

The Burton Bulletin

“The Best Kept Secret in Texas”

June 2025



Previously Hohlt's Market & Grocery is currently the Neon Moon Coffee Shop in Burton

The Burton Bulletin is a monthly publication for the Burton Texas area.

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Disclaimer

The opinions, statements and advertisements made by others do not necessarily reflect the views of the Burton Bulletin.

I served on jury duty recently when the attorney asked the person on the witness stand, “Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?”

He replied, “No, this is how I dress when I go to work.”

Calendar

June 4 th	Hug Your Cat Day
June 5 th	Hot Air Balloon Day
June 6 th	D-Day WWII
June 8 th	Best Friends Day
June 9 th	Donald Duck Day
June 10 th @ 5:30pm	City Hall Meeting
June 10 th	Ice Tea Day
June 14 th	Flag Day
June 15 th	Father's Day
June 16 th @ 6:00pm	Burton Beautification Assoc.
June 18 th	Go Fishing Day
June 19 th	Juneteenth
June 19 th	National Kissing Day
June 20 th	Summer Solstice
June 23 rd	National Pink Day
June 28 th	Paul Bunyan Day

Talk is Cheap; except when Congress does it.

I'm starting to think, I'll never be old enough to know better.

TRY THAT IN A SMALL TOWN – A Series Highlighting Burton Blessings

What’s Great About Our Town: Solving the World’s Problems Each Week Over a Great Cup of Coffee

By Ned Ross, contributing writer



Burton is full of surprises. Its tiny footprint is misleading. Visitors rolling into town would expect a Dollar General, lots of pickups, and a gas station, maybe a stray dog, but we are way beyond that. For newcomers and visitors, enter the town with the highest expectations!

In addition to the town peacock, Percy, look no farther than Neon Moon to blow away the small town stereotype. Carl Luning has scoured the earth for the best coffee beans he can find, and his offerings are first rate. Tucked into that modest historic brick building is a Turkish roaster and some of the best coffee you will drink.

Admittedly, I have been a “coffee snob” for decades. I would brew cups at home using the best beans from Houston and Austin in a fancy machine. Starbucks beans were ok but never the best. A couple of Austin “beaneries” were good. But Neon surpassed all of those coffee shops.

How good is it? A lot of travelers between Austin and Houston stop there as a midway point just for the coffee. Folks on the highway usually don’t make time to drive into towns for food and drinks. They want roadside venues. Neon Moon, however, is worth the short drive into town. People buy pounds of beans to take with them. Carl has a vibrant mailout business as well. But all of this is less important than what the shop provides to the townspeople.

Each week on Thursday mornings from, oh, around 8-10am, locals gather there to tell stories, share ideas, and laugh. The Thursday coffee started with four friends – Pete, David, Paul, and Tom – who met to swap stories. They welcomed others as time passed (I think I was the 6th). The original four have all been involved in city government at one time or another, and local politics was always a topic of discussion. After a non-participant politician asked what the “roosters” were up to one day, the group jokingly adopted the Roosters name. Rooster paraphernalia appeared on the walls of the coffee shop, Rooster mugs were purchased, a rack was installed to hang the Rooster mugs, and the group grew to over 15 Roosters from all walks of life.

We celebrate birthdays, bring special foods to share (some grow amazing vegetables and fruit), help Burton Bridge with food deliveries, contribute to local charities, help each other with tasks, and welcome every visitor to the coffee shop. The expressions on the visitors’ faces when they enter the tiny shop on Thursday mornings and see a dozen men carrying on are priceless.

The Roosters welcome any and all to join them on Thursdays. If you’re politically correct, bring your earplugs. Actually, bring your earplugs regardless because the sound level can be deafening with 12 people telling jokes and stories.

And that’s one big reason I love this town.

Future stories: Los Patrones family, impressive students, Cotton Gin Festival/Texas Ranger Day, and The Dynamic Duo of Burton.

Neon Moon Coffee Shop
12510 W. Texas Street
Burton, Texas 77835
PH: 281-740-7433

Website: neonmooncoffee.com
Facebook: Neon Moon Coffee

Hours:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	7am to 1pm
Thursday	7am to 1pm
Friday	7am to 5pm
Saturday	7am to 5pm
Sunday	7am to 3pm

Déjà Brew: The feeling you had this coffee before.

