local relay participants, clippings from various Southeast Texas newspapers pertaining to the relay as it passed through the area, event maps, meeting minutes and notes documenting the planning and organizing of the Liberty event by a local committee, posters and other publicity materials and even the torch carried in the Liberty area.

Visitors may view this and other collections at the Sam Houston Center during business hours, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and Saturday 9

a.m. - 4 p.m. The finding aid is available online: Olympic Torch Relay collection (https://txarchives.org/tslac/finding_aids/00052.xml).

If your local group is interested in a presentation on this topic, please contact SHC staff at SamHoustonCenter@tsl.texas.gov or (936) 336-8821.

Local authors at

Jones Library

Continued from Page A-1
crafts and activities along with refreshments and free food. For more information, contact the library at 936-258-7060 or email jonespubliclibrary@daytontx.org. Visit the Jones Public Library event page on Facebook for additional information.

**LIBERTY GAZETTE
936-336-6416**

Raised on an East Texas dairy farm, Trent Ashby knows the value of hard work. Now, he is running for State Senate to be a strong conservative voice for us in Austin.

TRENT'S PRIORITIES

- ★ SUPPORT ICE AND PRESIDENT TRUMP TO STOP ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION
- ★ CUT PROPERTY TAXES
- ★ DEFEND CHRISTIAN VALUES
- ★ PROTECT EAST & SOUTHEAST TEXAS WATER

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TrentAshby.com

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ENDORSED BY 16 REPUBLICAN SHERIFFS IN SD 3
ENDORSED BY TEXAS FARM BUREAU AGFUND

POL. ADV. PAID FOR BY THE TRENT ASHBY CAMPAIGN

**Re-elect
Kim
HARRIS, CPA**



Liberty County Treasurer

Kim Harris, CPA Liberty County Treasurer

PROVEN LEADERSHIP. TRUSTED FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP.

For nearly two decades, Kim Harris has served as County Treasurer with integrity, accuracy and a commitment to protecting taxpayers dollars. First elected in 2006, she brings experience, professionalism and conservative financial principles to the office.

EXPERIENCED. QUALIFIED. DEPENDABLE.

- Certified Public Accountant
- Certified Investment Officer
- Endorsed by the Republican Party of Texas - 2006
- Experienced accounting, auditing and tax professional

ROOTED IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Raised in Liberty, Kim is married to local businessman Matt Harris, owner of Pelco Builders. They have raised three children and are proud grandparents to three grandchildren. As a wife, mother and grandmother, Kim understands the importance of safeguarding our county's financial future.

EXPERIENCE MATTERS. INTEGRITY MATTERS. YOUR TAX DOLLARS MATTER.

Pol. Ad paid for by Kim Harris Campaign.

Request mail ballots by Feb. 20, *Continued from Page A-1*

Voting by mail is limited to Texans in the following categories:

- 65 years of age or older
- Sick or disabled
- Expecting to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day

• Absent from the county of registration during the Early Voting period and on Election

Day

- Civilly committed under Chapter 841 of the Texas Health and Safety Code
- Confined in jail, but otherwise eligible

If you are voting by mail because you are disabled or are 65 years of age or older, you may use a single application to re-

quest ballots by mail for all county elections in the calendar year. To do so, simply mark annual application on your application for a ballot by mail when selecting the election for which you are applying.

Applications to vote by mail and more information can be found at VoteTexas.gov.

Book signing for Lauri Smith at Liberty Municipal Library

LIBERTY - The Liberty Municipal Library will welcome author Lauri Smith, who

will introduce her book 112 Days: A Caregiver's Journey From Desperation to Hope. Smith will be at the library Sat., Feb. 28, from 1-3 p.m. She will be available to visit with the public, share her story, offer encouragement, and provide an opportunity for book signing.

Smith is a grateful recipient of the love of Jesus. He leads her on ongoing adventures of the soul as she continues digging

deeper to gain knowledge and understanding of the incomprehensible grace and God-ness of God. Her passion for writing is inborn and she is honored to share it as a ministry tool to encourage others. This book is the result of a clear calling from God.

Smith is qualified to write about the many facets of caregiving because she experienced all of them with her dad in the last months of his life. God placed a deep longing within her to reach out to others with her story. She brings a real, raw,

unfiltered testimony and offers it fully to the reader. She chooses to make herself vulnerable because it's that important to reach those who need assurance that they are not alone in their struggles and the accompanying myriad of emotions that make up any caregiving journey.

She also wants to testify about the love of God, who does not turn away from desperation and painful unrehearsed heart cries, but responds with tender compassion every time, even when it is not evident until later.

EARLY VOTING - FEBRUARY 17-27

Please Vote

Jackie G. (Blanchard) JOHNSON

for Liberty County TREASURER

Faith ★
Integrity ★
Service ★



Pol. Ad paid for by Jackie G. Johnson Campaign. Thure Johnson, treasurer. POB 728, Hardin, TX 77561