

Third annual Holiday Health Fair coming up Fri., Dec. 5

LIBERTY - Liberty Dayton Regional Medical Center will host its third annual Holiday Health Fair set for Fri., Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Liberty Center at 1829 Sam Houston.

Various organizations will be participating in an effort to provide the community with information on available programs and tips on health, wellness,

and safety. There will be free prize drawings, vendor booths and a decorating contest with a great prize. Be sure to bring your phone or camera for pictures with Santa. Weather permitting, several emergency responder organizations will be giving walkthroughs of their emergency response vehicles.

If your organization is interested in joining, please

reach out to: lmacneil@libertydaytonrmc.com or use the QR code for vendor and sponsor registration.



Ely Air Lines –

Runway Diners and Campfires

by Mike Ely and Linda Street-Ely

Linda: It's no secret autumn is my favorite season. The air turns crisp, visibility stretches for miles, and the world below takes on a burnished glow. Winter's my second favorite. But truth be told, there's inspiration to be found in every flying season. For pilots and their families and friends who ride along, adventure is never far away. Sometimes it's as simple as packing a tent or following the smell of food and avgas to an airport café.

Across this great country, small airports invite visitors to land, linger, and make memories. These aren't the major airports that serve airlines and are cluttered with TSA and lined with jet bridges. They're friendlier, smaller, and often hidden in plain sight. Some offer grass landings, tie-downs, and picnic tables. Others have hiking trails, fishing ponds, or a fire pit that

glows long after the sun sets behind the hangars.

One of recreational aviation's greatest pleasures is fly-in camping. It combines two activities that instill a sense of freedom: flight and the open outdoors. We taxi to a parking spot and pitch a tent right beside our airplane. There's something quietly breathtaking about falling asleep next to a wing that carried us across the sky just hours before, the engine cooled, the stars glittering like our navigation lights. Morning brings coffee percolating on a camp stove, a quick walk around the Elyminator, and the soft rumble of someone else firing up to head home.

Students invited to participate in contest

AUSTIN - The Texas Texas students, including pub-Center for the Book is delighted to announce the opening of the Letters About Literature Texas writing contest for 2025-2026. Texas 4th through 12th graders are invited to participate in this annual writing competition.

Students select a book, book series, essay, play, poem, short story or speech and write a letter to an author, living or dead, explaining how his or her work changed their view of themselves or the world.

The theme of Letters About Literature is "Read. Be Inspired. Write Back."

Students may have a strong connection to the theme of the work or with a particular character. They may write about challenging events in their lives that relate to a book they have read. The possibilities are limitless, and the Center looks forward to reading this year's entries.

There are three categories of competition: grades 4-6, grades 7-8 and grades 9-12. The contest is open to all lic, private and homeschool.

First-place winners receive \$300. Second-place winners receive \$200, and third-place winners receive \$100. Additionally, the Center will give \$300 grants to the school libraries of each first-place winner (or for homeschoolers, their public library.) First-place winners will also receive a travel stipend (\$400) to go toward travel to the Texas Library Association Annual Conference in Houston in March 2026. The winning students will be recognized in a ceremony at the conference.

The online submission portal (https://xtexasstate-library.submittable.com/submit) is open. If you have not entered before, you will need to create a free submittable account in order to apply. The deadline is 6 p.m. Central time on Monday, Jan. 26, 2026.

Applications are accepted only through the portal. Students younger than age 13 must also submit a signed permission form in order to enter the contest.

It's the kind of getaway that doesn't require a hotel reservation, only a good forecast and a sense of adventure.

Mike: Throughout my nearly 50-year flying journey, airports with eateries on the field have offered an equally joyful tradition. Night crosscountries with prime rib at a ranch steakhouse alongside a highway in the middle of nowhere, Saturday mornings, meeting friends at a small airport diner. Some drive there; some fly. Greasy spoon places offering pancake breakfasts or biscuits and gravy, where waitresses still call you "hon." This is the social side of general aviation. Everyone ends up swapping stories about airplanes, weather, and

The first exposure to aviation many kids have isn't at an airshow, it's at a picnic table by a runway, watching small planes rise into the bright blue and disappear over the trees, igniting their imagination and encouraging curiosity.

