



Representatives of Breckenridge ISD, Stephens County Sheriff's Office, city of Breckenridge, Stephens Memorial Hospital and First Methodist Church of Breckenridge meet with Stephens County Judge Michael Roach and Emergency Management Coordinator David Leonard on implementing a plan to provide food to those affected by the SNAP program suspension.

Photo/Alex Kielar

## County mobilizes emergency food assistance plan amid SNAP suspension

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Stephens County put together a plan for its citizens affected by an upcoming SNAP program suspension in order for those individuals and families to continue getting the food that they need.

The loss of SNAP benefits is due to the ongoing federal government shut-down, which will affect 550 households and over 1,000

individuals in the county beginning Saturday, Nov. 1. The county received notification through the Texas Department of Health Services last week that the benefits would not be extended past that date, leading to an emergency meeting being called.

The county devised the plan during a special meeting Monday afternoon, Oct. 27, led by Emergency Management Coordinator David Leonard, and also in-

cluded other participating agencies like Breckenridge ISD, Stephens County Sheriff's Office, city of Breckenridge, Stephens Memorial Hospital and First Methodist Church of Breckenridge.

After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that this Friday, Oct. 31 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. through 12 p.m., a benefit drive will be held at First

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## County sets public hearing to explore PACE program

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Stephens County is taking steps toward establishing a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, a move that could unlock long-term financing for energy and water efficiency upgrades across the region.

At the commissioners court meeting Monday, Oct. 27, com-

missioners adopted a resolution of intent to establish the program and scheduled a public hearing during the next regular meeting at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 10.

The public hearing will allow for residents and stakeholders to learn more about the PACE program and the county's stance on it.

The PACE program

See PACE, Page 2



The Stephens County Commissioners Court listens as Charlen Heydinger, President of the Texas PACE Authority, speaks about the purpose of the voluntary PACE program and how it would help Stephens County if implemented.

Photo/Alex Kielar

## Solar project proposal presented to county commissioners

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Stephens County commissioners heard a comprehensive proposal for a large-scale solar and battery storage project that could bring more than \$130 million in private investment and more than 100 temporary construction jobs to the area.

Representatives from Samsung C&T America Renewals – project manager Charles Jackson and property tax consultant Gerald Bird – presented the project proposal from Samsung Renewable Energy and Crocus Solar to the commissioners court at the Monday, Oct. 27 meeting.

The Crocus Solar Project is planned for approximately 730 acres east of Breckenridge and would generate up to 100 MW of solar

power, while also including 50 MW of battery storage capacity.

The representatives described good landowner relationships already in place with the three properties within a Property Improvement District (PID). Two properties were owned by Dorothy H. England Bypass Trust and the other was owned by Donald R. Atwell. The total acreage was 730, while the total market value was \$2,808,300 with \$53,950 in agricultural value.

"We're still in early-stage development—doing environmental research, evaluating access and planning for fire safety," Jackson said.

The project would bring in more than an estimated \$130 million in investment, with \$100 million allocated

See Solar, Page 3



## Family Fun Fest

The Breckenridge Chamber of Commerce hosted the Downtown Family Fun Fest on the courthouse lawn and streets around city hall Tuesday, Oct. 28. The event included activities like a Trunk-or-Treat, vendor booths, food vendors, a children's costume contest, and a pumpkin decorating contest.

Photos/Alex Kielar



## Weekly Local Forecast

**Saturday, Nov. 1**  
High 67 | Low 40  
Precipitation 24%

**Sunday, Nov. 2**  
High 72 | Low 46  
Precipitation 5%

**Monday, Nov. 3**  
High 79 | Low 48  
Precipitation 1%

**Tuesday, Nov. 4**  
High 81 | Low 54  
Precipitation 0%

**Wednesday, Nov. 5**  
High 84 | Low 55  
Precipitation 0%

**Monday, Nov. 6**  
High 83 | Low 55  
Precipitation 0%

**Tuesday, Nov. 7**  
High 79 | Low 53  
Precipitation 14%

**Hubbard Creek**  
At capacity: 1,183.00  
Current: 1,169.78

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The county-wide burn ban was lifted, effective Saturday, Oct. 25, by Stephens County Judge Michael Roach.

Photo/Alex Kielar

# County burn ban lifted

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The Stephens County-wide burn ban was lifted following recent rainfall and consultation with Breckenridge Fire Chief and county Fire Marshal Malcolm Bufkin.

The burn ban was officially lifted Saturday, Oct. 25 and was effective immediately, but county officials urged residents to remain vigilant.

"Have water and tools ready, watch the wind, never leave a fire unattended and comply with state laws and city rules," County Judge Michael Roach said in a statement Saturday.

"Thank you to our fire departments and first responders."

Roach said that after having several calls with Bufkin over the weekend in which the fire chief noted several people wishing to burn piles, Bufkin felt it was now safe to do so.

The Keetch-Bryam Drought Index (KB DI) was reportedly in the 300s over the weekend, but has climbed back up to the 400s and 500s in parts of Stephens County. However, Bufkin said he felt it was good to leave it off and just continue to monitor conditions.

"It's not the dirt that we worry about, it's

the fuel on top that we worry about. So if we get a lot of dry heat and low-humidity weather... your fuel source will be volatile again," Bufkin said at the Stephens County Commissioners Court meeting Monday, Oct. 27. "I think just watch it from meeting to meeting and see if we start getting an uptick or not."

The county will monitor conditions and address the situation at the next commissioners court meeting Monday, Nov. 10.

