

Dock Line



Magazine

The Woodlands

January 2020



A New Experience in
Healthcare

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Who Oversees Flood Control for
Montgomery County?

See Page 18

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Can Change Everything®**



Our mission at Sandstone Family Medicine is to provide patients the most innovative and highest quality care. We strive to form lasting relationships with the entire family by including patients in the decision-making process and acknowledging them as active participants in their health.

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Our philosophy is to provide the best possible care recommendations, and then allow the patient to choose the type of care they wish to receive. We hope to create lasting relationships with patients who are committed to regaining their health, and who allow us to participate in their full recovery. The committed patients who listen and take action on our recommendations get the best results.

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Happy New Year

It's hard to believe another year has passed and a new decade begins with 2020. Here at Dock Line Magazine we are extremely excited to start the New Year with some amazing new ventures. We are skipping the New Year's resolutions putting the past behind us while getting straight to work. We promise to do our best to bring you current and insightful information every month along with a few exciting announcements soon to come, so hold on it's going to be a preeminent year. We hope your 2020 starts off just as amazing. Wishing you all a prosperous New Year. Let's make 2020 the best year yet.



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Dock Line Magazine

The Woodlands

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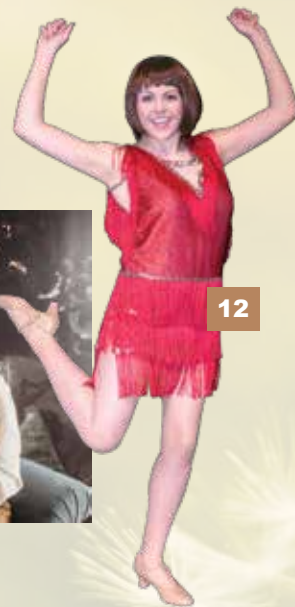


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Dock Line Magazine

The Woodlands

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WILLS - PROBATE FLAT FEES

James M. Bright - Attorney at Law



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Grogan's Mill Farmer's Market

When: Saturdays* January 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2020
Time: 8:00 a.m. – Noon
Where: 2230 Buckthorne Place, The Woodlands, TX 77380 - Buckthorne Place & Grogan's Mill Road at Grogan's Mill Village Center
Presented by Grogan's Mill Village Association.
For more information call 713-992-5893. *(Except for some holidays)

Free "Law Line" Service

When: January 6, 2020
Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Have a legal question? A free call-in public Law Line for residents of Montgomery County who have general legal questions is offered on the first Monday of every month at 281-645-6344 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. by volunteer attorneys from The Woodlands Bar Association. (If the first Monday is a Federal holiday, then the Law Line will be offered on the second Monday of that month.) Topics include bankruptcy, family law, criminal law, consumer protection, and more. The volunteer attorneys do not provide specific counseling yet offer general information and inform

people about their rights and options and what legal resources may be available for callers to follow through with their concern. Callers' identities, as well as the identities of the volunteer lawyers, will remain anonymous. This free public service is a project of The Woodlands Bar Association in conjunction with the United Way of Greater Houston, Montgomery County Center. The Woodlands Bar Association is comprised of private practice attorneys from both large and small law firms, judges and corporate attorneys and seeks to promote high legal standards, education and community service in the area. The Law Line offers a local community service opportunity for members to share their unique legal skills to provide service to others.
www.WoodlandsBarAssociation.com

Taste of the Town

When: January 16, 2020
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Where: The Woodlands Waterway Marriott, 1601 Lake Robbins Dr., The Woodlands, TX 77380
Admission: Individual Tickets: \$30 - includes (2) alcoholic drink tickets and unlimited food samples, water and soft drinks. \$20 for children ages 4-10; \$25 at door- Includes unlimited samples, water and soda. Group packages are also available.
The Woodlands Area Chamber of Commerce Taste of the Town will be held January 16, 2020 at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott. This food and beverage expo is one of the largest events held in Montgomery County attracting more than 3,000 people!

Enjoy mouth-watering food from over 50 restaurants, bakeries and distributors Visit the website for more information or to purchase tickets.

Arbor Day

When: January 25, 2020
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Where: Northshore Park, 2505 Lake Woodlands Dr., The Woodlands, TX 77381
Help reforest our community. Free native tree seedlings available. No registration is required. ♦



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A New Experience in Healthcare



Walking in the doors of Sandstone Health at one of their four chiropractic locations, their family medicine office or their neurofeedback location feels like you are walking into the warm, welcoming home of a family member - If that family member offered state-of-the-art health care. Which is exactly what Chiropractor, Dr. Tony DeRamus had in mind when he first established Sandstone Chiropractic in Montgomery, Texas in 2009.

"When I began in Montgomery, I knew I needed to have a clear mission as to why I was doing what I was doing. That mission was and still is to educate and take care of the doctors in our profession while providing the best care

possible for our communities," he says. "At the end of the day, it's all about the people."

The Sandstone Philosophy

What started as a chiropractic practice, treating people with pain, stiffness and limited range of motion has become one of the fastest growing healthcare practices in the area. The reason for their success? Chiropractor, Dr. Tony's philosophy that the patient must be an active and willing participant in their health and recovery. Rather than bullying patients into treatment plans that may not work for them, Sandstone strives to provide the best possible care recommendations, and then allows the pa-

tient to choose the type of care they wish to receive. With an eye toward creating lasting relationships with patients who are committed to regaining their health, Sandstone believes the only way a patient is successful is if they are a partner in the process. This philosophy has paid off as patients who listen and take action on the recommendations made by one of Sandstone's providers experience the best results.

As patients flocked to Sandstone for chiropractic care, Chiropractor, Dr. Tony began to understand that Sandstone was doing more than treating people, they were revolutionizing the way their community participated in their health care. Yet, there was still a void in the way



most people experienced medicine with their family practitioners.

Enter Sandstone Family Medicine

"Opening a family medicine practice was something that was important that I knew I needed to do for our community," Chiropractor, Dr. Tony shared. "I felt that the need was growing for more family practices that provided the same quality of care that we provide in our chiropractic practices. I knew we would also be able to provide the community with a high-quality solution to their family's healthcare. That's when I began to put together a qualified and skilled team of professionals to make this a reality."

The introduction of Sandstone Family Medicine in October 2019, brought with it a flood of patients who were eager and ready to experience health care not as just a patient, but as a partner. Emphasizing preventative and functional medicine, Sandstone Family Medicine's team of specialists work to reveal the underlying causes of a patient's concerns to help them regain their health without dangerous opioid medications or unnecessary antibiotics.

At the Forefront of Technology

Sandstone continues to introduce various cutting-edge therapies in their offices to help support the body's natural healing process by

introducing specific targeted protocols, with therapies such as Pulsed Electromagnetic Field Therapy (PEMF), Cryofos (spot cryotherapy), Spinal Decompression and more! Sandstone practitioners believe that every therapy must be rooted in human connection to be its most effective.