For folks on the ground, general aviation airports are windows into a different world, places where flight feels personal, reachable. A Saturday drive to watch takeoffs and landings and chat with pilots can spark or rekindle anyone's curiosity about breaking the

bonds of gravity. Flight is more than transportation. It's camping under the stars, dining beside the taxiway, sharing the love of flight with someone who's never flown before. It's community. And a chance to see familiar places from a new altitude and share the same wide-eyed wonder at the view from above, no matter what the season. These are the journeys that keep us looking skyward - and grateful for the runway that welcomes

us home. ElyAirLines.substack.com



Frankly Speaking -How To Be Thankful in Tough Times

by Frank Jordan

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday we say "thanks" for our blessings, but saying "thank you" is tough when stress assaults us from family, jobs, money, health, government, crime, war and faith or all of the above! Perhaps you need to refocus on the positive instead of the negatives in your life. The choice is yours, but you might consider participation in a Spiritual Wellness Program. What

A Spiritual Wellness Program involves your personal spiritual growth and health program to help provide what we all seek peace and happiness. Spiritual nourishment is found when our living diet includes five basic spiritual food groups – the true soul foods:

- *Bible reading:* Study the Bible daily as the Word of God and life's guidebook;
- Prayer: Pray regularly to God as your friend and Father in heaven;
- *Forgiveness:* Forgive others and yourself to remove the thorns that prevent peace;
- Fellowship: Join in fellowship with other believers to develop your faith; and
- *Service:* Serve others for selfless reasons and put aside jealousy and bitterness.

You need vitamins, vegetables and verbiage from God to have balanced health! We are spiritually nourished when we gain knowledge and understanding from regularly reading and studying God's Word. Then we apply the wisdom and instruction in faith to our

Two local students admitted to Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, LA-Two area students were recently elected to membership in The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Inductees included Alyssa Ottaviani of Dayton at Texas State University and Amber Ursprung of Dayton at Texas Woman's University.

They are among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897. The Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories.

thoughts, words and actions every day. Spiritual nourishment requires you to ingest God's Word every day as nutrients for a successful life, or succumb to the misery of spiritual starvation.

The second essential in the Spiritual Wellness Program is prayer as our direct link to God. Read the Bible to have God talk to you, while praying so that you talk to God and He listens. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, "Rejoice always! Pray constantly. Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Express your needs, not just your wants, and ask for His will – not yours – to be done in His time.

Forgiving yourself and others, including family, friends, business associates and others, releases your emotions to be positive instead of draining. Hate hurts you more than your adversary and hinders clear thinking. God forgives you so forgive yourself and start anew!

The fourth necessity involves your having fellowship with other believers. We are not meant to live in this world alone, but in a community of believers that worship and work together, share en-

couragement and share Christ with others. The church feeds us spiritually as we hear God's Word preached and taught so that we can apply the wisdom of the Bible in our daily lives to learn how to be thankful in times of stress for the true blessings of life.

A final critical component of the Spiritual Wellness Program is service to others. You are commanded to use your gifts and talents to serve your family, your associates on the job, the community and your church.

Frankly speaking, we don't all have the same gifts, strengths and/or talents, but the Bible tells us each one of us does have something to share, especially if a smile and encouragement. God desires that we positively impact our world as we give of ourselves to meet the needs of others, knowing life is a rocky road, and serve Him while being thankful to Him from whom all blessings flow.

Life is not easy with challenges in present times sometimes seeming overwhelming. But read the plan again and be assured of positive results from God the Father. Enjoy your blessings and Happy Thanksgiving!

JP Jimmy Belt running for re-election

Hello. My name is Jimmy Belt and for the past three years it has been my honor and privilege to serve as your Justice of the Peace Liberty County Precinct 2. At this time, I am happy to announce my intention to run for re-election.

Liberty County Precinct 2 holds a very special place in my life, as both my wife of 45 years and I were born and raised here, and we raised our family here. I have 43 years of experience in law enforcement, serving the last three years as your Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace. Prior to that my résumé includes the City of Daisetta Police Department, Liberty County Sheriff's Office, Liberty County Constable's Precinct 2 Office and as a Special Texas Ranger. I have also served the people of Hull-Daisetta ISD as an attendance officer, school board member and in charge of the security division, and Devers ISD as a security officer.

I am humbly asking for your support and vote in

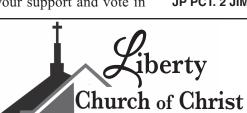
the upcoming election on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. Together we can continue to have an open, honest and professional Justice of the Peace court system in Precinct 2. If I am reelected, I will continue to provide equal representation and fairness for everyone who comes before the court. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IS THE **LEGAL JURISDICTION CLOSEST TO THE AVERAGE CITIZEN.** REMEMBER, THIS IS THE OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE.

Thank you for your continued consideration and support.



JP PCT. 2 JIMMY BELT





Join us this Sunday for Bible Classes for all ages at 9 a.m. and stay for Worship at 10 a.m. <u>ಂ</u>ಥಶಾ• ∘್ಡಾಶ್

We meet Sunday night at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. ೂ<u>ರ</u>ಾ•ೂರಾ

We meet at 3201 North Main Street and have a parking space just for you.

We'd love to see you soon. We've saved you a seat!

3201 N. Main St., Liberty • 936.336.2213 • libertycofc.org

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