



The Lindale News & Times



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50¢

COVID-19 taking its toll on Texans

Nearly 2.6 million Texans have filed for unemployment relief since mid-March

Texas Tribune

The coronavirus pandemic has steered the economy into the path of a recession.

In Texas alone, the state's unemployment rate is at the second highest rate ever, and nearly 2.6 million people have filed for unemployment relief since mid-March. The week ending June 20, a total of 89,241 Texans filed initial applications for unemployment relief.

Texas' sales tax revenues — the largest source of funding for the state budget — have also dropped and are expected to create a shortfall that officials will have to fill.

The number of Texas families that have applied for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program has increased, demand has spiked at food banks across the state and rent programs have run dry in various cities.

The state's outdated and understaffed unemployment insurance office has left countless Texans confused and without unemployment benefits.

Cities are furloughing and laying off city employees, and officials have already ordered state agencies to begin making budget cuts.

Even though businesses across a wide swath of industries are allowed to reopen, some bars and restaurants have voluntarily closed again after employees contracted the new coronavirus. Economists say weakened oil prices, high unemployment and the ongoing public health crisis will slow Texas' economic recovery.

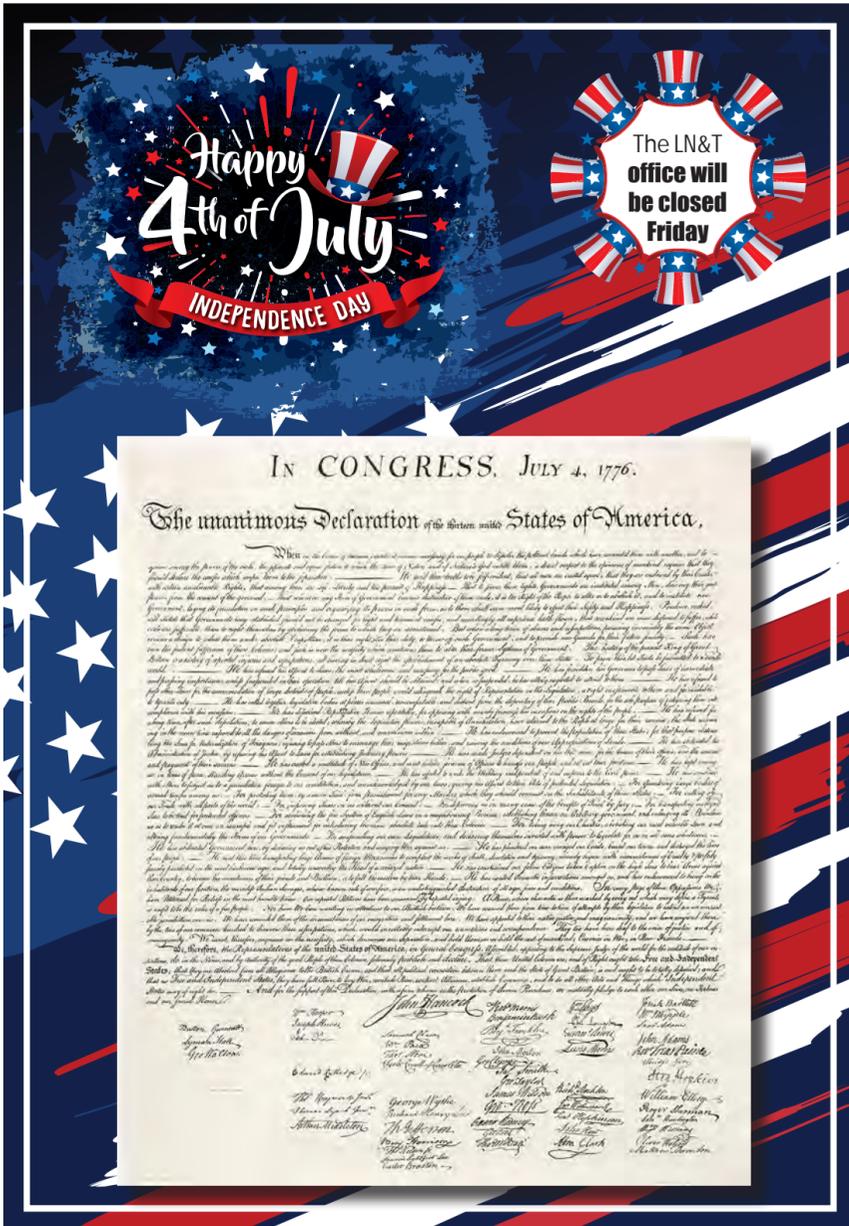
The week ending June 20, a total of 89,241 Texans filed initial applications for unemployment relief. Since mid-March, about 2.6 million Texans have applied for unemployment insurance, more than in all of 2019.

The Texas Tribune is tracking the number of out-of-work Texans filing for unemployment relief with the Texas Workforce Commission each week.

Sale of road bonds approved

The Smith County Commissioners Court voted to approve the sale of the third section of voter-approved road bonds at an historically low interest rate after receiving seven competitive bids during its regular weekly meeting on June 23, public information officer Casey Murphy said. On Monday, June 22, Specialized Public Finance Inc. bid general obligation bonds, which will net the county \$7.75 million towards the third year of the first phase of the three-year bond package.

Smith County received seven
Continued on Page 8



Wingingers, MyMy Pizza, Root Coffee Co. and JoJo's Ice Cream along with the Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce cut the ribbon June 30 for the opening of four new restaurants in The Cannery. This is the first group of restaurants to open on Restaurant Row. Photo by Susan Duncan

Double homicide under investigation

The Smith County Sheriff's Office is continuing its investigation into a double homicide which occurred in the early morning hours of Monday (June 29) in the 5300 block of Highway 110 north in Tyler, spokesman Larry Christian said.

At approximately 12:30 a.m., sheriff's deputies responded to a deadly conduct call as the aforementioned address and found two deceased males in the front yard

of the residence as well as a third male, all having been victims of apparent gunshot wounds.

The names of the victims are being withheld pending notification of the next of kin, Christian said.

Other law agencies were involved in the investigation, including units from the Smith County District Attorney's Office, Tyler Police Department, Texas Department of Public

Safety Criminal Investigations and Homeland Security Investigations.

Smith County Precinct 5 Justice of the Peace Jon Johnson ordered an autopsy on both victims and their bodies were removed to Forensic Medical in Tyler.

The third victim was transported to UT Health in Tyler by private vehicle and after surgery, he was listed in stable condition, Christian said.

County judge, NET Health officials at odds over wearing of masks

Following Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran's statement to the county commissioners this past week that he would not issue an order for county residents to wear masks as the COVID-19 numbers spike, NET Health board of directors voted to recommend the county and city issue orders for residents to wear masks.



MORAN

Moran told commissioners during their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 23 he would not issue such an order.

"I want to be clear on this," Moran said. "I will not mandate people wear masks or businesses and customers to wear masks. As always, I encourage people to continue to make healthy choices and going forward, (the commissioners) will determine, based on our individual choices, how we are going to handle the spread of the

virus.

"There is still no need for fear in the community."

Lindale Mayor Jeff Daugherty feels the wearing of masks is a "great idea to protect yourself and others" but "there needs to be a cooperative effort from everyone.

"Folks need to be responsible and take all the precautions they can," he said. "If everyone would just stop and think about the person they are with or the people near them — just consider them — things would be so much better."

NET Health officials urged the two entities to require masks or face coverings for those two years of age or older when social distancing isn't possible.

Exemptions, NET Health officials said, include a physician saying people can't wear a mask due to medical needs.

It would be up to officials with the county or city of Tyler to list requirements for wearing of masks or face coverings since those entities would be responsible for enforcing the policy.