Something Different for Pain

With the opioid crisis looming large over the country, people who experience pain are looking for alternatives to prescription pain relievers. Many have found not only relief but also a return to function within the walls of Sandstone Health. Most recently, Sandstone has introduced a proprietary Joint Rejuvenation Program, helping patients with osteoarthritis, ligament and tendon injuries, plantar fasciitis, and overuse injuries make incredible recoveries. This series of procedures work to repair areas that just a short time ago would have taken surgical repair or prolonged recovery times to heal. Minimally invasive and requiring no anesthesia, no narcotic pain medications, and no prolonged recovery times, the Joint Rejuvenation Program represents Sandstone's continued commitment to staying on the cutting edge.

Something Different for the Brain

The opioid crisis has also driven the country to seek other natural options to achieve opti-

mal brain health. Understanding the magnitude of this need lead us to launching Sandstone Center for Neurofeedback in The Woodlands, July 2018. Neurofeedback is a brain-based therapy used to correct the frequency abnormalities in the brain associated with various neurological conditions without the need for medication. Neurofeedback has proven success in helping patients overcome the symptoms of various conditions such as ADD/ADHD, Anxiety, Depression, Memory Loss, TBI, PTSD, Concussions, Postpartum depression and more. At Sandstone Center for Neurofeedback, we base your treatment plan on the results gathered from your 19-channel brain map, where we will pair neurofeedback therapy with supportive therapies such as Oxygen therapy, Whole Body Vibration, Electromagnetic Field (PEMF), HRV (Heart Rate Variability) and Photobiomodulation (PBM) to help you achieve optimal brain function.

What's next?

Chiropractor and CEO of Sandstone Health, Dr. Tony DeRamus is determined to bring the Sandstone Health experience to as many people as possible. In 2020, he plans to expand the chiropractic arm of the company and open two additional chiropractic locations in the greater Houston area. ♦

Continued on page 10 ➞



Locations and Contact Information

SANDSTONE CHIROPRACTIC MONTGOMERY
125 Blue Heron Dr., Ste B
Montgomery, TX 77316
936-582-0404

SANDSTONE CHIROPRACTIC MAGNOLIA
6875 FM 1488, Ste 300
Magnolia, TX 77354
281-789-7586

SANDSTONE CHIROPRACTIC CONROE
1336 League Line Rd., Suite 200
Conroe, TX 77304
936-230-5515

SANDSTONE CHIROPRACTIC SPRING/HARMONY
3466 Discovery Creek Blvd., Ste. 300
Spring, TX 77386
281-367-5020

SANDSTONE CENTER FOR NEUROFEEDBACK
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936-230-5161

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STAGE RIGHT

STAGE RIGHT Presents Tony Award Winning Musical **Thoroughly Modern Millie**

By: Carolyn Corsano Wong Photos by: Michael Pittman Images

STAGE RIGHT of Texas, resident theatre company at the historic Crichton Theatre, will present *Thoroughly Modern Millie* February 14 – March 1, 2020. The show is directed by Manny Cafeo with New Lyrics by Dick Scanlan, New Music by Jeanine Tesori, Book by Richard Henry Morris and Dick Scanlan, with the original story and screenplay by Richard Morris for the Universal Pictures Film.

The winner of six Tony Awards, including Best Musical, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* was the 2002 season's most awarded new show on Broadway! Based on the 1967 Academy Award-winning film, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* takes you back to the height of the Jazz Age in New York City, when "moderns," were bobbing their hair, raising their hemlines, entering the workforce and rewriting the rules of love. This high-spirited musical romp is a delightful valentine to the long-standing spirit of New York City and the people who seek to discover themselves there. Set



in 1922, young Millie Dillmount from Kansas comes to New York City in search of a new life for herself. Her grand plan is to find a job as a secretary for a wealthy man and then marry him. However, her plan goes completely awry. The owner of her dingy hotel kidnaps young girls to sell to the Far East, her wealthy boss is slow in proposing marriage and the man she actually falls in love with doesn't have a dime



*Ah Sweet Mystery of
Life at Last I've Found
You!*

to his name... or so he tells her. A happy ending will prevail, of course. *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is a bright, funny, and charming musical comedy full of thundering tap dance numbers and beautiful love songs -- a heartfelt valentine to New York City and the people who love her.

Continued on page 14 ➡



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RIGHT**

**Performances at the historic
Crichton Theatre in Conroe, TX**

**THOROUGHLY MODERN
millie**



New Lyrics by Dick Scanlan

New Music by Jeanine Tesori

Book by Richard Henry Morris & Dick Scanlan

Original Story & Screenplay by Richard Morris

For the Universal Pictures Film

Feb. 14 - Mar. 1, 2020

Fridays & Saturdays 8pm, Sundays 2 pm

Saturday matinee 2/29 at 2 pm

Tickets \$17-26 Group discounts available

Tickets: 936-441-SHOW (7469)

