

SHEPHERD COMMUNITY NEWS

It's that time of year again!
for the

McClain's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

March 26th at 11:00 a.m.

Ages 3 & Under: Ball Park at 11:00
Ages 4-7: Primary Play Ground at 11:10
Ages 8-10: Behind Tennis Courts at 11:20

come out and celebrate with us! there will be prizes for all age groups! tons of candy, free goodies and prizes all you have to do is bring your basket and go! age groups are 10 minutes apart for your convenience!

Prizes • Licorice • Candy • Golden Eggs • Prizes • Fun • Easter Bunny!

Lizzie's Book Shelf

Red Queen

By Victoria Aveyard
256 pages ★★★★★

Genre: Young Adult/Dystopia

Summary: "In school, we learned about the world before ours, about the angels and gods that lived in the sky, ruling the earth with kind and loving hands. Some say those are just stories, but I don't believe that. The gods rule us still. They have come down from the stars. And they are no longer kind."

Mare Barrow's world is divided by blood—those with red and those with silver. Those with common, Red blood serve the Silver-blooded elite, who are gifted with superhuman abilities. Mare is a Red, scraping by as a thief in a poor, rural village, until a twist of fate throws her in front of the Silver court. Before the king, princes, and all the nobles, she discovers she has an ability of her own. To cover up this impossibility, the king forces her to play the role of a lost Silver princess and betroths her to one of his own sons. As Mare is drawn further into the Silver world, she risks everything and uses her new position to help the Scarlet Guard—a growing Red rebellion—even as her heart tugs her in an impossible direction. One wrong move can lead to her death, but in the dangerous game she plays, the only certainty is betrayal.

My Review: I have a confession. Sometimes...I really do judge a book by its cover. Which I did with this book, but c'mon can you really blame me? It's simple elegance just screams at you to give it a chance. But after reading it, I discovered the book doesn't really do the cover justice, which is why you shouldn't judge a book by its cover in the first place. Don't get me wrong, it was entertaining to a degree. I liked the idea of different blood and people having powers always intrigues me, which is the main aspect I enjoyed in Steelheart and The Darkest Minds, and I liked it in this book, too. But this one felt like a million other YA books out there, and I think that, in a few months, I won't remember much about it at all.

But I did love some things about the book. I loved never knowing who you could trust, and with the reoccurring statement "anyone can betray anyone" I knew a betrayal was coming from somewhere and I was pretty sure it would come from where it did, although it still hurt when it happened. Right in the feels. But throughout the middle of the book it kind of dragged. I wasn't super invested in the characters, and neither love interest was very believable. I caught myself rolling my eyes a couple of times at one ridiculous thing or another.

Thankfully, the book ended with a bang, along with another "plot twist" that I saw coming from a mile away. Frankly, I was a little let down by the book as a whole. I feel like this is another one I would've really enjoyed as a teenager, but just doesn't come up to par for me now. I'll admit I'm a bit curious to see what happens next, but unless Audible has a sale that includes the next book for really cheap, I doubt I'll be seeing these characters anywhere in the near future.

Parental Guidance: 13-17 years (BN.com) A couple of kissing scenes and mild violence.

Stand Alone or Series: This is the first in the Red Queen series, it is followed by Glass Sword. There will be a book 3 and 4, though they are currently untitled and are tentatively scheduled for 2017 and 2018 release dates. There are also two prequel e-novellas titled Queen Song and Steel Scars.

Price: I found copies new, used, and e-book on Amazon from \$6.47-\$11.99.

♥♥ Lizzie

Love Sharing your Opinion? Share it with Us!

We want to know what you think of Shepherd Community News! Please send us an e-mail telling us what you like, don't like, or think we could improve upon, because we think feedback is awesome, and we want everyone to love our paper just as much as we do!
mcclains.shepherdnews@gmail.com

SWAT Team Takes Over Tarkington High School in Active Shooter Drill

By Vanesa Brashier of Cleveland Advocate



While students were off for spring break, members of the Liberty County Sheriff's SWAT team were storming the halls of Tarkington High School, participating in an active shooter drill on Tuesday, March 15. These scenarios provide law enforcement with valuable training in situations where armed gunmen are holding students or school employees as hostages.

