SATSUMA VALLEY STANDARD

*Your **Standard** for Local News & Events*

October 21, 2026



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THE SILSBEE DOWNTOWN HALLOWEEN BASH

SEVEN YEARS OF SCARES, SMILES, AND SILSBEE TRADITIONS



BY: JOHN MARBLE

There is something special about a small town coming together. It is the laughter of children running down the sidewalk, the familiar faces greeting one another, the excitement of families making memories, and the unmistakable feeling that, for one evening, the entire community is celebrating together.

For the past seven years, that spirit has been at the heart of the Silsbee Downtown Halloween Bash, an event that has become much more than just another date on the calendar. It has become a tradition, a celebration of community, and a reminder of what makes Silsbee such a special place to call home.



On Saturday, October 24, downtown Silsbee will once again come alive with costumes, candy, entertainment, decorated vehicles, vendors, and families as the community celebrates the 7th Annual Silsbee Downtown Halloween Bash.

But the story of this event is about much more than Halloween.

It is a story about a town, its people, and what can happen when someone has an idea and a community decides to believe in it.

Seven years ago, the Downtown Halloween Bash began with a simple vision: create something that would bring people together, give families a place to celebrate, and breathe a little extra life into downtown Silsbee.

Like many community events, it took determination, planning, volunteers, and people willing to give their time and resources to make that vision a reality. What began as an idea has grown into an annual celebration that many families now look forward to as part of their fall traditions.





Today, the Downtown Halloween Bash is about far more than costumes and candy. It is about parents bringing their children to the same celebration they remember from years before. It is about grandparents watching their grandchildren experience the excitement of Halloween. It is about local businesses and organizations stepping outside their everyday routines to do something special for the people they serve.

And perhaps most importantly, it is about making memories right here at home.

Throughout the years, the event has continued to bring excitement to downtown Silsbee, offering residents an opportunity to gather, visit with neighbors, support local vendors, and enjoy an evening filled with the kind of hometown atmosphere that cannot easily be duplicated.

This year's celebration promises another full day of activities.

The festivities will include a Vendor Market from noon until 6 p.m., giving visitors an opportunity to browse merchandise, discover unique items, and support vendors and small businesses. The Spooktacular Car Show, presented by Excessive Performance, will take place from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., bringing another exciting attraction to the day's festivities.

Then, as the sun begins to set, the celebration will turn its attention to one of the most anticipated traditions of the evening: Trunk or Treat, scheduled from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. For the children, it is an evening of excitement, colorful costumes, and the all-important question of just how much candy they can collect. For the adults, it is an opportunity to enjoy the excitement through their children's eyes.



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And for the community, it is another chance to create memories that will last long after the decorations have been taken down.
However, behind every successful community event are the people who rarely receive the recognition they deserve.
The volunteers who spend hours preparing. The businesses that contribute donations. The organizations that decorate vehicles and distribute candy. The vendors who set up their booths. The individuals who handle the countless details that most visitors never see.
Without them, an event like the Downtown Halloween Bash simply would not be possible.
Their willingness to give back demonstrates something that has always been a defining characteristic of Silsbee: when the community comes together for a common purpose, remarkable things can happen.



Events like this also serve another important purpose. They remind residents of the value of downtown.
For generations, downtown districts have served as gathering places for communities across America. They are places where people conduct business, exchange stories, build relationships, and develop a sense of belonging.
In Silsbee, the Downtown Halloween Bash helps carry that tradition forward.
For one special day, downtown becomes a place where the community gathers not because it has to, but because it wants to.
There is something powerful about that.
In a world where so much of our daily lives revolves around schedules, responsibilities, phones, and screens, an event that encourages families to spend time together and neighbors to reconnect is something worth celebrating.
And after seven years, the Downtown Halloween Bash has earned its place among Silsbee's annual traditions.
There are children who attended the earliest celebrations who are now teenagers. There are families who have made attending the event part of their yearly Halloween plans. There are friendships strengthened, memories created, and countless photographs that capture moments of happiness in the heart of the town.
Those are the things that make an event successful.
Not simply the number of people who attend, the amount of candy distributed, or the number of attractions offered, but the memories people carry home when the evening is over.
As Silsbee prepares for the seventh annual celebration, there is also an opportunity to reflect on what this event represents.
It represents the belief that small towns deserve big celebrations.
It represents the idea that families should have opportunities to make wonderful memories without traveling far from home.

