

You're Invited to the **27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

# CITY PARK PARTY

YOU DON'T WANNA MISS THIS!

LOCATION: **LIBERTY MUNICIPAL PARK**  
IN LIBERTY, TEXAS

TIME: **3 PM to 8 PM**

DATE: **SATURDAY 09.12.26**

Ely Air Lines –

## South of the Border

by Mike Ely and Linda Street-Ely

**Mike:** In 1984, I was a flight instructor and charter pilot for a Cessna dealer in Long Beach, California. I taught in all the Cessna models, ferried new airplanes from the factory in Kansas, and performed post-maintenance test flights. My students’ professions and economic ranges were varied. One day, the chief instructor asked me to fly with some folks who had just bought a Cessna Centurion, a high-performance single-engine airplane, until they had enough time logged to meet their insurance company’s requirements. Their first trip was south of the border.

The airplane belonged to a large Protestant church whose congregation supported a Catholic church in the village of Navolato, in Sinaloa, a rough region of Mexico. The pastor and his secretary were pilots, and with the pastor’s wife and another woman from their church, we ventured a thousand miles south.

The church group made mission flights to remote destinations in their previous aircraft. In some respects, I was going to be the student.

At first light, we departed Torrance Zamperini Field, climbing southeast. After an hour over mountains and desert, we crossed



the border and cleared Mexican customs at Mexicali. I noted that every time we paid a fee, we also gave a tip. Four hundred miles later, we refueled at Guaymas along the Sea of Cortez, not far from where they filmed flight scenes for Catch-22. The final leg took us to Culiacán where, despite heavy airport security, we sealed every hole on the airplane to avoid contraband being planted. We didn’t want the plane confiscated – or worse.

After four days of the mission, attending services with sugarcane field workers and factory workers who processed it, we retraced our route. In Guaymas, we cleared Mexican customs outbound and filed the border-crossing flight plan. But we forgot to tip them.

We were held on the runway for an unusually long time. That made us nervous, but we were eventually cleared for takeoff.

Within 150 miles of the border, I contacted San Diego Flight Service Station and gave our ETA for Calexico so customs officers would be ready. The specialist couldn’t find our flight plan, so we air-filed one. The pastor advised us to include his name in the notification to Border Patrol. The specialist seemed puzzled but said okay.

When we shut down on the customs ramp, the pastor jumped out and said to the agent, “Hi, I’m Herbert Ezell.”

The agent brightened. “Hi! We’ve been expecting you. Come right in.”

We signed a form and went to lunch at the airport diner. That was when I learned why Herbert Ezell had been so particular about making sure his name was passed along. His son was the INS Western Regional Commissioner and had told his agents to expect us; Dad was coming home.

After a thousand miles through Mexico, sealed airplanes, tips to customs officials, a missing flight plan, and one tense wait on a runway, our border crossing came down to five words: “Hi, I’m Herbert Ezell.”

Sometimes it really is who you know.

ElyAirLines.substack.com

## History & Then Some

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year’s series of lectures is sponsored by a generous donation from Occidental Petroleum Corporation.

For more information, call 409-389-2252. The Chambers County Museum at Wallisville is located at 20136 IH-10 East.

## Republican Party debuts newsletter

LIBERTY COUNTY - The Liberty County Republican Party is excited to introduce its new newsletter, We The People, created to keep Republicans across Liberty County informed, connected, and engaged.

In the September 2026 inaugural issue, readers will find a Member Spotlight, Politics Today with Taylor McCray, The Rally Point with Chairman Taylor, information about upcoming blockwalking opportunities, important election dates, current precinct chairs, and a preview of the 1836 Dinner coming October 10.

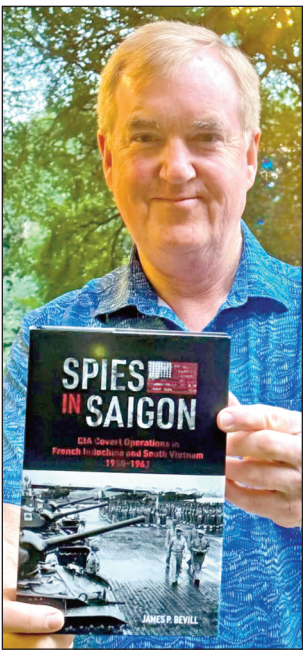
Whether you’ve been involved with the party for years or are looking for a way to get more involved, it is hoped We The People becomes a useful way to stay connected with what is happening right here in Liberty

County.

There is a lot happening in the months ahead, and Republicans throughout Liberty County need to be informed and ready to participate. Download the accompanying QR code to access the newsletter and share the information with your Republican friends, family, and neighbors.



LIBERTY GAZETTE  
936-336-6416



JAMES BEVILL

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### VOLUNTEER AT MAGNOLIA PLACE

LIBERTY - Would you like to make someone happy and be rewarded with smiles? Magnolia Place Health Care is looking for caring volunteers, individuals or groups, who can play a musical instrument, such as a guitar, etc, or who can sing to entertain the residents. There is also a need for volunteers to play games, call bingo, help lift spirits, and assist with activities and crafts. If you the time to volunteer, call 936-336-8844.

## IDENTIFY THE CRIMINAL, NOT YOURSELF!

PROUDLY SERVING MONTGOMERY, LIBERTY & SAN JACINTO COUNTIES

## WE PAY CASH FOR TIPS

**ANONYMOUS**  
No Name Required.  
No Personal Information.

**ANÓNIMO**  
Sin nombre.  
Sin información personal.

**NO CALLER ID**  
Caller ID is not collected.

**SIN IDENTIFICADOR DE LLAMADAS**  
No se registra el número.

**NO RECORDING**  
Your call is not recorded.

**SIN GRABACIÓN**  
Su llamada no se graba.

**NO TRACKING**  
No IP address tracking.  
No location tracking.

**SIN RASTREO**  
Sin rastreo de IP.  
Sin rastreo de ubicación.

**CASH REWARDS**  
Felony case tips may qualify for cash rewards.

**RECOMPENSAS EN EFECTIVO**  
Pistas sobre delitos graves pueden calificar.

### 3 WAYS TO SUBMIT A TIP

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LLAME 24/7/365  
**(800) 392-7867**

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DESCARGUE LA APP  
**Download the App**

Tip ID & Password — Required to Collect a Reward. KEEP THEM SAFE!

**ENGLISH**

If your tip leads to a **FELONY ARREST** or the recovery of felony-level stolen property or narcotics, you may be eligible for a **CASH REWARD.**

**ESPAÑOL**

**YOUR SUPPORT HELPS KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFER**

Multi-County Crime Stoppers is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.  
**LEARN MORE • GET INVOLVED • DONATE**

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