

Kingsbury News & Information Newsletter - March 6, 2022

1 message

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Sun, Mar 6, 2022 at 5:18 PM

Kingsbury Texas

News & Information Newsletter



Dear Kingsbury,

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

The Battle Of The Alamo

This week in Texas history in 1836, the siege of the Alamo is in it's 13th day. But today, March 6, the siege will end and the **battle** will begin . . .

Day Thirteen – Sunday March 6, 1836

At midnight, Mexican soldiers began silently moving towards their places to await the start of battle. The Texian sentries were surprised and killed quickly before they could raise an alarm. At 5:30 am, Santa Anna gave the order for the advance, and his excited troops began shouting "Viva Santa Anna, Viva la republica!" The shouting woke the Texians, but by the time they reached their posts the Mexican soldiers were already within musket range.

Adjutant John Baugh had just begun his morning rounds when he heard the cries. He hurriedly ran to the quarters of Colonel William Barret Travis. He awakened him with: "Colonel Travis, the Mexicans are coming!" Travis ran to the walls and yelled "Come on boys, the Mexicans are on us and we'll give them Hell!" Unable to see the advancing troops for the darkness, the Texian gunners blindly opened fire; they had packed their cannon with jagged pieces of scrap metal, shot, and chain. The muzzle flash briefly illuminated the landscape and it was with horror that the Texians understood their predicament. The enemy had nearly reached the walls of the compound.

The Mexican soldiers had immediate and terrible losses. That first cannon blast ripped a huge gap in their column. Colonel José Enrique de la Peña would later write "...a single cannon volley did away with half the company of Chasseurs from Toluca." The screams and moans of the dying and wounded only heightened the fear and chaos of those first few moments of the assault.

Travis hastily climbed to the top of the north wall battery and readied himself to fire; discharging both barrels of his shotgun into the massed troops below. As he turned to reload, a single lead ball struck him in the forehead sending him rolling down the ramp where he came to rest in a sitting position. Travis was dead.

Amid the Texian cannon fire tearing through their ranks, General Cos's troops performed a right oblique to begin an assault on the west wall. The Mexicans used axes and crowbars to break through the barricaded windows and openings. They climbed through the gun ports and over the wall to enter the compound. General Amador and his men entered the compound by climbing up the rough-faced repairs made on the north wall by the Texians. They successfully breached the wall and in a flood of fury, the Mexican army poured through. The Texians turned their cannon northward to check this new onslaught. With cannon fire shifted, Colonel Morales recognized a momentary advantage. His men stormed the walls and took the southwest corner, the 18-pounder, and the main gate. The Mexican army was now able to enter from almost every direction.

In one room near the main gate, the Mexican soldiers found Colonel James Bowie. Bowie was critically ill and confined to bed when the fighting began. The soldiers showed little mercy as they silenced him with their bayonets. The Texians continued to pour gunfire into the advancing Mexican soldiers devastating their ranks. Still they came.

When they saw the enemy rush into the compound from all sides, the Texians fell back to their defenses in the Long Barracks. Crockett's men in the palisade area retreated into the church. The rooms of the north barrack and the Long Barracks had been prepared well in advance in the event the Mexicans gained entry. The Texians made the rooms formidable by trenching and barricading them with raw cowhides filled with earth. For a short time, the Texians held their ground.

The Mexicans turned the abandoned Texian cannon on the barricaded rooms. With cannon blast followed by a musket volley, the Mexican soldiers stormed the rooms to finish the defenders inside the barrack. Mexican soldiers rushed the darkened rooms. With sword, bayonet, knife, and fist the adversaries clashed. In the darkened rooms of the north barrack, it was hard to tell friend from foe. The Mexicans systematically took room after room; finally, the only resistance came from within the church itself. Once more, the Mexicans employed the Texians' cannon to blast apart the defenses of the entrance. Bonham, Dickinson and Esparza died by their cannon at the rear of the church. An act of war became a slaughter. It was over in minutes.

According to one of Santa Anna's officers, the Mexican army overwhelmed and captured a small group of defenders. According to this officer, Crockett was among them. The prisoners were brought before Santa Anna where General Castrillón asked for mercy on their behalf. Santa Anna instead answered with a "gesture of indignation" and ordered their execution. Nearby officers who had not taken part in the assault fell upon the helpless men with their swords. One Mexican officer noted in his journal that: "Though tortured before they were killed, these unfortunates died without complaining and without humiliating themselves before their torturers." Despite this one account, most historians agree that there were no prisoners taken. Ben, a former American slave who acted as cook for one of Santa Anna's officers, maintained that Crockett's body was found in the barracks surrounded by "no less than sixteen Mexican corpses", with Crockett's knife buried in one of them.

