



Greg Cook, longtime member of VFW Post 5621, was joined by his special lady friend Sharon Asson at the Elks Lodge Flag Day Ceremony June 14. Although she's not in uniform at this moment, Sharon is also a veteran.

Use iWatchTexas to report suspicious activity

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety's (DPS) iWatchTexas program is a resource anyone can use to report suspicious activity or behavior in schools and communities. The iWatchTexas program allows Texans to report any suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal, terrorist or school safety-related threats.

The public can report behaviors via the mobile app, online at www.iwatchtx.org or by calling 1-844-643-2251. Each report is reviewed by law enforcement analysts and all reports are confidential (providing contact information, which is optional).

The iWatchTexas app is available at no cost to iPhone users on the Apple App Store (iWatchTexas) and for Android users on

Google Play (iWatchTexas). Texans are urged to download the app now.

Note: The iWatchTexas program is not designed to report emergencies. If a situation requires an emergency response, call 911.

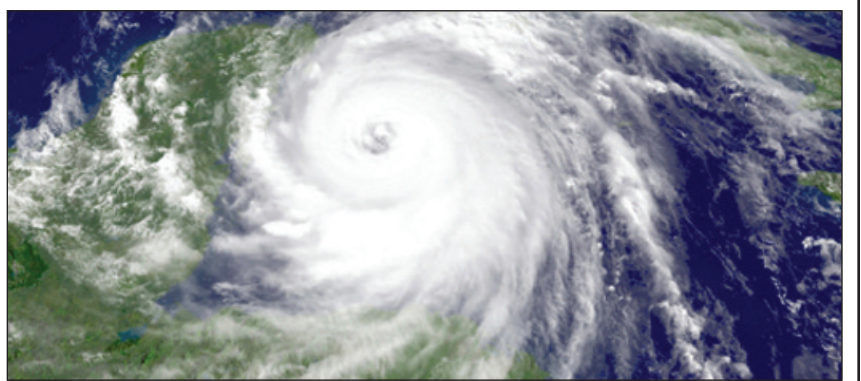
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THE HARMON LEGACY

WALLISVILLE - Discover the story behind a treasured Chambers County family in The Harmon Legacy available now from Chambers County Museum or the online bookstore at wallisvillemuseum.com. Readers will journey through the history of the Harmon family and the renowned Harmon Saddle Shop. Printed on premium 100-lb. glossy paper, this richly illustrated volume is more than just a book - it's a wonderful coffee table keepsake to be enjoyed and shared for generations. Purchase price is \$35; a \$3 fee will be added to credit card purchases.

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Dayton Rotarians learn about bees, beekeeping

Members of the Rotary Club of Dayton welcomed local beekeeper and educator Benny McCarthy, president of the Liberty County Beekeepers Association, as the featured speaker at the club's recent meeting. McCarthy presented an engaging and educational program on honeybees, beekeeping, honey production, and the critical role pollinators play in agriculture and food production.

With more than nine years of beekeeping experience and approximately 65 colonies under his management throughout Liberty County and surrounding areas, McCarthy shared fascinating insights into the complex world of honeybees. Members learned about the structure of a bee colony, including the responsibilities of queen bees, worker bees, drones, scouts, and foragers. McCarthy explained that a healthy queen can lay as many as 1,500 to 2,000 eggs per day and discussed how bees communicate through the remarkable "waggle dance," which allows scout bees to direct others to food sources and potential hive locations.

The presentation highlighted the importance of pollination to agriculture, emphasizing that many crops and forage plants rely heavily on honeybees. McCarthy noted that even livestock production benefits indirectly from bee pollination through the grasses and plants consumed by cattle and other animals. Members also learned about the challenges facing beekeepers today, including colony losses caused by mites, viruses, weather conditions, predators, and hive pests. McCarthy discussed the process of harvesting and extracting honey and shared details about maintaining healthy colonies throughout the year.

A lively question-and-answer session followed, with members asking about local honey, allergies, hive placement, and bee removal services. Other questions surrounded around queen identification and the differences between various honey-producing bee species.

In addition to his beekeeping operation, McCarthy leads the Liberty County Beekeepers Association and its growing youth education program. The association hosts monthly

meetings and works to educate both youth and adults about the importance of pollinators and responsible beekeeping practices.

Anyone interested in listening to great programs such as this one, the Dayton Rotary Club invites you to join them

on Thursdays at noon for lunch. They meet at the Dayton Community Center.

LIBERTY GAZETTE
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Rotarian Rachel Ansley, Beekeeper Benny McCarthy and Rotary President Dr. Luke Chachere

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