THE SILSBEE DOWNTOWN HALLOWEEN BASH

SEVEN YEARS OF SCARES, SMILES, AND SILSBEE TRADITIONS

And it represents the determination of people who believe in their community enough to continue building something special, year after year.

Seven years is an accomplishment. Seven years of planning, organizing, overcoming challenges, and finding new ways to make the celebration memorable.

But perhaps the greatest accomplishment is that the Downtown Halloween Bash is no longer simply an event someone decided to organize. It has become something that belongs to Silsbee.

It belongs to the children eagerly choosing their Halloween costumes. It belongs to the businesses that proudly participate. It belongs to the volunteers, parents, grandparents, and neighbors who make the celebration possible.

It belongs to every person who has ever walked through downtown during the festivities, smiled at a familiar face, and felt proud to be part of this community.

On October 24, the costumes will come out, the candy buckets will fill, and downtown Silsbee will once again be filled with laughter and excitement. By the end of the evening, another chapter will have been written in a tradition seven years in the making. And when the last piece of candy has been handed out and the decorations are packed away, something much more important will remain.

The memories. The friendships.The community spirit.

Because in Silsbee, the Downtown Halloween Bash has never really been just about Halloween.

It has always been about the people who make this town home...and that is a tradition worth keeping for generations to come.







WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
SUNNY	SUNNY	SUNNY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY
81/55	83/54	83/55	81/56	79/57	80/60	77/59

THE MAX SNACK SHACK OPEN FOR BUSINESS

BY: JOHN MARBLE

There is a new business in town, and The Max Snack Shack is officially open and ready to welcome customers! Silsbee continues to see local entrepreneurs investing in the community, and The Max Snack Shack is the latest addition to the city's growing collection of small businesses.

With its doors now open, The Max Snack Shack is inviting residents to stop by, check out what it has to offer, and show their support for another hometown business.

Opening a small business is no easy task. Behind every new storefront is a dream, countless hours of preparation, and the determination to turn an idea into reality. For business owners in a close-knit community like Silsbee, the support of local residents can make all the difference.

The Max Snack Shack is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and is closed on Sundays.

As the business begins this new chapter, residents are encouraged to follow The Max Snack Shack on Facebook for announcements, updates, and more information.

At the Satsuma Valley Standard, we believe that supporting local businesses is an important part of keeping our community strong. Every new business represents another person willing to invest in Silsbee and its future.

We welcome The Max Snack Shack to the Silsbee business community and wish them continued success!







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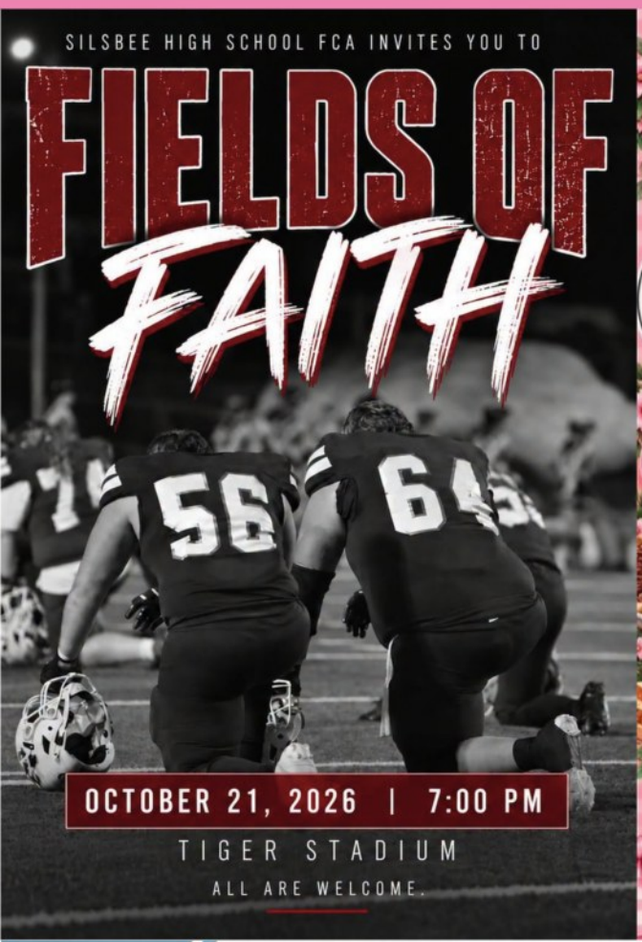
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COMMUNITY EVENTS











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VETERANS WREATH CEREMONY

will be at Silsbee Veterans Memorial Park
located at 100 Earnest Ave.