During his briefing to the commissioners, Moran recognized the increase in COVID numbers which reflect the fact that more people are going back to work and being more active socially.

"This underscores that the longer you are in close quarters (with others) it will drive the risk factor up," Moran said.

First draft of county budget reduces property tax rate

Smith County Commissioners took the first step to craft a county budget for Fiscal Year 2021 during a workshop held June 23 at the courthouse, said Public Information Officer Casey Murphy.

Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran will not formally file a proposed budget until July 31 and commissioners are not scheduled to vote on the Fiscal Year 2021 budget until Aug. 25. The Fiscal year 2021 goes into effect on Oct. 1, 2020.

Recognizing the economic hardships that many citizens in Smith County have had to endure through COVID-19, the initial draft budget seeks to lower the property tax rate from 34.5 cents per \$100 valuation to 33.5 cents.

This decrease is anticipated to be below the No-New-Revenue Rate (formerly known as the "Effective Rate"), though the final calculation of the No-New-Revenue Rate will not be provided to the county until late July.

Moran said that even though revenues from sales taxes and fines and fees have dropped this year due to COVID-19, and are anticipated to be lower next year, the county's healthy financial condition and strong reserve fund will help it weather this economic downturn without asking the taxpayer to make up the difference with an increase in property taxes.

The current working draft of the budget, in fact, provides tax relief to property tax owners by proposing to take in less property taxes in FY 2021 than the county did in FY 2020.

"Fiscal Year 2021's budget is all about 'tightening our belt,' and helping to ease the financial hardships that many in the community are currently facing because of the COVID-19 pandemic," Moran said. "I understand that families are being forced to make tough household decisions during this time. We should do the same."

Precinct 3 Commissioner Terry Phillips also voiced support for the direction of the budget draft and the need to provide relief for taxpayers during this budget cycle.

"I am a big proponent of employee raises but with everything going on, I think the employees will understand why we can't give raises this year," said Commissioner JoAnn Hampton.

She also said Judge Moran "has done a wonderful job laying out the proposed budget for the court, although a lot more work is needed before it can be approved and adopted."

"It is unheard of for a governmental entity to reduce their tax rate,"
Continued on Page 8

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Jeff D. Daugherty
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OPINION/EDITORIAL

Ed Sterling
Capital
Highlights



Gov. order restricts bars serving alcohol

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott ordered the state to slow down the reopening process for bars and other venues as coronavirus-related infections, hospitalizations and deaths continued to increase in Texas last week.

“As I said from the start, if the positivity rate rose above 10%, the State of Texas would take further action to mitigate the spread of COVID-19,” Abbott said. “At this time, it is clear that the rise in cases is largely driven by certain types of activities, including Texans congregating in bars.”

Abbott ordered bars and other state-licensed establishments that receive more than 51% of their gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages to close at noon on June 26, but allowed them to continue offering delivery and take-out services until further notice.

The governor allowed restaurants, beginning June 29, to remain open for dine-in service, but at a capacity not to exceed 50% of total listed indoor occupancy.

Also notably, the governor ordered rafting and tubing businesses to close and that outdoor gatherings of 100 or more people obtain the approval of local governments before the event.

While stopping short of issuing a statewide order for Texans to wear nose-and-mouth-covering masks in public, Abbott did say every Texan “has a responsibility to themselves and their loved ones to wear a mask, wash their hands, stay six feet apart from others in public and stay home if they can.”

Meanwhile, after news that the Trump administration planned to cut funding for COVID-19 testing stations in Texas and other states, Abbott announced that the federal government had granted his request to extend operations of community-based testing sites across Texas. The expansion is aimed particularly at Dallas and Houston, where the spread of the deadly, influenza-like disease surged in recent days.

In related news, Abbott issued an executive order on June 25 prohibiting elective surgeries at hospitals in Bexar, Dallas, Harris and Travis counties. The order, intended to make more hospital beds available to potential influxes of COVID-19 patients, directs all hospitals in those counties to postpone surgeries and procedures that are not immediately, medically necessary.

Cumulative figures posted June 28 by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed some 148,728 COVID-19 cases reported and 2,393 confirmed deaths resulting from the disease in the Lone Star State.

Meeting methods contrast

Plans are in place for the Republican Party of Texas to hold its convention July 16-18 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston. Some 6,000 delegates are expected to attend in person.

Conversely, from June 1-6 the Texas Democratic Party held its convention in fully online mode to minimize health risks related to the coronavirus pandemic.

Study: Impact of military

A study conducted by the comptroller’s office estimates that military installations in Texas contributed at least \$123 billion to the state economy in 2019 and supported more than 630,000 direct and indirect jobs.

In a June 22 joint news release with the governor’s office, Comptroller Glenn Hegar said the military’s impact on the state economy “can be felt by every Texan.”

Gov. Abbott said, “Now more than ever, these jobs add critical stability for communities focused on economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Military installations listed in the news release include:

Dyess Air Force Base, Abilene; U.S. Army Futures Command, Austin; Corpus Christi Army Depot; Corpus Christi Naval Air Station; Laughlin Air Force Base, Del Rio; Fort Bliss, El Paso; Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base; and Ellington Field, Houston.

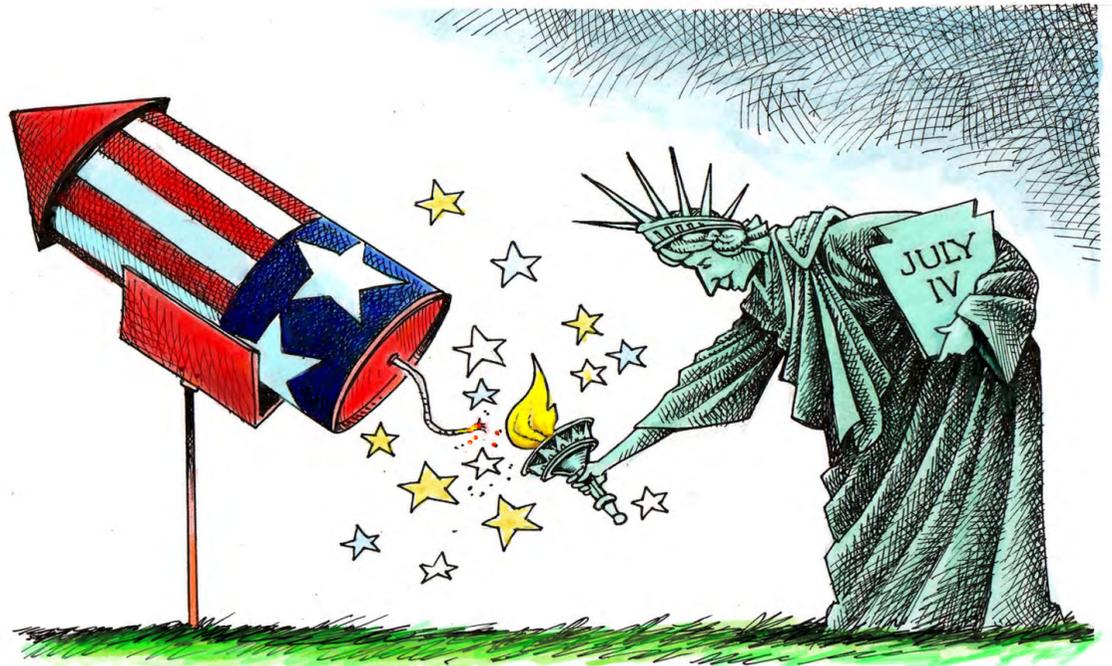
Also, Fort Hood, Killeen; Naval Air Station Kingsville; Goodfellow Air Force Base, San Angelo; Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston-Lackland Air Force Base-Randolph Air Force Base; Red River Army Depot, Texarkana; and Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls.

