



Kingsbury Texas <kingsburytexas@gmail.com>

Kingsbury News & Information Newsletter - April 12, 2020

1 message

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Sun, Apr 12, 2020 at 8:21 AM

Kingsbury Texas

News & Information Newsletter



Dear Kingsbury,

Here's the latest on what's going on in Kingsbury!

Easter

Today, Sunday, April 12th, is Easter Sunday.

Easter is a festival and holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day of his burial after his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary.

It's also a day known for a certain long-eared, egg laying rodent!

There's no story in the Bible about a cotton-tailed creature known as the Easter Bunny. Neither is there a passage about young children painting eggs or hunting for baskets overflowing with scrumptious Easter goodies.

And real rabbits certainly don't lay eggs. So why are these traditions so ingrained in Easter Sunday? And what do they have to do with the resurrection of Jesus?  
Well, nothing.

Bunnies, eggs, Easter gifts and fluffy, yellow chicks in gardening hats all stem from pagan roots. They were incorporated into the celebration of Easter separately from the Christian tradition of honoring the day Jesus Christ rose from the dead. According to University of Florida's Center for Children's Literature and Culture, the origin of the celebration — and the Easter bunny — can be traced back to 13th century, pre-Christian Germany, when people worshiped several gods and goddesses. The Teutonic deity Eostra was the goddess of spring and fertility, and feasts were held in her honor on the Vernal Equinox. Her symbol was the rabbit because of the animal's high reproduction rate.

Spring also symbolized new life and rebirth; eggs were an ancient symbol of fertility. According to History.com, Easter eggs represent Jesus' resurrection. However, this association came much later when Roman Catholicism became the dominant religion in Germany in the 15th century and merged with already ingrained pagan beliefs. The first Easter bunny legends were documented in the 1500s. By 1680, the first story about a rabbit laying eggs and hiding them in a garden was published. These legends were brought to the United States in the 1700s when German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania Dutch country, according to the University of Florida's Center for Children.

The tradition of making nests for the rabbit to lay its eggs soon followed. Eventually, nests became decorated baskets and colorful eggs were swapped for candy, treats and other small gifts.



### Texian Forces Ready To Fight

It's April 1836 and the Alamo has fallen, Colonel Fannin and his troops have been massacred at Goliad, and civilians (now joined by the widows of the Alamo and Goliad) are fleeing towards the east in the Runaway Scrape as Generalissimo Santa Anna and his Mexican army march across Texas to Harrisburg.

Concerned that his ill-trained and ill-disciplined force would only be good for one battle and aware that his men could easily be outflanked by Mexican forces, General Sam Houston has continued to fall back and avoid engagement, to the immense displeasure of his troops. Two companies that refused to retreat further than San Felipe were assigned to guard the crossings on the Brazos River. The Texians rested, recovered from illness, and practiced military drills. While there, two cannons, known as the Twin Sisters, arrived from Cincinnati, Ohio. Interim Secretary of War Thomas Rusk joined the camp, with orders from President David G. Burnet to replace Houston if he refused to fight.

Unable to cross the Brazos due to the small company of Texians **barricaded** at the river crossing, on April 14 a frustrated Santa Anna led a force of about 700 troops to capture the interim Texas government. Government officials fled mere hours before Mexican troops arrived in Harrisburgh (now Harrisburg, Houston) and Santa Anna sent Colonel Juan Almonte with 50 cavalry to intercept them in New Washington. Almonte arrived just as Burnet shoved off in a rowboat, bound for Galveston Island. Although the boat was still within range of their weapons, Almonte ordered his men to hold their fire so as not to endanger Burnet's family.

At this point, Santa Anna believed the rebellion was in its final death throes. The Texian government had been forced off the mainland, with no way to communicate with its army, which had shown no interest in fighting. He was determined to block the Texian army's retreat and put a decisive end to the war. Almonte's scouts incorrectly reported that Houston's army was going to Lynchburg Crossing, on Buffalo Bayou, in preparation for joining the government in Galveston, so Santa Anna ordered Harrisburg burned and pressed on towards Lynchburg and Lynch's Ferry.

Meanwhile, the Texian army had resumed their march towards San Jacinto....





