



# The Lindale News & Times



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Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021

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50¢

## Brooks earns another term as Fire Marshal

Smith County Commissioners reappointed County Fire Marshal Jay Brooks of Lindale to a two-year term, which went into effect on Dec. 20, 2020 during the board's final meeting of the year on Tuesday, Dec. 29.



BROOKS

Brooks, who has served as Fire Marshal since 2019 after replacing Connie McCoy-Wasson, also served in that position in 2014.

He began his association with the county as a volunteer in the fire marshal's office in 2007.

"I'm real excited about what's going on in our office and excited about the cohesiveness in our office we are excited about the future of our office," Brooks said.

Motion to approve the appointment was made by Precinct 4 Commissioner JoAnn Hampton and seconded by Precinct 3 Commissioner Terry Phillips.

"You have been stellar and outstanding throughout this COVID-19 time and appreciate you helping make the county look so good," Hampton said.

Beginning in 1998, Brooks was a volunteer recovery diver and firefighter/EMT for the county before joining the fire marshal's office in 2008.

He earned a bachelor's degree and master's degree from LeTourneau University and has studied engineering at Texas A&M University as well as Eastern Kentucky University.

Brooks holds a Master Peace Officer Certification, Arson Investigator Certification and Fire Inspector Certification.

He is also a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator and a Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator by the National Association of Fire Investigators.

In other business before the court, Smith County Sheriff Larry Smith reported there are 44 jobs available for detention officers at the county jail. Five people were hired in late December, Smith said, while 15 more applications have been received and five are getting background checks completed.

Also, Smith noted 12 officers have COVID-19 and seven others are in quarantine.

The court also recognized outgoing Precinct 1 Commissioner Jeff Warr who retired on Dec. 31. Warr has served on the court since 2009.

Neal Franklin, former city of Tyler Fire Chief, will serve as Precinct 1 commissioner.



SMITH



Mytrez Deunte Woolen, 21, of Marshall was arrested this past Sunday in connection with the shooting death of Pastor Mark McWilliams at the Starrville United Methodist Church.

## Marshall man jailed in connection with fatal shooting of area pastor

A 21-year-old Marshall man remains in the Smith County Jail and faces multiple felony charges, including capital murder, after his arrest on Sunday, Jan. 3 in connection with the fatal shooting of Starrville United Methodist Church Pastor Mark Allen McWilliams, 62 of Frankston, authorities said.

Mytrez Deunte Woolen was booked Sunday for capital murder (\$2 million bond), felony aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury (\$750,000 bond) and felony aggravated assault with the use or exhibition of a deadly weapon (\$750,000 bond).

Judge Jack Skeen of the 241<sup>st</sup> State District Court issued warrants for Woolen's arrest.

Just after 9 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 3, the Smith County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call of a shooting at the Starrville United Methodist Church at 17339 FM 16 in Winona. Upon arrival, deputies discovered the body of McWilliams and two more gunshot victims outside the church who had suffered non life-threatening injuries.

Smith County Sheriff Larry Smith said that at approximately 9:21 a.m. Sunday, the pastor and three other people were at the church preparing for that day's services. McWilliams then discovered the suspect in the bathroom with a bank bag and holding a gun.

Smith said the pastor was carrying a firearm and ordered the suspect to stop. The suspect then lunged at McWilliams and disarmed him, then allegedly shot him.

Upon arrival, officers discovered the suspect had taken a late-model GMC truck which belonged to one of the victims. OnStar was contacted and provided information on the location of the vehicle and once the vehicle was located by Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers, OnStar disabled the vehicle enabling officers to arrest the suspect.

### LINDALE PD INVOLVED

On Saturday evening, Jan. 2, Lindale Police Department officers responded to service calls regarding the driver of a Volkswagen Jetta brandishing a firearm from the sunroof at the intersection of FM 849 and Interstate 20.

Just after 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 2, county sheriff's deputies located the suspect in the parking lot of a convenience store at 303 S. Main St. in Lindale.

The suspect fled at a high rate of speed -- with the pursuit reaching 100 mph at times -- eventually heading south on FM 849 then east on I-20, exiting at Highway 271 then turning left onto FM 757 before running off the road at the Starrville United Methodist Church.

The suspect exited the vehicle and ran into a densely wooded area. Officers established a perimeter, utilizing K-9 Deputies and a drone in the search for the suspect. After several hours, it was determined the suspect had escaped the perimeter.

Evidence was located within the suspect vehicle leading law enforcement to a possible identity of the suspect. A shotgun was located within the fleeing vehicle which is believed to be the firearm that was brandished during the pursuit.

Smith County Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Andy Dunklin arrived on scene and upon holding an inquest, Judge Dunklin ordered an autopsy on the victim and the body was transported to a local pathologist for an autopsy.

Smith County Sheriff's Department spokesman Larry Christian said the case is still being investigated and further information will be released when available.

US Congressman Louie Gohmert called McWilliams a blessing to the entire East Texas area "where his love for and service to so many others will be sorely missed."

"My prayers embrace the victims of this senseless tragedy and their families," Gohmert said. "Thank you also to our brave law enforcement who tracked down and apprehended the calloused killer whose string of violence extended far and wide. May God cradle the victims and their families in His love so they find comfort during this incredibly difficult time. May justice be swift and sure."



## Lindale woman arrested in connection with December kidnapping, assault

Lindale Police Department officials announced the arrest of a fourth person in a series of investigations involving a kidnapping and assault which allegedly occurred on Dec. 7, 2020.

Zoey Stevens, 21 of Lindale, was arrested on Monday, Dec. 28 and charged with engaging in organized criminal activity, aggravated kidnapping and aggravated assault with a deadly



STEVENS



FRUGE



WAYMIRE



MORRIS

weapon.

These charges are in connection with the alleged kidnapping

and assault of an unidentified individual in early December, said LPD Lt. Mike Lazarine.

Stevens is alleged to have been involved with McKaylah Fruge, 21 of Tyler; Vernon Morris, 19, of LaRue and Anthony Waymire, 19 of Tyler. These three defendants are also facing the same charges as Stevens, Lazarine said.

"On Dec. 7, our office received a complaint from a citizen stating he had been taken against his will by a group of individuals to a location (in Lindale)

where he was threatened and assaulted," said Lazarine. "Based on the information given to our officers, an investigation was conducted. During the course of the investigation, the victim's story was corroborated during interviews with one of the suspects."

Smith County Judge James Cowart set bond for Stevens at \$145,000. The victim sustained minor injuries during the incident, Lazarine said.

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Jeff D. Daugherty

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## Terry Cannon

Editor



# Here's to a safer, and saner, 2021

Goodness, it's Jan. 7, 2021 already! Where has this year gone? (Just another attempt at lame humor from this space, don't you see?) Anyway, by all calculations, 2021 has got to turn out better than this past year, one of the most depressing in recent memory.

If it wasn't a pandemic that raced across our country and the world, leaving countless deaths in its wake, our dear old U.S. of A suffered a gouge in its soul that may take years to heal.

Racial strife erupted in virtually every area of the country as minority voices grew louder and louder in protest of unequal treatment. Voters turned out in record numbers at the local, state and national levels, giving voice to their ideals. Yet instead of uniting the country, it remains more divided than at any time since the 1860s.

Later this month, a new president will attempt to lead the country out of this morass, but thanks to a fractured political landscape, faces a daunting task.

But, as Andy Dufresne said in "The Shawshank Redemption": "Hope is a good thing, sometimes it's the only thing."

With that thought in mind, let's hope that:

--The COVID vaccine will reach enough people by the spring to help the nation and its psyche heal. It would have been a bit naïve to expect a smooth rollout once the vaccine became available -- this is the federal government, after all -- but it really does seem things could have been handled with a bit more foresight.

But thankfully, vaccines do exist, which is something that would have been hard to fathom just six months ago.

-- More people will wear masks. I'm not sure how taking care of one's health -- and others -- by simply wearing a small piece of cloth over your mouth and nose became so politicized (I think I know the answer, but won't get into it today), but the stubbornness of a good portion of the East Texas population not to wear a mask is simply maddening. No one is suggesting that everyone should wear a suit of armor, just a cover for your mouth and nose. Sheesh.