Paxton cheers SCOTUS

A request by the Texas Democratic party and other plaintiffs to have a San Antonio U.S. district court ruling reinstated that would allow all registered voters to vote by mail instead of in person was denied June 26 by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito.

The action leaves in place an order issued by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, blocking the lower court ruling. “Universal mail-in ballots, which are notoriously vulnerable to fraud, would only lead to greater election fraud and disenfranchise lawful voters,” Paxton said.

Texas Democratic Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa said, however: “The case proceeds on in other filings before the U.S. Supreme Court and the Fifth Circuit, and therefore hope remains that the federal courts will restore equal voting rights in time for the November elections.”



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Make it sparkle...

Remember the July 4ths of childhood? St. Augustine grass freshly mown and soft as a carpet on tiny bare feet scampering through a sprinkler while shrieking with glee. I thought it couldn’t get any better but of course it did.

Daddy came in from the field and four generations filled the front yard of the ranch house that was sheltered by a grove of Post Oak trees whose canopies shaded the huge yard, the picnic table and the smoking barbecue pit.

Pap’paw would be cranking the old wooden ice cream bucket while the kids took turns either sitting on the towel covered top or ‘helping’ with the cranking. Mam’ maw, of course, brought the cooked banana pudding. None of this instant Jello pudding business for her. My stars, no!

My cousins, little brother and I waited impatiently for twilight as the adults sat on the porch swing, or the green and white striped lawn chairs and lazily recalled memories from their own childhood and laughed. Their laughter was the background of my childhood.

At twilight, as soon as we saw the lightning bugs flashing it was time to bring out the sparklers. Daddy would light them for us and we would whirl away ignoring the tiny sparks that hit our arms. As we got older, bottle rockets and Roman candles were just dangerous enough to get us in trouble, but not too much because our parents remembered their own childhood fireworks.

Hopefully our son recalls the July 4 fireworks of his youth. When our neighbors Belle and Mr. Marion would sit in their swing across the road and pray that Josh and his Dad’s firework shenanigans wouldn’t catch their roof on fire while clapping loudly for the little boy who had the same glee his Momma did when it came to July 4.

Frankly, a sprinkler and sparklers may be more fun than the grandest of fireworks displays. After all, when you add in homemade ice cream and love, it just doesn’t get any better than that.

Suzanne Bardwell



Happy Independence Day friends and neighbors! May your holiday sparkle with memories.

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Texas Jobs

As with the US numbers a couple of weeks ago, Texas experienced an expected uptick in employment in May. The addition of 237,800 jobs led all states and was by far the largest monthly gain that Texas has ever seen.

Given all of the bad news for the economy, it’s nice to have at least an initial signal that the worst may be over.

Even so, there remains a long journey to recovery and some perspective is in order. Employment in the state is still 917,800 lower than last May and even further below where it would have been

without the pandemic. Moreover, the gain was more than a million fewer than the number lost in April (1,298,900). We are seeing businesses continue to reopen, and jobs have been added as a result.

While the recovery has begun, it remains to be seen how smooth or steady it will be. Dropping 1.3 million jobs in April and getting back less than 20% of them in May is clearly not the “V-shaped” comeback that some are touting. Moreover, we can’t expect to add jobs at this rate for months on end. Once the rush of rehiring in restaurants, retail outlets, bars, and personal service establishments stabilizes, the pace of improvement will slow. The ongoing high levels of new claims

for unemployment suggest that, while the national recovery will likely be more rapid than 2008 (Texas was aided by an oil boom), it will take about two years to return to 2019 employment levels.

Everything could change, however, if we see a major surge in COVID-19 cases and hospitalization. Some increase in cases in Texas was expected with the relaxation of the most stringent social distancing measures, but the spike is higher than necessary due to lack of adherence to safety recommendations and is becoming alarming. If hospital capacity remains at acceptable levels and hotspots are carefully monitored and effectively addressed, we should be able to avoid another broad shutdown (which would

be devastating to the economy but may be unavoidable at some level if current trends continue).

It is important to recall that the economic crisis was fostered by a health crisis, and full economic recovery depends on controlling the virus. While it is imperative to restore the economy and lessen the suffering that the shutdown has caused, it is equally imperative that we all follow appropriate behavioral guidelines.

Turning the corner in the jobs market for now is a welcome step along the path to revitalizing the Texas economy. The underlying structure was sound before the pandemic and a return to solid growth is on the horizon, but a little patience may be required along the way. Be safe!!



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Wall repair specialist needed for the White House

A good portion of us have had a boss or supervisor that has stretched our patience to the limit and left us shaking our heads once we leave their office after another "discussion."

In my time in the work world, I've had some really rotten bosses and some superlative ones. Some newspaper bosses are notorious for being -- shall we say -- on the outer edge.

Once, at a paper several years ago, several of us were busy tapping away on our word processors when the boss wandered into the newsroom.

He was pulling a rope with a banana tied to the end. Naturally, the question "what are you doing?" arose.

"I'm trolling for gorillas," he said, and kept on walking. Oh, OK.

He was known to call the afternoon city desk and berate the editor because those working on the morning paper missed the biggest story of the day.

After the innocent editor endured this abuse, the boss hung up the phone, never revealing what was "the biggest" story of the day.

These were just a couple of episodes that left us staring blankly at our desk neighbors. At least some of the time we had some funny stories to pass along.



Terry Cannon
Editor

Most of the time, however, we were grinding our teeth into dust.

Which is a good segue into today's topic of how in the world can anyone stand to work for that current resident of the White House?

Let's revisit a recent hubbub involving The Donald and what he said he said and what staffers said he meant when he said what he said. (Whew).

At a sparsely attended campaign event recently in Tulsa, The Donald said he directed his administration to slow COVID testing in the U.S., which, considering his usual meanderings was par for the course.

But wait! Staffers, when they heard this declaration from the boss, no doubt found the nearest wall and began banging their heads.

"He was joking!!!" they all declared. Even Vice President Mike Pence, who probably has an egg-sized lump on his head

from his wall encounter reportedly said during a conference call with governors that The Donald's comments were a "passing observation."

"I don't kid," The Donald said, when reporters -- those pesky defenders of the First Amendment -- quizzed him. "Let me just tell you. Let me make it clear. We have got the greatest testing program anywhere in the world. We test better than anybody in the world. Our tests are the best in the world, and we have the most of them. By having more tests, we find more cases."

Then, he added: "When you do testing to that extent, you're going to find more people. You're going to find more cases. So I said to my people, 'Slow the testing down, please.'"

Wait, what? If your brain isn't spinning out of control from that loop-de-loop, I would like some of what you've been drinking.

Staffers, with headaches now

subsiding, started to chime in.

The comments were "tongue in cheek," said trade advisor Peter Navarro. He said The Donald never issued such an order.

White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany, who truly has a full time job trying to be the shield for all the arrows directed at The Donald from those "anti-American" media members, offered her interpretation.

"It was a comment that he made in jest," she said. "Any suggestion that testing has been curtailed is not rooted in fact."

Wait... did she say her boss said something that "wasn't rooted in fact?"

Nah, couldn't be. The Donald would never tell a whopper, would he?

Then on Thursday (June 25), while being interviewed by Fox News' Sean Hannity, The Donald said he had "sarcastically" claimed that a decrease in coronavirus testing would lower U.S. infection rates, peeling another layer off this rather huge onion.

"Sometimes I jokingly say, or sarcastically say, if we didn't do tests we would look great. But you know what? It's not the right thing to do," said The Donald.

My, oh my.

At least his staffers will have some funny stories to tell for years to come.

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Running with the big boys is a dirty job

You know what I don't see much of anymore? Forts.