***on* December 19th at 10:00 am**

All Veterans are encouraged to come!

★★★







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Sponsored wreaths are placed on veterans' grave markers at cemeteries nationwide each December for National Wreaths Across America Day.

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REMEMBER our fallen U.S. veterans.

HONOR those who serve.

TEACH our children the value of freedom.

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE **Silsbee Women's Club** SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE.

WREATH PICKUP

will be December 19th at 9:00 am
at the Rudisale Pavillion
on 3rd Street, Silsbee, Texas.

TIGER TALK

HARVESTING A FUTURE FULL OF POSSIBILITIES

BY: JILL POSKEY

There is something really special about watching students begin to realize just how many possibilities their future holds. Sometimes, all it takes is a little encouragement, a helping hand, and a community willing to remind them that big dreams are within reach.

That is exactly what Free College Application Week was all about at Silsbee High School.

What started as a week dedicated to helping seniors take the next step toward their future turned into something worth celebrating. By the end of the week, students had submitted 270 college applications, bringing the total number of applications submitted this school year to 409. Even more exciting, 68% of our seniors had applied to at least one college!

Behind those numbers are students taking chances, exploring opportunities, and beginning to picture what life after high school might look like. For some, that means attending a university. For others, it may mean exploring a different path toward a career. No matter what their future holds, the goal is to help our students understand that they have options and that their dreams are worth pursuing.

One of the biggest benefits of Free College Application Week is the opportunity to apply without the financial burden of application fees. Our students saved more than $10,000 during this initiative! That is more than money saved. It is one less barrier standing between our students and the opportunities waiting for them.

Of course, we could not let a week this important pass without making it fun! We kicked things off with College Spirit Twin Day, followed by Neon Day with the reminder that our students' futures are simply too bright. From the excitement of dressing up to the encouragement of friends applying alongside one another, our seniors embraced the week, and the numbers certainly reflected their enthusiasm. Friday's event was another highlight, with 106 applications submitted during the event alone. Watching students encourage one another, ask questions, and work toward their next steps was a reminder of why this work matters so much.

Most importantly, our seniors deserve recognition. They showed up, participated, supported one another, and took steps toward their futures. We can provide the resources and encouragement, but they are the ones who have to take that first step. Seeing them do just that made the entire week worthwhile.

One of the things I love most about working with students is being able to remind them that their current circumstances do not have to determine their future. Sometimes students need someone to believe in them before they fully believe in themselves. Sometimes they need someone to help them see an opportunity they did not know existed. And sometimes they just need someone in their corner cheering them on. That is what makes investing in our students so important. We are not just helping them complete applications. We are helping them recognize their potential, build confidence, and see that there is a place for them beyond the walls of our school.

Our seniors are preparing for their next chapter, and if this week is any indication, their futures are looking bright. I could not be prouder of these students or more thankful for the people who continue to pour into them.

After all, helping students see what is possible today can change what they believe is possible for the rest of their lives...and that is something worth celebrating.



















SILSBEE ELEMENTARY RECEIVES $10,000 GRANT FROM SMURFIT WESTROCK

BY: KELSEY JOHNSON



Students at Silsbee Elementary will soon be able to enjoy a new greenhouse. It's thanks to a $10,000 grant from Smurfit Westrock in Evadale.

The greenhouse will serve as a hands-on learning space for our teachers to bring classroom lessons outdoors and provide an opportunity for students to learn about plants, gardening, science and the environment.

"We are very grateful to Smurfit Westrock for investing in our students at Silsbee Elementary," Kelsey Johnson, Director of Communications for Silsbee ISD said. "This greenhouse will give our students a chance to learn by doing, and we are excited to see how our teachers incorporate it into lessons across campus."

This grant just serves as another reminder of the impact community and industry partnerships can have on our school district. Smurfit Westrock's support will help create an educational resource that can be enjoyed by Silsbee Elementary students for years to come.

Silsbee ISD is thankful for community partners like Smurfit Westrock who continue to invest in our Tigers' education and provide new opportunities for our students to learn and grow.

SHS HEALTH SCIENCE STUDENTS EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES AT LAMAR UNIVERSITY

BY: JOHN MARBLE



The future looks bright for Silsbee High School students pursuing careers in healthcare, as a recent visit from Lamar University helped them explore the opportunities available beyond graduation.