THE MAJOR MOVEMENTS OF TEXAN AND MEXICAN  
MILITARY FORCES, FEBRUARY–APRIL, 1836

## There's A Day For Everything

In case you didn't already know ... there's something every day to **celebrate!**  
Here are some of the fun, unusual, or forgotten holidays this week:

**April 12th** - National For Twelves Day, National Big Wind Day, National Colorado Day, National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day, National Licorice Day, Easter

**April 13th** - National Make Lunch Count Day, National Peach Cobbler Day, National Scrabble Day, National Thomas Jefferson Day

**April 14th** - National Dolphin Day, National Ex Spouse Day, National Gardening Day, National Pan American Day, National Pecan Day, National Reach as High as You Can Day, Look up at the Sky Day

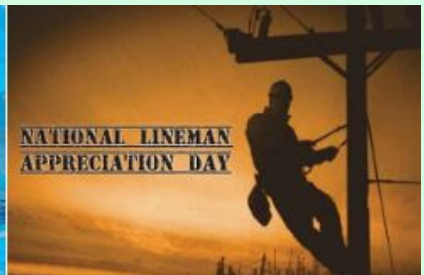
**April 15th** - National Glazed Spiral Ham Day, National Rubber Eraser Day, National Take a Wild Guess Day, National Tax Day, National Titanic Remembrance Day

**April 16th** - National Bean Counter Day, National Eggs Benedict Day, National Healthcare Decisions Day, National Orchid Day, National Wear Your Pajamas to Work Day, Get to Know Your Customers Day, National High Five Day

**April 17th** - National Crawfish Day, International Bat Appreciation Day, National Cheeseball Day, National Ellis Island Family History Day, National Haiku Poetry Day, National Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet Day



April 18th - National Animal Crackers Day, National Columnists' Day, National Lineman Appreciation Day, National Auctioneers Day, National Record Store Day



## Kingsbury T-Shirts - Now Available Online!

You can now order your awesome Kingsbury T-Shirt online and have it arrive at your door! Just go to the Kingsbury website and click "SHOP" and select the items you want. Pay with a credit card or PayPal and then just wait for your new, fabulous Kingsbury wear to come to you!

The new Kingsbury T-Shirts have a graphic of downtown Kingsbury on Railway street and the Kingsbury logo: **LIVING. SIMPLY. WELL.**

That says it all, doesn't it?!