-- Lindale will continue to grow and prosper. Just look around, this little city has blossomed into a place of envy for other towns its size in East Texas. On virtually every corner, a new business or a new housing development has sprung to life.

The dedicated folks with the Lindale City Council and the Lindale Economic Development Corporation have been tireless in their efforts to spread the tax base and improve the quality of life for all Lindale residents.

-- Success for the Lindale ISD will continue. Athletic champions are fun to follow and talk about, but the real business of the LISD is to educate the district's youngsters to ensure they will be productive citizens once they've graduated. The report card for the LISD has been straight A's for many years, thanks to the dedicated leadership from the administration on down. I challenge you to visit any of the campuses in the district and not find helpful, friendly people who are always quick with a smile.

--We can go to the movie theaters this year. Admittedly, this seems to be a bit selfish, but the lovely bride and I (especially since the kids have moved out and we get senior discounts) enjoy going to the movies. In normal times, we probably hit the theater at least 20 times a year. This struck me recently because I noticed the new Tom Hanks movie "News of the World" will be in theaters soon and this would be the perfect film of which to end our theater drought.

--There will be even more visits with our grandkids. There's a saying about grandkids that applies for every grandparent: "If we knew they were so much fun we would have had them first."

We are truly blessed with three of the finest little ones on earth (all grandparents can say this without impunity) and happily travel the 100 or so miles to see them as often as we can. What makes it equally as nice is they are genuinely glad to see us, especially because Mimi always brings presents.

Oh, and we like seeing our kids too.

-- There will be a somewhat normal baseball season in 2021. One of my long time pleasures has me plopped in front of the TV (or radio) and taking in a baseball game. Some people love football, others love golf, even others love soccer and I understand baseball lovers' numbers are dwindling, but that's OK. I will continue to watch (or listen) as often as possible.

Last year's attempt at constructing a pseudo season was both comical and kind of good. It was good because the cheatin' Astros didn't make it to the World Series and funny because during the regular season there were cardboard cutouts representing fans in the stands. Kinda creepy, actually.

I suppose it would be too much to ask for the Rangers to have a good season, huh?

## Rusty Mitchum

Life & Times



# Nothing like a real snow job

Once, years ago, my kids were home when I thought they should have been in school.

"It's a bad weather day," said my daughter.

"The weather's not bad," I said.

"No, Daddy. We are given so many days a year to make up the days we miss if the weather is so bad that we can't go to school. If we don't use them for bad weather, then they give them to us anyway."

"Go on," I said.

Man, that's a good deal. I remember those days when we couldn't go to school because of ice and snow. That was the next best thing to Christmas. Any other day Mom would have to pull us out of bed, but if there was a chance that we might not have to go to school we'd be up before daylight with our ear to the radio hopin' for those words that a kid lives for, "No school today."

Now, I know a lot of moms hated these announcements, but not mine. I think she enjoyed it as much as my sister and me. She didn't go out and play like we did, but she was in charge of makin' life easier for us. She'd put so many clothes on us that it was hard to move. Then she'd stick plastic bread wrappers on our feet and hands and they would be held in place with rubber bands. We looked a sight.

Once, when we had a hard freeze, my cousin Coy and I joined up with Greg Hunt, Little Rusty, and his little brother Wee Whoa. His real name was Randy Joe, but when he said it, it sounded like Wee Whoa, so that's what we called him.

Anywho, beside Greg's house there was some land that belonged to a roofin' company, and they kept their ol' junk trucks there. It was a great place to play. These trucks were ol' '30 or '40-somethin' models with no engines and had been there so long that a few even had trees growin' up through them. One was our winter clubhouse. We'd all cram into the cab and then build a fire in the glove compartment. We would roll down the window every once in a while to let the smoke out to keep our coughin' fits to a minimum.

"I'm bored," said Greg.

"I'm cold," said Little Rusty.

"I think I've got black lung," coughed Coy.

"You know," I said, "we need us a sled."

"Ooooo, yeah," said Greg. "That would be slick."

"Where are we gonna get a sled?" Coy asked.

"I know," said Greg. "Let's use the hood of this truck."

"Do what?" I said.

"Yeah," he said. "We'll take the hood of this truck, turn it upside down, and we can all sit on it."

"I think he may have somethin' there," said Coy.

Luckily for us, the hood was just lying on the truck, it was not connected. This hood was one of those kinds that you lifted one side or the other. It was hinged so that there was one piece down the middle. When we lifted it off, it looked like a giant vampire bat. You talk about heavy. Wow! The front curved down, but when we turned it upside down, this part was then curved up like the front of a toboggan.

We pulled and pushed that ol' hood across the ice and snow, and finally got it to Greg's house. Greg lived on a hill and he had a steep driveway that lead down to the highway.

We put our new sled on the frozen ground beside the driveway and climbed in. We kept rockin' the sled until it finally started down. There was a ditch at the bottom of the hill, so we thought that would be where we would stop. We were wrong. We hit that ditch and shot out the other side and came to a stop in the middle of the highway. Fortunately, there were no cars comin'. We scrambled out of our sled and got it pulled off the road.

"Man," I said. "That was close."

"Yeah," said Greg. "But wudn't it fun?" We all had to agree to that. We drug (I know, it's suppose to be dragged, but drug is such a better word) the hood sled back up the hill and to the back of Greg's house. The pasture behind his house had a gradual slope down to the creek.

"How are we gonna stop it before it hits the creek?" Little Rusty asked.

"Hmhhh," I hmmmmed. "Good question."

About then, Coy came up with the solution. "We need an anchor to throw out."

"Like what?" asked Greg.

"Wee Whoa," said Coy.

"Wee Whoa?" I questioned.

"Yeah," said Coy. "We tie a rope to Wee Whoa and when we get close to the creek, we throw him out. He'll drag us to a stop." Greg and I looked at each other.

"Sounds good to me," I said.

"Me too," said, Greg and Little Rusty. The only one who wasn't in favor of this idea was Wee Whoa, but since it was a democracy, he was out voted.

We tied one end of the rope to the Wee Whoa and the other to his brother, Little Rusty, and tried it out on a run down the hill. It proved to be a bad idea because when we threw Wee Whoa out and he hit the ground, and the slack came out of the rope, Little Rusty was jerked clean out of the sled. Fortunately, the sled was slowed enough to keep the rest of us out of the creek. From then on, we tied the rope directly to the sled.

We pulled the sled back to the top of the hill and picked out the steepest part. It ended at the widest and deepest part of the creek.

"Men," said Greg. "This is it. Do or die."

"Die?" said Wee Whoa. This was the first time he had spoken all day. Little Rusty's dog, Bones, joined us. He wanted to ride, too, and to us a dog was as good as a kid, so we put him aboard. Coy and I were lying on one side of the hood, with our hands grippin' the front, and Greg and Little Rusty were on the other side.

Wee Whoa was sittin' in the middle, behind him was Bones.

Not only was the hill steep, but it was several hundred yards to the bottom. With our toes, we pushed off. At first, it was slow, but gradually we picked up speed. I had a hand on Wee Whoa's coat, ready to toss him off the back, when Coy hollered. "Oh no! Look!"

We all looked and there, in our path, was a stump. It was only about six inches in diameter, but it was about a foot tall. We all thought that our sled was fixin' to come to an abrupt stop.

"Abandon ship!" yelled Greg. We peeled off that hunk of metal and bounced on the ground. All of us that is, except Wee Whoa and Bones. We looked in horror as they approached the stump. Wee Whoa was desperately tryin' to untie himself.

"I can't watch," said Little Rusty, but we all did.

As the sled hit the stump, an amazin' thing happened. The middle part, where Wee Whoa and Bones were sittin', rose up and smoothly slid over the stump.

"Yay!" we yelled. Wee Whoa turned, smiled, and waved at us, and then they hit the creek. The hood skidded about halfway across and stopped, then sunk. Luckily it wasn't but knee deep. Wee Whoa was half frozen when we got him out. When we got him home, his mother asked that question that all Moms ask, "What happened here?" We told the truth. "He fell in the creek, but we saved him."