Santa Anna orders the gathering of firewood from the surrounding countryside and in alternating layers of wood and bodies the dead were stacked. At 5:00 O'clock in the evening the pyres were lit. In this final act, Santa Anna's "small affair" ended.

Santa Anna's cruelty during the battle inspired many Texians - both Texas settlers and adventurers from the United States - to join the Texian Army. The massive "Runaway Scrape" is now at it's height as the civilian population flees eastward ahead of the Mexican forces. It is now joined by the widows of the Alamo.

The Mexican army will move on to Goliad where Colonel James Fannin is defending Presidio La Bahia, which he had renamed Fort Defiance ...



The Siege Of The Alamo

This week in Texas history in 1836, the siege of the Alamo continues.

Mexican General Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana had concluded a march from Mexico, arriving in San Antonio de Bexar (now San Antonio) and the Alamo mission. Texian soldiers had established a garrison at the Alamo Mission, a former Spanish religious outpost which had been converted to a **makeshift** fort. Described by Santa Anna as an "irregular fortification hardly worthy of the name", the Alamo had been designed to withstand an attack by native tribes, not an artillery-equipped army.

A couple of days ago, Colonel Travis smuggled out a letter that read: "To the People of Texas and All Americans in the World.... I shall never surrender or retreat.... Victory or Death!"

Since then, some reinforcements have come in, occasional cannonballs are volleyed, opposite sides meet in small skirmishes, ... and the waiting continues ...

Day Four – Friday February 26, 1836

The Texians burned more jacales (small thatched roof huts) during the night. It soon became obvious that the Alamo's water well would not supply the needs of a 150+ people in the garrison. They would have to obtain water from the nearby acequia (irrigation ditch). The overnight arrival of a norther dropped the temperatures to near freezing. As daylight broke, a Texian foray went outside the walls to obtain water and wood. A small skirmish erupted with the Mexican troops and Mexican casualties were slightly heavier than in earlier fights due to the Texian's eastern-facing cannon.

Day Five – Saturday February 27, 1836

The fifth day of the siege was again cold with temperatures ranging in the 30s. Having exhausted their own supplies, the Mexicans pillaged Bexar of foodstuffs and perishables. When they in turn depleted these, they sent troops to nearby ranchos to forage livestock and corn. In a decisive move, the Mexicans cut off the eastern acequia's water supply at its source: the San Antonio River. Not only did this end the minor skirmishes that had taken place from the beginning of the siege; it essentially eliminated the defender's major source of water. General Gaona received Santa Anna's letter of the 25th requesting him to send three battalions as quickly as possible. Gaona immediately complied, yet failed to forward any heavy siege guns because Santa Anna neglected to include this request in his dispatch.

Day Six – Sunday February 28, 1836

Mexicans receive intelligence that 200 Texian reinforcements from Goliad are en route to the Alamo. The morale within the compound is high. According to Mrs. Dickinson, Crockett took up a fiddle and challenged John McGregor, a Scot with bagpipes, to a contest of instruments.

Day Seven – Monday February 29, 1836

The Mexican's Jimenez battalion and the cavalry under command of General Ramirez y Sesma are ordered down the Goliad road to intercept any reinforcements that might have been sent by Fannin. The Mexicans propose a three-day armistice and several Tejanos leave Alamo during the cease-fire.

Day Eight – Tuesday March 1, 1836

Thirty-two reinforcements from Gonzales arrive. General Sesma advances towards Goliad to seek out Texian reinforcements coming to the aid of the Alamo. Finding none, he returns to Bexar. The Alamo's 12-pound gunnade fires two shots, one of them hitting Santa Anna's headquarters.

Day Nine – Wednesday March 2, 1836

Travis receives a report that there is corn at the Seguin ranch. He sends a detachment headed by Lt. Menchaca to retrieve it.

Mexican forces discover a hidden road within pistol shot of the Alamo and post the Jimenez battalion there to cover it. Unknown to the defenders, Independence has been declared at Washington-on-the-Brazos.

Day Ten – Thursday March 3, 1836

James Butler Bonham arrives with news of reinforcements. He reports that sixty men from Gonzales are due and that an additional 600 would soon be en route. The Texians fire several shots into the city in celebration. Santa Anna receives word of Mexican General Urrea's victory at San Patricio. In celebration, the Mexcians ring church bells and there is revelry in the camp.