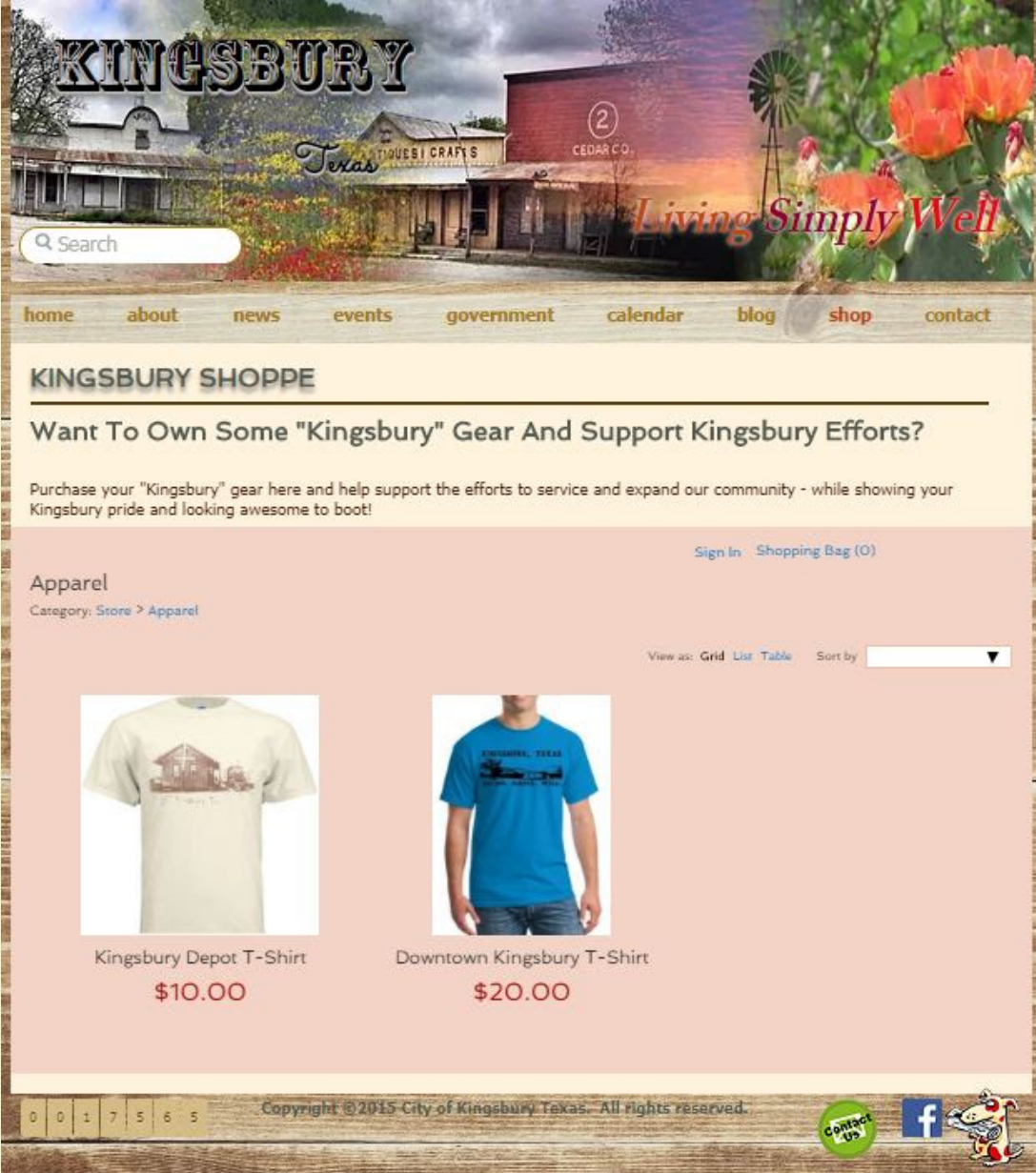
They're \$20 and are available in blue, pink, turquoise, red, and the classic black.

The Kingsbury depot T-shirts are also available on the website in the Kingsbury Shoppe that have an image of the old Kingsbury Depot that stood next to the tracks across from the old Post Office. One of the steam locomotives that used to stop here in Kingsbury is shown idling next to the depot, waiting for the next car load of cattle or travelers to New Orleans or San Francisco. The image includes the original writing at the bottom of the picture: "Depot KiNGsbury TEX." The back of the shirt has the Kingsbury logo "LIVING. SIMPLY. WELL." and the Kingsbury website.

They're a bargain at just \$10!

Visit the Kingsbury website at [www.kingsburytexas.org](http://www.kingsburytexas.org) to get your new T-shirt sent to you today!





## Titanic Hits Iceberg

This week in history, on April 14, 1912, just before midnight in the North Atlantic, the RMS Titanic fails to divert its course from an iceberg, ruptures its hull, and begins to sink.

Four days earlier, the Titanic, one of the largest and most luxurious ocean liners ever built, departed Southampton, England, on its maiden voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. While leaving port, the **massive** ship came within a couple of feet of the steamer New York but passed safely by, causing a general sigh of relief from the passengers massed on the ship's decks.

The Titanic was designed by the Irish shipbuilder William Pirrie and spanned 883 feet from stern to bow. Its hull was divided into 16 compartments that were presumed to be watertight. Because four of these compartments could be flooded without causing a critical loss of buoyancy, the Titanic was considered unsinkable. On its first journey across the highly competitive Atlantic ferry route, the ship carried some 2,200 passengers and crew. After stopping at Cherbourg, France, and Queenstown, Ireland, to pick up some final passengers, the massive vessel set out at full speed for New York City. However, just before midnight on April 14, the ship hit an iceberg, and five of the Titanic's compartments were ruptured along its starboard side. At about 2:20 a.m. on the morning of April 15, the massive vessel sank into the North Atlantic.

Because of a shortage of lifeboats and the lack of satisfactory emergency procedures, more than 1,500 people went down in the sinking ship or froze to death in the icy North Atlantic waters. Most of the approximately 700 survivors were children and women, including the unsinkable Margaret "Molly" Brown. A number of notable American and British citizens died in the tragedy, including the noted British journalist William Thomas Stead and heirs to the Straus, Astor, and Guggenheim fortunes.