Wee Whoa nodded in agreement. You don't rat on your buddies, you know.

## TXDOT crews prepare major roadways for winter

Now that winter has descended on East Texas, crews with the Texas Department of Transportation have prepared major roadways for any major weather event, said TXDOT spokesperson Kathi White.

Roadways around the eight-county TXDOT district have been for potentially icy and flood conditions. Bridges and other roadway areas susceptible to wind and ice have been pre-treated.

I-20 and other major roadways have been pre-treated with a brine solution consisting of salt and water designed to prevent ice and snow from sticking to surfaces.

The process is a fast-moving mobile operation with minimal impacts to traffic. The district is also preparing for potential flooding and will be monitoring areas of concern throughout the life of the storm.

Coordination efforts with local municipalities and law enforcement are also underway.

TXDOT works closely with the National Weather Service to have the best available information preparing for a winter weather

storm.

TXDOT personnel have readied equipment and supplies and will respond as needed to ensure roadways remain open and safe for travel when possible.

Safe driving tips for wintry conditions include:

Be extra cautious on bridges, overpasses, ramps, turns and shaded areas that usually freeze first.

Reduce speed and allow extra time to reach destinations.

Increase the following distance between you and other vehicles.

If you start to slide, ease off the gas pedal or brakes and steer into the direction of skid.

Stay back at least 200 feet from vehicles treating roadways, and move over for emergency vehicles.

Be patient. Your trip time could increase when adverse weather conditions exist.

Remain in your vehicle. If stranded, please call 911 to alert emergency services.

Avoid unnecessary travel if conditions warrant.

In case of flooding, remember flash flooding is the leading cause of weather-related deaths in Texas. If you encounter a flooded road, "Turn Around, Don't Drown."

Never walk, swim, or drive through still or moving flood waters. The water may be hiding dangers such as debris, tree branches, power lines, or damage to the road. As little as six inches of fast-moving water can cause motorists to lose control of their vehicle, even a pickup truck or SUV.

Stay informed about weather conditions when you are driving.

Be especially careful driving at night when it can be harder to see flood dangers.

If your vehicle stalls in deep water, leave it and move to higher ground if you can do so safely.

Road closures and other conditions are posted and updated as necessary at Drive-Texas.org. Get statewide road conditions by calling 800-452-9292

## Creating "Winter Wonderland" in your home

By Claudann Jones  
Smith County Extension Agent

One of the best parts of winter's cold days (at least when we have those in East Texas) is enjoying feeling cozy inside. Here are some practical ideas for creating a winter wonderland in your home.

1. Listen to winter inspired music. Search "Winter Jazz" or "Winter piano" on YouTube or wherever you stream music from. You could even continue to listen to holiday music if that's your style.

2. Bring the outdoors in. Even though life appears to come to pause during the winter, there is still so much happening in nature! You can easily make a pine garland or DIY

your own scented pinecones by searching for a tutorial online. Get creative and make a "flower" arrangement using interesting things you find outside. Blooms are not required for a fabulous and inspiring center piece.

3. Embrace winter flavors. This is my favorite! Warming soups, winter squashes such as butternut, meats, dried herbs, etc. Celebrate the great flavors offered to us during this time of year.

4. Sleep in. At least for as long as your schedule reasonably allows. In winter, the days are shorter and nights are longer. Many animals go into hibernation. Winter is a great time to make sure you're getting 7-9 hours of sleep per night.

5. Light a candle. Find a scent that reminds you of winter such as pine or spiced citrus. You can find candles with wood wicks that will crackle like fire for an added aesthetic feel.

You can also create your own winter potpourri by simmering 1 whole orange, ½ cup cranberries, 1 tbsp whole cloves and 3 Cinnamon sticks. As the potpourri simmers, add water as necessary.

For more information contact Claudann Jones, Smith County Extension Agent for Family and Community Health at 903-590-2980 or email at cmjones@ag.tamu.edu. Like our Facebook page: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Smith County. Stay well and stay safe.

## LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am very disappointed that you have published Mr. Kaup's letter in the Dec. 31, 2020 newspaper. My complaint is twofold. He states that we need to put God back into politics and elections.

The U.S. Constitution requires a separation of church and state (First Amendment). Therefore God has no place in elections or federal politics. The integrity and honesty of election officials and election monitors are what is necessary.

Secondly, Mr. Kaup is espousing a left wing conspiracy that has defrauded President Trump a second term as president of the United States. There

is no evidence of fraud and your publishing his message only lends credence to his message.

I believe in freedom of speech, but not the publishing of false and incendiary claims.

JS Kier  
Garden Valley

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# U.S. 80 double fatality under investigation

A Sunday night crash on U.S. Highway 80 near Fruitvale that claimed two lives remains under investigation, officials with the Texas Department of Public Safety said.

Officers responded to the crash at approximately 7:50 p.m. Sunday (Jan. 3). According to DPS reports, a 2021 Hyundai Sonata, driven by Marc Italia, 61, of Dallas was eastbound on U.S. 80 and crossed the center line, striking a 2021 Freightliner truck, driven by Wanda Jane

Lewis, 58, of Dallas. Both drivers were pronounced dead at the scene and taken to a Grand Saline funeral home. DPS officials said Italia was ejected from his vehicle.

# "Don't Mess With Texas Scholarship" contest under way

Applications are now being accepted for the 2021 Texas Department of Transportation's "Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship Contest," officials announced. This contest recognizes Texas high school seniors who are taking an active role in litter prevention in their school or community. The contest is open to any Texas high

school senior currently attending public, private or home school and planning to attend an accredited college or university in the Fall, 2021 semester. The contest will award a total of \$9,000 in scholarships to three winners in May 2021. "We're looking for students who are developing exciting and creative solutions to keep Texas litter-free," said Becky Ozuna,

program administrator for the Don't mess with Texas program. "We aim to shine a spotlight on their innovations in the hope of inspiring other Texans to do their part to keep our state beautiful." To enter the Don't mess with Texas Scholarship Contest, visit dontmesswithtexas.org. Applications must be received via online submission by 5 p.m. March 31, 2021.

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## OBITUARY

R.G. "Corkey" Hales  
R. G. "Corkey" Hales, age 82, of Lindale passed away Sunday, Dec. 27, 2020 in Tyler.

He was born in Gladewater on Aug. 12, 1938 to the late Walter, Sr. and Stella (Sadler) Hales and was a lifelong resident of the Swan and Lindale area.



Corkey worked for Tyler Pipe Industries and was the owner of Hales Dirt Work. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Swan and enjoyed watching John Wayne westerns and most of all spending time with his children, grandchildren and his dog, Baby.

Corkey was preceded in death by his daughter-in-law, Kelly Bridges. Corkey is survived by his loving wife, Ann Hales of Lindale; 5 children, Mike Hales of Lindale; Teresa Layne and husband, Mike of Lindale; Rodney Hales of Lindale; Kelly Moore and husband, Tommy of Lindale and Shelly Craze of Lindale; son-in-law, Jeff Craze of Lindale; 9 grandchildren, Heather Pierce, Beth Beck, Morgan Holochuck, Heath Layne, Justin Hales, Chase Craze, Whitney Tunnell, Haylee Craze, and McKenzie Moore and 16 great grandchildren. Memorial services will be scheduled at a later date. Donations may be made to the First Baptist Church Swan, 11364 US Hwy 69 N. Tyler, Texas 75706.