The lead elements of General Gaona's Brigade arrive. These are reinforcements needed for a successful assault.

Day Eleven – Friday March 4, 1836

Santa Anna gathers his officers for a council of war. It is decided that when the final assault takes place, that they will take no prisoners. The time for the assault will be determined tomorrow. Having been consolidated into two batteries, the Mexican artillery, is brought to within 200 yards of the compound.

More Texian reinforcements arrive in the late hours.

Day Twelve – Saturday March 5, 1836

Saturday, March 5, marked a brief departure from the frigid temperatures of the preceding days, as the air warmed to between 50 and 68 degrees. That morning, Santa Anna called another staff meeting and announced that the assault would commence the following day. Again, officers advocated waiting for the arrival of the heavy artillery. According to his aide, Fernando Urissa, Santa Anna responded "What are the lives of soldiers than so many chickens? I tell you, the Alamo must fall, and my orders must be obeyed at all hazards. If our soldiers are driven back, the next line in their rear must force those before them forward, and compel them to scale the walls, cost what it may." The orders instructed all men to wear shoes or sandals and to properly tie their shako chin-straps. Despite the cold, soldiers were prohibited from wearing cloaks or blankets, as these might limit their movements on the battlefield. Each soldier would receive either 4 or 6 rounds of ammunition and would be given 2 flints.

A messenger arrives at the Alamo compound with the grim news that reinforcements aren't coming.

That evening, James Allen became the last courier to leave the Alamo, carrying messages from Travis and several of the other men. Legend holds that at some point on March 5, Travis gathered his men and explained that an attack was likely imminent, and that the Mexican Army would likely prevail. He supposedly drew a line in the sand and asked those willing to die for the Texian cause to cross and stand alongside him. A bedridden

Bowie requested that Crockett and several others carry his cot over the line, leaving only one man, Louis "Moses" Rose on the other side. Explaining that he was not yet ready to die, Rose escaped that evening.

At 10 pm, the Mexican artillery ceased their bombardment. As Santa Anna had planned, the exhausted Texians soon fell into a deep sleep, the first uninterrupted sleep many had gotten since the siege began. Three Texians were sent to act as sentries outside the walls.

Late that evening, the Mexicans begin moving into attack position . . .



Daylight Saving Time Coming Soon

Just a friendly **reminder** - Daylight Saving Time starts again next Sunday, March 13th.

We'll have to set our clocks forward one hour at 2 a.m. ... technically. In reality, we'll just adjust our clocks the evening before. Then have to keep setting clocks over the next few days as we run across ones that we didn't think about and forgot to do!



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:

March 6th - National Dentist's Day, National Dress Day, National Frozen Food Day, National Oreo Cookie Day, National White Chocolate Cheesecake Day, Finisher's Medal Day

March 7th - National Be Heard Day, National Cereal Day, National Crown of Roast Pork Day, National Flapjack Day

March 8th - International Women's Day, National Oregon Day, National Peanut Cluster Day, National Proofreading Day

March 9th - National Barbie Day, National Crabmeat Day, National Get Over it Day, National Meatball Day, National Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day

March 10th - National Blueberry Popover Day, National Mario Day, National Pack Your Lunch Day, National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, World Kidney Day

March 11th - National 311 Day, National Funeral Director and Mortician Recognition Day, National Johnny Appleseed Day, National Oatmeal Nut Waffles Day, National Promposal Day, National Worship of Tools Day

March 12th - National Baked Scallops Day, National Girl Scout Day, National Plant a Flower Day, National Working Moms Day



Men's Breakfast

Senior Pastor Manuel Casso, Sr. would like to announce that the Kingsbury Baptist Church will be having a Men's **Breakfast** / Devotional on Monday, March 7th.

All men are welcome!

MEN'S BREAKFAST / DEVOTIONAL



March 7, 2022

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Kingsbury Baptist Church

6901 FM 2438

(830) 639-4670

Kingsbury Market

There will be a **Market** in downtown Kingsbury today and every Sunday, weather permitting. The event will be in



***Downtown Kingsbury
From noon to 3
Every Sunday***

You'll be able to pick up farm fresh eggs and produce. Handcrafted items, homemade pies, cakes, and other baked goods are usually also available.