Online: www.stage-right.org

Funded in part by The City of Conroe CVB visitconroe.com

By arrangement with Music Theatre International MTISHOWS.com



Madison Mapes as Miss Dorothy with Lizzie Camp as Millie

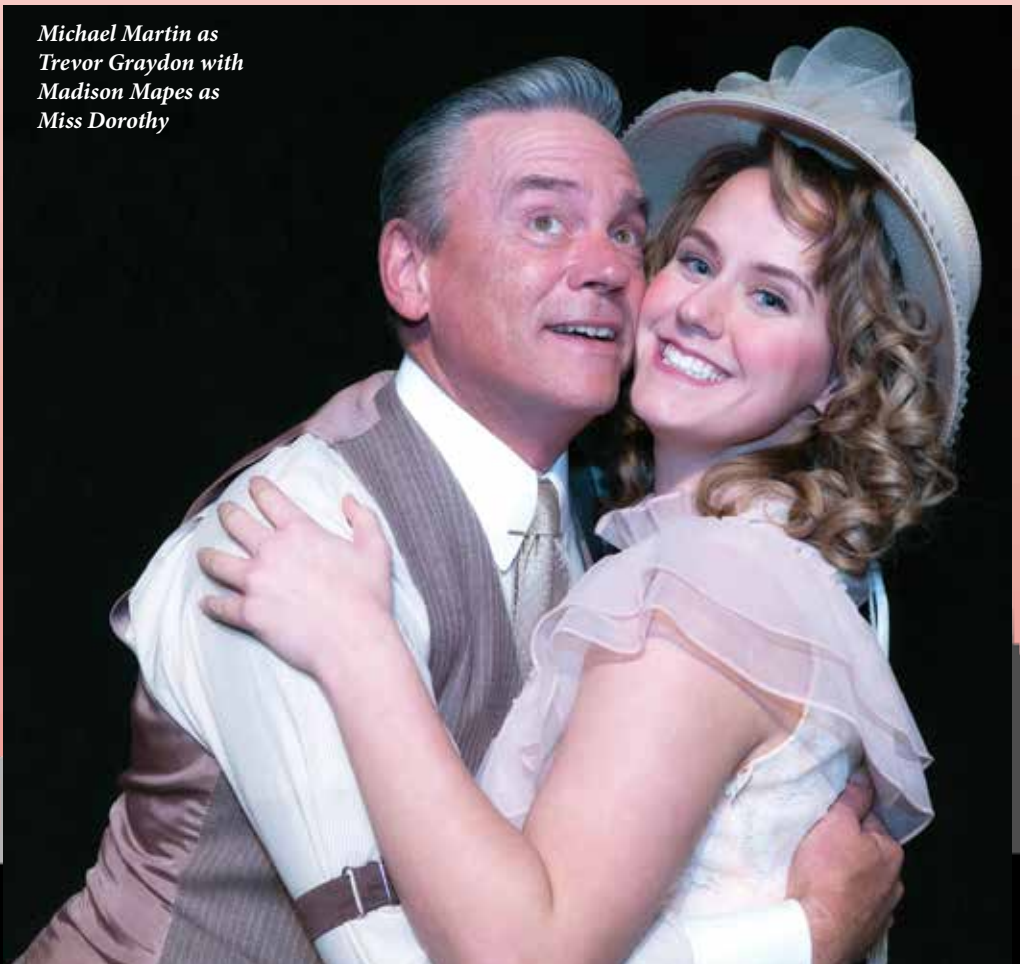


Cain Hamilton as Jimmy with Lizzie Camp as Millie

TICKETS/INFORMATION

Show dates are February 14 – March 1 - Fridays & Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 2 pm and an added matinee on February 29 at 2 pm. Performances will be held at the historic Crighton Theatre at 234 N. Main in downtown Conroe. Ticket prices are \$26 for adults, \$22 for seniors 65 yr and older, \$19 for Groups of 12 or more, and \$17 for youth 16 yr and under. Tickets for the show can be obtained by calling the Crighton Theatre box office at 936-441-SHOW (7469) or online at www.stage-right.org. ♦

Michael Martin as Trevor Graydon with Madison Mapes as Miss Dorothy





Why You Need a Retirement Income Analysis

Part 1



When your parents retired, they probably counted on substantial outside income to fund their golden years, including Social Security benefits and a corporate pension plan that also may have provided health benefits to retirees. While Social Security remains a crucial part of a retirement plan, pensions are dwindling and becoming a part of the American landscape of the past.

Instead, the responsibility for funding retirement is moving to the individual. Although there are a wide range of excellent ways to save — including 401(k)s, IRAs, annuities and more — many individuals find themselves questioning if they will ever be able to retire.

The key to a confident retirement today is twofold: KNOWLEDGE AND ACTION. Knowledge begins with a clear understanding of your financial picture, knowing where you're starting from and identifying your unique retirement goals. It's also important to grasp the challenges you might face during retirement. You take action when you begin making steps toward your goals and as well as being prepared to overcome the challenges that threaten to derail them.

It's time to face the truth: the days of relying solely on Social Security and pensions to fund your retirement are over. As financial professionals, it's our job to provide a strategy that helps ensure your hard-earned money is there to meet your plans. Over the next several months, I'll offer important strategies in this article series, covering both what you need to know and the action you should consider taking to be ready for retirement.

The Impact of Living Longer

Americans are living longer. On average, men who have reached age 65 can expect to live until age 84.3, while females will live an average of 86.7 years. About 25 percent of today's 65-year-olds will live past age 90 and 10 percent will pass age 95! ^[1]

Advancements in medical technology, better fitness and nutrition, and access to vaccines

and medicines have all played a role in adding years to our lives. Older Americans are also putting more life in those years; more retirees enjoy active lifestyles than ever before, counting travel, exercise, gardening and other physical activities among their hobbies. ^[2]

Living longer is a good thing. Of course, it also means you need income that will cover all you hope and dream of doing during those additional years. While many retirees eliminate some of the costs from their working years, living an active lifestyle often creates new family budget expenses.

Challenges Unique to Women

Women, in particular, face challenges in creating income that spans retirement. Women are more likely to live alone in their later years. ^[3] Despite an increased presence in the workforce, the average woman working full-time still earns 80.5 percent of the income earned by her male counterpart. ^[4]

Studies show women are also more likely to take time off to provide caregiving roles to children, aging parents or disabled family members. Since Social Security benefits are calculated based on working years and salary, many women have reduced benefits.

DOCTOR, DOCTOR, GIMME THE NEWS

Living longer doesn't necessarily mean we're living better. Chronic disease affects approximately 80 percent of older adults. ^[5] and for many people, health care is one of the largest expenses they'll face in retirement years. ^[6]

In 1960, the average person spent just \$146 on health care annually. In 2018, that number had ballooned to \$11,172! ^[7] Adjusted for inflation, healthcare costs are now about ten times higher than they were in 1960.

Consider this: An average 65-year-old retired couple in 2019 may need over \$280,000 to cover health care expenses in retirement. ^[8] That number includes things like insurance premiums, out-of-pocket expenses and prescriptions, but excludes long-term care.

Those who wait until age 65 to retire may have access to extended health care benefits through their employer, while people who retire at age 62 will need to cover insurance premiums out of pocket until they are eligible for Medicare at age 65. These are important factors to consider as you approach retirement.

In our next article, we'll look at the implications of long-term care on retirement plans.

If you need help planning your retirement, contact us today to schedule a free income analysis. We'll help you determine if you have

enough to retire comfortably, when you can retire and help you put all the pieces of your retirement plan in place.

This content is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to serve as the basis for financial decisions. The information and opinions contained herein provided by third parties have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed.

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The Players Theatre Company's Production of
Arsenic and Old Lace

Article by: Philip Harris Photos by: Kelley Harris, Dazzling Diva Photography



It's hard to believe, but playwright Joseph Kesselring originally conceived of *Arsenic and Old Lace* as a drama. Kesselring, a music professor at Bethel College in North Newton Kansas, may have drawn inspiration for the play from his time living on Bethel's campus. Local tradition at Bethel suggests that Kesselring used the Goerz House—now on the National Register of Historic Places—as a setting for his play, where sweet spinster sisters Martha and Abby Brewster poison lonely men and bury them in the cellar.

Or perhaps Kesselring sought to adapt the life of nurse Amy Duggan Archer-Gilligan for the stage. Archer-Gilligan, a nursing home proprietor, poisoned at least five people, including her second husband and residents of the nursing home. Archer-Gilligan's case was highly publicized, and the similarities between her story and the Brewster sisters' well-intentioned poisonings are plain to see.

But whatever the inspiration—Queen Anne style boarding house or murderous nurse—Kesselring's play became the farcical black comedy opening January 24th at the Owen Theatre in Con-





roe, Texas. In this adaptation, the larger-than-life characters are portrayed by veteran actors and new additions to the stage alike.

Marilyn Moore and Terry Lynn Hale, playing Abby and Martha Brewster, will leave audiences in stitches. Both performers are veterans of the stage, and their chemistry together is a highlight of the show. No less capable is Katt Gilcrease, who plays the villainous Jonathan Brewster, one of Abby and Martha's nephews. Jonathan makes a sudden reappearance and threatens to upend Abby and Martha's peaceful life. Dale Trimble portrays larger-than-life nephew Teddy Brewster, who lives with Abby and Martha and believes that he is the 26th President of the United States, Teddy Roosevelt. And rounding out the Brewster family is Jonathan Stone, playing dramatic critic Mortimer Brewster.