# Celebrations of Faith

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- Antioch Baptist Church**  
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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  
Fr. Matthew Stehling, Pastor
  - St. Joseph the Worker Tridentine Latin Mass**  
5075 FM 14  
Tyler, 75712  
903-593- 5055  
Rev. Joseph Valentine, FSSP

- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
  - Church of Christ – Lindale**  
211 W. Hubbard, Lindale, TX 75771  
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
- EPISCOPAL**
- St Luke's Episcopal Church**  
16292 FM 849, Lindale, TX 75771  
903-882-8118  
Rev. John Carr
- LUTHERAN**
- First Century Christian Fellowship**  
10119 Gina Rd., Lindale, TX 75771  
Dr. Lawrence Zillmer
- METHODIST**
- First United Methodist Church of Lindale**  
402 W Hubbard St • Lindale, TX 75771  
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**  
Mt. Sylvan • 903-882-5479
  - 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
- UNITED PENTECOSTAL**
- Pentecostals of Lindale**  
18475 FM 1804 Lindale, TX 75771  
713-254-3598

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Friday, Dec. 25, 2020

Officer Wedgeworth responded to a business alarm at 17000 block W I-20, false alarm. Officer Wedgeworth responded to an abandon property at 556 W I-20, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a welfare concern at 3300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 17000 Blk I -20, settled at scene. Officers Allen and Gillham responded to an assist other agency at 552 W I-20, unfounded. Officers Gillham and Allen responded to a residential alarm at 200 block Heritage Ct, false alarm. Officers Gillham and Allen responded to a public service at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020

Officer Trombley responded to a suspicious person at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Leevey and Trombley responded to a public service at 500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a hit and run at 500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Trombley and Leevey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 17800 block CR 4112, settled at scene. Sgt Wilson responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to an ordinance violation, citation issued. Sgt Wilson and Officer Capps responded to a suspicious circumstance at 500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Wilson and Officers Capps and Shurley responded to an unauthorized use of motor vehicle at 15200 block CR 467, settled at scene. Officers Capps and Shurley responded to a disturbance at 13400 block W I-20, settled at scene.

Sunday, Dec. 27, 2020

Officer Leevey responded to a welfare concern at 3300 block S Main St, unfounded. Officer Leevey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Leevey and Trombley responded to a welfare concern at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 900 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a welfare concern at 1100 block E Park Dr, settled at scene. Sgt Wilson responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a warrant service at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, arrest made. Sgt Wilson responded to a welfare concern at 100 block Summer Woods, settled at scene. Officers Leevey and Trombley responded to an attempt to service, unfounded. Officer Capps responded to a theft at 3200 block S Main St, report taken. Sgt Wilson and Officers Shurley and Capps responded to a disturbance at 400 block N College St, settled at scene. Sgt Wilson and Officer Shurley responded to a welfare concern at 17400 block Stacy St, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to a public service at 800 block Brownwood Cir, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officers Capps and Shurley responded to a lost property at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Shurley responded to a welfare concern at 13300 block W I20, settled at scene.

Monday, Dec. 28, 2020

Officers Trombley and Leevey responded to an accident at 1100 block S Main St, report taken. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Trombley



ley and Leevey responded to a disturbance at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a warrant service at 100 block Ballard Dr, arrest made. Sgt Wilson responded to a public service at 400 block Hill St, unfounded. Sgt Wilson and Officer Capps responded to an assist other agency at 300 block W North St, settled at scene. Sgt Wilson responded to an accident 13900 block FM 2710, report taken. Officer Shurley and Capps responded to a possession of controlled substance at 17700 blk N Main St, arrest made.

Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020

Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 200 block E North St, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a suspicious vehicle at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Officers Leevey and Trombley responded to a warrant service at 3400 block S Main St, arrest made. Officer Leevey responded to a warrant service at 3500 block N Main St, unfounded. Officer Leevey and Trombley responded to a welfare concern at 300 block Rita Dr, settled at scene. Officers Trombley and Leevey responded to a public service at 300 block Braziel St, settled at scene. Sgt Wilson responded to a business alarm at 17700 block HWY 69 N, false alarm. Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 14300 block CR 474, settled at scene. Officer Shurley responded to a criminal mischief at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Officers Capps and Shurley responded to a disturbance at 3300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Wedgeworth and Ramsey responded to a business alarm at 14000 block CR 4200, false alarm

Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020

Officers Wedgeworth and Ramsey responded to a business alarm at 500 block N Main St, false alarm. Officers Wedgworth and Ramsey responded to a residential alarm at 2300 block Pittman, false alarm. Officer Wedgeworth and Ramsey responded to a stolen vehicle at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 13600 block CR 472, settled at scene. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a public service at 700 block Kennedy Dr, settled at scene. Officer Wedgeworth and Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Officer Philpot responded to a public service at 17000 block W I-20, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to an accident at 800 block E Hubbard St, settled at scene. Chief Somes, Capt Chambers and Officers Wedgeworth and Ramsey responded to an accident at 553 W I-20, report taken. Officer Allen responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officers Allen and Gillham responded to a suspicious vehicle at 100 block E Van St, settled at scene. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a hit and run at 1500 block

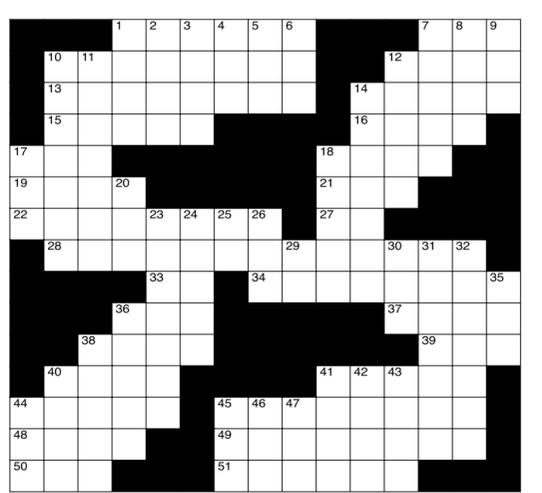
S Main St, report taken.

Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020

Officer Wedgeworth responded to a business alarm at 2600 block S Main St, false alarm. Officers Wedgeworth and Ramsey responded to an accident at 553 W I-20, settled at scene. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a criminal mischief at 200 block E North St, settled at scene. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a criminal mischief at 100 block Summer Woods, report taken. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a lost property at 100 block Ballard Dr, report taken. Officer Ramsey responded to a business alarm at 300 block W Hubbard St, settled at scene. Officer Wedgeworth responded to an accident at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officers Wedgeworth and Ramsey responded to a welfare concern at 14100 block CR 474, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Gillham and Allen responded to an ordinance violation at 1200 block Summit St, settled at scene. Officer Allen responded to a lost property at 300 block S Main St, report taken. Officers Allen and Gillham responded to an assist smith co at 300 block Smith Cir, settled at scene. Officers Allen and Gillham responded to a business alarm at 17000 block W I-20, false alarm.

Five Lindale residents indicted by grand jury

Smith County Grand Jurors have returned indictments for November and the first week of December, including five from Lindale, Grand Jury Coordinator Marieliza Martinez said. The grand jury returned 113 indictments during that period. Lindale residents indicted include:  
 -- Kenneth Alvarez-Candelaria, 26, possession of controlled substance; arrested Sept. 14, 2020.  
 -- James Gothard, 58, (with co-defendant Kimberly Gavurnik of Georgetown) possession of a controlled substance; arrested Sept. 9, 2020.  
 -- Michael McKinley, 30, theft with two or more convictions; arrested Sept. 12, 2020.  
 -- William Pierce, 62, driving while intoxicated; arrested Aug. 3, 2020.  
 -- Jacob Davis, 37, driving while intoxicated third or more offense; arrested Feb. 29, 2020.