No, not the kind in the cowboy movies, but the kind kids used to make. Of course, it may be that they just have them hid too well. The forts we used to build were not what you would call eye-pleasin', by any means.

Heck, we didn't even have a saw, so boards were stickin' out all over the place. There was not a nail that wasn't bent over.

Of course, we drove them in with the side of the hammer (somethin' I still do).

To build a proper fort, you must first get you some buildin' materials. This could be anything from real lumber, "borrowed" from your dad's shop, to an old quilt found in a trash dump.

The quilt, as you know, will be the roof of your fort. After you've got all the stuff you need, then it's time to find a location. It seems like you would find the location first, but you have to remember, kids don't think like adults, they're smarter.

The buildin' site is usually located close to where the materials are, so you don't have to drag them too far.

The fort is then built at the base of a large tree. The tree serves as shade, as well as a place for your lookout to sit and watch out for girls, or rovin' parents, who might catch you chewin' tobacco, smokin' grapevine, or somethin' worse.

The only drawback to bein' next to a tree, is that when you dig, you have to contend with roots. Oh yes, I said dig.

You see you have to dig a hole first, and then build the fort over it. That way you stay cool down in the dirt.

One of the best forts we ever built was completely underground. We dug a big hole, and then covered it with boards. We then covered the boards with dirt. We called this fort "The Hole". This was a great hideout, except when it rained. Then it became "The Swimmin' Hole."



Rusty Mitchum
Life & Times

Every day, we'd all meet down at The Hole, and draw straws before we entered. You see, it was real dark down there, and there was no tellin' what might have crawled in there durin' the night. Greg, my cousin Coy, Little Rusty, his little brother Wee Whoa, and I were in on the drawin'. Well, all except Wee Whoa. Bein' the youngest, he didn't get the same privileges that we older and wiser boys did.

His real name was Randy Joe, but when he was a baby, he tried to say his name and it came out, Wee Whoa, so the name stuck. Although he was left out on the drawin', he did play a big role in the results.

You see, whoever drew the short straw got to grab Wee Whoa and shove him down in The Hole. Hey man, you have to pay a price to run with the big boys.

After we were sure we had no unwanted visitors, we, includin' Wee Whoa's dog Bones, would all cram into our new hideout to sit around and talk. Well, all except Bones. He didn't talk much.

"Move over," said Coy. "I can't," said Little Rusty. "Somebody's knee is in my back." He then elbowed the knee."

"YEEOWWW! I yelled. "Hey Man, that was my head."

"Sorry."

"Man, we need some light in here," said Greg.

"No, we need some more room," said Coy.

"PEEE-EW! That dog stinks!"

"That wasn't the dog," said Wee Whoa, and then he smiled. We vacated the fort. Little Rusty hit him.

"I'm tellin' ya, we need some more room," said Coy.

"Not if we kill Wee Whoa," said Greg.

"He already smells dead," added Coy.

"Hey," I said. "Let's dig a tunnel, and then make another room at the end."

"Sounds good to me," said Coy, and everyone else nodded their heads.

Since our tool inventory was limited, we took turns scoopin' out the dirt with an old coffee can, inchin' our way along. In no time, we had progressed several feet.

The tunnel's ceilin' was only about six inches from the surface of the ground, so the inevitable finally happened.

It was Wee Whoa's turn to dig. He had most of his body head first and face down in the tunnel diggin', while the rest of us were topside restin'.

Then we heard, "FUMPL!"

"What was that?" asked Coy.

"Sounded like it came from the hideout," I said.

"Wee Whoa! I told you to cut that out!" Little Rusty yelled down into The Hole. Then we noticed the ground above the tunnel had sunk considerable.

"A cave in!" yelled Greg. We jumped up, ran over, and started diggin' furiously.

"I've got his legs!" yelled Coy. Greg was diggin' at the other end.

"I found somethin'," he yelled. "Wee Whoa?" I asked.

"No," he said. "Look, it's an arrowhead." We stopped diggin' to look.

"Neat," said Coy. "I wonder if there's any more around," and we started siftin' through the dirt.

"Hey, you idiots!" yelled Little Rusty. "My little brother's still down there, and if we don't git

him out, my mom might get mad."

"OK, OK," said Greg. "Don't get your drawers in a wad. We'll get him out." Reluctantly, we returned to diggin'.

"I've got ahold of his ears!" yelled Greg.

"OK," said Coy. "On three, lift him up. One.....two.....THREE!"

Greg grunted, and managed to get Wee Whoa's head pulled up and back. Wee Whoa spit out a fist sized dirt clod, and started spittin' and sputterin'. Little Rusty brushed the dirt off of Wee Whoa's face, while Greg held his head up by his ears. The back of his head was almost touchin' his shoulder blades.

Greg looked into Wee Whoa's eyes. "Guess what!" exclaimed Greg. "I found an arrowhead."

"Are you all right?" Little Rusty asked his brother.

"You're breakin' my neck," grunted Wee Whoa.

"Let go!" Little Rusty commanded Greg. Greg let go. Wee Whoa's face catapulted back down into the dirt.

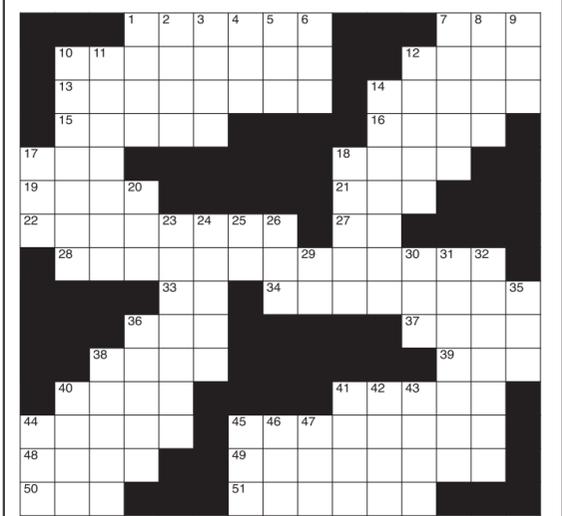
"Boy," said Greg. "Talk about ungrateful."

Well, we got Wee Whoa out, semi-cleaned up, and made him promise not to tell his mother what happened. The only good thing that came out of the whole situation was that arrowhead.

We all went up to Cope's Country Store, and Greg traded it to Mr. Cope for a king size Coke. We all took turns drinkin' it. Wee Whoa's turn was last, and he got the back-wash.

Hey man, that's the price you pay for runnin' with the big boys.

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 - Not arranged according to size
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 - Having a play of lustrous rainbowlike colors
 - Panama has one
 - Taking legal action
 - Top of the body
 - Part of (abbr.)
 - Soul and calypso song
 - Murres
 - Irish river
 - Accepts as true
 - The Bay State
 - 1950s Hollywood icon
 - Blood type
 - In a way, became lost
 - Large primate
 - A sponge-like cake leavened with yeast
 - Mama __, folk singer
 - Visual metaphor (computers)
 - Trim by cutting
 - Small group of people
 - Pulitzer-winning scientist
 - Unique S. American mammal
 - Energy, style and enthusiasm
 - One who works for you
 - Snake-like fish
 - Consumers

- CLUES DOWN**
- Cylindrical sacs
 - Extinct North Germanic language
 - Late rocker Allman
 - Word element meaning ear
 - Amino acid (abbr.)
 - Promotions
 - Actress Lathan
 - Clothed
 - Unwell
 - Loosen
 - Cephalopod mollusks
 - ___ at Obdurata: Harmful papal bull
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Organizers announce plans for Lindale Chapter of Fraternal Order of Eagles

By Susan Duncan
Staff Writer

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, an international non-profit, plans to organize a new chapter in Lindale, and an organizational meeting will be held in the next few weeks, publicity officials confirmed.

