

# BRIGGS

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*New windows on the school building!*

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February 2025

## COMMUNITY NEWS & CALENDAR

### GROUNDWATER UPDATE

Recently, the County Commissioners and the Groundwater Conservation District received an updated study of Burnet County groundwater resources. A similar study had not been performed since 2005. The study was funded by the American Rescue Act and has been in progress for almost two years now. The study addressed aquifer elevations, thicknesses, productivity, water levels, available drawdown and water quality. The data used for the analysis was derived from existing well records. Our county has six aquifers, the two largest being the Ellenburger-San Saba (primarily west of US 281) and the Trinity (east of US 281). The Briggs-Oakalla area is completely served by the Trinity.

### AQUIFER STUDY RAISES CONCERNS

Generally speaking, the Ellenburger-San Saba was deemed to be in good condition and would likely serve the needs of western Burnet County well into the future. The study analyzed groundwater sustainability for 30 years. However, it also determined that the Trinity (i.e., Briggs-Oakalla area) was already experiencing shortcomings and labeled it the **most concerning groundwater area in the whole county**. As a result, a detailed secondary study entitled "Drawdown Sensitivity Study in Briggs-Oakalla Area" was performed.

The secondary study used only data collected from some existing subdivisions and a few planned subdivisions in our area. Due to unreliable or unavailable data, randomly located older wells were not included in the study. Results indicated that water table drawdowns would likely be significant in the next 30 years. One example would be a water table drop in the range of 50+ feet along a line paralleling FM 2657. The proposed Dominion Ranch subdivision was included in the study, but NO ADDITIONAL developments were included.

When "what if" scenarios were run, the results revealed severe trouble in the future. The study recommended testing these predictions as developments grow, and increasing water level monitoring in the area.

**With this goal in mind, our groundwater district is making a push to increase well monitoring in our area. They have acquired two new monitor wells already and are seeking additional private wells to monitor. These well monitors read the static water level of the aquifer, not the individual well's water usage. To see if your well would be suitable for the monitoring well program, at no cost to you, give them a call at 512-756-4900.**

In the coming months, the Groundwater District is looking to hold stakeholder events to discuss the results of these studies with the community and look to gain feedback on potential management strategies for the area. We'll let you know when it gets scheduled.

**GUN SHOW FUNDRAISER**  
**NEBC FIRE AUXILLARY APRIL 26-27**  
**@ Station 1 in Oakalla**

*This 100+ year-old building needs a little love from our community. The building is owned by the Briggs Community Center Inc. & we need a little help with repairs.*



If anyone would like to volunteer services, tools, or resources, please call Crystal @ 512-556-1471

Can you help with the following tasks?

\*Installing windows & exterior tin panels \*Floorboard & door repair \*Concrete work \*Plumbing \*Exterior work on back of building

Dear Briggs Neighbors,

As many of you know, renovations are currently underway at the 1923 Briggs School. The recent installation of new windows has given the building a fresh appearance, and work will continue over the next couple of years. We are very thankful to Burnet County for taking on this project.

In the meantime, the Briggs Community Center Inc. remains an active 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. **We will hold our membership potluck meetings on the second Monday of February, May, August, and November at 6 PM, hosted at the Briggs Baptist Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend the BCCI potluck at the Briggs Baptist Church on February 10--bring your favorite cold-weather food!**

We are committed to supporting and hosting community events, including the Easter egg hunt, BTS event, trunk or treat, and many others. This year, our main focus is to bring a new business to our property in downtown Briggs. We appreciate your support in fostering these new ventures within our community. Check [www.inbriggstexas.com](http://www.inbriggstexas.com) for updates. Thank you!

Best regards,  
BCCI Board of Directors

## BRIGGS BAPTIST CHURCH CALENDAR

**Breakfast Fellowship:**  
February 23, 9am

**Block Party/Supper:**  
April 26, 5pm

**VBS--Mark your calendar!**  
Vacation Bible School for  
ages 3 through 6th grade  
June 1-4  
5:30-8pm

## 2025 Briggs Community Center Inc. Membership Form \$10/person

Please consider joining the Briggs Community Center Inc. by filling out the 2025 membership form below and sending \$10 per person and any additional donations to **BCCI, PO Box 143, Briggs, TX 78608**. By donating, you directly support our Briggs community by funding the exciting events we organize and covering the cost of keeping our community informed through this quarterly BCCI newsletter. Thank you for your contribution!

**NAME**

**ADDRESS**

**PHONE**

**EMAIL**

**Please check all that apply:**

☐ **I would like to volunteer at events**

☐ **I would like to provide food & desserts for events**

☐ **I am "handy" and would like to help with upkeep and repairs**

**Other Comments:**

## OAKALLA LIBRARY, 28981 FM 963.

All are Welcome to Upcoming Library Events:

**\*DUTCH OVEN COOKOUT**

Saturday, February 8. 10am-1pm

**\*CHILI COOKOFF**

Saturday, March 8. 11am-1pm

**\*SPAGHETTI SUPPER FUNDRAISER**

at *Season Three Vineyard* (22800 FM 963)

Saturday April 5. 12-5pm




### LIBRARY HOURS:

Tuesdays 3:30-8:30pm (storytime & crafts 4pm, art at 6:30pm)

Fridays 9:30am-1:30pm (storytime & crafts 10:30am)

Saturdays 10am-1pm (Join the Book Club! Meets the 1st Saturday each month)

Contact: [oakallalibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:oakallalibrary@yahoo.com)  

### Local Spacecraft Makes Good

On January 15th, Firefly launched its Blue Ghost Mission 1 lunar lander carrying ten NASA experiments. Nicknamed "Ghost Riders in the Sky," the lander was carried by a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from the launch pad in Cape Canaveral into its Earth orbit where the two separated. Blue Ghost is on a 45-day trip to the moon, 25 of which will be spent orbiting Earth. Several experiments will be conducted during its Earth orbit, including measurements of solar wind particles in Earth's magnetic field. After 16 days of orbiting the moon, Blue Ghost will land and spend one lunar day, which equals 14 Earth days, conducting experiments involving lunar subsurface drilling, dust mitigation, and x-ray imaging of Earth's surface. Blue Ghost contains a number of components that were built and tested here at Firefly's Rocket Ranch in Briggs. When it lands in early March on a large volcanic plain on the moon's surface, we'll all be able to say there's a little bit of Briggs on the moon.