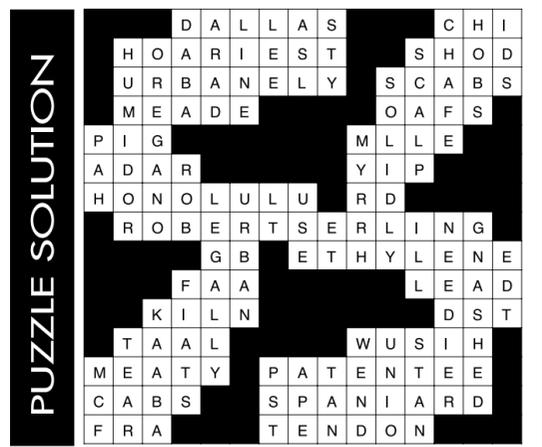


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Home of the Cowboys
- 7. "Hawaii Five-O" actor McBride
- 10. Most aged
- 12. Fitted with a shoe
- 13. Courteously
- 14. They form over cuts
- 15. Western Alaskan river
- 16. Aggressive men
- 17. Farm animal
- 18. Young woman (French)
- 19. Sixth month of Hebrew calendar
- 21. Short cry
- 22. State capital
- 27. Rural delivery
- 28. "Twilight Zone" creator
- 33. Gigabyte
- 34. Flammable hydrocarbon
- 36. Supervises flying
- 37. An actor who plays a principal role
- 38. Furnace for pottery
- 39. Fall back
- 40. Afrikaans word for language
- 41. Chinese city
- 44. Fleshy
- 45. Inventor
- 48. Taxis
- 49. A citizen of Spain
- 50. Important age for aging workers (abbr.)
- 51. Body part

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Chinese mountain range
- 2. Romanian city
- 3. Fishermen cast it
- 4. Shelter from wind
- 5. Sign language
- 6. Pigpen
- 7. Make sore
- 8. Flat metal shelves
- 9. Forms that say who you are
- 10. Cigar lovers' necessity
- 11. Popular cooking ingredient
- 12. Skin covering the head
- 14. Unshakable
- 17. Exclamation meaning "Finally!"
- 18. One of the wise men's gifts
- 20. Take away from
- 23. In accordance with the law
- 24. Nicole Kidman's husband
- 25. NY Giants legend
- 26. Utilize
- 29. Beloved Hollywood alien
- 30. Unwell
- 31. More destitute
- 32. Grinded together
- 35. Sun up in New York
- 36. Italian-made cars
- 38. Most sacred site in Islam
- 40. Rip apart
- 41. Go in a specified direction
- 42. Freshwater mussel genus
- 43. "\_\_\_ the Man" Musical
- 44. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- 45. West coast time zone
- 46. Mimic
- 47. You can get one in summer



BBB lists top scams from 2020

The year 2020 will be remembered for a lot of bad things and will also be a time when – unfortunately – scammers were lurking to take advantage of unsuspecting businesses and citizens.

Now that the year has come to a close, officials with the Better Business Bureau Serving Central East Texas have announced the top scams of 2020.

"Scam artists are not going anywhere. Unfortunately, during the pandemic, we've seen them become more aggressive," Mechele Agbayani Mills, President and CEO of BBB Serving Central East Texas said. "Whether it's online or over the phone, we must remain vigilant when it comes to protecting personal and financial information."

The following list includes East Texas' most reported scams and suspicious activities of 2020 via BBB Scam Tracker:

**Phishing/ Smishing/Vishing.** The victim receives an email (phishing), phone call (vishing) or text message (smishing). In the communication, the scammer urges the target to click a link, share information, or download an attachment which likely contains malware. In the case of an email or text, the link frequently leads to a form, which prompts the target to enter personal information.

**Sweepstakes/Lottery/Prizes.** Winning the sweepstakes, dream vacation, large amounts of money, a new car, shopping spree or new technology sounds great especially if you didn't enter to win. Unexpected prize and lottery scams rely on your excitement to lure you into paying fees for your prize or and typically require that you provide your personal information with the intent of compromising your identity. Remember, you should never have to pay fees for winning a prize. You will also never win a lottery you never entered.

**Identity theft.** While scammers certainly want access to your finances, also valuable are your Social Security number, debit/credit card info, pin numbers, passwords, and any other items containing your personal information. If this sensitive information falls into the hands of a criminal, it may be used to steal your identity. It's important to be extremely

protective of your personal information online, via text, on the phone and in person.

**Online purchase scams.** It may seem as if some of the best deals may be found online, but use caution. It's easy for a scammer to hijack photos from a legitimate retailer and post prices which seem too good to be true. Make sure you are dealing with a legitimate seller who has a history of conducting business ethically by going to bbb.org.

**Government Grant.** Victims receive a phone call, email or letter stating they qualified for a government grant, but to receive the grant you must pay the processing and/or delivery fee via wire transfer or prepaid debit card. In East Texas, some consumers reported receiving a message to claim a government grant via a friend's (hacked) Facebook Messenger account. Remember, the government does not award grants for which there has been no application. Go to usa.gov for additional information on the grant application process.

**Fake Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Agents.** In 2020, Scammers posing as IRS agents contacted consumers either claiming they could help them expedite stimulus checks or that they owed back taxes and threaten lawsuits and arrest if payment is not sent immediately. Keep in mind, the IRS does not make threatening phone calls, nor do you send payment via unconventional methods such as gift cards or wire transfer.

**Tech Support.** Consumers are being targeted by fraudsters pretending to be well-known tech support companies. Victims are contacted with a message on their computer that a virus has been detected and to "fix" the problem, a phone number or website is given to purchase an anti-virus computer via debit or credit card. Computer manufacturers will not contact you to let you know if there is a problem with your computer.

**Bogus Employers.** Scammers advertise a job opening or guarantee job placement if you pay a fee to cover the cost it takes to place you in a job. However, after you pay, there's no job and you are out of money. Remember, if a potential employer asks you to pay the company to cover the costs of testing, training or

background checks, consider it a red flag.

**Debt Collection.** Consumers report receiving harassing calls and/or calls for debts which are not owed. Remember, there are debt collection process rules in place to prevent unethical collection business practices. Review the rules of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) on the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) website. Report violations to bbb.org, FTC, the state Attorney General's office, and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).

**Fake Checks.** While consumers may write fewer checks in this era of electronic financial transactions, fake check scams continue to be an issue. While used in a variety of frauds, from employment scams to prize and sweepstakes fraud, in all cases, victims deposit the check and send money back to scammers.

**What you can do:** Don't be pressured into making hasty decisions.

Take time to research every organization you do business with by going to bbb.org.

Never provide your personal information (address, date of birth, banking information, ID numbers) to people you do not know.

Don't click on links from unsolicited email or text messages.

If you are unsure about a call or email that claims to be from your bank, utility company, etc., call the business directly using the number on your bill or credit card.

Never send money by wire transfer, prepaid debit card or unconventional method to someone you don't know or haven't met in person. Use a credit card and always reconcile your statements.

Never send money for an emergency situation unless you can verify the emergency.

BBB serving Central East Texas fosters a trustworthy marketplace by maintaining standards for truthful advertising and by investigating and exposing fraud against consumers and businesses. Please go to bbb.org or call 903-581-5704 24 hours a day for information on businesses throughout North America. To report fraudulent activity or unscrupulous business practices, go to BBB Scam Tracker.

Advertise in the Lindale News & Times Call 903-882-8880 today!

# TJC announces 180 December nursing graduates

The TJC School of Nursing and Health Sciences has announced 180 December graduates – including eight from Lindale -- from its nursing programs: 43 from the traditional associate degree nursing program; 38 from the LVN-RN transition program in Jacksonville; 37 from the LVN-RN Fast Track program; 31 from the vocational nursing day program; 31 from the vocational nursing evening program.

The TJC School of Nursing and Health Sciences includes programs of study designed to prepare students for challenging and rewarding careers in nursing and allied health occupations.

Students receive training from a top-notch faculty of certified healthcare industry veterans with extensive education and experience in their fields. Graduates have the opportunity to earn national certifications and go directly to work in various health-related industries in East Texas and across the nation.

Traditional associate degree nursing graduates and their hometowns are: Samuel Carrington III, Gunnison, Colo.; Samantha Ann Cervantes, Ben Wheeler; Adam Champion, Winona; Marian Chance, Tyler; Wendy Christian, Lindale; Tanna Denton, Hawkins; Lauren Taylor Dotson, Lindale; Haleigh J. Eichelberger, Tyler; Amey Fair, Lindale; Angelica Garcia, Tyler; Elizabeth Garzoria, Tyler; Jesse Gordey, Jena, Louisiana; Meagan M. Gray, Tyler; Bailey-Nichole Jade Haley, Kilgore; Skydra N. Haltom, Edgewood; Ashleigh Dawn Hillhouse, Athens; Joshua Lane Holland, Whitehouse; Hannah Irwin-Neely, Lindale; Tina Marie Jones, Edgewood; Kristina Marie Leipply, Wills Point; Haley Lindsey, Jacksonville; Amber Littlejohn, Grand Saline; Samantha Lynn Marshall, Troup; Andrea Delores

Merrill, Jacksonville; Meghan Migura, Frankston; Karli Novander, Tyler; Jamie Lee Parrish, Fate; Reyna Perdomo, Tyler; Estela Perez, Tyler; John Plemmons, Henderson; Troy Austin Rachal, Whitehouse; Andrew Seale, Mount Enterprise; Hannah Louise Secrest, Tyler; Shanna Selph, Longview; Kara Michelle Simmons, Chandler; Lindsey L. Slater, Longview; Carlie Sparks, Whitehouse; Silvia Tadeo, Tyler; Zachary Terry, Diana; Ashley R. Todd, Tyler; and Madison Nicole Tucker, Whitehouse.