Alongside the main cast are both familiar faces and newcomers to the Owen Stage. Dixie Cooper plays the stern, no-nonsense Superintendent Witherspoon, Jonathan Thompson portrays both lonely old Mr. Gibbs and fussbudget Lieutenant Rooney. Michael Hayes is Dr. Harper, father to Elaine Harper, played by Amanda Abright. Elaine and Mortimer are soon to be married, unless Abby, Martha, and Jonathan's antics stop their impending marriage. Jonathan's long-suffering and mysterious sidekick—Dr. Hermann Einstein—is played by the highly capable John Kaiser, recently seen on the Owen Stage in *Lend Me a Tenor*. Finally, Steve Murphree, Dalton Cook, and Travis Cook round out the cast as a group of less-than-capable, but well-meaning, Brooklyn Police Officers who get pulled into the



Brewsters' antics.

With sweet spinster sisters with a penchant for poison and a villainous nephew with a kooky sidekick, *Arsenic and Old Lace* is sure to be a hilariously macabre good time. Tickets can be purchased at the Owen Theatre Box Office in person, Tue.-Fri. from 3-6pm, by calling 936-539-4090, or by visiting owentheatre.com. *Arsenic and Old Lace* runs January 24-Feb. 8 at the Owen Theatre. ♦



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Who Oversees Flood Control for Montgomery County?

By: Matt Barrett, Flood Management Division Engineer

Concerns about lack of flood mitigation in Montgomery County are in the news again (Montgomery County commissioners respond to accusation of lack of flood mitigation efforts, *The Courier*, October 25, 2019; Montgomery County commissioners respond to concerns over lack of flood mitigation, *Community Impact News*, October 23, 2019). With all the attention in the media, Montgomery County residents may ask, “Who oversees flood control for Montgomery County?”

Unfortunately the answer is that there’s not a single entity that is in charge of flood planning and flood management for all of Montgomery County. Just as significant—there’s no dedicated funding to pay for regional projects that benefit the county as a whole.

Throughout its existence, in addition to providing water supply and other similar services, the San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) has engaged in planning efforts related to flooding in its home base of Montgomery County, however county-wide flood mitigation plans have not been realized for a number of reasons including a lack of a dedicated funding source and a broad consensus to implement county-wide flood mitigation plans.

Creation of the San Jacinto River Authority

The SJRA was created by the Texas Legislature in 1937 to develop, conserve, and protect the water resources of the San Jacinto River basin—all without funding from the State of Texas. Covering all or part of seven counties, the organization’s jurisdiction includes the entire San Jacinto River watershed, excluding Harris County. SJRA is one of 10 major river authorities in the State of Texas, and like other river authorities, its primary purpose is to implement long-term, regional projects related to water supply and wastewater treatment across various counties in Texas. As defined by its enabling legislation, SJRA also has the authority to provide flood control and numerous other activities within its jurisdictional boundaries. SJRA actively seeks grant funding for projects, participates in regional watershed planning across its seven county area, and recently implemented a Flood Management Division to coordinate with various political subdivisions and partners on studies and funded projects.

Creation of the Harris County Flood Control District

The same year SJRA was created (1937), the Texas Legislature also established a flood control district in Harris County. The Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) was created with the Harris County Commissioners Court as the District’s governing body. Funded by a dedicated ad valorem property tax collected by Harris County, the HCFCD is the single entity dedicated to providing flood damage reduction plans and maintaining flood reduction infrastructure in Harris County.

The Current State of Affairs

Montgomery County does not have a single entity like HCFCD to implement flood damage reduction plans, construct and maintain flood reduction infrastructure, and fund these efforts with a dedicated source. Instead, Montgomery County Commissioners Court, Montgomery County Engineering Department, Montgomery County Office of Homeland Se-

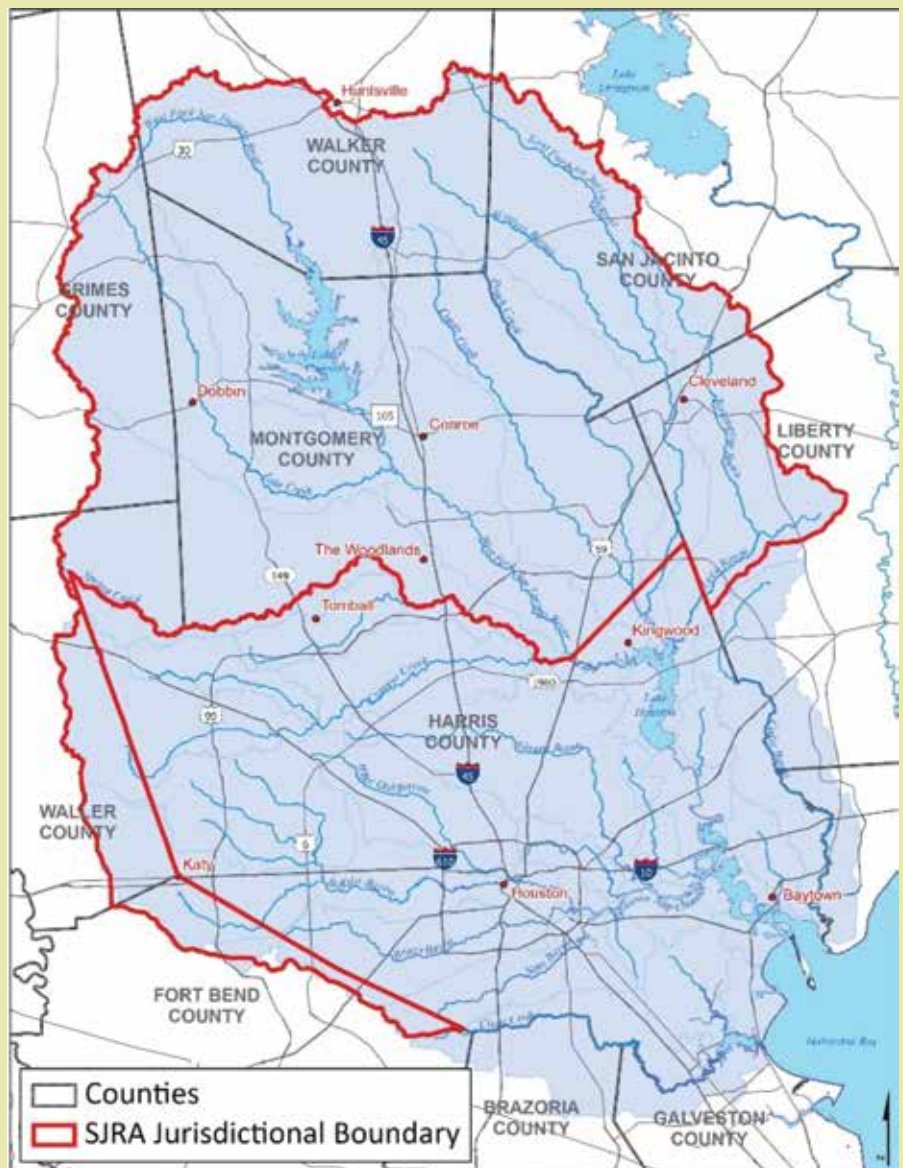


Figure 1 – San Jacinto River Watershed with SJRA Boundary

curity and Emergency Management, Montgomery County Flood Plain Management, SJRA, various working groups, and local water districts all contribute their specific solutions to combat flooding which results in the current shotgun approach to flood mitigation.