Everyone should believe in something. I believe I will have another cup of coffee.

Life is too short to drink cheap coffee.

Burton City Council Meeting

Burton City Council Meeting was held on May 13, 2025 at 5:00pm at the Burton City Hall.

Incumbent Mayor Karen Buck, who won the election on May 6th against Jeff Eckhardt, was sworn in by City Secretary Angela Harrington.

Incumbent Nathan Kalkhake, Position One, and Incumbent Paul McLaughlin, Position Four, were sworn in by the Mayor. Chuck Johnson had run against Nathan and Berneake Gantt ran against Paul.

City Councilmember, Jeff Eckhardt, was chosen as Mayor Pro-Tem and Paul McLaughlin will be Sergeant of Arms.

It was brought to the attention of the city council that the controversial topic subdivision ordinance, **which had been defeated twice**, will once again be placed on the agenda in the near future.

The council voted to increase the pay for Josh Guelker, Meter Reader, from \$500.00 to \$600.00 a month.

The Council also approved a bid from Mendoza Tree Service for \$5,000.00 for trimming of trees and brush on Navasota Street and the cleaning of an alleyway between Burton Street and Texas Street to clear the city right of way.

After the meeting, cookies and refreshments were served.

Planning for Water Interruptions This Summer

By Susie Tommaney

As part of the construction of our new well, the City's contractor has planned four shutdowns of our existing water well this summer. The timing of these interruptions was done to create minimal impact for the school, which is one of the largest consumers of our water and most definitely the largest provider of meal service in our City.

This is a small price to pay to bring our City back into compliance with the number of connected meters. After the new well is constructed, it will allow for 26 additional connected meters. The new well isn't designed to run at the same time as our current well, but will offer redundancy so that future maintenance and repairs won't necessarily shut down the City's infrastructure.

What does this planned construction mean for residents and area businesses? At the very least, homeowners should start saving back jugs of water so that toilets can be flushed when the water well is turned off. Since the contractor could theoretically work 24/7, some of these interruptions might occur at night, which would be the most positive outcome.

The worst possible outcome would be that one or more of the shutoffs results in the draining of the existing well. When this happens, a boil water notice is issued and we need to wait several days (more if it happens before a weekend) until TCEQ can send back the all clear notice that the water has been tested and is safe to consume.

Residents: In addition to saving back filled jugs of water for flushing toilets, homeowners should also stock up on drinking water. For those who are homebound, elderly, or unable to

afford to stockpile cases of drinking water, please reach out to Bridge Ministry of Burton Texas at 979-337-3370.

Restaurants: If you have a signature casserole or dish, consider preparing freezer meals while you still have access to water for hand-washing and the washing of vegetables. If the water does go out for a period of time you could still offer your customers the option of stopping by to pick up a frozen spaghetti dinner or Coquilles Saint-Jacques to take home.

Ice Makers: For those who operate commercial ice machines, or who have an ice machine at their restaurant or church, consider posting a notice to reassure customers that your ice is safe to consume. If a boil water notice is issued, the recommendation is to dump all existing ice and discard new ice made over an additional 24-hour period to assure complete purging of the water supply line.

Churches: If the construction does result in an interruption of water service over several days, consider renting a portable toilet for your church members.

A little bit of planning now will make these scheduled interruptions easier and safer for everybody.

If you are not currently getting alerts from the City of Burton, reach out to City Hall at (979) 289-3402 during business hours and ask to receive notices via text or phone call.

Burton Bulletin Subscription

To ensure that you receive a copy of the Burton Bulletin, we will mail you a copy of our newsletter for a cost of \$36 a year. Unfortunately the cost of postage and the envelopes we had used in the past has risen.

If you are interested please send payment by check or money order, no later than the 15th of the month, payable to

**Burton Bulletin.
PO Box 374
Burton, Texas 77835**

Please remit \$36 payment by the 15th of the month to receive the next month issue.