On Friday, October 9, students enrolled in Silsbee High School's Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and Patient Care Technician (PCT) programs welcomed a recruiter from the Lamar University School of Nursing for an informative session focused on higher education and careers in the medical field.

During the visit, students learned about nursing education, college opportunities, and the steps necessary to continue their journey toward becoming healthcare professionals. The presentation offered valuable nsight into the different career paths available, from becoming a CNA or PCT to pursuing credentials as a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), Registered Nurse (RN), or an advanced healthcare professional.

For students already gaining hands-on experience in the classroom, the visit served as an important reminder that the skills they are developing today can open doors to rewarding careers tomorrow.

The Silsbee High School Health Science program emphasizes preparing students for life after graduation by providing foundational knowledge, practical skills, and exposure to real-world healthcare opportunities.

The visit also gave students an opportunity to connect with a university representative and envision themselves continuing their education at Lamar University. As an added surprise, students received matching Lamar University hats, which quickly became a favorite part of the experience.

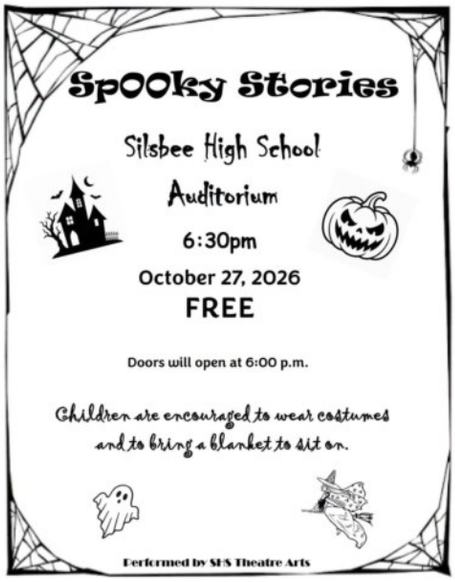
School officials expressed their appreciation to Lamar University for taking the time to invest in the next generation of healthcare professionals and encouraging students to pursue their dreams.

For these young Tigers, the road to a successful healthcare career may begin in a Silsbee High School classroom, but the possibilities extend far beyond graduation.

Once a Tiger, always a Tiger — and perhaps one day, a Lamar University Cardinal, too!

TIGER TALK

SPOOKY STORIES RETURNS TO SILSBEE HIGH SCHOOL FOR A NIGHT OF HALLOWEEN FUN



Get ready for a night of spooky fun, laughter, and Halloween entertainment as Silsbee High School Theatre Arts students prepare to bring back their popular Spooky Stories event on Tuesday, October 27, 2026.

The annual Halloween-themed performance will take place in the Silsbee High School Auditorium, with doors opening at 6 p.m. and the show beginning at 6:30 p.m. Best of all, admission is completely free.

The event will feature a variety of Halloween-inspired performances presented by the talented students of the SHS Theatre Arts program. Designed to entertain audiences of all ages, Spooky Stories offers families an opportunity to enjoy an evening of seasonal entertainment while supporting local student performers.

Adding to the Halloween spirit, children attending the event are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite costumes, making the evening even more festive for the entire family.

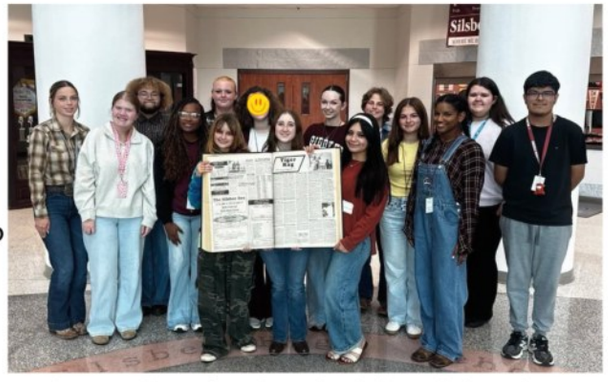
Beyond the spooky stories and Halloween fun, the event provides an opportunity for Silsbee's young actors and actresses to showcase their creativity, stage presence, and hard work in front of their hometown audience.

Whether you're a fan of Halloween, enjoy live theatre, or simply want to support the talented students of Silsbee High School, Spooky Stories promises an entertaining evening for the community. The SHS Theatre Arts program invites everyone to come out, bring the family, and enjoy a frightfully fun night with the Fighting Tigers.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, October 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Silsbee High School Auditorium. Admission is free, and everyone is welcome!

STUDENT LED NEWSPAPER COLUMN RETURNS TO THE SILSBEE BEE

BY: JOHN MARBLE



A longtime Silsbee High School tradition is making its return, bringing a new generation of student voices to the pages of The Silsbee Bee.

Once known to generations of Silsbee residents as The Tiger Rag, the student-written publication is returning with a fresh look and a new name: The Tiger Chronicle.

While the name may have changed, the purpose behind the publication remains the same , giving Silsbee High School students an opportunity to share their stories, showcase their talents, and keep the community informed about life at SHS, for many former students and longtime residents, The Tiger Rag was more than just a school publication.

it was a familiar tradition that offered students an opportunity to experience journalism firsthand while celebrating the people, activities, and accomplishments that made Silsbee High School special.

Now, The Tiger Chronicle aims to carry that tradition forward, allowing today's students to develop their writing and communication skills while sharing their unique perspectives with the community.

The publication will appear as a special insert in The Silsbee Bee four times throughout the 2026-2027 school year. Scheduled publication dates are October 21, December 23, March 17, and May 12.

The first edition is scheduled to appear Wednesday, October 21, giving readers their first look at the newly revived student publication.

Beyond providing news and updates from Silsbee High School, the project represents an opportunity for young writers to see their work published in a community newspaper, potentially inspiring future careers in journalism, communications, and media.

For a community that takes pride in its history and school traditions, the return of this student publication is another way to connect past generations of Tigers with those walking the halls today.

Residents are encouraged to pick up a copy of The Silsbee Bee this week and support the students whose words will fill the pages of The Tiger Chronicle. The name may be different, but the tradition lives on.

John Marble's Birthday Fundraiser

Help keep the Satsuma Valley Standard serving our community.

Instead of gifts this year, John Marble is inviting friends, family, and community members to help support the Satsuma Valley Standard. Scan the QR code below and send a donation to help continue the magazine and the great work it does for our community. Every contribution, big or small, helps keep local stories, local voices, and local heart alive.

Scan to Donate





All proceeds will go to helping the magazine.

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PVAC UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

2026 - 2027 | ARTS & CULTURE

SEPTEMBER 2026

SEP 28 – OCT 1
Romeo and Juliet • Hal Evans
SHS

SEP 29
A Tell-Tale Tale: The Stories and Poems of Poe
SHS

OCTOBER 2026

OCT 15 – 16
Mother Goose

OCT 20
Julius Caesar • Hal Evans

NOVEMBER 2026

NOV 10
Mr. Blue Shoes • SES
3 programs: 8:10 AM, 9:10 AM, 1:45 PM

DECEMBER 2026

DEC 5
Christmas in the Big Thicket
Face painting

DEC 7 – 11
PVAC Palooza

JANUARY 2027

JAN 15
Hamlet • Hal Evans

MARCH / APRIL 2027

MAR 29
Twelfth Night • Hal Evans

APR 5 – 9
Pick Up Art

APR 10 – 24
Springfest Art Show

APR 24
Spring in the Big Thicket

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OCTOBER 2026

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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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RULING ON
THE FIELD
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TIGERS FALL SHORT AGAINST MUSTANGS



BY: RULING ON THE FIELD

The Silsbee Tigers saw their three-game winning streak come to an end Friday night, falling in a hard-fought 38-30 contest. Despite the loss, the Tigers showed determination and offensive firepower, keeping the game competitive throughout the night.

The loss moves Silsbee to 5-2 on the season, but the Tigers continue to demonstrate the talent and resilience that have helped make them a competitive force this year.

Several Tigers delivered impressive performances, including standout receiver RJ Williams, who finished the night with 135 receiving yards and a touchdown. Williams provided one of the game's biggest offensive highlights with an explosive 65-yard reception, showcasing his speed and ability to make plays downfield.

Quarterback Sedrick Matthews Jr. also turned in a solid performance, throwing for 198 yards and a touchdown. Matthews continued to demonstrate his leadership on offense, helping the Tigers put 30 points on the scoreboard.



Although the Tigers were unable to come away with the victory, their offensive production highlighted the team's ability to compete against strong competition.

With the regular season moving forward, Silsbee will look to regroup and return to the win column as district competition continues.

The Tigers will return to action Friday night when they face district opponent Hamshire-Fannett. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.



With a 5-2 record and plenty of football still ahead, the Tigers will look to put Friday's setback behind them and continue their push toward a successful finish to the season.