LVN-RN transition Jacksonville program graduates and their hometowns are: Sherena V. Allen, Frankston; Keyla Yulissa Baren Gonzalez, Tyler; Camillia Lynn Bell, Henderson; Elsa Duran Black, Tyler; Antonio Lejaun Brigham, Tyler; Lisa Annette Brown, Athens; Chase McLaine Carr, Jacksonville; Heather Bain Carson, Tyler; Bailee Clark, Rusk; Amanda Collins, Huntington; Kristina Eckert, Whitehouse; Jessica Garcia, Pittsburg; Tracy Gholston, Alto; Erika Holland, Rusk; Lisa Inthavilay, Dallas; Laura Cervantes Langham, Cushing; Elizabeth Martinez, Rusk; Rebecca C. Martinez, Jacksonville; Se'Quoyah Kenyon Mayfield, Nacogdoches; Shavunda Morgan, Tyler; Jesus Ortega, Longview; Angel Pineda, Bullard; Alexandria Brianna Pope, Rusk; Noemi Posada, Jacksonville; Shelby Prince, Sacul; Juwonna Puckett, Whitehouse; Idalia Reina, Tyler; Eva Reyes, Tyler; Marlen Reyna, Jacksonville; Ariel Roberson, Longview; Teya Simmons, Lufkin; Kimberly Sulser, Palestine; Taja Summers, Jacksonville; and Hannah Elise Wood, Tyler.

LVN-RN Fast Track graduates and their hometowns are: Kendrick Bernard Armstrong Jr., Tyler; Kristal Baith, Tyler; Carlos Bautista, Tyler; Melissa

Black, Tyler; Eliana Borja, Jacksonville; Roxanne Michelle Carpenter, Troup; Jacqueline Montes Carranza, Tyler; Amanda Leann Cobb, Whitehouse; Jazmin De Castaneda, Lindale; Claudia Lizbeth Diaz, Tyler; Tara Dinkins, Gilmer; Lyndsey Douglas, Rusk; Amy Espinosa, Tyler; Stephanie Leann Fletcher, Jasper; Macey Griffith, Cushing; Andrea Guthrie, Frankston; Rosalin Raelynn Hall, Mount Pleasant; April Hancock, Van; Juliann K. Hill, Bullard; Emily Hukill, Flint; Raquel Hunt, Overton; John Lewis, Tyler; Betsy Alvarado Martinez, Tyler; Gracie McDonald, Lufkin; Karina Brooke Pettyjohn, Lindale; Kacey Presley, LaRue; Catherine Rebollar, Flint; Donna Lisette Rivera, Tyler; Will Roach, Bullard; Guadalupe Robles Salmeron, Tyler; Crystal J. Sawyer, Flatonia; Corby Stevenson, Gladewater; Alicia M. Switzer, Troup; and Rebekah H. Walsh, Lufkin.

Vocational nursing day program graduates and their hometowns are: Melissa M. Bock, Tyler; Chantel Monique Brooks, Tyler; Shabrena Dirana Joe Craig, Pittsburg; Makayla Ann David, Grand Saline; Raveen C'Kyra Ellis, Tyler; Fabiola Espinoza, Tyler; Sarah Fenton, Martinez, California; Chaquel Ford, Tyler; Kelsey Gray, Athens; Sharenza Lanae Green, Alto; Austin Ligon, Montgomery; BreeAnna BreeYae' Marsh, Tyler; Audree Layne Martin, Frankston; Jessica Marugg, Rusk; Sarah McClellan, Tyler; Kara McPherson, Lindale; JaKayla DeShae Moore, Tyler; Alicia Perkins-Lowe, Mesquite; Amy Phillips, Allen; Amanda Robinson, Brownsboro; Anahi Rodriguez, Mount Pleasant; Erika Rodriguez, Grapeland; Jazmin Rodriguez, Tyler; Laci Scruggs, Jacksonville; Giordano P. Sirianni, Kerrville; Elizabeth Marie Vause, Bismarck, North

Dakota; Jennifer Wilson, Flint; and Katie Zelenak, Chandler.

Vocational nursing evening program graduates and their hometowns are: Japheth Baya, Longview; Gabriel F. Borunda, Tyler; Shawn O. Burton, Flint; Annsheneke Caraway, Nacogdoches; Elvalyn Shante' Cole, Tyler; Raquel LeAnn Conner, Chandler; Ravyn Fletcher, Jasper; Tammy S. Grayson, Crystal Spring, Mississippi; Leah Hobbs, Lindale; Robin Johnson, Arp; Joanne L. Medina, Tyler; Courtney Y. Miller, Tyler; Janelle Morales, Tyler; Haley Paige Morris, Whitehouse; Bobby Posey, Tyler; Hailey Smith Riches, Mineola; Codie S. Riley, Longview; Hannah Gabrielle Roberts, Whitehouse; Stoya J. Roberts, Longview; Theresa Nicole Robinson, Jacksonville; Jazmin Sanchez, Tyler; Bailee Mariah Shreve, Jacksonville; Zandra Y. Steward, Tyler; Savanna DeAnn Stone, Whitehouse; Mary Vidal-Gray, Dallas; and Cortney N. Wyatt, Tyler.

For more information, go to TJC.edu/nursing.

### Lindale's Nickolis Grace earns SHSU degree

Nickolis Grace of Lindale has graduated from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, university officials announced recently. Grace was one of the Fall 2020 graduating class.

## Juvenile Services Department's Dean honored for her service

Sabrina Dean was recognized by the Smith County Commissioners Court for 30 years of service to the Smith County Juvenile Services Department during a recent meeting, public information officer Casey Murphy said.

"Sabrina Dean has been a stalwart for juvenile justice in Smith County for three decades," Juvenile Services Director Ross Worley said. "She goes over and above her job description to deter at-risk kids from going deeper into the juvenile justice system."

He praised her desire to be a positive influence on others in the department.

"She has been a mentor and encourager to new officers and a persistent supporter of the mission and vision of Smith County Juvenile Services," Worley said. "Sabrina is an Intensive Supervision Probation Officer working solely with felony offenders, which can be a daunting and difficult task."

"To have carried the passion of rehabilitating these juvenile offenders for 30 years is a testimony and example for those who will ultimately follow her in the years to come."

In 1989, she began her career working part-time intake, now known as master control, which includes answering phones, monitoring cameras and unlocking doors in the Juvenile Attention Center.

She began working full-time in 1990.

In 1994, Dean became a probation officer for the Juvenile Services Department, and since 1997, she has been a supervisor in the felony unit, supervising mostly female juveniles who have been charged with felony offenses.

Dean said she knew she would retire from Juvenile Services after her first day on the job there. She said juvenile probation officers should be called "change agents" because they work daily to give



Sabrina Dean of the Smith County Juvenile Services Department was honored recently by the county commissioner's court. (Courtesy Photo)

the kids the tools for success they need to help them make life changes to better themselves so they can get off probation successfully.

Other Smith County employees celebrating anniversaries in December include:

- 20 Years: Shannon Coleman, Adult Probation
- 10 Years: Nathan McMillan, Sheriff's Office
- 5 Years: Zulema Rosales, Juvenile Services; Vicente Barrientos, Blain Beard and John McLean, Sheriff's Office

## TJC recognizes Fall 2020 graduates

Tyler Junior College recognized 689 graduates for the Fall 2020 semester during a three-day series of personal, "VIP-graduation-style" ceremonies created to allow the students to celebrate their achievement and walk the stage while still maintaining health and safety guidelines, publicity officials said.