"We're getting some cooler days coming. Humidity seems to be staying up too and that's our big thing," Bufkin said. "You know as well as I do, we've fought grass fires on top of water before, so it can happen."

Bufkin also noted that the public needed to be aware of who to contact if needed for the latest on burning.

"I think the public really needs to be sure to call the police dispatch," he said. "Because if it's bad, we're going to tell them, 'No don't burn today,' and we'll let the dispatch know that information. Because at the fire department, we're not always at the phone."

# PACE

Continued from Page 1

was authorized by the Texas Legislature in 2013, enabling cities and counties to create voluntary financing mechanisms that allow property owners to fund upgrades to HVAC systems, lighting, roofing and plumbing—without using taxpayer dollars or assuming financial risk.

Charlene Heydinger, President of the nonprofit Texas PACE Authority, joined the meeting to explain how the program works and its potential impact.

"This statute is attempting to overcome a problem, and the problem is that energy and water efficient equipment is really expensive, and it takes a long time for it to break even," she said. "So there are real disincentives for any business or nonprofit to spend more money on more efficient equipment."

Heydinger emphasized that the program is voluntary and designed to eliminate risk for lenders.

"Lenders also don't like to loan money on equipment, because the collateral is not good. They can't come and take an HVAC system if you don't pay," she said. "So what you would be doing if you create your PACE program is you create a mechanism that eliminates the risk for lenders. So lenders will loan over a longer period of time, and if you stretch our financing long enough, the savings will exceed the cost."

Michael Paris, Executive Director of the Breckenridge Economic Development Corporation, highlighted the program's potential to support local business and attract new investment.

"We want to look at this PACE program to help us with development within the community, retail sector, as well as the other sec-



Executive Director of the Breckenridge Economic Development Corporation, Michael Paris, speaks Monday, Oct. 27 to the Stephens County Commissioners Court about the implementation of a Texas PACE program in Stephens County.

Photo/Alex Kielar

tors and businesses. This program is important because all over Stephens County, we have market tax credits," he said. "It's a great way to use it as a tool to entice people to take a look at Stephens County for development."

Paris also pointed to the flexibility PACE offers for entities facing tight cash flow.

"Let's say we have a manufacturing facility. Let's say we have a church. If they needed to replace something for efficiency, whether it's water or HVAC related...The bank says, 'Well, I'll give you a loan for a couple years,'" Paris said. "The Pace program can evaluate that project...and say, 'Instead of shorter term for that HVAC system, let's extend that to maybe five or seven years.'"

Heydinger confirmed that PACE financing can be blended with other sources.

"We encourage people—get every utility incentive you can and every other source of financing—and then PACE can fund the energy and water efficiency," she said. "It's completely voluntary for all parties, but our hope is to increase jobs for your

HVAC folks and plumbers and roofers as well."

Unlike other states, Texas PACE assessments are not added to property tax bills.

"Our tax collectors testified in support of the statute, but when it came to figuring out how this was going to work, they went, 'We can't put these on the tax bill. We don't have the right software or the people,'" Heydinger said.

"So the tax collector's office is not involved. Installments that are due are legally due to you, but they're actually sent directly to the lender. So we get rid of all of that bureaucracy."

The resolution unanimously adopted by the commissioners sets the stage for further public input.

"This just gets the ball rolling, (there is) nothing official (that) we vote on today," County Judge Michael Roach said.

The hearing at the next meeting Monday, Nov. 10 will allow residents and stakeholders to review the required program report—also to be made available on the county website—and share feedback before formal adoption.

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# Solar

Continued from Page 1

to solar infrastructure and \$30 million in battery storage, according to Bird. He projected the project could generate approximately \$8 million in property tax revenue for the county, \$3 million for the hospital district and \$9 million for the school district over its lifespan.

When asked, Samsung told commissioners they would seek a tax abatement.

“Yes that is correct,” Bird said. “Reducing that main operating expense goes a long way to help this project get developed and during those initial years of operations.”

A tax abatement would allow the county to reduce or defer property taxes for a set period—typically up to 10 years—in exchange for specific commitments from the developer.

“It is a discount over a period of time,” County Judge Michael Roach explained. “The language actually abates all the taxes, 100%, but what they do per agreement is a payment in lieu of taxes, which stands for PILOT.”

Under a PILOT agreement, the developer would pay the county a fixed amount annually, often less than the full tax liability.

“They get the county a check every year and it’s really a tax payment, but it’s discounted,” Roach said.

When asked by a member of the public what the county gets in return for the tax abatement, Commissioner Will Warren suggested leaving trees between the property owners and the solar panels.

Commissioners emphasized that without an abatement, the

developer could still build, but the county would have no say in how the project was implemented.

“They have the right to come in here and do what they want to do,” Warren said. “But if you give a tax abatement, then you have a little bit of say on what they can do.”

Beyond leverage, abatements offer financial predictability. Officials cited past experiences with wind projects where valuation disputes led to costly litigation and budget instability.

“I talked to a judge in Schleicher County,” Roach said. “They just settled a lawsuit two years after the fact over the value of a wind farm. That kind of uncertainty makes it nearly impossible to budget.”

Without an abate-

ment, the county’s chief appraiser would be responsible for defending annual valuations in court—costs that ultimately fall on local taxpayers.

“The appraisal district is funded by all the taxing entities—school, hospital, city, county,” Roach said. “If there’s a lot of litigation, we all pay for it.”

In Stephens County, where the current tax rate is capped at \$0.80 per \$100 of valuation, the no new revenue rate needed to maintain last year’s revenue was \$0.93.