Name: _____

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Social & Cultural Stability in Burton

Burton Texas recently had an election for City Officials that was roughly characterized by the difference of two schools of thought: “Keep it Small” vs. “Make it Stable”. Keep it Small won the day and now we move forward. Our beautiful little city is characterized by a unique blend of traditions, demographics, and economic activities that contribute to its social and cultural stability. This stability can be understood through various factors including community engagement, cultural heritage, economic foundations, education, and the challenges that threaten it. The back bone of our community is Strong Community Ties: Burton Texas has a tradition of being a close-knit community where relationships are built on long-standing connections. This fosters a sense of belonging and mutual support among residents. We are blessed by hard working, dedicated individuals (a certain set of twin sisters come to mind) and a strong focus on the unique quality of life in our city where we all know each other and look out for one another, even if we disagree on some things. The Cotton Gin, Long Life Brotherhood, Burton Beautification, Burton ISD, and official and unofficial groups and relationships including churches, civic groups, and volunteer fire departments, play an essential role in fostering community spirit and addressing local needs. The Cotton Gin Festival, Texas Ranger Days, Farmer’s Market, and a multitude of gathering, and food sales serve not only as social venues but also as ways to preserve and celebrate local culture. They are the rhythm of life here and bring us together beyond our differences. The economic heart of our city is based in the diversity of agriculture, petroleum drilling and delivery, antiques, restaurants, and lodging. Our strategic location between Houston and Austin has made us a bedroom and a getaway for both metropolitan areas... as once expressed to me as the “Hamptons of Houston” a reference to the communities at the east end of Long Island near NYC. Perhaps the biggest cash influx is provided by petroleum industry jobs, royalties and the cattle and livestock industry. The agricultural industry is not just the backbone of the Burton economy but also a significant part of the community identity. Cattle and chickens far outnumber people in our little city. Farming and ranching traditions reinforce social ties and cultural practices, bringing us together through employment, food, and lifestyle. The antiques industry also creates significant local businesses thriving on community support, contributing to job creation and economic resilience. Small businesses rooted in local culture (crafts, food, etc.) are essential to the social fabric. Education is a key to the long term sustainability of any Community and the BISD campus not only provides education but also spaces for parental involvement and community events, fostering a collective investment in the youth and future. With multiple sources of access to the internet technology access and educational resources are crucial for integrating the city into broader socio-cultural dialogues and ensuring they remain relevant in a changing world. Our newly renovated campus will serve both current needs and act as a foundation for our youth to enter the world stage. All this being said, we do face challenges in both economic and infrastructure terms. We face economic challenges, including declining populations, limited

access to healthcare and services, and job scarcity, all putting strain on the city social network. The influence of urban culture from Houston, Austin, and the internet can lead to shifts in traditional lifestyles and values, posing a risk to the social fabric if local customs and languages are not actively preserved. We need a stable economic base to fund city operations and infrastructure. This is not a hazard to our “Small town feel”, it is a necessity to allow that “feeling” to exist and be sustained. We must have safe access to our city from US 290. It is not optional. There have been a myriad of accidents involving entry and egress from the highway, fortunately not resulting in many deaths or severe injuries, but even one unnecessary death is too many. Our water system is weak and outdated. The capacity of the system is undersized in modern terms and the distribution system (as detailed in the 2000 Comprehensive Plan) is fraught with asbestos pipes failing iron and clay pipes and is nowhere near adequate to modern standards. The water treatment plant is marginal, resulting in a number of issues including TCEQ incidents. We need a COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, not to change the nature of our city, but to preserve it and give it the ability to be sustained for generations to come. The Plan must derive from the inhabitants (supported by technical experts) as direction to the elected officials. The last Plan was issued in 2000, and resulted in virtually none of the weaknesses in the city being addressed. Implementing innovative approaches in community development that embrace both the preservation of cultural heritage and the adoption of technological advancements can enhance stability, yet nothing was done. We need to encourage participatory governance and community decision-making to empower residents and increase investment in local initiatives. Planning for a stable economic foundation does not mean losing our identity. Repairing failing infrastructure will not cost us our nature. Spending money we don’t have to accomplish nothing will cost us reliability and lifestyle. Drilling a non-TCEQ qualified well adjacent to an existing well in such a fashion that the two wells cannot run simultaneously, that the city does not gain even a pint or liter of additional water capacity, is (in my opinion) a waste of money. This expenditure isn’t strengthening our ability to maintain our Small Town character, it is endangering it.

