

ROWE

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the program's all-time leading scorer with 2,088 career points.

So, storm chasing was simply another cool experience in a life full of fun stories so far.

"It was a beautiful storm," Rowe said. "We went down all these backroads, stopped for a bit, took a few pictures, hung out."

Rowe and her boyfriend turned on country music and admired the scenery. Their travels eventually took them down a dirt road in between Earth and Littlefield, where they caught a storm intertwined with a gorgeous sunset.

Rowe's phone was about to die, so she snapped a few more photos before the couple headed back home.

"And I just can't believe what has happened since then," she said.

Rowe, who only started taking photography seriously two years ago when she began learning how to use her boyfriend's Canon 70D, took a mystical photo for which words do no justice. At 8:42 p.m., using the wide-angle lens on her iPhone 11, she captured a storm cell cloud of yellow, gray, white and pink, sneering above the dirt path, barren green lands, tree shrubbery and electrical power lines.

"At the time, I was just admiring God's work. It was incredible," Rowe said. "The storm was huge and twisting and turning, and it was cool to watch it change. It looked like a huge bomb had gone off. I took that one, and I was like, 'Wow, this looks really cool.' But it didn't even come close to actually seeing it in person."

Rowe first posted the photo on Facebook the next day, May 17, at 1:17 p.m. It had 358 likes, 268 shares and 69 comments as of Monday afternoon, May 24.

"I thought my mom would be the only one to comment on it," Rowe said. "A couple people liked it, and then I put it on Twitter. I was like, 'Maybe Twitter will appreciate this picture.' I posted it, and I noticed one of the photographers I follow who I think is incredible, Charlie Stout, had been retweeting pictures of this same storm. So, I tagged him, he retweeted it, left a comment, and it took off from there."

About two hours after posting it to Facebook, Rowe posted the photo on Twitter. It had more than 512,000 likes, 83,000 retweets and 2,000 comments as of Monday, May 24.

"I had no idea this would do this," Rowe said. "People were asking for prints. It was incredible. The whole thing is a complete and total blessing from God. There's no way to explain it. I was in the right place at the right time with a good, quality camera, even if it was just an



EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY SPORTS INFORMATION

Laura Rowe is a shooting guard at Eastern New Mexico University, where she is majoring in elementary education. Rowe is a product of Katy High, where she was in the Class of 2017. During her senior season, Rowe was a Texas Girls Coaches Association all-state selection, McDonald's All-American nominee, and broke four school records: points in a game (39), points in a season (756), assists in a game (10) and career points (2,088).

To buy a print and/or canvas of Katy native Laura Rowe's photo of a West Texas storm, visit laurarowe.smugmug.com.



iPhone."

Stout, a well-known West Texas songwriter who is also a photographer, filmmaker, producer and has more than 12,600 followers on Twitter, said the shot was "incredible."

"I especially loved how she captured a haphazard sort of symmetry between the base of the cloud and the dirt road," Stout said. "That's something I'm always looking for when I'm shooting—some kind of path for the eye to follow through the scene. It adds interest and tells a story."

Stout thinks the photo resonated with so many people because of its purity. He said professional storm chasers spend weeks on the road, thousands of dollars in hotels, fuel and replacement windshields, in hopes of creating the response that Rowe "quite accidentally" generated.

"I've seen people sharing this image as 'evidence' of the existence of God," Stout said. "You've really got to move someone emotionally, with what they see in your photograph to inspire them to consider that which is unseen, and I think Laura accomplished exactly that."

The photo is so unbelievable, many have said it was Photoshopped.

"I don't even know how to use Photoshop, and if it was, don't you think I would have taken out the power lines?" Rowe said, laughing. "Do you know how dumb those look?"

Stout helped Rowe set up a SmugMug website account to appease the requests for prints of the photo. Others have told Rowe she should

enter it into photography competitions. "Major news sources," Rowe said, have contacted her for use of the photo, so she hired a lawyer to handle circumstances that deal with copyright. There have been times where people on social media have taken Rowe's photo and attempted to pass it off as their own work.

But those instances are few and far between compared to all the good the photo has done.

"We'll see where it goes from here, but even if it doesn't go anywhere, I have gotten so many really kind emails from people all over the world," Rowe said. "An overwhelming amount. Messages on Instagram and Facebook and Twitter telling me their perspective on the photo. It makes me cry. I'm so grateful."

Early during the afternoon of Friday, May 22, Rowe received a particularly inspiring email from someone who had seen the photo.

"The first time I looked at it, my heart was settled, and I was deeply reminded about Christ calming the storms in our lives and seeing the beauty that he allows in those storms," the email said. "It's been a crazy season of storms in my life, yet this picture is about everything and puts everything in perspective."

Rowe said that kind of impact is "amazing."

"I think that's what struck people the most about this image—there's nothing staged about it," Stout said. "She was out riding around on the backroads and that storm is what captured her

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES 950 PUBLIC NOTICES

HARRIS-WALLER COUNTIES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 4

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDER ADOPTING DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Harris-Waller Counties Municipal Utility District No. 4 (the "District"), at a meeting held on May 10, 2021, adopted an Order Adopting Drought Contingency Plan (the "Order"). Violation of any of the rules contained in the Order will subject the violator to penalties, including disconnection of water and sewer service, a fine of up to \$5,000.00 per breach and/or day and may include payment of any costs or damages resulting from the violation.

A copy of the Order is on file at the principal office of the District, Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027, where it may be read in full.

/s/ Rhonda Patterson
President, Board of Directors

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS — ADDENDUM WALLER COUNTY

WALLER County intends to participate in the 2021 CDBG-MIT (INCLUDING HARVEY ROUND 2) AND COG-MOD Programs with funding from the Texas Land Office. We are soliciting proposals for a Grant Administrator related to these programs. Submittals for these services will be accepted until 2:00 pm on June 14, 2021 (previously noted as May 24th in the newspaper notice and May 31st in the RFP packet) at 836 Austin St, Hempstead, TX, 77445, Attn: Alan Younts, County Auditor or a.younts@wallercounty.us. The County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises including Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Vendors are encouraged to submit proposals. The County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS GASOLINE & DIESEL FUEL

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR CONTRACT DELIVERY OF UNLEADED GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023. CLEARLY-MARKED, SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493 UNTIL **2:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2021**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. A BID MAY BE AWARDED AT THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021, AT 6:30 P.M. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM.

THE CITY OF KATY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES, AND TO ACCEPT BIDS THAT IT DEEMS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO IT.

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas