



Friends of The Big Empty Newsletter

May, 2024

Friends of The Big Empty meets Munday Lions Club



Friends of The Big Empty gave its first official presentation to the Munday Lions Club on April 30th. Exa Lee Smith began by telling the story of how she brought the initial board members together in the summer of 2023 and how each one had their own expertise to contribute. Marcella Barden and Alex Vukasin then demonstrated how the two websites (friendsofthebigempty.org and explorethebigempty.com) bring the idea together focusing on the photos, events, and places to see in The Big Empty.

Several members of the Lions Club suggested items to add and even a whole new category called **Scenic Drives**. This one category could easily combine something from the other three (Photos, Places, and Events).

If you have a suggestion to add, send us an email at contact@FriendsofTheBigEmpty.org or contact@explorethebigempty.com. Soon, we will have a form on both sites to submit these types of suggestions.

If you know of an organization in The Big Empty that would like to hear our presentation, please let us know. Currently, we are focused on these counties (Baylor, Cottle, Dickens, Foard, Haskell, Kent, King, Knox, Throckmorton, Stonewall and Wilbarger) and will expand to all 22 counties that make up The Big Empty, and maybe a few extra by popular demand?

One of our Sponsors is now open for business!

NOW OPEN!

Discover an eclectic blend of gifts, arts, and business services



HOURS

Monday - Friday 9am - 6pm
Other hours by appointment

Munday Emporium

121 East B Street, Munday, Texas 76371, United States

940-203-0725

The **Munday Emporium** recently announced the opening of their shop.

The Emporium Gift Shop features jewelry, t-shirts, crocheted shawls, scarves, baby blankets, fleece hoods, stickers, magnets, key chains, and other hand-crafted items, all done in-house. Husband Bill and daughter Jennifer Hodges are partners in the gift shop.

The Illuminated Canvas gallery is also at the Emporium location. Bill Kesler's art gallery features professional photography of trains, landscapes, wildlife, and other subjects. Photos of an old-fashioned locomotive with steam billowing around it are among the favorites. Bill will soon offer classes on light painting.

Upcoming Events

- 5/3-5 277 Trade days - **Stamford**
- Every Sunday @3pm Matinee *The Chosen* at Church of Christ -**Munday**
- 5/10 2nd Annual Mud-Bug Boil & cornhole Tournament- **Haskell**
- 5/11 Munday Market at Concret park 10-2pm - **Munday**
- 5/18 Market on the square - **Stamford**
- 5/29 Vacation Bible School - **Weinert**

for more events and details, see the [Event Calendar](#)

If you have an event you would like posted, please send us the details [here](#).

Friends of The Big Empty visits Hole in the Wall Cafe in Rochester



This little cafe located in Rochester is a sweet place to share a nice meal. Friendly service, inviting atmosphere and delicious food. They have a fun game you can play while

enjoying your meal, ask your server about the ducks. Thank you [Hole in the Wall Cafe](#)! Find ways that you can support local small businesses!

Calling all ages! Mascot Contest entry deadline extended, submit yours today!

Last Call Artists!!!

- Looking for a few more artistic Texans in the Big Empty.
- Submit your drawing by May 30 to win \$350 and a video camera.
- You don't need to be a pro. Anyone is welcome to enter.
- Think of what reminds you of living out here.
- Give it a face, hands, feet and a name.
- Be as creative as you like. Add a hat or any other clothing idea.
- Find the contest rules and consent form in the link below.

Good Luck Y'all!

Any Age



\$350 Cash Prize

[HTTPS://EXPLORETHEBIGEMPTY.COM/MASCOT-CONTEST-ENTRY](https://explorethebigempty.com/mascot-contest-entry)

Submit your mascot entry today!

Prize awarded to First place!

See contest rules and consent form.

Recipe Corner by Becky Offutt

Frozen Fruit Salad

1 cup buttermilk
1 cup sugar
3 mashed bananas
1- 15 oz crushed pineapple
drained
1- large cool whip
1 cup chopped pecans
1 jar maraschino cherries (lightly
drained) cut in half--some cherry
juice is good

Mix buttermilk and sugar. Add bananas ,
pineapple, pecans and cherries. Fold in
cool whip. Pour into 9X13 pan and
freeze. Thaw slightly before serving. Cut
into squares to serve.

* I like cherries so I add 2 jars of cherries
and often add additional bananas.

VOLUNTEER

Moving Munday
Forward is looking for
volunteers for "The
4th of July thing" and
other fun upcoming
events. If you are
interested in helping
out, contact them via
Facebook @ Moving
Munday Forward.



A big big thank you to our **sponsors!**

Bronc Buster: Texas Ag Insurance Agency

Vaquero: Munday Emporium, By the Books Business Services, Wichita
Brazos Museum and Cultural Center

Buckaroo: Becky and Dan Offutt, Kacy Sanders, Kathy and Robert Bowen,
Ashton Kuehler

Thank you.

[Friends of The Big Empty](#)

[Explore The Big Empty](#)

Friends of The Big Empty, a registered non-profit, is working to bring together the people, places and sites to see.

The purpose of Explore The Big Empty is to educate the public about public and private resources available for tourism within counties of Texas known as "The Big Empty".



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