"Schools are viable targets. This was our first time to train at Tarkington High School but we've done some work at Cleveland High School in the past," said Sgt. Investigator Brian Bortz with the SWAT team.

During the drill, the SWAT team was equipped with non-lethal ammunition. They moved from classroom to classroom, just as they would in a real situation, looking for victims and identifying threats. Bortz's son, Brady, posed as a student while one of the SWAT team members acted as the shooter.

The drill was organized by Pct. 5 Deputy Constable David Hunter. While the constable's office and other available law enforcement in the area would be the first line of defense in the event of a real active shooter situation, the sheriff's office SWAT team is much better equipped and trained to handle the aftermath.

"We would put our lives in jeopardy to save others but we would need help," said Hunter, who worked with district personnel to develop a school security plan.

Bortz, who has worked under three sheriffs in his 12 years with the department, has watched the SWAT unit grow from an outfit with little or no resources to one that is capable of handling many types of high-risk situations.

"Sheriff Rader has been proactive and supports us in our training," Bortz said. "All of these skills are perishable. A person will remember things but can get rusty."

Over the course of a year, the SWAT team will participate in 24 training scenarios. Many of the members volunteer their time when not at work.

"Some of them are here today on their own time," Bortz said. Bortz hopes to one day see an armored vehicle added to the SWAT team's resources.

"We are looking at grants to see if we can make it possible," he said. "We've got to do something. There is a definite need for it."

According to Bortz, the majority of what is spent on the SWAT team and Criminal Interdiction Unit these days comes from seizure money.

"The taxpayer does not pay for this service," he said.

Many members of the SWAT team are also part of the sheriff's Criminal Interdiction Unit. This unit was established by Sheriff Bobby Rader to combat narcotics and other major crimes in the county.

According to Rader, from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, 2015, the drug interdiction unit handled 11 narcotics search warrants that resulted in the arrests of 15 people. During that same period, the unit also filed 115 criminal cases and arrested 100 suspects. The seizure of drugs include over 170 pounds of marijuana, 19 pounds of cocaine, 4.2 pounds of methamphetamine, 11 pounds of heroin, 21 grams of crack cocaine, five gallons of codeine, 50 grams of PCP, 200 grams of Alprazolam (Xanax), 1,215 Ecstasy pills and \$530,000 in cash. The street value of the drugs totals \$969,175. There also were vehicles and other equipment that were seized.

Capt. Mark Ellington is the tactical commander of the SWAT team and Criminal Interdiction Unit.

[Pictured at top are Deputy Josh Leal, Dep. Ranson Martel, Liberty County EMT Michael Ross, LSCO Sgt. Investigator Brian Bortz, Hunter, Pct. 5 Deputy Constable James Gardiner; (back row) Dep. Stefan Fasolino, Dep. Taylor Wells, Sgt. Travis Pierce and Sam Kayal with the Lake Charles Harbor Police Department.]



Sgt. Travis Pierce with the Liberty County Sheriff's Office enters a classroom at Tarkington High School.

Texas Officer Charged With Murder in Shooting of Teenagers Suspected of Attempted Burglary

By Christine Hauser

Officer Ken Johnson Credit Farmers Branch Police Department, via Associated PressA Texas police officer has been charged with murder after chasing down and fatally shooting one of two teenagers he suspected of trying to break into his car.

An arrest warrant made public on Thursday said the officer, Ken Johnson, was arrested on Wednesday after confronting the two teenagers on Sunday in Farmers Branch, a Dallas suburb, because he believed they were trying to burglarize his car in the parking lot of his apartment complex. The youths fled in a red Dodge Challenger, but the officer gave chase. The teenagers' vehicle "spun out" of control, and he fired his weapon, the police said.