A Preview of the Past

Dedicated funding and a dedicated governing body, such as a flood control district, could make mitigation projects easier to devise, implement, and monitor. It could also improve oversight and provide a coordinated effort to improve the entire county, not just those areas that may have more active and politically engaged residents.

Historical Planning Efforts: Assessing Risk Since the 1940s

Beginning at its creation in 1937 and continuing through more than eight decades of dedicated and professional leadership, SJRA has quietly, but diligently, pursued its goals of long-term water planning and providing water-related services.

Beginning in 1943, in response to flood damage to property and agricultural lands in the San Jacinto River watershed, several historical drainage studies were performed. These studies analyzed existing conditions, identified flood risks, and evaluated mitigation alternatives in order to reduce flood risk, manage water supply in the region, and determine sedimentation impacts.

The initial 1943 San Jacinto River master plan report called attention to the need for comprehensive flood risk assessment within the service area. The ultimate goal of the master plan was the conservation, reclamation, and utilization of the natural resources of the entire watershed while accounting for sustainable growth and development within the area. A prime objective of the plan was to address flooding issues, resulting in several projects being considered to reduce the area's flood risk: the creation of dams and reservoirs, channel improvements, and levee construction. A total of 14 dams with approximately 886,000 acre-feet of storage for water supply and flood mitigation were considered in the Plan. The estimated cost of these projects at the time was approximately \$22.2 million for dam/reservoir construction and \$1 million for channel improvements.

In the 1957 San Jacinto River master plan report update, the Authority again discussed the importance of flood risk reduction measures as well as the implementation of drainage improvements to reduce inundation and destructive run-off, and minimize future loss of land productivity. Similar alternatives to those outlined in the 1943 master plan were discussed, and a detailed list of alternatives and estimated costs was again provided.

A San Jacinto Upper Watershed Drainage Improvement and Flood Control Planning Study developed in 1985 was the first study that focused on detailed evaluation of proposed alternatives and incorporated hydraulic modeling to evaluate their feasibility and flood risk reduction effectiveness. Several alternatives, both structural and non-structural, were considered and evaluated, including:

- Total channelization
- Selective channelization
- Vegetation clearing
- Bridge modifications
- Property buyouts
- Lake/reservoir creation

The report concluded that total channelization, bridge modification, and most vegetation clearing appeared to be less feasible based on benefit/cost ratios, and that property buyouts and reservoir construction appeared to be most cost effective.

In 1989, a Comprehensive Flood Protection Plan for Southern Montgomery County, Texas was created. This plan determined existing flood problems, proposed flood reduction alternatives, and recommended improvements for a small portion of south Montgomery County. The analyzed and recommended alternatives addressed localized flooding as opposed to regional issues.

SJRA, in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, studied the possibility of building a reservoir on the lower portion of Lake Creek and developed a report in 1997. The proposed reservoir would have been roughly 80% of the size of Lake Conroe. The reservoir was proposed to increase surface water supply (approximate yield of 60% of Lake Conroe water supply), with no floodplain mitigation. Plans for the reservoir were not further pursued due to a lack of federal and state funding and minimal interest in water sales from the proposed reservoir.



Figure 1 – Proposed Alternatives Graphic from 1957 San Jacinto River Master Plan Report

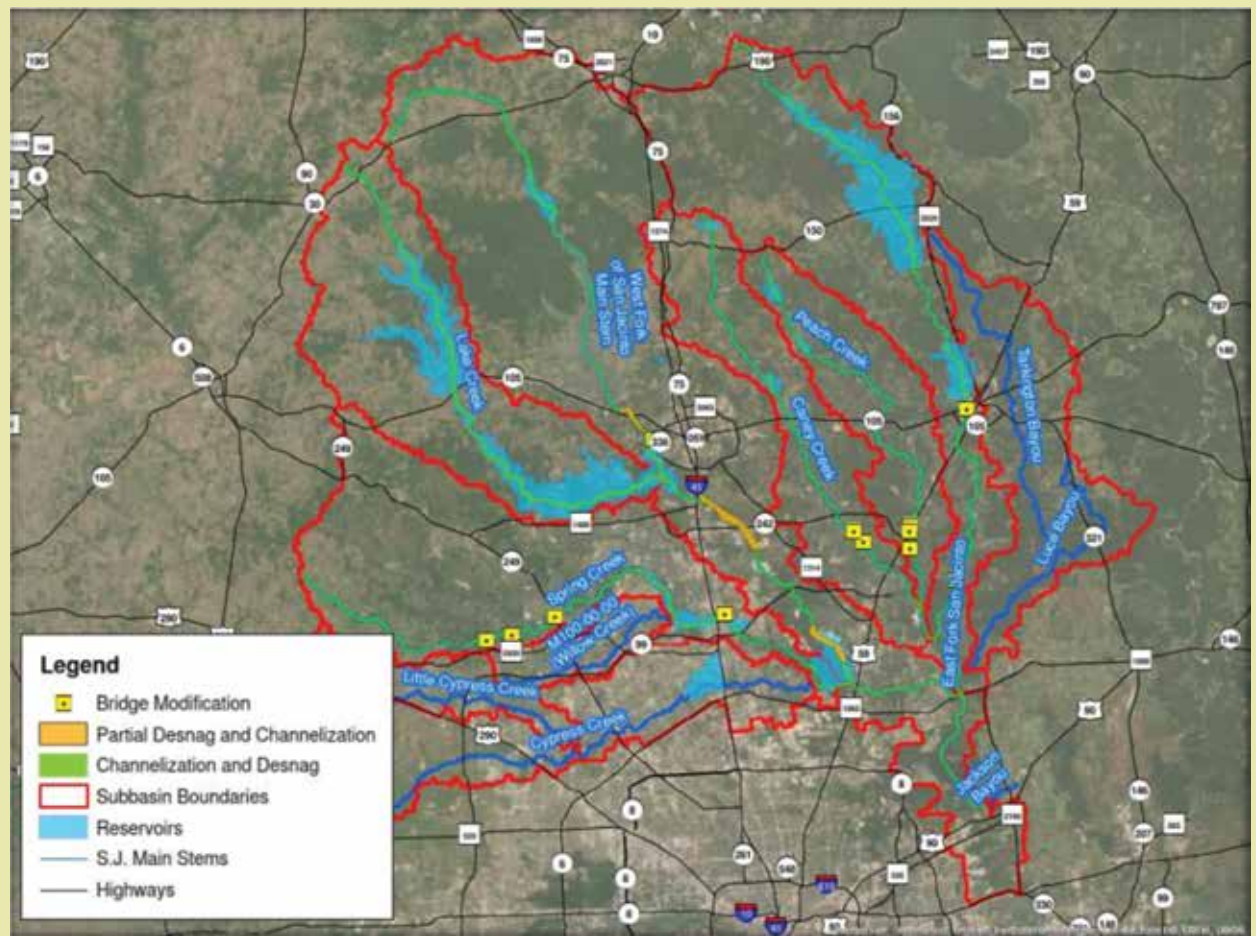


Figure 2-Alternatives from 1985 Planning Study

Find out more on the SJRA BLOG at SJRA.com

Dedicated funding and a dedicated governing body, such as a flood control district, could have made mitigation projects easier to devise, implement, and monitor over the years. It could have also improved oversight and provided a coordinated effort to improve the entire county. A number of studies and plans were prepared over the years, but they were not implemented due to lack of funding.