For the Tigers and their supporters, the message remains simple: one loss does not define a season, and the next opportunity to prove themselves is just around the corner.



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Silsbee TIGER PRIDE

LADY TIGERS EXTEND WINNING STREAK TO FOUR WITH BACK-TO-BACK SWEEPS

BY: RULING ON THE FIELD



The Silsbee Lady Tigers volleyball team continues to build momentum as the regular season winds down, extending their winning streak to four games following impressive back-to-back sweeps over Vidor and West Orange-Stark.

The Lady Tigers began their successful week on Tuesday, October 13, when they welcomed the Vidor Lady Pirates to Silsbee for a special Senior Night celebration. The evening provided an opportunity to recognize the team's senior players for their dedication, hard work, and contributions to the Lady Tigers volleyball program.

Silsbee made the night even more memorable by delivering a commanding 3-0 victory over Vidor, improving its overall record to 16-8.

The victory was especially meaningful for the seniors, who celebrated one of their final regular-season home appearances with a win in front of their hometown supporters.

The Lady Tigers carried that momentum into Friday, October 16, when they traveled to face West Orange-Stark in another important District 18-4A matchup.

Once again, Silsbee wasted little time establishing control, sweeping the Lady Mustangs 3-0 and improving its overall season record to an impressive 17-8.

The victory marked the Lady Tigers' fourth consecutive win and continued a stretch of strong performances as the team prepares for the final portion of its district schedule.

Throughout the season, Silsbee has demonstrated determination and teamwork, with the recent winning streak highlighting the progress the Lady Tigers have made on the court.

With the regular season nearing its conclusion, the Lady Tigers are looking to maintain their momentum and strengthen their position heading into postseason competition.

Silsbee will return to action Friday, October 23, when the Lady Tigers host Little Cypress-Mauriceville in what promises to be another competitive district showdown. The match is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville has also enjoyed a strong season, making the upcoming matchup an important test for Silsbee as the Lady Tigers work toward a successful finish.

With a 17-8 record, four consecutive victories, and the confidence gained from back-to-back three-set sweeps, the Lady Tigers are proving they are ready to compete as the playoffs approach.

For the seniors who have helped lead the program, the recent victories are another chapter in their Silsbee High School volleyball journey, one they hope will continue well into the postseason.



TIGERS OF THE WEEK

Mariah LEE



Varsity Cheer
Silsbee High School
Class of 2027

Klaire SIMON



Junior Varsity Volleyball
Silsbee High School
Class of 2028

Haegyn MORRIS



Varsity Football
Silsbee High School
Class of 2028

Kerion ROBINSON



Varsity Football
Silsbee High School
Class of 2028

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"Got a cold? Get yourself some chicken soup. It'll warm you up, clear your head, and put a little strength back in you."



THE REMEDY

A bowl of warm chicken soup, served with tender vegetables and a good helping of broth, has long been a household staple for cold season. Whether homemade or passed down through a family recipe, the tradition was simple: rest, eat something warm, and let the body do its healing.



THE ROOT

Versions of chicken broth and medicinal soups appear in culinary and medical traditions dating back centuries. In Jewish tradition, chicken soup became particularly associated with healing and is sometimes affectionately called Jewish penicillin.



THE WHY

Warm broth can soothe an irritated throat, while the steam may temporarily help loosen nasal congestion. The liquid also helps maintain hydration, and the soup provides nourishment when you don't feel much like eating.

The Verdict

We rate each tale so you know what to believe (or not)!

Chicken soup won't cure the common cold or make the virus disappear, but it can offer genuine symptom relief, hydration, and nourishment while you recover. Sometimes an old remedy doesn't need to work miracles to earn its place at the family table.



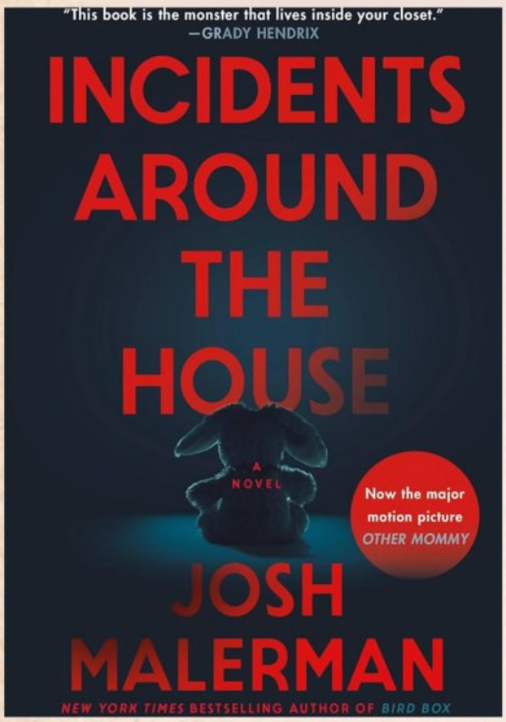
PARTLY TRUE

HONORING THE WISDOM OF YESTERDAY.
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Silsbee, Texas