TJC held 21 micro ceremonies Monday-Wednesday (Dec. 14-16) in Wagstaff Gymnasium, with attendance limited to 20 graduates per session. Each graduate was allowed to bring two guests.

Lindale graduates included: Kristal Baith, Brooklyn Bowman, Wendy Christian, Sean Clare, Michael Cooley, Jerri Cox, Jazmin De Castaneda, Lauren Dotson, Hannah Emerson, Amanda Fair, Tere Gill, Amber Greene, Leah Hobbs, Haylie Horton, Hannah Irwin, Kara McPherson, Michaela Murphy, Colby O'Connor, Karina Pettyjohn, Amy Phillips, Dakota Pool, Saul Rios, Megan Romine, Aliyah Sawyer, Holly Segura, James Slider, Christopher Smith, Austin Turner

Graduates from Hideaway were Patrick McClain and Jonathan Tabb.

Physical distancing and face coverings were required, and faculty and staff were represented by cabinet members of the TJC Faculty Senate.

Donning their caps and gowns, the graduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas in the presence of TJC President Dr. Juan E. Mejia and Provost Dr. Deana Sheppard. Also present at the ceremonies were Mitch Andrews,

vice president for institutional advancement, who exceed the ceremonies; Kim Lessner, vice president for operations, working out logistics; Kevin Fowler, chief human resources officer, assisting the graduates; and Elizabeth Olivier, interim dean of the TJC School of Nursing and Health Sciences, giving remarks to healthcare graduates.

Even behind face coverings, smiles of excitement were evident among the graduates and their families.

"I was not going to miss this," said Willie Edwards, a medical office management graduate from Clarksville, who took the day off from her job at Parkland Hospital in Dallas to attend the ceremony with her son, Dreylund Edwards, and his fiancée, Abigail Barra. Edwards spent more than 20 years working in public school offices before deciding to further her own education at TJC.

"I actually found TJC through a Google search," she said, "and I'm glad I did, because it has been a great experience. The professors were excellent. I learned the correct way to manage a medical office."

Brittany Riley, of Crockett, was one of the first students to earn an award from TJC's new culinary arts program. Riley earned a certificate of proficiency in pastries.

"I started out in the culinary program at TSTC (Texas State Technical College) in Waco and transferred to TJC especially for the pastries program," she said. "I learned a lot from Chef Matson

and Chef Dudley, and now I hope to follow in my mom and grandmother's footsteps and start my own business making wedding cakes."

Lisa Brown, of Athens, graduated magna cum laude with associate degree in nursing. A mother of five, Lisa and her two youngest children, Joshua and Christiana, entered the TJC vocational nursing program together in 2017.

They all graduated the vocational nursing program in August 2018.

Joshua, who worked two years as a nurse at Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital, now serves as a Healthsouth marketing liaison, preparing patients for their transition from the regular hospital to the rehab facility. He also works in the ICU unit at UT Health East Texas.

Christiana, who found her calling in elder care, serves as a charge nurse at a nursing center in Malakoff.

Lisa continued her studies at TJC and, on Wednesday, earned her associate degree as a registered nurse. She plans to serve in disaster relief efforts or in the mission field.

"I'm just overflowing with gratitude," she said. "This college is really a class act and a gem of academia. We love this place and want to make TJC proud because everyone cared so much and poured their hearts into all of us. I wouldn't change a single thing about this experience."

"We've been looking forward to this time of celebrating our graduates and honoring them for their hard work and success. They have been so resilient and bold to continue their college journey during such a challenging time," Mejia said.

He encouraged the graduates to go out and be the leaders of tomorrow, saying, "One of our great North American writers wrote that the greatest need we have today is for leaders who will not be bought nor sold, for leaders who will be sincere and honest in the most intimate parts of their souls, for leaders who will be true to what is right, just like the compass will always point to the pole, and for leaders who will stand on the side of justice though the heavens may fall. That is among the greatest needs that we have today; and we know that with our graduates, we will be in very good hands."

⊕ ⊗ ⊙ ⊚ ⊛ ⊜ ⊝ ⊞ ⊟ ⊠ ⊡ ⊢ ⊣ ⊤ ⊥ ⊦ ⊧ ⊨ ⊩ ⊪ ⊫ ⊬ ⊭ ⊮ ⊯ ⊰ ⊱ ⊲ ⊳ ⊴ ⊵ ⊶ ⊷ ⊸ ⊹ ⊺ ⊻ ⊼ ⊽ ⊾ ⊿ ⊿

### CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to poinsettias. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 11 = O)

**A. 16 11 14 11 1 23 19 14**  
Clue: Vibrant

**B. 16 3 1 4 20 17 5 16 20**  
Clue: December holiday

**C. 14 13 15 18 13 20**  
Clue: Parts of plants

**D. 21 13 16 11 1 15 17 4 11 25 20**  
Clue: Home adornments

Answers: A. colorful B. Christmas C. leaves D. decorations

### WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to poinsettias.

## SBTRAC

--	--	--	--

Answer: Bracts

### Guess Who?

I am a singer born in England on December 30, 1986. I discovered electronic music while in college. Rihanna is one of my influences and I sang a cover of her song "Only Girl in the World." My debut album reached #1 on the UK charts.

Answer: Ellie Goulding

## POINSETTIA WORD SEARCH

Q X I G N I M O O L B N B U I X T H D G  
R C C U F E S T I V E D N Z N N P G E D  
D T T N A L P A R M E I E E S X I R K E  
K O B C T O K P H Z O Q U U T V E O V D R  
Q O T R L C P X Q U D P C Y U L H E X R  
P T D A C F I U E L N A U S K E C D H O  
T A E D I D N X C Y R S S L T E A X S U  
D N G I R O L O E B M L O S M A M S V S  
L I U T V Y E S I M F F L B A M Z O Y H  
P C N I X K A R H T E O E B G B Z T S U  
E A A O S F V K R F A R B I P D M M E B  
F L C N K U E T I P Q R C K D T P A E C  
R B H E T B S P I N Y L O R B D O P C Y  
L A N D S C A P I N G K H C T T T S A E  
L I I G R O N P F I C Q P T E C T U R N  
L L X R V C D I H O L I D A Y D E N E M  
A C I R E M A L A R T N E C V O D H N N  
V G U B C H R I S T M A S N R C Q O N P  
U M N R Y T P Q S Z R A G M R H P X Z S D  
B H M K A Z R R M K Z D S L E G E N D D

#### WORDS

AMBASSADOR  
AZTEC  
BLOOMING  
BOTANICAL  
BRACKETS  
CARE  
CENTRAL AMERICA  
CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER  
DECORATION  
FESTIVE  
FOLKLORE  
HOLIDAY  
LANDSCAPING  
LEAVES  
LEGEND  
MEXICO  
PLANT  
POTTED  
RED  
TRADITION  
UNIQUE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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# District action under way



The Lindale High School boys basketball team began District 16-4A action this week with a game at Chapel Hill on Tuesday. During recent game action, Taegan Terry (10) looks to pass, while Colton Widemon (33) drives to the basket. On Friday, the Eagles take on the Bullard Panthers in the LHS gym. (Photos by Susan Duncan)

# TJC registration schedule announced

Tyler Junior College is offering online and walk-in registration for its upcoming spring terms school officials have announced.

Online registration is available at TJC.edu/register.

Spring classes begin Monday, Jan. 11, and run through Wednesday, May 5.

TJC also offers two eight-week mini-terms, with the first set for Monday, Jan. 11, through Friday, March 5, and the second from Monday, March 15, through Wednesday, May 5.

Walk-in advising and registration will be held at the following times and locations:

- 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, Jan. 6 and 8, White Administrative Services Center boardroom
- 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, White Administrative Services Center boardroom

• 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, Rogers Student Center

Health and safety guidelines will be followed, with face coverings and 6 feet of physical distancing required, room occupancy monitored and the room frequently sanitized.

