

# Martin Resigns as Harper County Attorney

**BY JASON JUMP**  
*Editor*

Daniel P. Martin’s turbulent tenure as the Harper County attorney has come to an unceremonious end.

The county’s former prosecutor resigned last week after ongoing battles with the county commissioners, as well as with local law enforcement agencies.

All three commissioners addressed the matter at

Monday morning’s meeting. And the entire board agreed it was time for a change.

“I would just say it is a step in the right direction,” District 2 Commissioner Melinda McCurley said.

Board Chairman Brian Waldschmidt, who represents District 1, said “change was needed.”

“We all knew that (and) saw it coming,” he said. “It was time.”

District 3 Commissioner

Darrin Struble said he knew Harper County residents were ready to see change as well.

Former County Attorney Richard Raleigh has been appointed to fill the vacancy on an interim basis. Raleigh has currently been acting as the county counselor and will continue in that role.

Raleigh will actively search for help covering any potential jury trials that may come up. In the meantime,

the Harper County Republican Committee will bring its search for Martin’s permanent replacement at least until an election can be held where registered county voters will once again have an opportunity to elect a person to fill the position.

The board did not have an estimated time it would take the committee to make a new appointment.

Earlier this summer, the board of commissioners

held a budget hearing to decrease the salary of the former county attorney, but Monday Waldschmidt said those funds are still in the 2025 budget and could still be used if and when a new county attorney is appointed by the Republican Committee.

“If the Republican Committee comes up with – and I’m just speaking for myself guys – someone that salary will be reinstated,” the

board chairman said. “It’s my opinion.”

He said the new attorney’s level of experience could make an impact on the salary as the board will keep an open mind regarding the budget.

Waldschmidt said the proposed 2026 budget was “pretty close to what ‘25 was.”

“So far,” he said. “It’s (the 2026 budget) not approved yet.”



DON HOLT / The Advocate

**Chaparral Singers: Fans Enjoy ‘Suessical Junior’**

The Chaparral Singers presented the musical “Seussical Junior” last week to kick off the school year. People got to enjoy the musical talents of the Chaparral music students in one of the first major activities of the 2025-26 school year.

## Marsh Captures Pair of Titles at Harper County Fair

**STAFF REPORT**

Brenson Marsh had the overall grand champion and reserve grand champion for market lambs during the 2025 Harper County Fair.

Complete results for the fair market lamb show were:

Natural Class: Lillian Pool - Grand Breed; Maddy Brace - Reserve Breed.

Hamp Class: Brenson Marsh - Grand Breed; Liam Holden - Reserve Breed.

Dorset Class: Kayden Koehler - Grand Breed;

Maia Holden - Reserve Breed; Corder Johnston - 3 Blue; Brandon Ediger- 4 Blue

Speckle Class: Ryleigh Dodd - Grand Breed; Emma Carter - Reserve Breed; Brandon Ediger - 1 Blue; Mara Johnston - 2 Blue; Maia Holden - 3 Blue; Corder Johnston - 3 Blue; Grace Bock - 4 Blue; Brandon Ediger - 5 Blue.

Cross Class: Brenson Marsh - Grand Breed; Kolton Koehler - Reserve Breed; Avery Blubaugh - 1

Blue; Jude Pool - 2 Blue; Lillian Pool- 3 Blue; Tobias Pool - 3 Blue; Sydney Chance - 4 Blue; Keaton Pool - 4 Blue; Kyrsten Shepherd - 5 Blue

Breeding Ewe Show: Christina Stevens - Grand; Lillian Pool - Reserve; Jude Pool - 2 Blue; Ryleigh Dodd - 2 Blue; Maddy Brace - 3 Blue; Kyrsten Shepherd - 3 Blue.

Open Class Exhibitors: Cheyann Bock, Daniel Ediger, Sterling Hall, Ruby Johnston.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brenson Marsh poses for a photo with his Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion market lambs at this year’s Harper County Fair held in Harper.

## Arts Center Announces Cast of Steel Magnolias

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Arts Center announces the cast and creative team of its upcoming adult community theatre production – Steel Magnolias, by Robert Harling. This well-known story about friendship in a small town explores the power of tight-knit community within the walls of Truvy’s salon.

This local production will run for two nights at the Historic Anthony Theatre on Oct. 17 and 18, 2025 at 7 p.m. The creative team includes Director Alison White, Assistant Director Juliana Whisman and Stage Manager Kristin Gilbo.

The play is nostalgically set in the 1980s and takes place in one location - Truvy’s salon - which is a converted carport next to

her home. Truvy’s salon is Chinquapin, Louisiana’s go-to place for a beauty fix with a hearty side of gossip. Along with her over-eager assistant Annelle, Truvy pampers her small-town clients with hairdos, manicures and all kinds of unsolicited advice.

Anybody who’s anybody is a regular: There’s the doting M’Lynn and her soon-to-be-married daughter Shelby, the moody Ouiser and the well-to-do widow Clairee. Through witty banter and wisecracks, this hodgepodge group of women form friendships as strong as steel, which they are forced to lean on when tragedy strikes.

Playwright Robert Harling is a native of Louisiana, and based M’Lynn and

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## Anthony Theatre to Present ‘E.T.’

**PRESS RELEASE**

The movie showing at the Anthony Theatre on Saturday Aug. 30 at 7 pm will be E.T., the Extra-Terrestrial. Doors open at 6 p.m.

This movie is an uplifting sci-fi adventure that captures hearts of all ages. The movie was released on June 11, 1982. The film tells the story of a young boy, Elliott (played by Henry Thomas), who befriends a stranded alien and helps him evade government agents while trying to find a way to send E.T. home. Drew Barrymore plays Gertie, Elliott’s younger sister. The movie was directed by Steven Spielberg.

This film was nominated for six Academy Awards and won four Oscars for Best Original Score, Best Visual Effects, Best Sound, and Best Original Screenplay. The film also received several Golden Globe Awards, including best Motion Picture.

This film is regarded as one of the greatest films of all time. E.T. has remained a standard for generations, winning audiences over with its universal messages of kindness and wonder. Come enjoy the movie even if you have seen it years ago, or if you have only seen it on TV, you will enjoy watching it on the big screen.