Submitted by Pete Horn

Drinking Makes You Smarter

It’s like this..... A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members.

In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells. Naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. That’s why you feel smarter after a few beers.

The Secret Worth Sharing: Burton’s newest nonprofit set to share it

By Tiffany Eckhardt

Tucked along quiet roads just off the beaten path, there’s a town most people aren’t aware of as they pass by on Hwy. 290. Burton, with its rural charm and history, has long been one of Texas’s best-kept secrets. Once discovered, this little town leaves people wanting to explore more.

This secret is soon to be out with Burton’s newest nonprofit: **Destination Burton Association**, a freshly minted nonprofit with a simple but powerful mission — to share the magic of Burton with the world.

Creating Experiences

The idea behind Destination Burton is more than just promoting a place. It’s about creating experiences, building partnerships, and generating economic growth by inviting others into what locals already know — this town is something special.

Tourism isn’t just a passing trend. It’s a lifeline that fuels small towns across the state. Just look at our neighbors. In 2024, *Destination Bryan* welcomed a staggering 4.8 million visitors. Without that influx of travelers, each household in Bryan would’ve needed to spend an extra \$5,500 just to keep their economy humming. That’s the power of tourism.

And the state is paying attention. Governor Greg Abbott has launched the Texas *Tourism Friendly Certified Community* program — an initiative that gives towns across Texas the tools and recognition they need to grow through tourism. He’s already recognized Brenham for its efforts, calling it a model for local economic development.

As Jennifer Eckermann, former director of Visit Brenham, once said: “Tourism is economic development.”

The Beauty of Being Discovered

But here’s the part that really makes hearts beat faster: people aren’t just traveling anymore — they’re *seeking*. They’re hungry for stories, simplicity, and soul. They crave authentic experiences that reconnect them with nature, heritage, and hands-on creativity.

That’s where Burton shines. Whether it’s exploring the historic Texas Cotton Gin Museum — home to the oldest operating cotton gin in America — or strolling through a guided Soundwalk that whispers stories of Burton’s past, visitors are invited to slow down and step into a living history.

Nearby gems like **Deeply Rooted Ranch** and **Milk and Honey Ranch** offer guests the chance to roll up their sleeves and reconnect with the land, animals, and traditions that define rural Texas life. This is **experiential tourism**, and Burton is already doing it beautifully — even if we haven’t called it that until now.

The Road Ahead

At a recent meeting in May, the board of Destination Burton buzzed with energy and ideas. There was talk of curated itineraries, handcrafted maps and community events. Plans are already in motion to collaborate with local businesses, short-term rentals, and nearby attractions to turn Burton into more than a stop — but a true experience. Social media campaigns and a future website will help tell the story. Grants and state programs will help fund it. But it all begins with a shared

belief: Burton is ready to open its doors a little wider. Because when a tourist pays sales tax, it means Burton profits — without asking more of the people who already call it home. And maybe, just maybe, the best-kept secret in Texas won’t be a secret for much longer.

Burton Bulletin Advertising Rates

Size	Prices
Business Card	\$ 9 per month or \$ 90 a year
Half Page	\$14 per month or \$140 a year
Full Page	\$22 per month or \$220 a year

Mailing Address	Phone Number
Burton Bulletin PO Box 374	David 979-530-5210 Lynda 979-530-3044

Website	Email Address
www.burtonbulletin.com	editor@burtonbulletin.com

For advertising please submit your request by the 20th of the month in jpeg format

June Events at Burton Bridge Ministry

Those who are 55+ are invited for Senior Fellowship and Meal each Friday at St. John’s United Church of Christ, 516 North Colorado. Games begin at 10 a.m., Bingo starts at 11 a.m., and the meal is served at noon. The suggested price is \$4.