On the SJRA Blog we will further explore the history of flood planning and flood management. We look at the attempts by a local legislator and the SJRA to establish a Montgomery County Flood Control District and how these efforts ultimately failed when the Montgomery County voters defeated the establishment of the district and its recommended funding mechanism. Find out more about the history of flood control in Montgomery County as well as additional water topics on <https://www.sjra.net/blog/>.

One of the major river authorities in Texas, SJRA's mission is to develop, conserve, and protect the water resources of the San Jacinto River basin. Covering all or part of seven counties, the organization's jurisdiction includes the entire San Jacinto River watershed, excluding Harris County. For additional information on SJRA visit our website at www.sjra.net, like SJRA on Facebook @SanJacintoRiverAuthority, follow us on Twitter @SJRA_1937, or Instagram @SanJacintoRiverAuthoritySJRA. ♦

Basin	Total Channelization	Desnag	Reservoirs		100-yr Buyout	25-yr Buyout
			Alt. 1	Alt. 2		
West Fork	0.40	0.75	2.2 ¹	2.8 ²	0.57	0.76
Lake Creek	<0.001	0.0	0.0 ¹	<0.001 ³	0.09	0.09
Spring Creek	0.03	0.14	0.0	0.09	0.36	0.84
Peach Creek	0.33	0.04	0.80	0.40	1.3	1.9
Caney Creek	0.09	0.08	0.51	—	1.2	2.7
East Fork	0.07	0.002	0.07	—	0.77	0.81

¹ = Lake Creek Reservoir operated for controlling West Fork floods.
² = Lake Creek Reservoir and new Lake Conroe operation assumption.
³ = Lake Creek Reservoir operated for controlling Lake Creek floods.

Figure 3-Benefit Cost Ratios for Alternatives 1985 Study



GARDENING IN JANUARY

HAPPY, HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!

I, along with the entire staff of the Green Lawn System and Lawn Ranger Company, wish you a very happy and healthy New Year! 2020! Wow! May you be blessed more than you dreamed!

As I glance back at 2019 and reflect, I must say THANK YOU to our hundreds of wonderful customers who have trusted us to maintain and enhance our property – some for over 20 years!

COLOR PLANTS: Cool temperatures and some occasional rainfall generally REDUCE the need to water the gardens heavily this month. Moisture does not evaporate from the soil as rapidly as in warmer months. Monitor the rainfall amounts. The flower beds with annual color plants are the ones that will dry out the fastest. Turf grass will be fairly self-sufficient at this time. Just remember to water as needed - - see that the soil stays moist, but not soaked.

Don't forget about the plants in containers. Keep them moist - - all the way to the bottom of the root ball.

Pest problems are relatively few this month. However, you'd better keep an eye out for aphids if the weather is mild.

TURF: Areas of bare soil will wash away during heavy winter rains. Here's an idea: loosen the soil and scatter ryegrass seeds over the area. Ryegrass will stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.



PERENNIALS: Want to see what a perennial will look like in a different location in your landscape? Now would be a good time to move it.

Prune, or cut back and remove old, dead upper portions of dormant perennials. "Dead stuff" makes the garden unattractive.

ROSES: Late December through early February is the best time to plant new rose bushes or transplant existing roses. To move a bush to a new location, prune it back appropriately, dig up as much of the roots as possible, and plant immediately. Caution: don't allow the roots to dry out.

SHRUBS: Shrubs are as dormant this month as they will get. The weather is generally cool and



moist. That makes it an ideal time to transplant.

A few suggestions to think about while transplanting: It is best to not plant immediately after a rain since soil is heavy, difficult to dig, and can become too compacted. Also, it is best to not plant immediately before a hard freeze that dips into the teens.

This is an excellent time to apply horticultural oil spray to shrubs that are prone to scale. These

include camellias, hollies, magnolias, euonymus, privets, and cleyera.



TREES: January is an excellent month to plant trees. Deciduous trees are leafless at this time of the year. Their dormancy makes this a great time to get them into the ground.

SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: Thank you for continuing to send us your questions and comments. We can be contacted at our offices at 281-681-1025, or through our web site: www.LawnRangerCompany.com

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Online with Dock Line

Online Resolutions for 2020

By: Dock Line Social Media Team

Remember those futuristic films that we used to watch where people walked into their homes, and their homes spoke to them, turned on the lights and started the kettle? It seemed so far off, so advanced. Yet now we have the Internet of Things, voice-controlled assistants and even control our homes from our smartphones.

But all this connectivity seems to come at a price – there are now more ways than ever for our information to be stolen, viruses to gain access or people to impersonate us. We need tech in our wallets to stop people stealing from contactless cards and biometric data to secure our phones.

Staying safe online remains a big issue, whether on a smartphone, a desktop or even with voice-controlled assistants like Alexa or Siri. To help you, here are the top New Year online resolutions you should consider setting to help reduce the chance you fall foul of the many dangers in our wonderful new connected world.

New Year Online Resolutions for 2020

Here are some of the online resolutions we will use in 2020, and that would be worth adding to your list of ambitions for the New Year.

I will do a social media clean-up on all my accounts

Set yourself some time when there is nothing else on the calendar and start going through your social media accounts. The idea is to look at what you see if as if you were someone else, a stranger or a friend.

For starters, what setting do you have on your account? Can anyone view your profile or do you have restrictions in place? While this is a personal preference, a public profile can be seen by anyone, and you might not want that if you have family photos, pictures of your house or other similar personal information on show.

Take a look at your accounts and the settings. You may spot things you might not want to be there anymore. Adjust the settings, remove photos and even unfriend people if you don't want them to see your information.

I will change my passwords (and make them tough)

Saving or remembering passwords is a pain, and that is why we often use the same one on multiple sites, but this makes us very vulnerable to hackers and cybercriminals. So, another excellent online resolution for the New Year is to go through and change passwords and make sure they are tough.

A strong password should:

- Have 12 characters or more
- Use numbers, capital and lowercase letters and symbols such as ! or ?
- Be a word not found in the dictionary or a combination of words
- Not an obvious substitution such as using 0 in place of 'o'

This kind of password can be challenging to remember and even to type, but you can get some great free online password apps that hold all of

your data under a single master password that you need to remember. Phones and browsers can also save information if they are secure.