“For those who are not already TJC students, we will also have staff on hand to assist them with starting the admissions process,” said Claire Mizell, TJC director of admissions.

TJC offers more than 115 degree and certificate programs, including baccalaureate degrees in dental hygiene and healthcare administration, as well as extensive training and technical programs.

In addition to academics, TJC has nationally ranked athletics and stellar performing arts programs, all at about one-third of the cost of a four-year institution.

# Jarvis receives \$2 million IBM grant

HAWKINS -- Jarvis Christian College recently received a \$2 million collaboration grant from IBM for technology tools and training, publicity officials announced.

This grant is designed to help students and faculty develop technology skills including training in quantum computing.

Jarvis Christian College is one of the historically Black colleges and universities across the country that will join a partnership with IBM to help train students and instructors in artificial intelligence, block chain, data science, cybersecurity, cloud and quantum computing.

IBM has designed seven courses and a multitude of industry relevant tools including SPSS, Cloud foundry, Cloudfant, Jupyter Notebook, Pandas, ArcGIS, MQTT, Watson Studio, Watson IoT Platform, and more.

The initial courses offered to faculty at JCC were the Internet of Things (IoT) and Enterprise Design Thinking. One major component of the partnership is the virtual IBM Skills Academy.

The academy will address topics such as high-capacity quantum computing, artificial intelligence, block chain, cyber security, design thinking, data science, analytics and research projects.

“The partnership between IBM and JCC allows faculty and students to explore new possibilities and test the limits of novel technology (involving analytics and

artificial intelligence) and its application to real-world scenarios,” Shaneka Simmons, Assistant Professor of Biology and Science Education at JCC said.

IBM is giving more than \$100 million in content and training to a group of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) as part of its Global University Programs.

The IBM Skills Academy offers trainings that can result in credentialing and certifications to bridge the gap between classroom instruction and marketable skillsets that can be applied to the industry.

Ultimately the IBM partnership with JCC allows for Faculty development and enhanced learning opportunities that will expose students to the 21st century skillsets that align with workforce demands.

Through the IBM Skills Academy, faculty can receive specialized training that will allow them to teach and expose students to hands on practices in Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Cloud Computing, Cyber Security, Data Science, Design Thinking, IoT, and Quantum.

“I hope that it will allow faculty to provide students with more hands-on application of what students are taught in the learning environment. I also am hopeful that the partnership will serve as a gateway to make students more marketable to both the Business and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) sectors,” said Simmons.

**Math Blocks**  
Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-6. The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

0			2
			10
		6	8
6	3	11	

**Get Scrambled**  
Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.  
T G E R O A G I N D Z E  
Answer: Get Organized

**PEOPLE FACT:**  
MANY PEOPLE SET THESE TYPES OF GOALS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.  
ANSWER: RESOLUTIONS

**How they SAY that in...**

- ENGLISH:** Neat
- SPANISH:** Aseado
- ITALIAN:** Ordinato
- FRENCH:** Bien rangé
- GERMAN:** Ordentlich

**Did You Know?**  
CHILDREN CAN EMBRACE BECOMING MORE ORGANIZED BY STARTING SMALL. THEY CAN SORT THROUGH A BACKPACK OR WORK ON ORGANIZING THEIR BEDROOM CLOSETS.

**THIS DAY IN... HISTORY**

- 1610: GALILEO GALILEI MAKES HIS FIRST OBSERVATION OF THE FOUR GALILEAN MOONS.
- 1928: THE RIVER THAMES FLOODS IN LONDON AND CAUSES EXTENSIVE DAMAGE.
- 1955: MARIAN ANDERSON BECOMES THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN TO PERFORM WITH THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN OPERA.

**New Word**  
**TIDY**  
arranged neatly

**GET THE PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?  
ANSWER: STORAGE BASKETS

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**LEGAL**  
The mailing address of the Smith County Emergency Services District #1 is P. O. Box 697, Lindale, Texas 75771. Records are kept at 13572 FM 2710, Lindale, Texas, telephone number 903-882-6492, cell number 903-530-2707. Annie Baldwin, Volunteer Clerk, is the designated District's Records Management Officer.

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**AUCTIONS**  
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### Alumna's Estate Gifts \$975,000 to A&M-Commerce Planetarium and Chemistry programs

COMMERCE - The late Georgia Mae Waters Dorrrough of Clarksville, Texas, gifted \$975,000, through her estate, to the College of Science and Engineering at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

The Georgia M. Dorrrough Planetarium Endowment, the Georgia M. Dorrrough Planetarium Maintenance Endowment, and the Georgia M. Dorrrough Endowed Chair in Chemistry will significantly impact the university's Department of Chemistry and Planetarium.

According to Dr. Thomas West, Department of Chemistry head and professor, the generous gift enables the department to purchase and maintain current equipment that students use for hands-on learning and laboratory research.

A large portion of the estate gift will also fund an endowed chemistry chair to support innovative teaching programs and projects that will promote student recruitment and retention. Additionally, the endowment will bring guest speakers to campus from various chemistry fields, which will serve to broaden students' exposure to cutting-edge research. The gift will also provide research and

travel funds to students and faculty members.

"On behalf of the Department of Chemistry, I am grateful to the late Ms. Dorrrough for providing our students with the necessary resources to support their professional development so that they may become highly successful chemists with marketable skills," West said. "We expect that her gift will allow our current and future students to impact the field of chemistry significantly."

The endowment will also enable children in grades K-8 from Red River County schools—Dorrrough's home—to receive free transportation and entrance fees to the university's planetarium. As a result, schools may bring students to campus without incurring transportation costs and other field trip-related expenses.

According to Dr. Cheri Davis, Planetarium director at A&M-Commerce, "A campus visit is so much more than just seeing a planetarium show. Any time students can visit our campus, they get a glimpse of the college experience. For some, this may be their only opportunity to visit a college campus, and we would like to think the exposure may influence later college de-

isions."

Davis explained that, while visiting the Planetarium, students have the opportunity to learn about astronomy and enjoy an engaging show. They also get an up-close view of the current night sky at each performance, allowing them to experience the wonders of astronomy.

"We are very thankful for all who promote STEM education, and the Dorrroughs were long-time supporters of the Planetarium," Davis said.

Ms. Dorrrough received a Master of Education from East Texas State Teachers College, now A&M-Commerce, in 1950. She was a retired nutritionist and worked for many years as a home economics teacher at Clarksville High School.

According to her close friend, A&M-Commerce alumna Annette Welch, Dorrrough had a life-long passion for education.

"She wanted the children of Red River County to enjoy experiences that many in our small, rural community never get," Welch said. "She spoke many times of funding the Planetarium at A&M-Commerce with the idea that if school children experience exciting science, it will spark an interest that could fuel their future educational goals."

Dr. Brent Donham, dean of the College of Science and Engineering, emphasized the impact of the Dorrrough Endowment.

"This gift will not only result in an immediate benefit to the Department of Chemistry and the Planetarium, but it will have a lasting impact on generations of students," Donham said. "It is only through the generosity of individuals like Ms. Dorrrough that our college's mission—Innovation and Discovery—will be fully realized."

Ms. Dorrrough passed away on August 11, 2019, at the age of 92, but her generosity will touch lives for generations to come.

"The good she has done for others and the kindnesses she has shown will never be forgotten," Welch said.

### Jim Wright sworn in as new Railroad Commissioner

AUSTIN - Jim Wright was sworn-in as the 51st Railroad Commissioner of Texas today. The lifelong South Texan joins a three-member Commission in leading an agency that is more than a century old.



WRIGHT

The RRC plays a major role in oversight and regulation of the oil and gas industry - an industry that has been the backbone of the state economy and plays a vital role in keeping energy costs low for Texans while also helping pave the way for the nation's energy independence.

"Oil and natural gas will make up the majority of our nation's energy for decades to come and it is best for our state, our nation and the world if that energy is produced right here in Texas," said Wright. "As commissioner, I will work to streamline enforcement and increase transparency at the Commission, with the ultimate goal of creating a sustainable and dependable lifestyle for all Texans supported by our state's abundant natural resources."

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