The shootings spurred a protest and left police officials facing questions about how an effort by Officer Johnson, 35, a member of the Farmers Branch Police Department, to stop what he believed to be an attempted burglary had spiraled into a shooting that left one teenager dead, another wounded and the officer facing murder and assault charges.

Asked if it was department policy for off-duty officers to chase suspects in their own vehicles, the Farmers Branch police chief, Sid Fuller, said bluntly, "No." "We have policies that deal with off-duty enforcement that we all follow," he said during a news conference, according to The Dallas Morning News.

The dead teenager was identified as Jose Cruz, 16. Edgar R. Arevalo, whose age was not immediately available, sustained serious gunshot wounds in his hands and head and was taken to a hospital.

Officials said they were interviewing witnesses and investigating the shootings. It was unclear whether the two suspects were armed or whether Officer Johnson had identified himself as a police officer. On Thursday, a spokeswoman for the Dallas district attorney's office said the case would be turned over to a grand jury.

Officer Johnson's lawyer, Christopher Livingston, said in an interview with WFAA television that his client had felt endangered and that the teenagers did "not follow orders." Mr. Livingston could not be reached on Thursday for comment.

According to the arrest warrant and police statements, Officer Johnson was at his apartment on Sunday in Farmers Branch, a city of about 31,000 just 14 miles north of Dallas. Just before 7 p.m., he said he saw two youths who he "believed were burglarizing his vehicle" in the parking lot of the complex. When he approached them, they fled in their own car.

The officer followed them to an intersection in the nearby town of Addison, where the Dodge "spun out and there was an altercation," the statement said. "Shots were fired. Both young men were hit."

Officer Johnson was not injured. WFAA television published video of what appeared to be the officer ramming his vehicle into the car carrying the youths, as well as a photograph taken by a witness showing the officer with his arm raised as if pointing a weapon at the car, its driver-side door open.

The arrest warrant said that when Farmers Branch and Addison police officers arrived at the scene, Officer Johnson was standing in the roadway, armed with a semiautomatic pistol. He was placed on administrative leave, arrested late Wednesday and booked into the Dallas County Jail. On Thursday, he was released on \$150,000 bond, according to Brittany Dunn, the spokeswoman for the Dallas district attorney's office.

Officer Johnson joined the Farmers Branch Police Department last March, after serving about eight years with the Dallas transit police, Detective David Laisure of the Farmers Branch department said on Thursday. Demonstrators protested the shootings in front of the Farmers Branch police station on Tuesday, according to a Facebook posting by Accion America, a rights organization.

Addison's police chief, Paul Spencer, said in a statement that he and Chief Fuller met with Mr. Cruz's family on Tuesday.

Ana Henríquez, Mr. Cruz's mother, said she had been told that the shooting would be fairly and thoroughly investigated. "I hope what they told me is true," she said after an emotional meeting with police officials, according to The Dallas Morning News.

"McClain's Food Market"



Golf-Ball-Sized Hail Kills Exotic Birds at Fort Worth Zoo

Hail the size of golf balls killed several exotic birds at the Fort Worth Zoo as a powerful storm slammed North Texas on Thursday.

The early-morning storm also broke windows, including skylights at the zoo, and damaged police vehicles in nearby Arlington. The storm left behind hail piled up along roadways and blanketing fields, and slick roads for commuters.

Many zoo staff members were in early in anticipation of large crowds during spring break, and they were able to rescue several injured birds, spokeswoman Alexis Wilson said. But five flamingos, a pelican, an ibis and a swan chick died, she said.

Golf-ball-sized hail kills exotic birds at Fort Worth Zoo photo Khampha Bouaphanh

Matt Zavadsky of MedStar ambulance service shows hail damage on a response vehicle at its main office in west Fort Worth on Thursday. "They were all in the water where they usually are," Wilson said. "We have probably 60-something flamingos that are on exhibit, and they don't come in, they stay out."

The storm caused a two-hour delay in the zoo's opening during an especially busy time of year. Staffers in early also were able to help clean up damage areas, Wilson said.