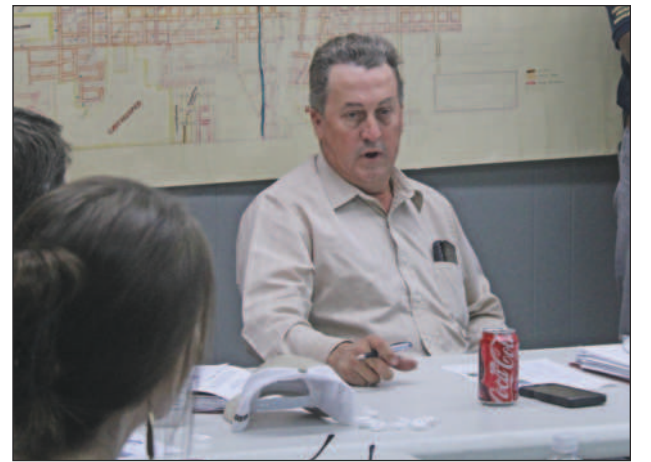
“We had to cut to \$0.80,” Roach said. “That meant layoffs in the sheriff’s office and road crews.”

Abatements could help stabilize those fluctuations, Roach said.

“Instead of guessing what a \$130 million asset will be worth year to year, we can lock in a value and avoid the rollercoaster,” Roach said.

Jackson outlined the environmental review process, describing some of the studies in order to ensure it is the right location.

“We do several environmental studies—from wetland delineations to coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Texas Parks and Wildlife. We also do cultural resource studies to see what’s out there,” Jackson said. “We try to do our due diligence with everything in the environment—specifically with hydrology studies,



Precinct 1 Commissioner David Fambro speaks during the Stephens County Commissioners Court meeting Monday, Oct. 27.

Photo/Alex Kielar

any type of water runoff. We try to make sure we can mitigate that.”

The representatives of Samsung confirmed the project would be developed under Crocus Solar LLC but backed by Samsung C&T America.

“We’re going to build and own it,” Jackson said. “Sell the electricity, but it’ll be our project.”

Jackson also made the guarantee that it wouldn’t be an abandoned project and they would see it through.

Crocus would be the first solar facility constructed by Samsung in Texas with others facilities from the company located in California and Canada.

“We’ve got seven [priority projects]...some

are standalone battery, some are solar and battery,” he said. “This is a priority project for us.”

Any future abatement application would trigger public hearings and lead to more conversations with the public as well as those involved with the project.

“There’ll be a hearing about the reinvestment zone, and then there’ll be a hearing about the abatement,” Roach said. “We’ll present both scenarios—no abatement and abatement—with full financial breakdowns.”

The Crocus Solar Project remains in early development. Construction was expected to begin in quarter 3 of 2027, with operations targeted for quarter 3 of 2028.

# SNAP

Continued from Page 1

Methodist Church for those affected by the program suspension. People are encouraged to donate grocery store gift cards in \$50 increments.

Eligible families or individuals should be ready with their SNAP identification cards in order to get a \$50 gift card per person.

“A gift card gives flexibility—going out and buying groceries and getting what they want. If we’re handing out the canned goods and stuff, we’d have to set hours and things like that,” Ken Thompson of First Baptist Church said. “It’s not like from six in the morning until nine at night, we’re going to be manning the piles of canned goods. So we can hand them out at any time with the gift cards.”

Currently, the plan is for the cards to be from United Supermarkets, as they can be marked with certain restrictions, such as alcohol and other non-food items. People can also make monetary donations, either cash or a check made payable to Stephens County Mission for Hope, which the church will use to pay for the gift cards.

Under this initial plan, the county will meet with those previously mentioned entities on a bi-weekly basis to review the plan and make any adjustments if necessary. This is also contingent on how long the SNAP program suspension continues.

The next meeting is set for Monday, Nov. 10, at 3 p.m. to discuss that Friday’s assistance plan.

The 550 households and 1,147 people in Stephens County affected by the loss of SNAP benefits was broken down to:

- 43.8% – 502 children (0-17)
- 40.2% – 461 adults 18-59
- 29.9% – 343 ages

- 5-17
- 13.9% – 159 under 5
- 10.9% – 125 seniors 65+
- 5.1% – older adults 60-64

The total amount of benefits lost was \$615 million a month statewide and \$184,424 a month in Stephens County. The average payment per case in the county was \$335. During the meeting, officials talked about reaching a goal of \$40,000. While this plan wouldn’t ensure families were receiving the exact amount they did from SNAP, officials noted it was better than nothing.

First Methodist Church also helps run three other food and meal assistance programs throughout the year:

Cafe Love – 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesdays except the third Tuesday of the month (doors open at 10:30 a.m.)

Big Mobile Food Pantry – Third Tuesday of each month, must be signed in no later than 10 a.m. in the big parking lot west of the church.

Small Food Pantry – Every Thursday; must be signed in no later than 9 a.m.

The church noted that if it was a client’s first time to get assistance, paperwork must be filled out first. The big mobile food pantry is made possible through a truckload of food that the church receives from the West Texas Food Bank. Meanwhile, the church gets food from Walmart and United Supermarkets for the small food pantry every Thursday.

“We’re giving an average of between 35 to 40 boxes of food for serving families every Thursday morning. That’s just depending on how much United and Walmart have and the stuff on their shelves is perfectly good and all that,” Thompson said. “... then we have a few people in the com-

munity, we had a lady come in and donate some venison and that sort of thing from their ranch... so when the boxes are short from United and Walmart, we try and supplement it best we can with stuff like that.”

Thompson also said that for Cafe Love, the church averaged only about 20 people coming to it, and they received canned goods from the post office or junior high food drives. He said they held those items for people who were “flat out” of food or whose house had burned down.

“We give them a box and let them pick and choose what they want. But I went through an estimate yesterday and we probably have 800 to 900 canned goods sitting down there that we can give to people,” Thompson said. “That just depends on who brings us stuff out of the goodness of their heart... we wait and we distribute it that way. That’s more emergency than these others that are regular.”

Both food pantries listed above are administered through Jane Griffith and the Gunsight Baptist Church. They can be contacted at 254-559-0054 and the First Methodist Church can be contacted at 254-559-8208 for any questions.

Another way to help get food to affected families is through the Food Bank of West Central Texas, which encourages residents to provide donations, especially during the holiday season.

BISD Superintendent Prairie Freeman also talked about having about 70 families participating in previous canned food drives in the past, as well as their weekend backpack buddies program that provides kids in need with backpacks full of food.

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# SPORTS



With the Buckaroo sideline holding its collective breath, Jaime Cruz and Canyon Shirley knock down a Hail Mary pass on the final play of a thrilling victory for the Bucks over Comanche, 26-22.

Photo/Alex Kielar

## Bucks outlast Indians in two-day thriller

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news@breckenridgeamerican.com

In a game stretched over two days due to severe weather, the Breckenridge Buckaroos (3-5, 1-2) edged out the Comanche Indians (3-5, 0-3) with a dramatic 26-22 win, securing their first district victory and moving into playoff contention.

The Bucks came out hot Friday night, Oct. 24, scoring twice in the first six minutes. Joseph Juneau connected with Ryan Waller for a 66-yard touchdown, followed by a 52-yard



Cooper Wimberly (5) celebrates with Erik Saucedo (6) after Wimberly came down with a big 34-yard touchdown catch with under a minute to go as the Bucks took a 26-22 lead over Comanche.

Photo/Alex Kielar

See Bucks, Page 5



Jaime Cruz outran the Comanche defense on the way to the end zone as he got the Bucks back into the game at 22-19 with less than four minutes to go.

Photo/Alex Kielar

## Lady Bucks fall in final match to Peaster

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The Bucks came out hot Friday night, Oct. 24, scoring twice in the first six minutes. Joseph Juneau connected with Ryan Waller for a 66-yard touchdown, followed by a 52-yard scoring run from Jaime Cruz. But with 5:37 left in the first quarter, lightning forced a suspension until Saturday afternoon, Oct. 25.

Momentum shifted after the delay. Comanche clawed back with a field goal and a pick-six by Ct Buford, who would go on to record three interceptions and a key reception that set up another score. By late third quarter, the Indians led 22-12.

Breckenridge's defense kept hope alive. Waller and Cooper Wimberly each grabbed two interceptions, with Wimberly's second setting up a 16-yard Cruz touchdown run to cut the deficit to 22-19. A blocked field goal by Comanche's Caden Carroll seemed to seal the game, but a high snap and tipped punt



Senior Preslie Malcuit hits the ball over the net during the opening set of her final match of her career Friday, Oct. 24 against Peaster.

Photo/Alex Kielar

gave the Bucks one last chance.

With just under a minute left, Juneau found Wimberly in the end zone for the go-ahead 34-yard score.

"Cooper Wimberly unreal," said head coach Casey Pearce. "I haven't seen that in a long time."

Comanche nearly answered with a Hail Mary in the final seconds, but Cruz and Canyon Shir-

ley knocked it down to preserve the win.

"Find a way to make a play; that's all you can ask for," Pearce said. "We've grown up a bunch today."

After facing Sweetwater Friday, Oct. 31 on the road, the Bucks host SATLCA to close out the regular season Friday, Nov. 7. The win last Friday ensured a playoff berth for the first time since 2022.



Kamden Tidwell, right, and LaKyla Bartley work for a block at the net against Peaster in the Lady Bucks' final match of the season Friday, Oct. 24.

Photo/Alex Kielar



Prior to the Lady Bucks' final match Friday, Oct. 24 against Peaster, match, Lane Bartoskewitz and Preslie Malcuit were each honored for their career totals; Malcuit for 250 career kills and Bartoskewitz for 400 kills and 450 digs.

Photo/Alex Kielar

## Breckenridge American

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# Bucks

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Ryan Waller records the first touchdown of the game for the Bucks on a long catch and run Friday, Oct. 24, before play was suspended and picked back up again Saturday.

Photo/Alex Kielar



Cooper Wimberly battles through tight coverage in the end zone before coming down with the catch for the go-ahead score with under a minute remaining in the Bucks' thrilling 26-22 win over Comanche.

Photo/Alex Kielar

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# Breckenridge Devotional Page

1. Is the book of Abaddon (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 12, when an evil spirit returns to a person, how many companions does it bring? 2, 3, 7, 16
3. In which book's 22:18 does it state, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live"? Exodus, Numbers, Isaiah, Hebrews
4. The mark of the beast number (666) is found in what chapter of Revelation? 1, 7, 11, 13
5. From 1 Samuel 16, which king of Israel was tormented by an evil spirit? Solomon, David, Elah, Saul
6. Who called the city of Nineveh the mistress of witchcraft? Ahab, Nahum, Lucifer, Peter

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Seven, 3) Exodus, 4) Nahum, 5) Saul, 6) Nahum

- ANGLICAN**  
**St. Andrews Anglican Church**  
200 North Easton, 254-559-3172  
Donald Sackett, Priest
- ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
**Christian Fellowship Church**  
810 E. Elm, 254-559-8436  
Tom Moore, Min.
- La Hermosa Assembly of God**  
909 Jeanette St., 254-559-7329  
Raul Duran, Min.
- BAPTIST**  
**Bethany Baptist**  
1911 W. Walker, 254-559-5083  
Don Bearden, Min.
- Bethel Baptist**  
804 S. James, 254-559-2072  
Clarence Holliman, Min.
- Calvary Baptist**  
401 S. Camden, 254-559-7364  
Dan Nelson, Min.
- Crystal Falls Baptist**  
FM 578, Crystal Falls  
Danny Lee, Min.
- Eliasville Baptist**  
Eliasville  
Wayne Peters, Min.
- First Baptist Church**  
301 S. Rose, 254-559-2295  
Andy Rodgers, Min.
- First Baptist Church of Woodson**  
Woodson, Jeremy Smith, Min.
- Gunsight Baptist**  
Hwy. 183 S., 254-559-1620  
Rex Boggs, Min.
- Mount Olive Baptist**  
518 S. Dunnigan, 254-559-2500  
Gregory Morris, Sr., Min.
- Necessity Baptist**  
7150 C.R. 144, Caddo, 254-559-6775,  
John Kinman, Pastor
- New Hope Baptist #3**  
FM 717, Ranger, 817-964-6501  
Ronny Guess, Min.

- Rose Avenue Baptist**  
702 N. Rose Ave., 817-724-4047  
Russell Brock, Pastor
- Trinity Baptist**  
36 CR 327, 254-559-7405  
Pastor Herman (Butch) Hinkle, Jr.
- BIBLE**  
**Lord's Old-Time Gospel**  
West Elliott, 254-559-8051
- The Church of Breckenridge**  
405 Sunset, 254-559-9790
- CATHOLIC**  
**Sacred Heart Catholic**  
208 S. Miller, 254-559-2860
- CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**First Christian**  
101 E. Williams, 254-559-2744
- First Christian of Woodson**  
Michael Patrick, Min.
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**  
530 CR 179, Eastland, 435-640-6103  
Doug Smith, Branch President
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**  
**Christian Science**  
401 S. McAmis
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Central Church of Christ**  
Woodson  
Royce Priddy, Min.
- Church of Christ**  
1701 W. Elliott, 254-559-2558  
Don Nelson, Min.
- Church of Christ**  
1314 W. Jeanette, 254-559-5001
- Albany Church of Christ**  
417 N. Main Street, 325-762-2078  
Russell Scott, Minister
- Eliasville Church of Christ**  
Eliasville - Norman Carpenter, Min.
- CONTEMPORARY**  
**Real Church**  
515 N. Graham Ave., W.S. 10:30 a.m.

- INTERDENOMINATIONAL**  
**Victory Life Church**  
1612 Hwy. 180 E, 254-559-3600  
Dr. Craig Smeed, Lead Pastor
- JEHOVAH'S WITNESS**  
**Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses**  
202 FM 3099, 254-559-6830
- LUTHERAN**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Hwy. 180, Albany, 915-762-3227  
Thomas Chandler, Min.
- METHODIST**  
**First Methodist Church**  
419 W. Walker, 254-559-8208  
Samantha Chambers, Pastor
- St. Paul United Methodist**  
1504 E. Elm, 254-559-3685  
Samantha Chambers, Pastor
- NONDENOMINATIONAL**  
**Eolian Community Church**  
7162 CR 292, 254-559-3829  
Genoa Goad, Min.
- River of Life Fellowship**  
122 E. Lindsey, 254-522-8981  
James Stewart, Min.
- The Light of the World**  
600 N. Breckenridge Ave.  
Inocencio Briones, Min.
- The Ridge Cowboy Church @ Lakeside**  
108 CR 221, 325-370-7673
- PENTECOSTAL**  
**The Lighthouse**  
1509 E. Walker, 254-559-6077  
Rev. Will Anderson
- PRESBYTERIAN**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
1601 W. Elliott, 254-559-2484  
Pastor Linda Buchanan Leveridge

Have changes?  
Need something added?  
Email design@grahamleader.com.

**FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE**  
TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

**AARON and the Golden Calf**  
Exodus 32

Aaron was left in charge while Moses was on the mountain receiving the commandments from God.

When the people saw that Moses did not come down from the mountain for a long time, they grew impatient. They asked Aaron to make them gods who would go before them.

Aaron instructed them to bring the gold earrings the people were wearing. He took the gold and formed it into a golden calf. Aaron then built an altar in front of the calf and called for a festival to the Lord on the following day.

The people sacrificed burnt offering and presented peace offerings. Then they ate and drank and indulged in revelry.

God knew that these people were sacrificing to the idol and not to Him, so he planned to destroy them. Moses intervened on their behalf and God spared them.

When Moses came down from the mountain and questioned Aaron about the calf, Aaron told him that he had thrown the gold jewelry into the fire and out came the calf.

The Lord struck the people with a plague because of what they did with the golden calf.

**This Devotional & Directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.**

**BRECKENRIDGE AUTO PARTS**  
"Complete line of auto & engine supplies"  
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Call Kaci at 254-559-5412 or email admgr@breckenridgeamerican.com

# CLASSIFIEDS

**Line Ad Rate:**  
\$15 for 15 words or less  
Over 15 words, 50¢ a word

**Breckenridge American 254-559-5412**

breckenridgeamerican.com/classifieds • classified@grahamleader.com

**Line Ad Deadlines**

9:00 am Thursday

(Classified line ad: an ad that runs with only words, no box)

 Every housing advertisement published in the Breckenridge American is subject to all provisions of the Federal Fair Housing Act.