Organizers said Leo's Bistro has agreed to provide a meeting space at no charge as soon as all the COVID restrictions are lifted.

Lindale organizers Phillip, David and Janet Wright will be on hand to meet with prospective members to provide background information of the F.O.E. and what it aims to bring to the Lindale area. The informational session is open to all residents.

Once organized, the group will look to buy land for a lodge where they will hold fundraisers, local and regional meetings. "Our organization is supportive of

veterans, first responders, the aged and children," Janet said. "Anyone who is team-spirited and interested in making one person's life better each day should be in this group."

To open the lodge, Lindale will need to have 50 males and 50 females willing to join the group as charter members. Charter members will pay a \$50 fee, but from that point on, the yearly membership dues, currently \$30, will never be increased for charter members. A free year of membership fees is available for military and first responder groups.

Since 1898, The Fraternal Order of Eagles has worked to better communities across the United States and Canada, and the members uphold the belief that people can make a difference in the lives of others. With the motto of "People Helping People," the group makes nearly \$10

million in annual charitable contributions to local and international groups, according to information shared by their media contact Zach Timmons.

The F.O.E. Charity Foundation provides assistance and research dollars to institutions related to diabetes, heart disease, cancer, kidney disease, spinal cord injuries, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and more.

American icons such as Jimmy Durante, Bob Hope, Babe Ruth, Tony Orlando, Gordie Howe and Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Warren G. Harding, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, John F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan were all members of the F.O.E.

To find out more about the Eagles and how to become a member, visit www.foe.com or contact Phillip Wright at 903-780-0148 or Janet Wright at 903-780-0146 or email foelindale2020@gmail.com.

OBITUARIES

Braelynn Robinson



Services for Braelynn Robinson, age 8 of Lindale, were held Saturday, June 27, 2020 at the Central Baptist Church in Lindale with Rev. Jim Norman officiating.

Interment followed at Dover Cemetery with services under the direction of Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale.

Braelynn passed away June 22, 2020 in Tyler. She was born in Tyler on April 1, 2012 to Corey Lynn and Daisy Marlene (Pineda) Robinson. She was a student at Lindale ISD.

Braelynn (Brae) was known to all for her sweet, sensitive, and loving nature. Some of her favorite times were those spent playing with friends, cousins, and her baby sister.

She has a special love for all animals.

She is survived by her parents, Corey and Daisy (Pineda) Robinson of Lindale; sister, Brylee Robinson of Lindale; grandparents, Chris and Karen (Murray) Robinson of Lindale; and Ciro and Mina Pineda of Whitehouse; aunts and uncles, Kimberly Pineda, Daniel Pineda, Briana Pineda, and David Pineda; and numerous extended family members.

Serving as pallbearers were Jesse Stone, Colton Bragg, Daniel Pineda, Mike Rebollar, Fernando Rebollar, and Greyson Carr.

John E. Tweedell

Graveside services for John E. Tweedell, age 89 of Hideaway were held Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at Damascus Cemetery in Lindale with Kent McMillan officiating under the direction of Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale.

Mr. Tweedell passed away on Friday, June 26 in Tyler. He was born Feb. 4, 1931, in Chickamauga, Tenn.

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903-882-6179

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Antioch Baptist Church

793 CR 313W Tyler TX 75706

903-597-6131

Pastor Stephen Nipp

Bethel Baptist Church

FM 16 West, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8275

Bible Baptist Church

16173 CR 431, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-1454

Carmel Baptist Church

10969 CR 481, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3852

James Cheatham

Central Baptist Church

13745 FM 16 East, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3179

Byron Howard

Damascus Baptist Church

17052 CR 4105 Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3392

Ryan Surratt

Dover Baptist Church

21166 FM Road 1995, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-5106

Duck Creek Baptist Church

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-9558

East Foothills Missionary Baptist Church

810 E South St, Lindale, TX 75771

903-574-2672

Gary Dinger

Fairview Baptist Church

Van Highway, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-9500

First Baptist Church

Hwy 69 (in Swan) Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6432

First Baptist Church of Lindale

110E Hubbard St. Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3396

Tom Buck

Foundation Baptist Church

715 S Main St. Lindale 75771

903-881-9490

Garden Valley Baptist Church

17816 CR 442, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7671

Greater Hopewell Baptist Church

10480 CR 492 • Tyler, TX 75706

903-882-4726



Hopewell Baptist Church

11804 CR 494, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-5381

Hopewell Valley Baptist, Church No 1

CR 429 • Van, TX

903-882-5136

Mt. Sylvan Baptist Church

13073 Hwy 110 N • Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3890

Bruce Rudd

New Harmony Baptist Church

10251 FM 727, Tyler, TX 75704

903-593-5811

Red Springs Baptist Church

Red Springs, TX

903-858-2365

St Mary Baptist Church

12050 CR 452,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8066

Thompson Hill Baptist Church

14657 CR

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-0849

Walnut Springs Baptist Church

211 Walnut Springs,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7858

Wood Trails Baptist Church

11804 CR 494,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-5381

CATHOLIC

Holy Family Catholic Church

16314 FM 849,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-4079

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903-882-6455

Church of Christ – South Main

2425 S Main St, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8933

Church of Christ – Swan County

Road 471, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8009

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St Luke's Episcopal Church

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903-882-8118

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903-882-8506

Michael Peschke

Harris Chapel Southern Methodist Church

17069 CR 452 Lindale TX

903.253.3175

John Roach, Pastor

Mt Sylvan United Methodist Church

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Swan-Wood Springs United Methodist Church

Hwy 69, Swan Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6382

NON DENOMINATIONAL

Clearview Church

13933 Hwy 110 N Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8949

Community Christian Fellowship

15704 Hwy 110 N Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8501

David Hickey

Crossroads Community Church

20465 US Highway 69 North

Lindale TX 75771-4206

903-881-9844

Tim Letsch

Bethesda Church

2401 S Main St

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7597

Steven & Camilla Charles

Friendship CME Church

20428 CR 482

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7269

Garden Valley Bible Church

17117 FM 1253

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-9665

Grace Community Church

15567 Wood Springs Rd

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3323

Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church

1115 Lake Cross Rd

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6966

Life of Glory Church

14623 CR 463

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7997

Ed & Becky Colville

Life Source Community Church

2808 S. Main, Lindale

Pastor John Offutt

Lone Star Cowboy Church

23425 FM 1995, Lindale TX 75771

615-480-0289

Jayc Harold

River's Edge Church

18492 Hwy 69 North,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-0555 • Phil Brown

Trinity Fellowship Church

Shady Lane Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3885 • Ben Steen

PRESBYTERIAN

Bethesda Community Church

FM2710 • Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3861 • Dr. Everitt Nix

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Friday, June 19, 2020

Officers Wedgeworth, Barton, and Fortunas responded to a suspicious person at 2500 block S Main St, unfounded. Officers Barton and Fortunas responded to a stolen vehicle at 600 block N Main St, report taken. Chief Somes, Capt. Chambers, Lt. Lazarine, Sgt. Flores, and Officer Wedgeworth responded to an animal complaint at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Chief Somes, Capt. Chamber, Sgt. Flores, and Officers Fortunas, Wedgeworth, and Barton responded to an accident at 3200 block S Main St, report taken. Sgt. Flores responded to a public service at 300 block W South St, settled at scene. Officers Wedgeworth, Barton, and Fortunas responded to a theft at 400 block Hill St, settled at scene. Officer Houghton responded to a criminal mischief at 200 block Cannery Row, report taken. Officers Houghton and Gillham responded to a criminal mischief at 600 block Mt. Sylvan St, settled at scene.

