



TIME FOR TWISTED 54

One of the most unique high school golf tournaments in Texas is set to take place at two area courses. SPORTS, PAGE 1B

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Today's weather

A shower and t-storm in the p.m. High of 86.

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Subscriber questions

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CBS 19



Lawmakers: Pause all immigration

Texas House Republicans, including Dean, send letter to members of Congress after Austin mass shooting

BY JORDAN GREEN
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Seventy-one Republican members of the Texas House of Representatives are calling for a nationwide immigration pause following a Sunday shooting in Austin that is being labeled as a terrorist attack.

In a letter sent Monday to leaders of Congress, the Texas House members urge national lawmakers to fully fund the Department of Homeland Security, freeze all H-1B visa issuances, pause all immigration "until proper vetting protocols are established" and identify protocols.

See **LAWMAKERS**, Page 2A



Flowers are left Monday in front of Buford's on West 6th Street in downtown Austin after a gunman killed three people. (Montinique Monroe/Texas Tribune Photo)

THE RESULTS ARE IN

East Texas voters head to the polls to cast ballots for Texas House race, county races and more



A voter visits a polling location Tuesday at Broughton Recreation Center in Longview. (Les Hassell/News-Journal Photo)

NEWS-JOURNAL STAFF

Tuesday was Election Day for party primaries, with voters deciding the Republican House District 7 race, contested races for U.S. Senate and several contested Gregg County races.

Because of the News-Journal's press deadline, results were unavailable for Wednesday's print edition.

Find election results at news-journal.com and in Thursday's e-Edition and Friday's print edition.

Jennifer Briggs, Gregg County's elections administrator, said early voting turnout was likely the highest in the county's history.

Early voting ended Friday with 11,874 Gregg County voters having gone to the polls – roughly 16% of the county's 74,011 registered voters. That's a significantly higher turnout than in any primary election in recent history.

Here are the early voting turnout numbers from previous primary elections: 2024: 7,088; 2022: 6,751; 2020: 6,709; 2018: 7,286 (includes mail-in ballots); 2016: 9,181; 2014: 6,514; and 2012: 6,735.



The polling location at Longview Community Center is seen Tuesday. (Les Hassell/News-Journal Photo)

Challenged book 'banned' from White Oak ISD school



Durren and Jonna Anderson hold signs Monday in support of a challenged book during a White Oak ISD Library Materials Challenge Committee meeting at the district's central office. (Jordan Green/Longview News-Journal Photo)

BY JORDAN GREEN
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WHITE OAK – A committee of White Oak ISD school faculty members and parents voted 4-1 during a Monday meeting to reclassify a library book, saying it is vulgar and sexually explicit.

Following a meeting of the White Oak ISD Library Materials Challenge Committee, a book titled "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" by Stephen Chbosky will be moved from the school library to the public section of the library, making it unavailable to students during the school day.

The school librarian, however, said the decision still amounts to a book ban. "It's been banned from the high school," Librarian Lori Davis told the News-Journal. "Any sort of restriction or relocation is another form of banning."

Library book challenges and book bans have become more common across the country in recent years, with books discussing LGBTQ topics among the most frequently challenged and banned, according to the American Library Association.

"Wallflower" tells the story of Charlie, a high school freshman who navigates the grief of being molested by his aunt when he was younger. The book details Charlie's coming of age and his struggles with identity, sexuality, drug abuse and more. The book has won numerous awards

See **BOOK**, Page 2A