From The Wolfshohl Diary

Kingsbury resident Albert Wolfshohl kept a diary of **important** events and Patsy Pape Ulbricht shared with the Newsletter the years from 1908 to 1922.

Here's what was happening in Kingsbury in 1913:

1913

- January 18: Parcel Post started on first of January. Post Office was moved into new building on side of bank. Drug store was moved adjoining Post Office between Xmas and New Year's.
- January 25: Florence Cash eloped with Jeff Wright, were married at Luling.
- February 13: A petition is being circulated for County Judge to order an election to be held April 10th to determine whether or not Kingsbury is to have a \$10,000.00 brick school house.
- June 13: Fred Schmidt came back from A & M College.
- June 18: Put two pertessions in second story of bank building for Masonic Hall.
- July 29: Public school contract was awarded to Hammond of Seguin.
- August 10: Work on the new brick school was began.
- September 9: George Raemer bought Coates gin for \$3,500. Took possession on 10th.
- September 23: Mrs. Mulkahey took charge of Hotel paying two months rent in advance of \$40.00.
- September: Alvin Fricke, Van Beaty and others made rural carriers examination at Seguin.
- December 15: Mrs. Benbow took charge of Post Office. Another examination was ordered to fill vacancy on R.F.D. route.
- December 16: Mrs. Mulkahy bought Hotel.

The brick Kingsbury schoolhouse was built in 1913 so the picture below taken on May 14, 1914 means that it is of a brand new building!



Burn Ban

There is currently an outdoor burn ban for Guadalupe County. The burn ban **imposed** by the Commissioners Court has specific guidelines for

-  Welding, cutting, and grinding or any activity that causes a spark
-  Burning household trash
-  Burning of other items

The official notification with all the guidelines can be found on the Guadalupe County website at <http://www.co.guadalupe.tx.us/>