Saturday, June 20, 2020

Officer Wedgeworth responded to a welfare concern at 13000 block I-20, unfounded. Officers Fortunas and Barton responded to a welfare concern at 700 block Stewart St, unfounded. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a harassment at the Police Department, report taken. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a public service at the Police Department, settled at scene. Officers Wedgeworth, Fortunas, and Barton responded to a possession of drug paraphernalia at 900 block E South St, report taken. Officers Barton, Fortunas, and Wedgeworth responded to an assault at 500 block S Main St, report taken. Officers Gillham, Wedgeworth, and Houghton responded to a theft at 1500 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious vehicle at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Officers Gillham and Houghton responded to a disturbance at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Sunday, June 21, 2020

Officer Capps responded to a public service at the Police Department, settled at scene. Sgt. Wilson responded to an agency assist at I-20 W MM 555, report taken. Sgt. Wilson and Officer Capps responded to a welfare concern at the Police Department, report taken. Sgt. Wilson and Officer Capps responded to an animal complaint at 500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 200 block Cooper St, settled at scene. Officers Ramsey and Trombley responded to a noise complaint at 13800 block Cr 4200, unfounded. Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 900 block Carol Dr, settled at scene. Officers Trombley and Ramsey responded to a public intoxication at 16700 block Cr 467, arrest made and report taken. Officers Ramsey and Trombley responded to a suspicious circumstance at 14500 block Tucker St, settled at scene. Officers Trombley and Ramsey responded to a business alarm at 1400 block S Main St, false alarm. Officers Trombley, Ramsey, and Capps responded to an accident at I-20 E MM 552, report taken.

Monday, June 22, 2020

Capt. Chambers, Lt. Lazarine, Detectives Dworaczyk and Philpot, and Officers Capps and Leevey responded to an accident at I-20 E MM 552, report taken. Officer Leevey responded to an accident at I-20 E MM 552, report taken. Officer Capps responded to a disturbance at 200 block Heritage Ct, report taken. Officer Leevey responded to a stolen vehicle at the Police Department, report taken. Officer Capps responded to a suspicious circumstance at the Police Department, report taken. Officer Capps responded to a public service at 100



block Hillside Cir, unfounded. Officer Capps responded to a fraud at 100 block S Henry St, report taken. Chief Somes, Det. Dworaczyk, Sgt. Wilson, and Offices Capps, Leevey, and Ramsey responded to a stolen vehicle at 300 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Capps responded to an agency assist at I-20 W MM 556, primary agency took command of scene. Sgt. Wilson responded to a public service at 200 block Half St, settled at scene. Lt. Lazarine, Det. Dworaczyk, and Officer Capps responded to a suspicious circumstance at 400 block Cooper St, unfounded. Lt. Lazarine responded to a suspicious vehicle at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt. Wilson responded to an accident at 200 block Cooper St, report taken. Officer Capps responded to an accident at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to a business alarm at 100 block S Main St, false alarm. Officers Capps and Leevey responded to a business alarm at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, false alarm. Sgt. Wilson and Officer Ramsey responded to a welfare concern at 300 block Cooper St, unfounded. Sgt. Wilson responded to a theft at 3200 block S Main St, report taken. Det. Dworaczyk, Sgt. Wilson, and Officer Ramsey responded to a recovery of stolen vehicle at 100 block N Main St, report taken. Officers Trombley and Ramsey responded to an agency assist at 13200 block FM 16 W, false alarm. Officers Trombley and Ramsey responded to an agency assist at 11600 block Cr 461, primary agency took command of scene.

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Officers Leevey and Capps responded to a welfare concern at 200 block Heritage Ct, unfounded. Officer Capps responded to a criminal trespass at 400 block Hill St, report taken. Officer Capps responded to an accident at 500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a criminal trespass at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, report taken. Officer Capps responded to an accident at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Capt. Chambers, and Officers Capps and Leevey responded to a 911 hang up at 13900 block Cr 4198, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a hit and run at 700 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Capps and Leevey responded to a business alarm at 2600 block S Main St, false alarm. Officers Leevey and Capps responded to a criminal trespass at 1500 block S Main St, report taken. Officers Ramsey and Trombley responded to a disorderly conduct at 400 block Hill St, report taken. Officer Trombley responded to a suspicious circumstance at 300 block College St, settled at scene.

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Officers Wedgeworth, Barton, and Fortunas responded to an accident at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Officers Barton and Fortunas responded to a public service at the Police Department, settled at scene. Officers Fortunas and Barton responded to a public service at the Police Department, settled at scene. Sgt. Flores, and Officers Barton and Fortunas responded to a violation of protection order at 300 block N Main St, arrest made and report taken. Sgt. Flores

responded to an accident at 13300 block I-20 W, report taken. Sgt. Flores responded to a public service at 13300 block Cr 472, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to a found property at the Police Department, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 300 block S Boyd St, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious vehicle at 1700 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt. Flores and Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious person at 900 block E Hubbard St, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Houghton and Gillham responded to a terroristic threat at 13300 block Cr 472, report taken. Officers Houghton and Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 1500 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Officer Wedgeworth responded to a public service at 13300 block I-20 W, settled at scene. Officers Barton, Fortunas, and Wedgeworth responded to a welfare concern at 200 block Bonnie St, settled at scene. Officers Barton, Wedgeworth, and Fortunas responded to a suspicious person at 1000 block Lindale Summit Dr, settled at scene. Officers Barton and Fortunas responded to an illegal dumping at 900 block S Main St, settled at scene. Capt. Chambers, and Officers Wedgeworth, Barton, and Fortunas responded to a welfare concern at I-20 MM 556 WB, settled at scene. Sgt. Flores, and Officers Houghton and Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 3500 block S Main St, unfounded. Officers Houghton and Gillham responded to a business alarm at 2800 block S Main St, false alarm. Officers Houghton and Gillham responded to a suspicious person at 400 block Perryman Rd, settled at scene. Officers Houghton and Gillham responded to a suspicious vehicle at 300 block N Main St, settled at scene.

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Lindale baseball players earn academic all state honors

Matthew Aubuchon and Staton Dudley were honored recently by being named to the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association's Class 5A Academic All State Team, publicity officials announced.

The LHS baseball team is coached by Richard Sanguinetti.

TJC offers free on-campus, online options for orientation

Tyler Junior College officials have announced the school is offering New Student Orientation in on-campus and online formats.

"We want to give our incoming students a chance to learn about TJC, have their questions answered and connect with others as they begin their journey toward becoming a college graduate," said Murphy Turner, TJC prospective and new student programs manager.

"Our amazing team of professional staff and Apache Chief student leaders have come together to offer multiple opportunities and resources for our incoming students as they transition into TJC."

Incoming students can choose to attend orientation on the TJC main campus or participate from home by tuning in to a live orientation online. Videos created by TJC staff and student leaders are also available for on-demand viewing on the orientation

website, TJC.edu/Orientation. All sessions are free of charge.

"As you might expect, our summer orientation events will look a bit different this year, given the COVID-19 pandemic," Turner said. "We are taking precautionary measures to ensure the safety of our guests and our staff."

For instance, room capacity and length of on-campus experiences will be limited, and students are allowed to bring only

one guest.

On-campus orientation will be held throughout the summer.

"In addition, Our Apache Chief student leaders will be hosting a variety of online events throughout the summer, giving students the opportunity to connect and have some fun," Turner said.

For more information, or to register, go to TJC.edu/Orientation.

Hideaway student earns President's List honors at Mississippi College

CLINTON, Miss. – Rachel Rogers of Hideaway has been named to the President's List at Mississippi College following the completion of the spring semester, school officials announced.

The college's office of academic affairs releases the president's list after the close of fall and

spring semesters each academic year.