June 6 – Taco lasagna, Mexican corn and bread, with catering by the White Horse Tavern

June 13 – Fried chicken, potato salad and a vegetable, with chicken catered by Brookshire Bros.

June 20 – Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans and a dinner roll (home cooking)

June 27 – Sour cream chicken enchiladas, mixed vegetable and corn bread (catering by On Deck)

The Corner Shoppe (thrift and furniture store) is open Thursdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Sales exclude red dot items.

June 5-7 – Save 50% on clothes and jewelry

June 12-14 – Save on shoes, purses, luggage and “man cave” items, perfect for Father’s Day

June 19-21 – Fabrics and linens

June 26-28 – Glass, crystal and plastic glasses and goblets

Submitted by Susie Tommaney

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

.....RAIN DATE: JUNE 21, 2025.....

SEVENTH ANNUAL

COTTON GIN CLASSIC

— ☆ BURTON, TX ☆ —

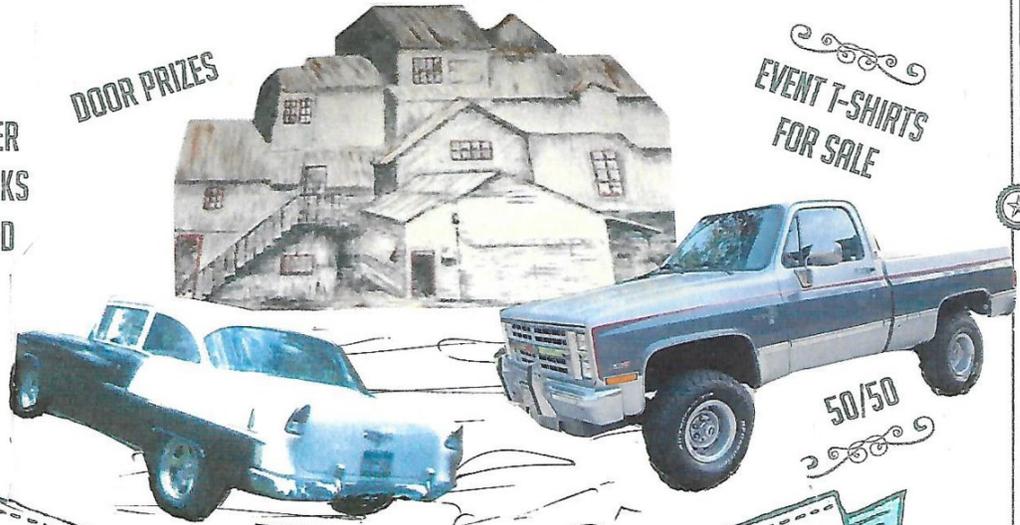
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City of Burton Launches Capture and Impoundment Program for Strays

By Susie Tommaney

We all know that there are clusters of feral cats and kittens within the City of Burton, often congregating near dumpsters or where open feeding sources are available. It's heart-breaking when one of them gets run over by a car, or snatched away by a hawk, coyote or fox.

It's even scarier to run across stray dogs, as they could carry diseases or act aggressively towards humans and pets.

Neighbors have tried the T-N-R program in the past, whereby a cat is trapped, taken in for neutering, and then returned to the site where it was found. While that does prevent the cat from reproducing, it still does not offer a best possible life for that cat. And when we become a region that's known for having too many cats, then the predator animals will congregate within the City of Burton for its low-hanging fruit. That's never a good thing for our beloved pet cats and dogs. Nor is it safe for the children who attend school at Burton I.S.D., as foxes are already being spotted on the school grounds.

The folks at City Hall have been in conversation with the City of Brenham's animal services department. It is City Hall's recommendation that we, as a community, work together on a capture and impoundment program to reduce the number of stray dogs and cats in town.

The process begins with making an appointment with the Brenham Animal Shelter, often three weeks in advance, to surrender a stray dog or cat. City Hall has access to cages and traps and is asking residents to help out with this process, as

there is no public department responsible for animal control in our region. Won't you step up and offer to help capture and transport a feral animal to the Brenham Animal Shelter? For more information, contact City Hall Mondays through Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Current pet owners should also make sure that their own pets are in compliance with Animal Control Ordinance 20191112, so that your personal cat or dog isn't inadvertently taken to the shelter.