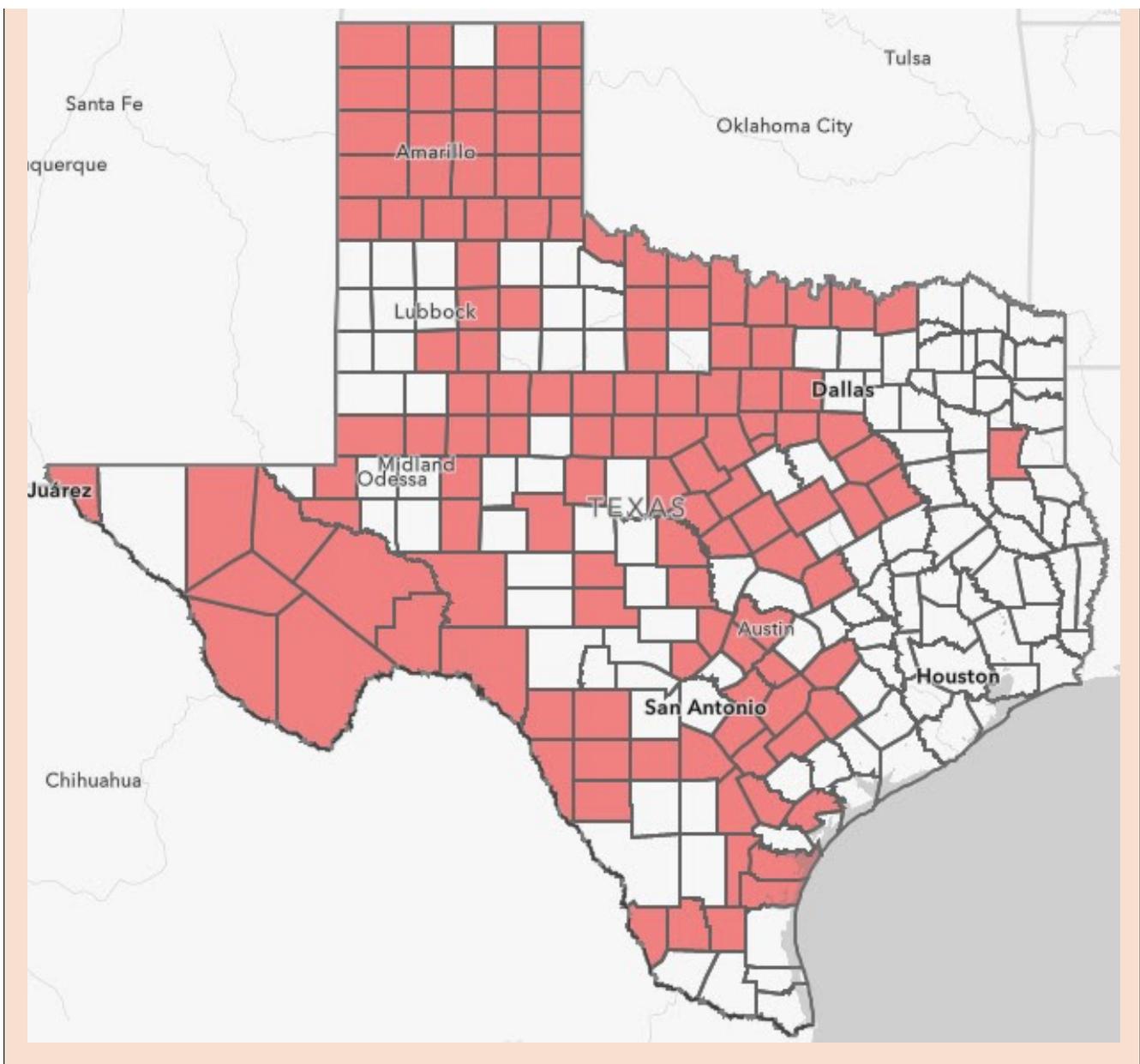


As always, please take precautions and report any fire hazards immediately to the Kingsbury Volunteer Fire Department at 639-4499 or to the Guadalupe Fire Dispatch at 379-1224. To report a fire, please dial 911.



Of the 254 counties in Texas, there are currently 125 that have a burn ban. With the lack of rain, that number will certainly grow.

Current burn bans by county in Texas:



Iditarod

The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race starts today in Willow, Alaska.

The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race is an annual long-distance sled dog race run in early March from (usually) Anchorage to Nome, entirely within the US state of Alaska. Musher and a team of 16 dogs, of which at least 5 must be on the towline at the finish line, cover the distance in 8–15 days or more.

The Iditarod began in 1973 as an event to test the best sled dog **mushers** and teams but evolved into today's highly competitive race. Then a record, the second fastest winning time was recorded in 2016 by Dallas Seavey with a time of 8 days, 11 hours, 20 minutes, and 16 seconds. As of 2012, Dallas Seavey was also the youngest musher to win the race at the age of 25. In 2017, at the age of 57, Dallas's father, Mitch Seavey, is the oldest and fastest person ever to win the race, crossing the line in Nome in 8 days, 3 hours, 40 minutes and 13 seconds. Dallas finished second, two hours and 44 minutes behind.

Teams generally race through blizzards causing whiteout conditions, sub-zero temperatures and gale-force winds which can cause the wind chill to reach $-100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($-73\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$). The trail is through a harsh landscape of tundra and spruce forests, over hills and mountain passes, and across rivers. The Iditarod is regarded as a symbolic link to the early history of the state and is connected to many traditions commemorating the legacy of dog mushing.



Winter Kingsbury Independent Is Here!

The **Winter** edition of the *Kingsbury Independent* is now here! You can find them at local businesses.