The announcement of details of the disaster led to outrage on both sides of the Atlantic. The sinking of the Titanic did have some positive effects, however, as more stringent safety regulations were adopted on public ships, and regular patrols were initiated to trace the locations of deadly Atlantic icebergs.



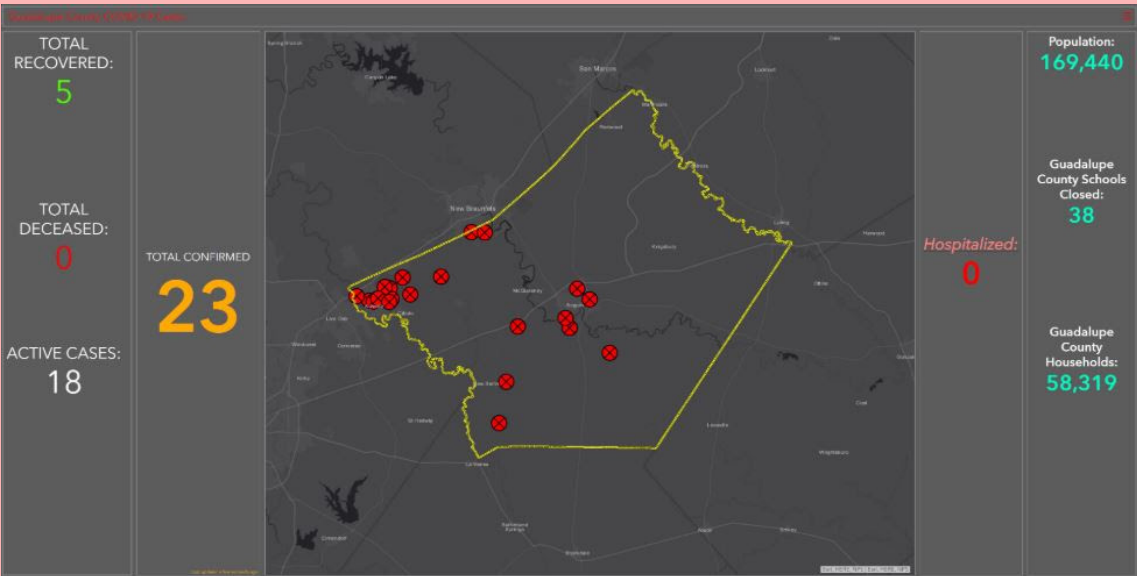


### COVID-19 In Guadalupe County

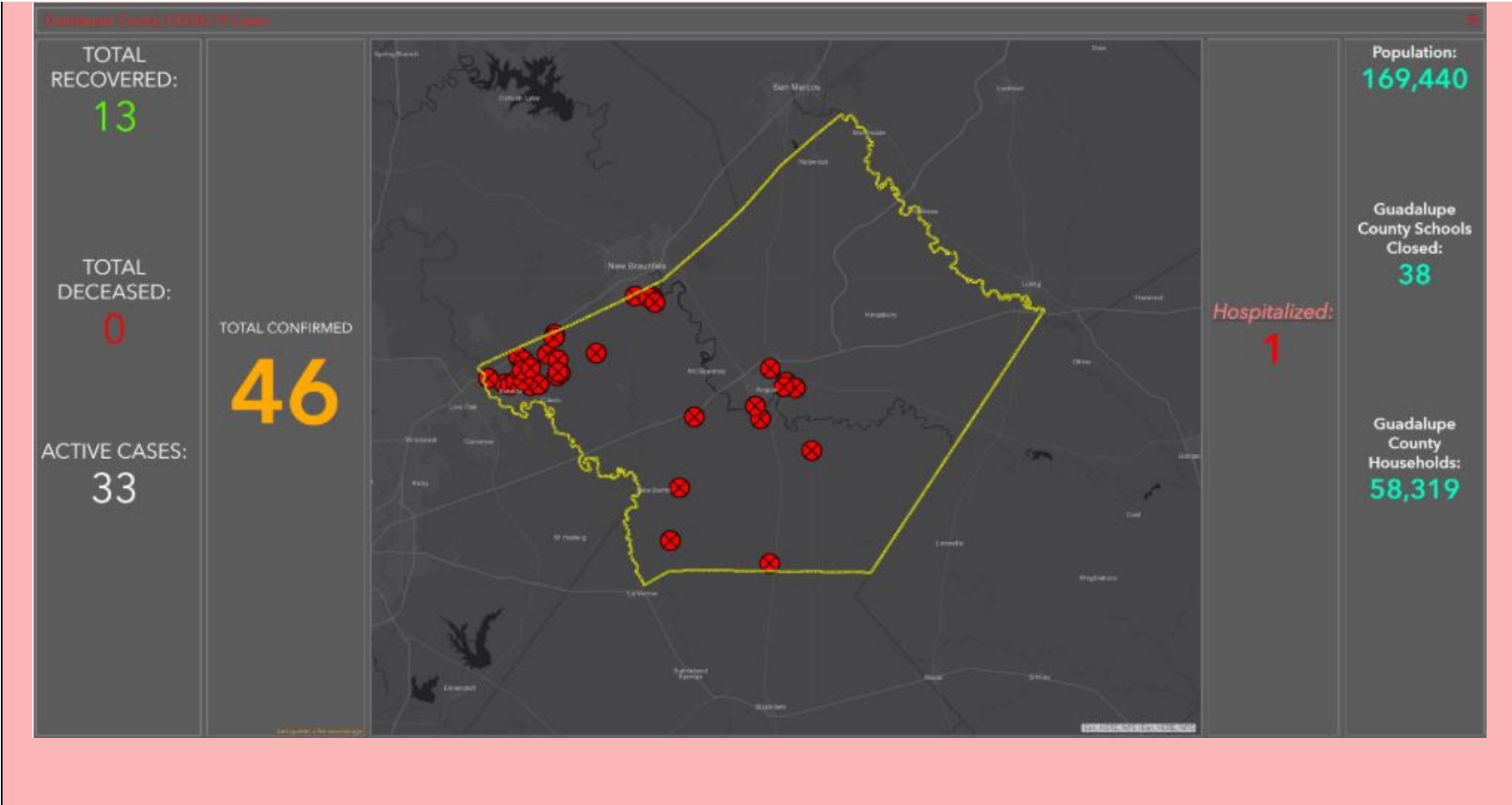
As the world goes through the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, we are all looking for information on the impact in our area. A good place for info is on the Guadalupe County website. The county has a "dashboard" showing cases of the virus on a county map, the numbers of recoveries, number of people hospitalized, etc.

It's good to know what is going on around the globe, but it's probably even more important to know what's happening in our **immediate** area. The dashboard can be found here: [https://www.co.guadalupe.tx.us/commcourt/covid-19\\_dashboard.php](https://www.co.guadalupe.tx.us/commcourt/covid-19_dashboard.php)

The numbers in Guadalupe County continues to rise. In fact, the total confirmed cases in the county has actually doubled. Below are the dashboards from last week and this week.







### Kingsbury Weather

Kingsbury weather for this week. You can always get the latest **weather** in Kingsbury on the Kingsbury website under [Calendar](#).



For current temperature, rainfall totals, wind speed, etc. just click on the bar at the bottom to go directly to the Baker Ranch weather station in Kingsbury. You can view local conditions and all the other weather stations in the TexMesonet network.

 [Click here to check out the Texas Water Development Board "Baker Ranch" weather](#)

### Roland Merz Mule Cart

Here is a picture of Roland Merz and friends in front of the Winns Red & White on Railway Street with his awesome **mule** and cart. The picture is from the 1940s.

The old visible gas pump (so named because you pumped gas up into the clear glass cylinder where the amount is "visible" before using gravity to let it flow into your vehicle) is ready to dispense fuel to the next customer, but Roland is using pure mule power. Don't you love the fancy curved-spoke wheels on the cart? And I wonder who that is that's peeking out through the store doors?





## Know someone that should be on the Kingsbury Newsletter eMail List?

Send them this email! All they need to do is go to the [Kingsbury website](#), click on the weird little **dog** at the bottom of any page, and fill out their name and email address. It's so easy! Let's get everybody to be "in the know" about what's going on in their community.



**Thanks!**

*Kingsbury News & Information*

**For more information any time**

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