The Margins of Life

Things That Lurk Behind Closed Doors



Childhood fears have a way of turning the ordinary into the extraordinary, where a shadow in the hallway becomes a strange being and a slightly open closet door holds possibilities better left unexplored. In Josh Malerman's Incidents Around the House, that familiar unease takes a much darker shape as a child's world becomes increasingly threatened by something that refuses to remain where it belongs.

What makes this kind of horror so effective is its ability to invade the spaces where we feel safest. We expect our homes to protect us from the outside world, yet the story challenges that trust by turning familiar rooms, family relationships, and nighttime routines into sources of dread. Being told in a child's perspective, where the inability to fully explain what is happening, makes the book be just as frightening as the threat itself. When adults dismiss those fears, the distance between feeling safe and being safe grows even wider.

Perhaps that is what makes childhood fears so difficult to forget. We may grow older, learn to explain away strange noises, and convince ourselves that the darkness is simply an absence of light, yet some part of us still remembers the instinct to hurry down a hallway or avoid looking too long into a darkened room. Incidents Around the House taps into that deeply rooted vulnerability, reminding us that horror does not always need a distant haunted mansion or an abandoned building to take hold. Sometimes, the most frightening place imaginable is the one where we sleep, eat, laugh, and trust that nothing could possibly hurt us. After all, a locked front door offers little comfort when the thing you fear is already inside.

Lemon-Garlic Chicken & Orzo



INGREDIENTS:

- ½ cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ⅓ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup chocolate chips
-

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Grease an 8-inch square baking pan or line it with parchment paper.
2. Whisk the melted butter and sugar together, then add the eggs and vanilla, mixing until smooth.
3. Stir in the cocoa powder, flour, and salt until just combined. Fold in the chocolate chips.
4. Spread the batter evenly into the prepared pan and bake for 25–30 minutes, until the edges are set and a toothpick inserted near the center comes out with a few moist crumbs.
5. Let the brownies cool before slicing. Serve slightly warm for a soft, fudgy center.

TIGER HUT



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Words of Inspiration

ANCIENT CONTEXTS

"THE DOUBLE-NATURE OF GOING OUT" BY: Chris Glenn



Gen 12:1: "Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go out (***lekh lekha*** - לֶךְ לְךָ) from your country and your kindred and your father's house [and *crossover*] to the land that I will show you."

This directive is interesting as "Go" is not a hierarchical marching order, God did not "send" Abram to the promised land. Also, ***lekh*** is the imperative "Go" followed by a different conjugation of ***lekh*** (***lekha***) meaning "Go for yourself" leading to the literal translation: "Go, Go for yourself."

In biblical Hebrew, it's not uncommon to double a word for emphasis, but this instance is odd given the nature of the conjugations.

I've long reflected on this oddity, and see a correlation to the two Adam creation verses.

Gen 1:27 gives an account of Adam's creation emphasizing horizontally-oriented expansion.

Gen 2:7-18 gives a creation account of a vertically-oriented spiritual (*ruach*) Adam.

This dual-Adam creates the framework for Adam as the first Adam and Jesus as the second Adam. When Adam one sinned, his spiritual nature died leaving the need for a second Adam to heal the marred nature.

So, ***lekh*** represents physically going out, ***lekha*** represents spiritually going out.

Abraham's physical/spiritual going out was a key step for the advent of the second Adam.

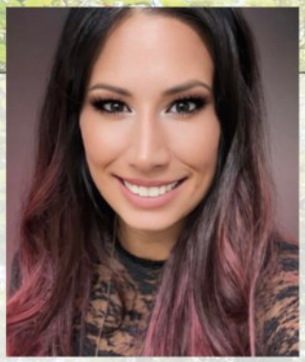
Reflecting on this, all who seek Him must pursue life from both the physical and spiritual planes.

1 Cor 15:35...45-46: "But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come? ... Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual."