To be eligible for the President's List, a student must maintain a 4.0 grade point average, based on a 4.0 system. The student must take a full course load of at least 12 semester hours of undergraduate credit with all

academic courses impacting their grade point average.

Mississippi College, affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is a private, co-educational, Christian university of liberal arts and sciences serving more than 5,100 students, from 40 states and more than three

dozen countries.

Founded in 1826, Mississippi College is the oldest institution of higher learning in Mississippi, the largest private university in the state and America's second oldest Baptist college.

Mississippi College is home to 84 areas of undergraduate study,

16 graduate programs, a doctor of jurisprudence, a doctor of education leadership degree and a doctor of professional counseling degree.

Mississippi College seeks to be a university recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ.

Jarvis students selected for Harvard program

HAWKINS – Natasha Coleman-Ball, a recent honor graduate of Jarvis Christian College and Yeremia Kibangu, a sophomore at JCC, were recently accepted into a Harvard Business School online program, school officials announced.

Harvard University is providing the opportunity for students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities the opportunity to earn a Certificate of Read-

iness through its online business school.

Jarvis President Dr. Lester C. Newman became aware of the program and put together a team of faculty and staff to find the right Jarvis candidates.

For the next four months, these students will be immersed in courses, real life problem solving and global connections.

"At Jarvis Christian College our goal

is to ensure that students who attend here have every opportunity to be the best they can be," Newman said. "Being able to put on your resume that you completed and earned a certificate from Harvard University is a great accomplishment for our students."

They are enrolled in three courses, Business Analytics, Economics for Managers and Financial Accounting and

will have graduate student mentors who will assist them in navigating through this process as well as faculty who will keep them engaged.

"The opportunity to participate in such a program at Harvard University is thrilling," said Coleman-Ball. "Even after my graduation from Jarvis Christian College, it is still opening doors for me and it is my job to walk through them."

Kibangu was equally thrilled with being selected.

"I am excited about the opportunity to be a part of this program at Harvard University," Kibangu said. "When I enrolled at Jarvis Christian College, I never imagined this would be an option for me. This program will enhance my financial services acumen and expand my networking opportunities."

Lindale's Beggs earns Dean's List at Harding University

SEARCY, Ark. – Brian Beggs of Lindale has been named to the Dean's List for the Spring semester at Harding University, publicity officials announced.

He was one of 1,500 students named to the list. Students must carry 12 or more hours with a 3.65 or higher grade-point average and no incompletes.

Harding University is a private Christian university which is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Harding is the largest private university in the state and has a student body of students representing 49 states and 55 nations and territories.

The university offers more than 100 undergraduate majors, graduate and professional degrees at the master's, specialist and doctoral level as well as numerous international study offerings including locations in Australia, Latin America, England, France, Greece, Italy and Zambia. For more information, visit harding.edu.



Emma Grotemat



Emilee DeWolfe



Gavin James



Jacob Seekford

Hideaway Kiwanis name Grotemat as LHS Sophomore of the Year

Emma Grotemat of Lindale High School was recently named Sophomore of the Year by the Hideaway Lake Kiwanis Club and will receive \$1,000 scholarship to be used for the school of her choice upon graduation, club officials have announced.

The Hideaway Kiwanis present this award annually to honor a LHS sophomore. Criteria include leadership ability, good academic standing and involvement in school and community activities.

She is the daughter of Chris and Tisha Grotemat. Also honored by the Kiwanis were sophomores

Gavin James, son of Chris and Rhonda James; Emilee DeWolfe, daughter of Neil and Cara DeWolfe and Jacob Seekford, son of James and Sandy Seekford.

Each of these students will receive \$500 scholarships. These scholarships are also awarded based on leadership, good academic standing and community and school involvement.

This Kiwanis program is to seek, recognize and develop leadership potential beginning with the sophomore class and help them gain experience in applying for scholarships.

TJC science center features new dome show, private screenings

The Tyler Junior College Earth and Space Science Center featuring Hudnall Planetarium is offering a new dome show on how we see — plus an option to reserve the theater for a private screening, school publicity officials announced.

Narrated by renowned astrophysicist Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson "Seeing! A Photon's Journey" takes the audience on an exploration of the life of a photon. The 22-minute, full-immersion planetarium show uses hemispheric 2D and 3D animations and video to teach how human vision works.

Imagery from all over the world — including humanity, landscapes, skylines, wildlife and space — provides the backdrop for photo-realistic animations that create the story of a photon's journey through the human eye and its conversion to an electrochemical impulse that travels the neural pathways from the brain to the various centers that create the image the brain sees.

"Audiences will be amazed with this show and how tech-



Throughout the summer, the TJC Earth and Space Science Center featuring Hudnall Planetarium is offering a new dome show and weekday options for a private screening of any show in the center's extensive library.

nology has enabled us to restore vision and prevent a variety of diseases that affect sight," said Dr. Beau Hartweg, TJC science center director.

Daily shows and show times are:

- 11 a.m. — Children's Show
- 12:15 p.m. — "Space Park 360"
- 1:30 p.m. — "Seeing! A Photon's Journey"
- 2:45 p.m. — "The Hot and Energetic Universe"
- 4 p.m. — "The Sun, Our Living Star"

Individual tickets are \$3 per

person, and advance online reservations are required. Policies and procedures have been modified for the health and safety of science center visitors, and guests are advised to review the guidelines on the website before their visit. The dome theater is thoroughly cleaned between each showing.

On Tuesdays through Fridays throughout the summer, guests can reserve a private screening in the planetarium during the 9:45 a.m. timeslot. For a \$25 flat fee, up to 15 visitors can enjoy a private viewing of any one of the shows from the center's existing library.

To purchase advance tickets and review the health and safety guidelines, go to sciencecenter.tjc.edu.

The science center is located at 1411 E. Lake St., on the TJC main campus. Operating hours are 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, and private screening show times are 9:45 a.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Parking is free.

For more information, go to sciencecenter.tjc.edu.

Lindale resident earns Whitworth degree

SPOKANE, Wash. – Iona Cairncross of Lindale has graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Whitworth

University, publicity officials announced.

Whitworth is a private, liberal arts university affiliated with the Presbyterian Church.

The university, which has an enrollment of more than 3,000 students, offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

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UT Tyler engineering professor one of eight for NASA project

Officials with the University of Texas at Tyler have announced Dr. M. A. Rafe Biswas, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the UT Tyler Houston Engineering Center, has been named one of eight summer 2020 NASA Faculty Glenn Fellows.

His contributions as a Glenn Fellow will be instrumental in NASA's ongoing effort to send humans back to the moon by 2024, officials said.

Biswas will work this summer for the Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio developing innovative, renewable fuel cell systems that will power spacecrafts to be used for the proposed lunar missions.

The 10-week 2020 NASA Glenn Faculty Fellowship Program traditionally is a residential research program open to full-time science,

technology, engineering and mathematics faculty members who are U.S. citizens teaching at accredited U.S. universities and colleges. Fellows will conduct work remotely this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"We congratulate Dr. Biswas on obtaining this prestigious fellowship, which expands upon our national recognition and enhances our already strong partnership with NASA," said Dr. Amir Mirmiran, UT Tyler provost and vice president for academic affairs. "This honor also provides a great example of the diverse scholarship and research capabilities of the faculty within our College of Engineering."

This year, preference was given to new applicants whose interests and qualifications match the mission and needs of GRC.

Social Security officials announce improvements to SSA web site

Officials with the Social Security Administration have announced the first of several steps the agency is taking to improve the public's experience on its website, said spokesperson Rosalie Alviar.

The newly redesigned retirement benefits portal, at www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/retirement, will help millions of people prepare for and apply for retirement, she said.