## GET IT SOLD *with a Classified Ad*

### 170 FEED, SEED & GRAIN

4x5 round bales for sale, \$85. Located on Finis Road. Send a text to Steve at 940-550-4927.

**DON'T FORGET!**

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### Even Exchange answers

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Check, Chick   | 6. Horde, Horsa    |
| 2. Palace, Palate | 7. Detain, Detail  |
| 3. Hilly, Holly   | 8. Atone, Stone    |
| 4. Banner, Banker | 9. Major, Manor    |
| 5. Anger, Auger   | 10. Lather, Latter |

### SCRAMBLERS solution

1. Lounge; 2. Spine;  
3. Vanish; 4. Deceit

Today's Word  
**NOTHING**

### King Crossword Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.



### 510 HELP WANTED



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**Errors & Adjustments:** Please check your ad the first day that it runs to see that all of the information is correct. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. Call us at 254-559-5412 the first day if you find an error. We must limit our financial responsibilities, if any, to the charge for the space and cannot be responsible for incorrect ads after the first day of publication.



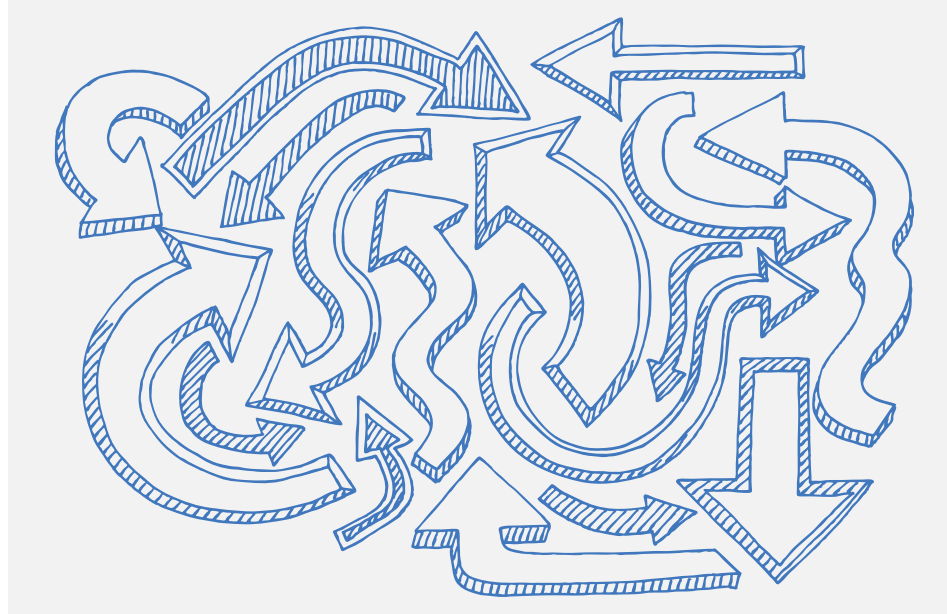
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for as little as **\$14.95!**

\*Show & Sell pricing not available for real property ads (homes, mobile homes, etc.)

## WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS.

Some officials want to move notices from newspapers to government-run websites, where they may not be easily found.





**2 OUT OF 3**

U.S. adults read a newspaper in print or online during the week.

**?**

Why try to fix something that isn't broken?

Keep Public Notices in Newspapers.

**NEWS MEDIA ALLIANCE**  
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**800 PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES**

A Public Hearing will be held by The Commissioners Court of Stephens County Texas, pursuant to the Texas Open Meeting Act, Chapter 551, will conduct a public hearing on November 10, 2025 at 10:00 AM in the District Courtroom located in the Stephens County Courthouse at 200 West Walker Street, Breckenridge, TX, to receive comment regarding the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program for Stephens County, TX.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a WINE AND MALT BEVERAGE RETAILER'S ON-PREMISE Permit (BG) by JALBINDU INC dba HOOKERZ, to be located at 7235 US HIGHWAY 180 W, BRECKENRIDGE, TX 76424, STEPHENS County. Principals of said Company are ZACH DHUNGANA, PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR and RAJ KUMAR SHRESTHA, SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR.

**CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE, TEXAS**  
**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE COMBINATION TAX AND REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2026 TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Commission of the City of Breckenridge, Texas, at its meeting to commence at 5:30 P.M. on January 6, 2026, at

the Breckenridge City Offices, 105 N. Rose Avenue, Breckenridge, Texas 76424, tentatively proposes to adopt an ordinance authorizing the issuance of interest bearing certificates of obligation, in one or more series, in an amount not to exceed \$1,720,000 for paying all or a portion of the City's contractual obligations incurred in connection with (i) acquiring, constructing, improvements, extensions, and equipment for the City's water system, including without limitation water lines, water storage facilities, pump stations, service connections, valves, fittings, SCADA, and related infrastructure improvements; and (ii) legal, fiscal and engineering fees in connection with such projects. The maximum interest rate for the certificates may not exceed the maximum legal interest rate. The maximum maturity date for the certificates shall not exceed the maximum maturity permitted by law. The estimated combined principal and interest required to pay the certificates to be authorized on time and in full is \$2,382,520. The current principal of all outstanding debt obligations of the City is \$19,495,000. The current combined principal and interest required to pay all outstanding debt obligations of the City

on time and in full is \$26,952,516. The City proposes to provide for the payment of such certificates of obligation from the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes in the City as provided by law and from a pledge of certain surplus revenues of the City's waterworks and sewer system, remaining after payment of all operation and maintenance expenses thereof, and all debt service, reserve, and other requirements in connection with all of the City's revenue bonds or other obligations (now or hereafter outstanding), which are payable from all or any part of the net revenues of the City's waterworks and sewer system. The certificates of obligation are to be issued, and this notice is given, under and pursuant to the provisions of V.T.C.A., Local Government Code, Subchapter C of Chapter 271.

**TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK**  
**TexSCAN**  
 TexSCAN Week of Oct. 26-Nov. 1, 2025  
**CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE**  
 Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-493-3803.  
**CHARITY**  
 Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a tax top deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-855-808-4152 today!  
**EVENT**  
 The Wall That Heals Vietnam Veterans Memorial Replica & Mobile Education Center - Oct 30-Nov. 2, Founders Park, 851 Hensley Lane, Wylie, TX. For more information and volunteer opportunities visit WylieTexas.gov/thewallthatheals.  
**ENERGY**  
 Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-704-8579 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.  
**Texas Press Statewide Classified Network**  
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 NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

**NEED A JOB?**  
**NEED EMPLOYEES?**  
 The Classifieds bring together job seekers and potential employers every day.  
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**Four great reasons to advertise in YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER**

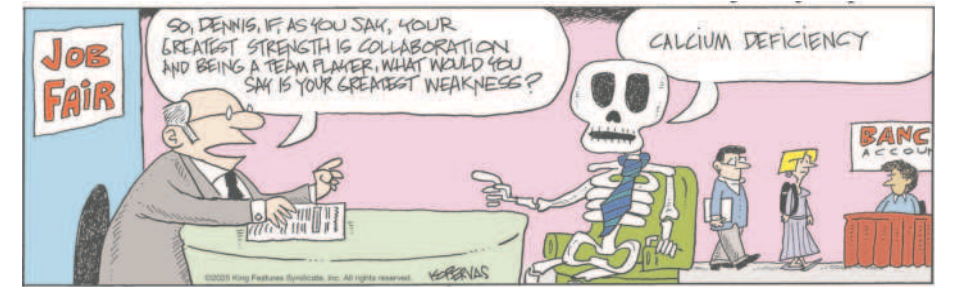
Want your business to get noticed? Whether it's to promote your services or to recruit new employees, your local paper can help! Here are four great reasons to advertise in your community newspaper.

- You'll reach your target audience**  
 By advertising in your local paper, you're sure to reach your customer base - those who are from your town and surrounding areas! Your ad campaigns will be highly targeted and consequently, very effective.
- You'll get quality ads**  
 Business owners rarely have the time or skills necessary to write advertising copy, take photos and otherwise create professional-quality ads. By working with your local paper, you'll benefit from the expertise and skills of its team members, including graphic designers, writers, editors and ad reps.
- You'll boost the local economy**  
 By advertising in your community newspaper, you'll be supporting the local economy. You'll help the paper's reporters, advertising representatives, carriers, graphic designers, copywriters and other employees keep their jobs. Moreover, you'll work with people who understand the local market.
- You'll save money**  
 Ad space in a national newspaper is much more expensive than in a local one. Admittedly, your message circulates over a greater area, but you should analyze the cost-effectiveness: will readers really travel dozens of miles to visit your store? By advertising in your local paper, you'll reach your target audience directly - without breaking the bank!

**Breckenridge American**  
 1108 W. Walker St. | Breckenridge, TX 76424 | 254-559-5412 | breckenridgeamerican.com

**ENTERTAINMENT** Midweek Edition

**OUT ON A LIMB** by Gary Kopervas



**THE SPATS** by Jeff Pickering



**POPEYE** by Randy Milholland



**Even Exchange** by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Investigate	___ E ___	Barnyard baby	___ I ___
2. Royal home	___ C ___	Roof of the mouth	___ T ___
3. Mountainous	___ L ___	Christmassy plant	___ O ___
4. Flag	___ N ___	Money loaner	___ K ___
5. Ire	___ N ___	Boring tool	___ U ___
6. Crowd	___ D ___	Stable inhabitant	___ S ___
7. Keep back	___ N	Facet	___ L
8. Make amends	A ___	Pebble	S ___
9. Military rank	___ J ___	Estate	___ N ___
10. Shaving foam	___ H ___	Second (of two)	___ T ___

**SCRAMBLERS**  
 Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Relax  
**ONELUG** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Chine  
**SNIFE** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Gone  
**SHAVIN** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Fraud  
**CEDEIT** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**TODAY'S WORD** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

"The 'wet look' - the 'dry look' - I wish they'd come out with something for the '\_\_\_\_\_ look!'"

