



TRINITY BAPTIST WELCOMES HAMMOND FAMILY
 Left to right: Reuben, Colleen, Abishai, Edrie, Pastor Kyle and wife Dorinda, Rose, Joseph, Eli and Bo.

Hammond Family welcomed to Trinity Baptist Church

After the beloved pastor of nearly 30 years, Mike Blackburn, retired, the church went through a grieving process but with the help of David Williams of Trinity River Baptist Association, the church has emerged more organized and more united in its mission and ministry in Dayton. After the pastor search process and reviewing over

20 applicants, the committee recommended Kyle Hammond to the church, which unanimously voted to call him. Reverend Kyle has a master's degree from Pensacola Christian College and feels the Lord has called and gifted him for the ministry.

An installation service for Reverend Hammond will be held Sunday, May 5, with a

dinner to follow the service. Rev. Stephen Ammons of Meadowbrook Baptist Church in Rockdale, Texas, will be preaching at the service. The public is invited to attend to welcome Kyle and his wife Dorinda and their young family to the ministry. The church is located on FM 1960, across from Thrif-Tee Food Center. Sunday service is at 11 a.m.

Next Street Rally coming up Sat., May 11

LIBERTY - On Sat., May 11, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. an informal gathering of good people and great cars will be assembled at the Liberty County Courthouse for the Liberty Street Rally. All car enthusiasts are invited to take part. Interesting cars, hot rods, classic, muscle, sports, exotic as well as motorcycles and other unique vehicles will be available for public viewing.

Those participating are asked to adhere to a few guidelines. There is no parking in the traffic lanes, no excessive or high revving, no burnouts of peel-outs and vehicles must exit and reenter through a designated entry, but most of all be respectful to everyone. Incidentally, all pets must be kept on a leash.

For more Liberty Street Rally information, email: libertystreetrally@gmail.com or visit the Facebook page.

LIBERTY GAZETTE
936-336-6416

Mother's Day is May 12th

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Hardin Helping Hands fundraiser May 4

HARDIN - It's a fundraising event you won't want to miss as Hardin Helping Hands get ready to tempt you with some mouthwatering barbecue when they host their fundraiser Sat., May 4, at the Hardin High School cafeteria. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Not only will there be barbecue to enjoy, there's also a silent auction and a drawing for prizes. The one and only Dave "Showdog" Chessher will serve as master of ceremonies and will no doubt add his signature charm and energy to the festivities.

Barbecue plates of brisket, sausage, beans, potato salad, onions, pickles, sauce, bread, and a drink will be served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Price at the door is \$16. Pre-orders, placed prior to May 1, are

\$14/plate. Ages 7 and under eat for half-price. Top off your barbecue plate with a dessert for just \$2. To-go orders are also welcome by calling 281-620-8101. Payments are accepted by cash, check, CashApp or PayPal.

A drawing will offer a \$500 cash prize for first place, an RTIC Ultra-light 72 qt. wheeled cooler (\$300 value) as second prize and a \$150 Saltgrass Steak House gift certificate as the third prize. Winners of the drawing and the silent auction will be announced during the event. You need not be present to win.

Sponsoring the event are Curtis & Son Vacuum Services and PTC Liberty Tubulars, both of Liberty. For more information, call 936-298-6873 or 281-620-8101.

Next Dayton Chamber lunch May 14

DAYTON - The Dayton Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon is set for Tues., May 14, at the Dayton Community Center, 801 S. Cleveland. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by a catered meal by Big Time Events Catering. Universal Agape Love will present an informative program on Stress, Burnout & Self Care. It's a topic most anyone can relate to.

Admission is \$20/members and \$25/non-members. Please register to attend by 12 p.m., Fri. May 10, so arrangements can be made with the

caterer. Those registering at the door will be charged an additional \$10.

Sponsorships and Spotlight Tables are now available. Secure yours today and get your business recognized before, during and after the luncheon, and don't forget your door prizes for added exposure for your business. This month's luncheon Title Sponsor is First America Homes.

For more information or to register for the luncheon, visit the website daytonchamber.com or call the chamber office at 936-257-2393.