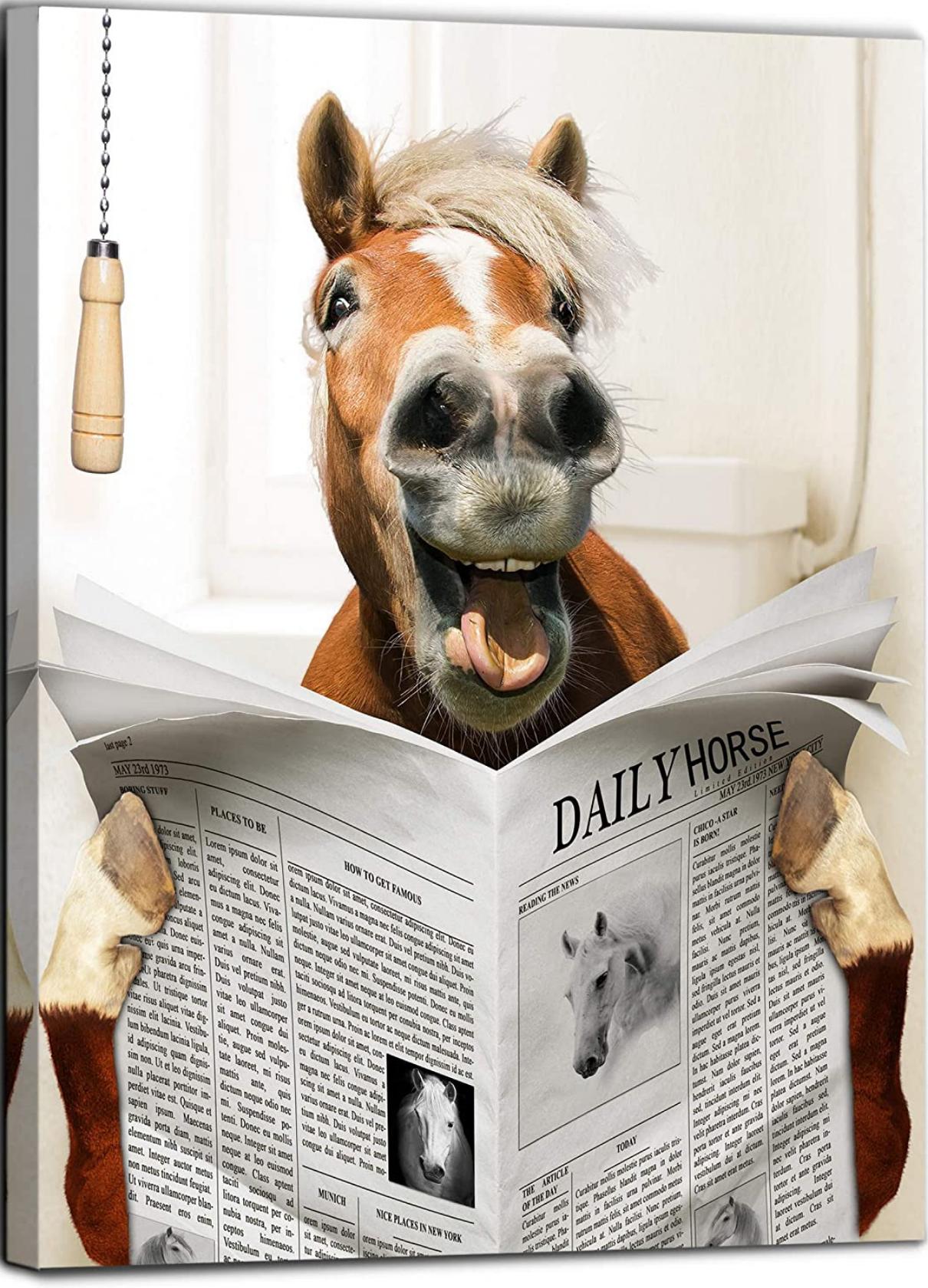
The edition contains an interview with County Judge Kutcher about the present and future in Guadalupe County, planning and zoning for Kingsbury, and reflections on last year's "Snowpocalypse." Other articles include a "Citizen of Kingsbury", yummy recipes, articles on local people and events, and much more!

Remember - they're just the right price - **free!**

Do you have an news item or information you would like in the paper? Would you would like to advertise in the Kingsbury Independent? A business card size ad is only \$40! Need more information?

Just call (323) 546-4728 or 323-KINGSBURY.

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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](#)

Fish Fry

The Bohannons have long been in the catering business and are now serving up fried catfish at their place on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month.

Each plate comes with all the **fixin's** - fries, coleslaw, hushpuppies, and homemade tartar sauce.

You can order up a
Fish & Shrimp plate for \$15

The fryer gets lit around 5:30 pm so you can start picking up your orders at 6. Just call John Bohannon at (210) 269-1108 and tell him what you're hungry for!

Pick up your delicious food at 935 Mill Creek Road.

The next fish fry is March 11th.



Volunteer Work Day

The Old Kingsbury Aerodrome and the Pioneer Flight Museum are on Pershing Lane just off of FM 1104 in Kingsbury.

They usually have one or two days a month where they invite **volunteers** to come and help with the buildings, grounds, planes, vehicles, and other equipment.

The next Volunteer Work Day will be

Saturday, March 12th

There's always projects that should pique a variety of interests: the WWI Dodd Field Hangar and Car Barn, are still "works in progress", plus there are always aircraft and Model T's that need TLC. Please consider joining and helping out!



Stack of Kingsbury Girls

Four young Kingsbury girls in front of the school in the early 1940s. It looks like it must have been a **summer** or nice spring day!

From top to bottom: Joyce Hurt, Gloria Halm, Dorothy Chessher, and Leonora Schmidt.



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](http://www.kingsburytexas.org), 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

Visit our website - www.kingsburytexas.org
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