I will check that everyone in the house has tough passwords too

Once you have changed your passwords and made sure they are strong and tough to guess, do the same for everyone else in the household. Start with ensuring people protect devices with a personal identification number (PIN) – this is a back-up even if the device has biometric features in case you need to access it.

Make sure it is challenging to get into a device with those stored passwords, photos and personal information, especially for the younger members of the family who are less security conscious.

I will chat with the family about online safety

Kids, in particular, are vulnerable to the dangers of the online world, and that is why it is essential to consider having a conversation with them about online safety as part of your New Year resolutions.

Set out some online rules or best practices if this works better. Talk about never giving out passwords, clicking the links in emails or messages and being careful about who you give friend status to on social media – as they can see all of your profile. While the aim is not to scare them into not using the Internet, it is best to be armed with information so they can protect themselves.

It can also be an excellent time to talk about

online use in general. If you have household rules such as no phones at the dinner table or no online activity an hour before bed, go over these. Also, talk about why these things are important to show they aren't just random rules!

I will support local businesses and be a good online citizen

We often focus on the negative about the online world, but there are lots of positives. One example is the ability to support local businesses by leaving reviews and positive feedback. These things make a big difference to businesses as more people than ever check sites like Trip Advisor or look at the reviews on Facebook.

Rather than only leaving negative mentions, set a resolution to take a moment to review the positive experiences. Tell a local restaurant the food was delicious or the local pub that the entertainment was top class. Be honest but don't forget, positive experiences help people as much as negative ones.

Be safe online

2019 was an eventful year, to say the least with the constant changes and challenges. From Facebook's Cambridge Analytica scandal to Instagram hiding likes and the growth of new platforms like TikTok, there are lots to consider and new issues to face. But there are also a lot of positives from the online world with the continued development of IoT one example of how it can make life easier.

By setting these or similar online resolutions for 2020, you can enjoy the best of the online world



while also protecting yourself and your family. And don't forget, you can send in your questions about any of these areas as we are always happy to chat online about security and help you stay safe while on the Internet!

If you have any questions about this article or would like additional tips and tricks or information. Don't hesitate to contact us at social@docklinemagazine.com! ♦

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Certified Texas
Master Naturalist



EarthQuest Falconer, Don McCulloch, and a Tawny Eagle. The Tawny Eagle is from Africa, and is somewhat smaller than our own American Bald Eagle

Birds of Prey Show – Lake Livingston State Park

Every March for the past four years, EarthQuest has brought their Birds of Prey show to Lake Livingston State Park, and this is one show that you don't want to miss! Watch a falcon rip through the air over your head, see a vulture up close and personal, and marvel at the size and beauty of several different magnificent raptors. For various reasons these birds can never be returned to the wild, many due to the fact they were raised from chicks by humans. They have imprinted on people instead of their own kind, and now they think they're people. These birds don't know how to hunt, how to accept a mate, or how to survive in the wild. But they still serve a great purpose.

EarthQuest is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing an environmental education program on birds of prey to the public. In 2019 EarthQuest brought their birds to 13 Texas school districts and 46 schools. Earthquest estimates the program in Texas was seen by almost 25,000 students and teachers last year! In addition they put on shows for parks, nature centers, and other civic groups. Over the past 16 years they've educated around 300,000 folks! EarthQuest volunteers really enjoy seeing all the children's delighted faces, their mouths wide open in wonder! And it's not just the kids, but the adults too!

Lake Livingston State Park Ranger, Joel Janssen, first brought in the Birds of Prey program during 2016. His mission is to create and develop young stewards for the natural and cultural worlds, and this program is a perfect fit. Joel enthusiastically says, "People need to see nature up close to feel its Shock and Awe, and live programs are the best way to get kids involved. Families have come all the way from Austin and San Antonio to see the Birds of Prey show!" In some years up to 800 people have attended the event at the State Park, with close to half of those being children.

Look for the exact date in March on birdsof-prey.texas.org, or facebook.com/LakeLivingstonSP. There are usually two identical shows, one at 11am



Ranger Joel is helping a Harris Hawk fly from a tall pole perch.



The Eurasian Eagle-Owl is one of the largest owl species. She's a big, bulky beauty, and twice as heavy as a Great Horned Owl.

and the second at 2pm. Bring the family to see these magnificent raptors at Lake Livingston State Park, and get ready for a little "Shock and Awe"!

Learn more about the incredible nature in



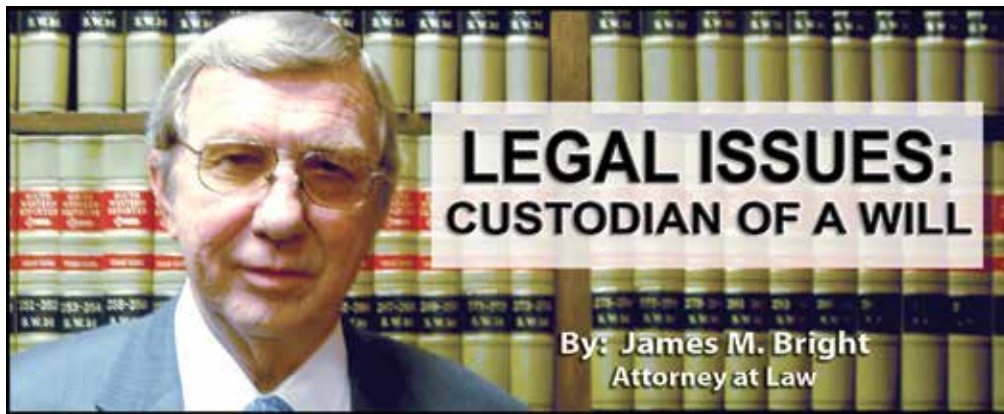
A Turkey Vulture and EarthQuest Program Manager, Phil Huxford. Turkey Vultures hunt by smelling the gases produced from carrion, and they have been known to cluster around buried gas pipeline leaks as well!

our area by joining a chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist organization. To find a chapter close to

you, or to read about the state program, go online to www.txmnn.org. Volunteer and get involved! ♦



The large Harris Hawk is the only hawk to hunt in groups.



The following is provided for informational purposes only and is not, nor should it be construed as legal advice.

Questions often arise regarding the duties and possible liabilities of the custodian of the will of a deceased person. "Custodian" for purposes of this article shall mean the person who has possession and/or control of a decedent's will. Is he/she required to file it for probate after the decedent's death? Should he/she just hold on to it until such time that one of the decedent's survivors asks for it? Should he/she try to find one or more of the beneficiaries and give the will to them?

The answer to this question is, actually, none of the above. Article 252.201 of the Texas Estates Code instructs the person who has custody of a decedent's will to deliver it to the clerk of the court

which has jurisdiction of the estate. (This is normally the county where the decedent was domiciled and maintained a fixed place of residence.) It should be noted that delivery to the county clerk is not the same thing as offering the will for probate. A probate proceeding would strive to have the will recognized as authentic and ask that it be recognized as the decedent's enforceable last will and testament. Filing with the county clerk without an application for probate does not seek Court authentication, but only makes it a part of the Court's complete record if and when a probate proceeding is ever filed for that particular estate.