**Crossword**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19			20			
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30					31			32		
33				34			35			
38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

**ACROSS**

1 Dandies  
 5 Patient's need, briefly  
 8 Small town  
 12 "Yeah, right!"  
 13 Brazilian city  
 14 Screenwriter James  
 15 Buyer's offer  
 17 "Pinocchio" fish  
 18 Six, in Milan  
 19 Devoured  
 20 Dexterity  
 21 "See ya!"  
 22 Knock  
 23 Apiary homes  
 26 Business magnates  
 30 "Shake -!" ("Hurry!")  
 31 Singer Carly - Jepsen  
 32 Aussie hoppers  
 33 Lend a hand  
 35 Composer Joplin  
 36 Priestly garment  
 37 "Humbug!"  
 38 Music category  
 41 JFK Library architect  
 42 "- the season ..."  
 45 During  
 46 "Troy" actor

**DOWN**

1 Little lies  
 2 Theater award  
 3 Mani counter-part  
 4 NASCAR sponsor  
 5 Banal  
 6 Grown-up nits  
 7 Iowa college  
 8 Rear veranda  
 9 Hybrid fruit  
 10 Stagger  
 11 Earth sci.  
 16 Light beams  
 20 Pouch  
 21 "Excuse me?"  
 22 Deli bread  
 23 "So there!"  
 24 --de-France  
 25 Speed (Abbr.)  
 26 Make lace  
 27 Tic-tac-toe win  
 28 "- so fast!"  
 29 Retired jet

31 Barbecue coating  
 34 World Cup cheer  
 35 Stated  
 37 Pulsates  
 38 Wanders  
 39 Send forth  
 40 Jazz singer Simone  
 41 Baby carriage  
 42 Scrabble piece  
 43 Slanted type (Abbr.)  
 44 Ocular woe  
 46 Crunchy sandwich  
 47 Soup cooker

Look for answers in the Classifieds.

# BRECKENRIDGE AMERICAN'S 2025 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

## Best of Stephens County



### OFFICIAL BALLOT

Vote for your favorites in more than 100 categories.  
All ballots must be received by the Breckenridge American at  
1108 W. Walker St., Breckenridge, TX 76424, no later than Wednesday, November 5.



**BALLOTS AVAILABLE IN EVERY ISSUE OF THE BRECKENRIDGE AMERICAN THROUGH SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

Rules: Only original forms are valid. Please print clearly, illegible entries will be discarded. At least 25 entries must be filled in for ballot to be counted. Choices for all categories MUST be based in Stephens County.

Winners to be announced in a Special Publication of the Breckenridge American!

**Junior Buckaroo Academy**  
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254-559-1234

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**Best Automotive Businesses**

Auto Lube Center \_\_\_\_\_

Auto Parts Store \_\_\_\_\_

Auto Repair (Mechanical) \_\_\_\_\_

Auto Repair (Paint & Body) \_\_\_\_\_

Tire Dealer \_\_\_\_\_

**Best General Businesses**

Business with most helpful employees \_\_\_\_\_

Antiques Store \_\_\_\_\_

Appliance Store \_\_\_\_\_

Bank \_\_\_\_\_

Clothing Store \_\_\_\_\_

Convenience Store \_\_\_\_\_

Day Care Center \_\_\_\_\_

Feed Store \_\_\_\_\_

Florist \_\_\_\_\_

Furniture Store \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Shop or Boutique \_\_\_\_\_

Grocery Store \_\_\_\_\_

Hardware Store \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel \_\_\_\_\_

Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_

**Best Professionals & Professional Businesses**

Accountant \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney \_\_\_\_\_

Chiropractor \_\_\_\_\_

Dental Hygienist \_\_\_\_\_

Dentist \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Home \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_

Loan Company \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Clinic \_\_\_\_\_

Nurse (with affiliation) \_\_\_\_\_

Nurse Practitioner \_\_\_\_\_

Physician (General Practice) \_\_\_\_\_

Pharmacist \_\_\_\_\_

Real Estate Company \_\_\_\_\_

Real Estate Title Company \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinary Clinic \_\_\_\_\_

**Best Service Businesses & Trades**

Air Conditioning/Heating \_\_\_\_\_

Barber Shop \_\_\_\_\_

Hair Salon \_\_\_\_\_

Nail Salon \_\_\_\_\_

Plumbing Company \_\_\_\_\_

Roofing Company \_\_\_\_\_

**Places to Have Fun**

Best Picnic Spot \_\_\_\_\_

Scenic View \_\_\_\_\_

Camping Site \_\_\_\_\_

Place for a Birthday Party \_\_\_\_\_

**Best in Their Business**

(Please provide Business Affiliation or Contact Info)

Bank Teller \_\_\_\_\_

Bartender \_\_\_\_\_

Barber \_\_\_\_\_

Boss \_\_\_\_\_

Cashier \_\_\_\_\_

Chef or Cook \_\_\_\_\_

Hair Stylist \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Mechanic \_\_\_\_\_

Nail Technician \_\_\_\_\_

Receptionist \_\_\_\_\_

Sales Person \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Wait Person \_\_\_\_\_

**Best of Dining**

All-Around Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_

Bakery \_\_\_\_\_

Buffet \_\_\_\_\_

Catering Company \_\_\_\_\_

Catfish \_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast Served \_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast Taco \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner \_\_\_\_\_

Barbecue \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken Fried Steak \_\_\_\_\_

Coffee \_\_\_\_\_

Sandwiches \_\_\_\_\_

Desserts \_\_\_\_\_

Fast Food Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_

French Fries \_\_\_\_\_

Hamburgers \_\_\_\_\_

Ice Cream \_\_\_\_\_

Iced Tea \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Under \$6 \_\_\_\_\_

Mexican Food \_\_\_\_\_

Pizza \_\_\_\_\_

Soup \_\_\_\_\_

Steak \_\_\_\_\_

**Best in Education & School Athletics**

Coach \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Principal \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Sport \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Aide \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

**People Who Dazzle Us**

Civic Club \_\_\_\_\_

Community Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Profit Organization \_\_\_\_\_

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Voter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

(in case we have questions about your ballot)