The hail also broke the rear windows of several police patrol cars in Arlington, just east of Fort Worth. The police department used its official Twitter account to share photos of the damage and of the hail, noting that large hail in the area "blanketed the ground."

The storm is the latest to hit Texas, where flooding sparked by several days of heavy rains last week has displaced thousands of people in the southeast part of the state. The high waters continued to cause traffic delays Thursday along Interstate 10, which has been intermittently closed because of flooding. Gov. Greg Abbott has issued a disaster declaration for much of the region.

BENEFIT

Homer Lee Franklin

April 9, 1927—January 9, 2016



We are having a benefit on April 9, 2016 to help cover funeral expenses for Mr. Franklin. He was a World War II veteran and a lifelong resident of Cleveland/Shepherd area in Texas. There will be barbecue, raffles for door prizes, 50/50 drawing, an auction and live music as well as karaoke for those that want to sing. Benefit to be held at Bubba's on Hwy 105 West. Will be an outside event, start time is at 1:00 p.m. till ??? For more info or if you would like to donate please call Lou Ann (936) 933-8881 or Gwen (936) 933-1621.

Did you know...

by Yvonne Ryba
This week I had two encounters with the animal kingdom. After the heavy rain, (and how grateful we are that we did not have the terrible floods the people are having further south of us,) I stepped out onto the front porch. There right in front of me was a crawdad. He or she must have been flooded out of its home and was alarmed to see a huge creature appear from nowhere. Surprisingly enough, it showed spirit and reared up to wave its claws at me. I reminded it that people eat crawdads but I wasn't interested in having it for lunch and left it there. As soon as I moved away out of its sight, it scuttled into the drain.

The second event happened when I was at the kitchen sink. I looked out of the window onto the back of the property and saw two young pigs happily munching away at the grass. This is the first time I have seen a feral pig. I was shocked because I have heard how much damage they can do. These two looked young, at least not full grown. I opened the door and stepped out onto the deck and glared at them. The look on their little piggy faces was priceless. I must have seemed like an alien stepping out of a flying saucer would appear to a human. The two showed the whites round their eyes, turned and shot off, as if a monster was after them. The two different reactions made me think. How one little creature went into an aggressive stance when confronted by a huge person, while the two young hogs acted like two kids caught stealing apples from a neighbor's orchard. Don't forget about March Madness in Coldspring on March 26. This is a Saturday and also Trades Day, where arts and craft vendors along with fun and games fill the Courthouse Square. There is the UnBeauty Competition! The ugliest looking person wins. This is a little like Halloween only in better weather! On the thought of Halloween, the Historical Commission of San Jacinto County is working on the idea of having a "Zombie Walk" before Halloween. This is in step with the rest of the world which has been swept by the zombie craze.

You will find details of a very different kind of competition elsewhere in the paper and also on line. County Judge John Lovett has created a Flag Design competition. He wants the citizens of our county to have their own flag and who better to design one than the people themselves? The winner will be awarded a \$200 gift card donated by the American Legion Post in Camilla and the design will be used to create flags for our county. Have you an idea which would make a perfect design for San Jacinto County? Think of our history and our beautiful countryside. There is a lot to inspire us. Designs must be sent in by on April 26. The winner will be announced in late May or early June. The Historical Commission will judge this event and the flag chosen will be displayed at a ceremony next year, where the winner will have the pleasure of being honored and seeing the flag raised. For complete details and entry form contact the County Clerk's office in the Courthouse, Coldspring.

The Bank of San Jacinto County is the hometown bank for many people in our community. A member of Coldspring - San Jacinto County Chamber of Commerce, it offers on-Line banking and bill pay and 24 hour telephone banking. They issue a Visa debit card which is accepted everywhere and the drive-in and ATM is very convenient, since the bank is situated in the middle of town. Lobby hours are Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and on Friday, it is open till 5:30 p.m. The Drive-In is open Monday - Friday 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.. Call them at (936) 653-4395 or online, go to www.banksjc.com.