Expect defining moments when reaching a point of great potential for growth, ***do not be afraid to physically and spiritually crossover like Abraham did.***

Words of Inspiration

A WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL



BY: MEGAN D. HARDING

Have you ever prayed for something so long that you started wondering if God was even listening? Maybe you've prayed for healing, peace, direction, or a breakthrough, but nothing seems to change. Eventually, you begin to wonder if your prayers are even making it past the ceiling. In Daniel 10, Daniel had been praying and mourning for three weeks when an angel finally appeared to him. Daniel 10:12 says: “Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them.” The angel went on to explain that he'd been delayed for twenty-one days because of spiritual opposition. Think about that. Daniel spent twenty-one days waiting for an answer to a prayer God had heard on day one. How often do we mistake God's silence for His absence? We assume that because we can't see anything happening, nothing is happening at all. But just like a pot of coffee brewing, there's a process taking place even before we get to enjoy what's being prepared. We don't always get to see what God is doing behind the scenes, and His answers don't always come in the way or timing we expect. Daniel didn't know what was happening in the spiritual realm. He only knew that he was waiting. But his waiting didn't mean his prayers had gone unheard. Maybe today you're standing there with an empty cup, wondering when God is going to fill it. Don't let the waiting convince you that God isn't listening. Just because heaven seems silent doesn't mean God isn't working.

> Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.
>
> DANIEL 10:12

The Melissa Crane Smart & Puddin Memorial Scholarship



The family of Melissa Crane Smart has established this fund to carry on the legacy of their daughter and sister. Every dollar given in memory of Melissa will be used to spread the love and joy that she so generously shared in her lifetime with her community and to support students in furthering their education.

Please scan the code to be taken directly to the foundation page for donations.

OBITUARIES & IN MEMORIAM



Terry Blaise Trahan

Terry Trahan, 63, of Buna, passed into the Lord's hands on the 12th of October 2026. Born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, to Nelson Joseph Trahan and Loyne Mary Abshire, He grew to be a kindhearted man with a flirtatious charm and sarcastic wit. He was a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Lumberton, TX, and it was there he met his wife. In 1998, he married his sweetheart Judy, and they enjoyed 28 loving years together. Terry had a knack for small engine repair, spending his time tinkering with lawnmowers or various projects of his own. He enjoyed classic cars, appreciating the craftsmanship and style that has since gone by. Terry wasn't just in love with the mechanical; he was also passionate about cows and could often be called to look after them if someone was away. When the day was finished and the tools were set down, Terry enjoyed watching he classics: anything with John Wayne, The Andy Griffith Show, the Three Stooges, Benny Hill, and most of all, his second love, I Love Lucy. He will be deeply missed.

He is preceded in death by his parents Nelson and Loyne Trahan, his brothers Glenn Trahan, Lewis Trahan, and Wendale Trahan.

Left to carry on his legacy are his stepson William Hollis, grandchildren Andrew Hollis, Austin Hollis, Paisley Hollis, and bonus grandchild Summer McElhose, his brother Swendale Trahan, nephews Nelson Trahan, Joey Trahan, Tray Trahan, Donnie Trahan, and Jessie Trahan, and a host of other family and friends.

Services are currently pending.



Charles Herrington Sr.

Charles Herrington Sr. 70, of Silsbee, passed away on Saturday, October 17, 2026. Memorial Services will be 4:00 PM Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at Wiley Mae Community Baptist Church, 9823 Old Spurger Hwy, in Silsbee. The family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 PM Monday, October 19, 2026, at the Farmer Funeral Home. Charles was born on July 22, 1956, in Beaumont to Vaugh and Lavell Herrington. He was a long-time member of Wiley Mae Baptist Church in Silsbee. He worked in construction for much of his life before he retired and later enjoyed fishing, hunting, spending time outdoors, and quality time with family. Charles was loved by many and will be missed. Charles was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Linda Herrington, and one brother, David Herrington, and one sister, Francis Billingsly.

Survivors include his two sons, Charles Herrington Jr. and wife, Melinda, and Rodney Herrington; his daughter, Ashley Hensarling, and husband, Jarod; one sister, Linda Jones; one brother, Rickey Herrington; two stepdaughters, Erica Tanton and Melody Guyton, and husband, Jimmy. Survivors also include a host of cherished grandchildren, nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

Want a full copy of your loved one's obituary? Send a email to Satsumavalleystudios@gmail.com to get one for FREE!

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