New acquisitions by USFWS listed

Recent acquisitions by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have added more than 9,000 acres to the public lands managed by the National Wildlife Refuge System in Texas. These newly acquired properties aim to protect habitat for a diversity of wildlife and benefit the public for generations to come.

At Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, the Service acquired more than 191 acres of diverse habitat consisting of brackish marshlands and coastal prairie. Anahuac protects some of the most significant coastal marshlands in Texas. Features on the newly acquired tract include Lone Oak Bayou and the largest oak mott, and thousands of neotropical migrants. Wildlife found on the newly acquired tract includes mottled ducks, herons, egrets, marsh birds and other

species.

At Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, the Service acquired more than 42 acres of bottomland hardwood floodplain forest, which features a branching bayou system, depressional wetlands, and hardwood timber. The acquisition of this property benefits fish and wildlife habitats of the lower Trinity River floodplain.

Additional acquisitions include: San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge, over 5,635 acres; Neches River National Wildlife Refuge, over 3,000 acres; Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, 441 acres; Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, over 57 acres; Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife, 10 acres.

These acquisitions were made possible with the help of numerous non-profit conservation partners.

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

Property owners have the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the appraised (market) value of your property;
- the unequal value of your property compared with other properties;
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal records;
- any exemptions that may apply to you;
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal;
- the taxing units taxing your property;
- the property ownership;
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal;
- failure of the chief appraiser or appraisal review board (ARB) to send a required notice; or
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, county appraisal district (CAD) or ARB that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review

Liberty County Appraisal District
 2030 Sam Houston Street
 Liberty, Texas 77575 (936) 336-5722

Review by the ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the CAD, you file a notice of protest requesting to have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that hears and determines protests regarding property appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes based on evidence heard during the ARB hearing.

If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing and send you written notice of the time, date, place and subject of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday. You may use Comptroller Form 50-132, *Property Appraisal - Notice of Protest*, to file your written request for an ARB hearing.

Prior to your hearing, you may request a copy of the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. Before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD are required to provide each other with a copy of any materials (evidence) intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. Evidence may be submitted for any hearing type either in paper or on a small portable electronic device (such as a CD, USB flash drive or thumb drive) which will be kept by the ARB. Do NOT bring evidence on a smart phone. The ARB's hearing procedures regarding all the requirements to properly submit evidence on a small portable electronic device must be reviewed.

To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or your designated agent may appear in person, by telephone conference or videoconference call or by submission of a written affidavit to present your evidence, facts and argument. You must indicate the type of hear-

ing you request on your written notice of protest filed with the ARB not later than the 10th day before the hearing date and provide your evidence and written affidavit before the ARB hearing begins. You may use Comptroller Form 50-283, *Property Owner's Affidavit of Evidence to the Appraisal Review Board*, to submit evidence for your telephone conference call hearing or for hearing by affidavit.

You and the CAD representative have the opportunity to present evidence about your case. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. ARB members are required to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the ARB's decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. As an alternative to district court, you may appeal through binding arbitration or the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) if you meet the qualifying criteria.

If you choose to go to district court, you must start the process by filing a petition with the district court within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. If you chose to appeal through binding arbitration, you must file a request for binding arbitration with the CAD not later than the 60th day after you receive notice of the ARB order. If you chose to appeal to the SOAH, you must file an appeal with the CAD not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order. Appeals to district court, binding arbitration or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

If you believe that the ARB or chief appraiser failed to comply with an ARB procedural requirement, you may file a complaint with the local taxpayer liaison. If it is not resolved by the ARB or chief appraiser, you can request limited binding arbitration to compel the ARB or the chief appraiser to comply.

Tax Payment

You must pay the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute, the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken or the amount of taxes due in the previous year.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your CAD at

Liberty County Appraisal District
 2030 Sam Houston Street
 Liberty, Texas 77575 (936) 336-5722

You can get Comptroller forms and additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the change was delivered to you.

Liberty County Appraisal District
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If you believe the CAD or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually Feb. 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

Not later than May 15 (or within 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed for good cause if you miss the usual deadline. The ARB decides whether you have good cause. Late protests are not allowed after the ARB approves the appraisal records for the year.

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the CAD informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was delivered to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change did not result from

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or legal, state or national holiday.