"We are working hard to continue improving our website to provide people with clear, helpful information and easy access to our online services," said Andrew Saul,

Commissioner of Social Security. "Our new retirement portal is more user-friendly and easier to navigate, whether someone is ready to learn about, apply for, or manage their retirement benefits."

The redesigned portal will make it easier for people to find and read about Social Security retirement benefits, with fewer pages and condensed, rewritten, and clearer information, according to Saul.

The portal also is optimized for mobile devices so people can learn and do what they want from wher-

ever they want, and the portal now includes the ability to subscribe to receive retirement information and updates.

Click on www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/retirement to find out how to learn, apply and manage retirement benefits, and learn how to create a personal my Social Security account online.

Saul said more improvements to Social Security's website are planned for later in 2020 as the agency seeks to continuously improve the public experience at www.socialsecurity.gov.



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INVITATION TO BID: CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

The City of Lindale, Texas is soliciting sealed bid proposals for the grounds maintenance of the City Cemetery 702 W South Street. For consideration, sealed bids must be submitted by July 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and at that time will publicly opened and read aloud. Prior to the bid opening, sealed bids may be delivered to City Hall at 105 Ballard Drive Monday-Friday during regular business hours 8:00 am to 5 pm or mailed Attn: City Manager (Cemetery Bid) P.O. Box 130, Lindale, TX 75771 any bids received late will be returned unopened. Bid Requirement can be found on line at www.lindaletx.gov/document/bids. The City of Lindale reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Bids will be awarded on July 7, 2020 @ 6:00 City Council Meeting.



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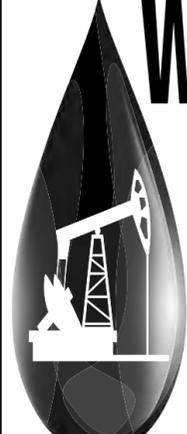
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AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to construct a 230-foot overall height self-supporting lattice telecommunications structure at 13150 CR 499, Lindale, Smith County, Texas (N32° 30' 5.9"; W95° 23' 6.6"). The structure would be lit with FAA Style E lighting.

AT&T Mobility, LLC invites comments from any interested party on the impact the proposed undertaking may have on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under National Historic Preservation Act Section 106. Comments may be sent to Environmental Corporation of America, ATTN: Megan Gomez, 1375 Union Hill Industrial Court, Suite A, Alpharetta, GA 30004 or via email to publicnotice@eca-usa.com. Ms. Gomez can be reached at (770) 667-2040 x 405 during normal business hours. Comments must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice.

In addition, any interested party may also request further environmental review of the proposed action by notifying the FCC of the specific reasons that the action may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment pursuant to 47 CFR Section 1.1307. This request must only raise environmental concerns and can be filed online using the FCC pleadings system or mailed to FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554 within 30 days of the date that this notice is published. Instruction for filing an online Request for Environmental Review can be found at www.fcc.gov/asr/environmental-request. Refer to File No. A1169133 when submitting the request and to view the specific information about the proposed action. W2006/HMF



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Lindale High School Head Football Coach Chris Cochran watches a couple of his players as they go through a workout Monday morning at Eagle Stadium. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, teams across Texas have switched spring practices to early summer. Photo by Terry Cannon

Practicing social distancing

Lindale High School football players keep at least six feet apart during practice sessions held at Eagle Stadium this week. High school teams are putting in work that was rescheduled from the spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Photo by Terry Cannon



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Sale of road bonds approved

Continued from Page 1

bids on the bonds, with Huntington Securities, Inc. submitting the winning bid at a true interest cost of 0.959 percent.

"It is unheard of to be able to sell bonds at such a low interest rate," Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran said. "This will greatly reduce interest associated with the bond debt, which was already low because of the short 10-year term of the bonds."

Precinct 3 Commissioner Terry Phillips - Lindale's representative on the court -- concurred.

"I have never seen anyone come in at less than 1 percent interest rate," said Phillips.

The bonds are rated AA+ by Standard & Poor's Rating Services, which is equivalent to that of the United States federal government.

"No doubt, the County's bond

rating, which is a reflection of the strength of its financial position and conservative approach to budgeting, played a major role in selling the bonds at such a low interest rate," Moran said.

In November 2017, Smith County voters approved a \$39.5 million bond package to improve county roads. There remains \$7.75 million in bond money that has not yet been sold.

At the request of the Court, Steven Adams, managing director of Specialized Public Finance Inc., said he would look into the advisability of selling the remaining \$7.75 million in bonds and whether doing so now would save additional taxpayer money long-term because of the current low interest rate.

Adams gave a brief presentation to the Commissioners Court, and reaffirmed that Smith County's very high rating of AA+ helps the interest rates on the 10-year maturity bonds.

He said because of the low

interest rate, the numbers will remain within the tax rate told to voters during the bond election.

"We were very happy to see the interest rate on the bonds come in at under 1 percent," Adams said. "This rate is much lower than we projected when the election was called and will help the County lower its debt payments significantly. This low rate is attributable to the current interest rate environment and the County's strong financial management."

The money received from this bond sale will fund continued Road and Bridge Department construction projects in accordance with the County's six-year Road and Bridge Bond Program.

Under the direction of County Engineer Frank Davis, the County has been steadily working to complete the planned projects over the past few years. In the first two years of the bond program, about 100 miles of roadway have been reconstructed or completely overlaid under this program.

First draft of county budget reduces property tax rate

Continued from Page 1

Commissioner Cary Nix said.

Commissioner Jeff Warr noted that good decisions made by the Commissioners Court in years past to build up the county's reserves are now helping them make these tough decisions easier today.

In light of the estimated decreased revenues from sales taxes, fines and fees, and interest, in order to also reduce the property tax rate below the No-New-Revenue Rate for FY 2021, the current draft of the budget, among other things:

- Delays the previously planned bond election for a new courthouse, originally planned for November 2020;
- Transfers \$1.8 million from the Capital Improvement Projects Fund to the General Fund to cover the revenue shortfall;
- Uses \$5.8 million from the General Fund Reserves to help replace the revenue shortfalls. This amounts to a savings of more than 3 cents against the property tax rate;
- Uses \$2.5 million from the Road and Bridge Department Fund Reserves to support continued FY 2021 Road and Bridge maintenance and operations to ensure that the priority on infrastructure is not affected.
- Cuts a number of general operating expenses under local control;
- Reduces fleet expenditures from \$1.2 million to under \$400,000; and

-- Reduces the number of total employees in the county, by eliminating a variety of positions, while reclassifying other positions to cover new needs in the Sheriff's Office and Office of the District Attorney.

Although the current working draft budget does not provide for any across-the-board cost of living adjustments or salary increases for employees, no additional contribution toward health insurance will be required and health benefits will remain steady.

The deadline for Judge Moran to file the proposed FY 2021 Budget is July 31, and the formal budget will be presented and tax hearings held in Commissioners Court in August.

Commissioners will hold another budget workshop in mid-July.

Registration underway for KC Fire Academy beginning in August

Registration is underway for Kilgore College Fire Academy No. 111 beginning Aug. 24. Deadline to apply for the Basic Structural Firefighter program is Aug. 10.

Classes will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays with a possibility of evening and/or weekend classes.

The 474-hour, 12-week academy will run through Nov. 17.

Tuition is \$1,200 for in-state students and \$1,750 for students out-of-state.

The program, which has been recognized as an exemplary program by the State of Texas, is physically demanding as well as academically challenging and the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) strongly recommends all students be able to read and comprehend with at least a 10th grade reading level.

Students must also present a valid high school diploma, official high school transcript or GED scores with their applications.

Admission to the KC Fire Academy is based on a highly competitive process with preference given to an applicant's level of education, experience and their affiliation with a career, volunteer department or rescue unit.

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