All dogs and cats over the age of four months must be vaccinated against rabies in accordance with state law. It is unlawful to own, possess, or have control over dogs or cats in violation of that requirement.

Dogs are not permitted to run free on our streets. They must be kept in a fenced yard or pen or on a leash if you are going for a walk.

Cats are permitted to run at large only if such cat is wearing identification (like a collar with an ID tag on it). Cats without collars may be considered feral.

For every person with a spark of genius, there are a hundred with ignition trouble.

Never take a pill that has more side-effects than symptoms.

Are the "good things that come to those who wait" really just leftovers from people that got there first?



BURTON
BRIDGE
MINISTRY

Subject: Burton Food Pantry to Rebuild Next To Its Thrift and Furniture Store

Bridge Ministry of Burton Texas has accepted a buyer's offer to purchase its pantry building at 601 North Main in Burton, and plans to rebuild its pantry next to The Corner Shoppe at the intersection of Burton and North Brazos. The buyer will open a home décor store in the pantry space and has planned a thoughtful restoration of the 601 North Main building.

"Nobody ever likes moving, but we thought about how this change could really help the Burton community with jobs, the City's tax base, and supporting other area businesses," says Barbara Donnelly, President of the Board of Directors. "This will also add value to Burton's Commercial Historic District."

With sales pending or finalized at Blue Willow Cafe and the Burton Roadhouse, and Brazos Belle poised to reopen, the City of Burton is about to see a shift in its economy. When more businesses contribute to the City of Burton's tax base, it helps alleviate the financial burden of infrastructure upgrades for the city's 270 residents.

Looking to the future, these businesses will not only support each other through a shared customer base, but job creation will also come with these successes.

The ministry plans to rebuild its pantry on the vacant lot next to The Corner Shoppe. Although the parcel has historically been institutional, first operating as a hospital

and later as a church, the ministry also wants to blend in architecturally with its residential neighbors.

The facade facing North Brazos will have a residential feel, avoiding any signage and moving all pantry traffic to the back parking lot near Goldberg's Garage. Wholesale food deliveries are made on the first and third Fridays of each month, and that truck has been instructed to access the parking lot from North Main (avoiding North Brazos). The pantry is only open nine hours a week and operates at times different from The Corner Shoppe and neighboring White Horse Tavern, thus avoiding any problems with traffic or congestion.

The ministry is engaging the same contractors and advisers who built their furniture store: JRS Construction, Blakey Land Surveying, Lucher's Services LLC, Baylor Lumber, Lauren Concrete, MMI Construction, A. Trujillo Plumbing, DDM Buildings, Heaton Electric and Sendero Technical Services.

Representing Burton Bridge Ministry in this project is Blake Emmett to advise on engineering, elevations and storm water management.

Construction is planned for late spring and early summer 2025.

For more information contact:
Gary Rothermel, Board Member
Bridge Ministry of Burton Texas
979-337-3370

burtonbridgeministry@gmail.com
burtonbridgeministry.org



Bridge Ministry of Burton awards \$11,000 in scholarships to 11 students from the Burton ISD graduating class

For the first time in 15 years of serving the community, Bridge Ministry of Burton, Texas has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to 11 students from the Burton ISD graduating class.

In selecting applicants eligible for the award, the scholarship committee looked beyond academic scores and class rankings to evaluate the whole student, including their participation in volunteering and service opportunities. Eligibility was limited to those who live within the Burton school district's geographical boundaries. Deciding factors included the student's family income, number of siblings and possible extenuating circumstances that might result in challenges. Higher education plans included students attending trade and tech schools.

At a ceremony held at Burton High School on May 14, The following selected students were notified of their awards:

Brooklyn Anthony, Avery Applewhite, Daniel Casas, Laura Dawkins, Elizabeth Dorantes, Hannah Herrin, Kara Kaye, Jennifer Lopez, Tony Prichett, Keyonna Ray and Avianna Triplett.

Bridge Ministry of Burton Texas is honored to be part of these students' stories and looks forward to seeing their success in this next chapter of their education and career aspirations.

For more information contact: Debbie Schroeder, Executive Director of Bridge Ministry of Burton, Texas. Phone: (979)337-3370. burtonbridgeministry@gmail.com burtonbridge.ministry.org

Burton ISD Graduation

The 2025 graduation class commencement was held at the Burton ISD Panther football field on May 23, 2025.

Forty students graduated with fifteen with honors.

The valedictorian was Vivian Layman with a grade point average of 4.2542. The salutatorian was Reagan Roemer with a grade point average of 4.1236.

The honor students included Samantha Angell, Bailey Glasemann, Kelsie Hohlt, Avery Applewhite, Zoe Jaeger, Isabelle Means, Taiden Thiel, Greyson Mathis, Avianna Triplett, Kara Kaye, Mark Odom III, Drayton Oakes and Trent Unger.

Congratulations to all the Seniors!!!

Most of us can keep a secret. It's the people we tell it to who can't.

Life is not about how fast you run or how high you climb, but how well you bounce.

Antique Drafting Table for Sale



\$450 Cash Price

**Top is 5' by 3'2" and is adjustable.
Height is 3'4" and can go down to 2'8"
For more information call: (713) 553-4525**



Houston Food Bank Gives High Marks to Burton's Food Pantry

By Susie Tommaney

Recently the Manna Food Pantry was audited and inspected by the Houston Food Bank, and received high praise for its distribution model.

There are many ways to give away food through a food pantry. Some pantries are mobile, whereby cars drive through and food is loaded into the back seat or trunks of vehicles. Other pantries prepackage boxes or bags and hand out the food that is available, regardless of preference or dietary restrictions.

Recognizing that a client on statins does not need grapefruit juice, or a diabetic shouldn't consume sugar, or a vegetarian will never want a can of salmon, or a household of one can't use a 10-pound bag of onions, Burton's food pantry looked at other ways to distribute food. The volunteers have created what's called a "client choice" pantry, where the customers are able to choose the groceries that most appeal to their families.

In Burton's pantry, clients select the fruits, vegetables, nonperishables and canned goods they need from refrigerators, freezers, shelves and tables on the main lobby floor. Premium foods such as frozen meat, desserts and bonus items are handed out behind the counter, to make sure that there is enough for all of the clients. This distribution model means that more food is actually consumed, because the shopper has been able to select the foods that they are interested in.

Bridge Ministry of Burton Texas is grateful for all of the volunteers that make the Manna Food Pantry possible. Those who volunteer at The Corner Shoppe help generate the funding to purchase wholesale food, while students and volunteers make "truck unloading days" possible twice a month. Our partner churches, Scouting organizations and schools contribute through can and food drives. And the volunteers who serve at the pantry, greeting customers and restocking shelves, help make this a dignified shopping experience.

Last year, the Manna Food Pantry distributed more than 104,000 pounds of food to clients who live within the Burton I.S.D. geographical area.

The pantry is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 a.m. until noon, Wednesdays from 3-5 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. until noon. In addition to living within the Burton School District, there are income guidelines or other factors that would make a client eligible. A typical senior citizen on social security would qualify for free groceries through the Manna Food Pantry.

Did You Know:

Cats have over 100 different vocal sounds, but dogs only have about 10.

Sea otters hold hands when they sleep to keep from drifting apart.

Kangaroos can't walk backward, which is why they symbolize progress in Australia.

Some ants can make themselves explode to defend their territory.

Male seahorses are the ones that carry babies – not the female.

A group of flamingoes is called a "flamboyance."

There are more fake flamingos than real ones.

A flock of crows is called a "Murder" while a group of owls is called a "Parliament."

Polar bears have black skin under their white fur.

A snail can sleep for three years without waking up.

Ducks are known to have regional accents, just like humans.

Parrots can dance to a beat, making them one of the few animals with rhythm.

Elephants are the only animal that cannot jump.

A group of pandas is called an "Embarrassment."

Penguins propose with pebbles to their partners.

A shrimp's heart is in its head.

Sloths take about a month to digest their food.