Director Bob Barragan offers business owners, and those who hope to start a business, a free consultation at the chamber nearest you. Bob directs the Small Business Development Center at Sam Houston state University. Call the Chamber nearest you to set up your appointment.

Coldspring-San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
31 N. Butler, Coldspring 77331
Call (936) 653-2184
www.coldspringtexas.org

Shepherd Chamber of Commerce
Mail to PO Box 520 Shepherd, 77371
Call (936) 628-3515
www.greatershepherdchamberofcommerce.org



FREE FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

celebrating

"UNITE SHEPHERD"
ANNUAL ACTIVITIES
on

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2016
11:00-1:00

@
Shepherd Community Center Area



Sponsored by: SMEA

Community Calendar

3/21: School Board Meeting, 7pm
3/25: Good Friday
3/25: Shepherd Monthly Food Truck, 10-12pm @ Shepherd Community Center
3/25: Lake Pool Baptist Church Good Friday Worship Experience, 630pm
3/25, 26, 27: Shepherd VFD Bake Sale @ McClain's
3/26: McClain's Easter Egg Hunt, 11am @ Shepherd Baseball Fields
3/26: Trades' Day @ Coldspring Courthouse Square
3/27: Easter
3/28: Pirateers Reading Program 9-10am @ Shepherd Primary Parent Center
3/30: Bridge of Hope Community Church "Community Fellowship Dinner", 7pm @ Shepherd Middle School
3/31: Coldspring Monthly Food Truck, 1-3pm @ 941 Slade St., Coldspring,
4/02: SJC Cowboy Church 1st Annual Gospel Jambo
4/09: Homer Lee Franklin Benefit, 1pm @ Bubba's on Hwy 105 West
4/16: Coldspring Garden Club 2nd Annual Flower Show and Luncheon, 11am @ Jones Hall, Coldspring
4/16: Drew's Landing Baptist Church Area Wide Youth Rally, 12pm

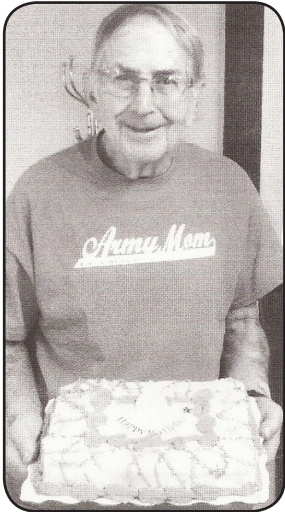
Senior Menu

MON 3/21: King Ranch Chicken, Pinto Beans, Corn, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit
TUE 3/22: Ham Slice, Macaroni & Cheese, Cabbage, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit
WED 3/23: Breaded Pork Cutlet, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Greens, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit
THUR 3/24: Baked Turkey, Cranberry Sauce, Yams, Mixed Squash, Rolls, Salad, Fruit
FRI 3/25: BBQ Chicken, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Wheat Bread, Salad, Fruit
MON 3/28: Sausage & Sauerkraut & Grilled Onions, Lima Beans, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit
TUE 3/29: Chicken Tenders, Cream Gravy, Sweet Potato Tots, Navy Beans, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit
WED 3/30: Meatloaf, Brown Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn Casserole, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit
THUR 3/31: Chicken Pot Pie, Beets, Tossed Salad & Dressing, Fruit

Second Tuesday Of Each Month Dessert Includes Birthday Cake
Menu's Are Subject To Change Due To Availability
Call (936) 628-3733 By 9:30 a.m. To Reserve A Meal



Birthday wishes to: Paul Schmid (pictured), Phyllis Crumpler, Ellen Gurerrero, Myrna Jenkins, Ann Moreland, Judy Nunnelly, Carol Sherrard, James Shrader, Linda Stanford, Jerry Winheim



New Releases Coming to McClain's DVD Kiosk This Week



The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2 (PG-13) adventure/sci-fi: As the war of Panem escalates to the destruction of other districts, Katniss Everdeen, the reluctant leader of the rebellion, must bring together an army against President Snow, while all she holds dear hangs in the balance. Starring: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth

Daddy's Home (PG-13) comedy: Stepdad, Brad Whitaker, is a radio host trying to get his stepchildren to love him and call him Dad. But his plans turn upside down when the biological father, Dusty Mayron, returns. Starring: Will Ferrell, Mark Wahlberg, Linda Cardellini



McClain's does not maintain Cajun DVD movie kiosk and therefore cannot guarantee all movie releases.