It is possible and does "in fact" occur that a decedent might have more than one original document which professes to be his/her Last Will & Testament. This does not imply that more than

one document will be admitted to probate, but it does point out the need to provide the Court with an opportunity to examine each will and determine which, if either, should be recognized and honored. It is only the original of the will that is subject of this discussion and does not under normal conditions include photocopies of wills.

Occasionally this firm encounters a situation where the person who has possession of a decedent's will does not wish to file it with the court clerk and may even wish to keep its existence a secret. The reasons for not wishing to produce a will can vary widely between persons and may run the gambit from very innocent to the very sinister. One person may erroneously believe that he will take on unwanted financial responsibility and therefore believe that he should not get involved. ("In fact," there is not normally a court fee for filing the will pursuant to Article 252.201 of the Estates Code.) Another person might not file because they are under the belief that they lack authority to do so, while yet another person might not wish to file through a belief that filing might result in differences in distribution of the estate which are not in that particular person's best pecuniary interest. A conflict might occur if the person who is in possession of a will is not a beneficiary under the will, or the will does not give them the amount that they feel that they are somehow entitled. A common example occurs when the person who fails to file the will is a child of the decedent who would otherwise have received little or nothing from the estate, but by withholding the will and relying upon laws of intestate succession, may receive a generous portion of a deceased parent's estate.

If this occurs, the person who is in possession of a decedent's will may be compelled to produce the will upon performance of the following steps by persons who wish to have the will recognized:

- A sworn written complaint may be filed with the Court stating that a particular person has possession of the last will and testament of the decedent or other papers belonging to the estate of the testator. Upon receipt of the complaint, the County Judge shall cause that person to be cited by personal service to appear in court and show cause why he/she should not deliver such will or other documents to the court for probate or why he/she should not deliver such papers to the executor/administrator. (Texas Est. §252.202)

- If the person who was cited to appear fails to deliver the will or such documents that the Court is convinced were in his/her possession at the time of citation, then the Judge may cause the non-producing party to be arrested and imprisoned until such time that the will or other papers are produced. (Texas Est. §252.203)

- In addition to the above, a person who refuses to deliver such will or papers shall also be liable to any person who is aggrieved for all damages sustained as a result of such refusal. Those damages may be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction. (Texas Est. §252.204)

It is important to remember that any original

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document that purports to be the last will and testament of the decedent is of interest to the court. It is good practice, and a way to avoid confusion to the future custodians of your will, for you to physically destroy the original of any will that you do not wish for the court to consider as your last will and testament.

If you are the custodian of the last will and testament for someone other than yourself, your duty in filing can always be clarified through discussions with an attorney of your choice who is familiar with probate law in Texas.

James Bright has been admitted to practice before the Federal Courts for the Southern District of Texas and Eastern District of Texas as well as all of the Justice Courts, Probate Courts, County Courts at Law, District Courts, Courts of Appeal and Supreme Court for the State of Texas. He maintains an office in Houston and by appointment another at 208 McCown Street in the heart of historic Montgomery. Contact may be made by telephone (936) 449-4455 or (281) 586-8277. For more information about wills or probate in Texas, please see- www.houstontxprobate.com. ♦

IF YOU WISH TO SUGGEST A TOPIC FOR THIS COLUMN, SEND TO:

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Learning about Wildlife – Our Educational Outreach

By: Lisa Wolling, Executive Director

At Friends of Texas Wildlife, we feel one of the most important aspects of serving the community is what we offer through our educational outreach programs. Education is a vitally important part of our mission, and we offer many and varied programs and events.

our small gift shop (special wildlife-themed items!) and make a craft to take home. \$5 per person, children 2 and under are free.

- Spring Break Discover Days. These are stand-alone “mini-camp” days, with each day offering a different topic. For 2020, the dates will be



Each year, our educational committee volunteers go to many community events to help different groups learn about the wildlife around us. We feel this is a vital part of our mission.

Our educational outreach programs, under the exceptional direction of Cathie Coudert (our Education Coordinator), have expanded each year. In 2019, these programs reached over 5,000 members of the community through 92 different and unique events. Additionally, three Boy Scout Eagle projects and six Girl Scout Bronze or Silver Award projects were completed. We offer presentations to schools, camps, scouts, churches, and community groups of all ages. Here are just a few of the events our educational team offers:

- Second Saturday. Our education center is open the second Saturday of every month. Drop by any time between 10 am and 2 pm to visit. There are educational displays and touch tables to investigate, so kids can have some hands-on fun exploring animal pelts, bones, antlers, feathers, etc. It's also a great opportunity to meet one or more of our live, educational animal ambassadors (owls, hawk, opossum, turtles, and/or snake). Visitors can also browse

March 10, 11, 12, 10:00-2:00. Attendees will come and go any time during these hours (drop in, no advance registration required), and can attend one, two, or all three days as desired. Tuesday, 3/10 will be Marvelous Mammals; Wednesday, 3/11 will be Winged Wonders; and Thursday, 3/12 will be Radical Reptiles. Each day will feature different educational animals, crafts, and games. Parents stay with children, \$5 per person.

- Summer Camps. Lots of wildlife fun and games! For 2020, we will be offering three identical sessions of camp: Session 1 June 9 - 11; Session 2 June 16 - 18; Session 3 June 23 - 25. All camps will run 10 am to 2 pm, campers bring sack lunch. Registration will open April 1 on Eventbrite, \$125 per camper, geared for ages 7-11.

- Wild Summer Fun Days. This will be similar to the Spring Break days, but with longer sessions each day. Dates are Tuesday, 7/14 (Marvelous



Our educational center is a fun and exciting place to visit. We offer lots of camps, mini-camps, drop-in days, and our very popular Second Saturdays.

Mammals); Wednesday, 7/15 (Winged Wonders), and Thursday, 7/16 (Radical Reptiles). Parents drop campers off; each session will be 10 am to 2 pm (bring a sack lunch to picnic with). Come one, two, or all three days. For kids 7-11, \$30 per day. Registration will open on Eventbrite on May 1.

- Birthday parties. Come have a wildlife-themed party at our education center! Different themes and activities depending on age of child. Geared for children ages 4 through 10+.

- Educational presentations, either at our facility or yours. Including, but not limited to: schools, libraries, scout groups, homeschool groups, garden clubs, civic and community organizations, senior-citizen groups, or really any group that would like to learn more about wildlife

We are passionate about helping wildlife and sharing our knowledge of the animals around us. We always welcome the opportunity to help others learn a little more too. Our educational visitor's center is located at 29816 Dobbin Hufsmith Road, Magnolia, so come on out and check us out!

To learn more about what we do and view pictures of many of the animals we assist, please visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SavingTexasWildlife. The next Second Saturday at our education center Saturday, January 11. For more information about any of our events or educational presentations, please visit our website at www.ftwl.org, or email ftwl.education@gmail.com. On our website you can also find many helpful links and ways you can help support our efforts, too (such as Kroger Community Rewards, Amazon Smile, etc.). ♦

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