Buy \$mart, Eat Well

Easter Chocolate Covered Strawberries



Ingredients:
1 pint of fresh strawberries, washed and patted dry (on sale 2/\$3.00!)
1 lb. of white melting chocolate
food coloring

Directions:
Cover baking sheet with parchment paper. Place melting chocolate in microwave for 1 minute. Stir and place back in microwave for 30 seconds at a time until chocolate is smooth. Separate melted chocolate into 4 bowls. Add food coloring to each bowl in the colors you would like. (I did pastel yellow, pastel green, pastel blue, and pastel pink.) Dunk the strawberries in the desired chocolate color and place on lined baking sheet to harden in refrigerator for 1-2 hours and serve!
Recipe found at www.joyfulhealthyeats.com

March 23, 2016

Community Classifieds

CHURCH YARD SALE: Harmony Church bi-annual yard sale 3/31 - 4/2. Hours will be Thursday & Friday 8am-5pm & Saturday til 2!
FREE DOG: Female German Shepherd free to a good home. Would do good with someone that has a big yard. Call Rose: (832) 580-1565
WANTED: All non-working riding mowers, push mowers, freezers, refrigerators, AC units, washers, dryers, 4-wheelers, motorcycles. Please call (936) 252-9043.

Church News

DREW'S LANDING BAPTIST CHURCH: We are hosting an Area Wide Youth Rally April 16, 2016 at noon! All church's invited to participate. Lots of free food, fun, faith & music. Church's interested call Pastor R. Withers at 936-239-5367. 161 Thomas Castleberry off 1127 in Shepherd. Looking forward to seeing everyone! Come as you are!
LAKE POOL BAPTIST CHURCH: Good Friday Worship Experience Friday, March 25, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. The Shepherd Community Choir along with the Pastor and congregation of Lake Pool Baptist Church invited you to attend our 2nd Annual Service. The Community Choir will offer many songs and a tag team of local ministers will expound on the word of God. We hope that everyone will make plans to attend.



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GREATEST SHOW ON DIRT
MARCH 26, 2016 @ 7:00 P.M.
1288 Fostoria Rd. Cleveland, Texas

Shepherd VFD Auxillary



Buy Your Easter Sweets From
The Fire Department Auxillary At McClain's
Friday, March 25th
Saturday, March 26th
Sunday, March 27th
Pre-orders can be faxed to
(936) 628-6559

Obituaries

Jackie Lou Batey

September 19, 1940 - March 8, 2016



Jackie Lou Batey, age 75 of Shepherd, Texas, passed away Tuesday, March 8, 2016. She was born September 19, 1940 in Houston, Texas to parents Jack and Dorothy Sims who preceded her in death along with her husband, Clarence Jack Batey; and sister, Shirley Parker.
Survivors include her sons, Lynn and wife Sherry and Tracy Batey; grandchildren, Christopher Batey and wife Mayra, Dana Burnett and husband Franklin; great-grandchildren, Clint, Caleigh, Kimberlyn, Kayla and Brooke; dearest friend, Dorothy Nesthouse; numerous other relatives and friends.
Memorial services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Pace Stancil Chapel, Cleveland, Texas.

For news or special events to be published in
Shepherd Community News:

Drop off your information/picture at McClain's,
e-mail to mclains.shepherdnews@gmail.com, or fax to (936) 628-2866.
Information may not be taken over the telephone.
Include contact information on your request to have something published.
Our deadline is 6 p.m. Tuesday for the following week.