



The Lindale News & Times



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Lindale Eagles dominate All-District 9-4A football team

As might be expected from a team that earned a berth in the state championship game, the Lindale High School Eagles dominated the 2020 9-4A All-District team as selected recently by the league's coaches.

Lindale's Jordan Jenkins – who rushed for more than 3,000 yards and scored an impressive 52 touchdowns during the season – was the unanimous choice as the Most Valuable Player in the district.

Lindale senior Airik Williams, who had seven interceptions and 110 tackles for the year, was the unanimous selection for Defensive Most Valuable Player.

Offensive Lineman of the Year honors went to the Eagles' Luke Sandifer and Lindale junior Jacob Seekford was voted the Utility Player of the Year.

Chris Cochran, who will be entering his fourth year at the helm of the Eagles' program, was the unanimous selection for Coach of the Year. Cochran, naturally, was pleased with the results.

"Overall, it was awesome," he said. "It was really good for our kids and our program. Our coaches do an outstanding job with them, but the kids are the ones who got us (to the state championship game)."

"Back in the spring, I told them that the teams that handle adversity the best would be the ones left standing at the end and that's exactly what they did."

Kilgore senior Dalton McElyea was voted Offensive Most Valuable Player and Deuce McGregor of Chapel Hill was chosen Offensive Newcomer of the Year.

Palestine senior Elvin Calhoun was voted as the Defensive Lineman of the Year, while teammate Taj' Shawn Wilson, a sophomore, was named Defensive Newcomer of the Year.

Lindale had five players on the first team defense, four on the first team offense, four on the second team defense and four on the second team offense.

Honorable mention players from Lindale included: offensive lineman Yahir Soto, wide receiver Case Brooks, tight end Cody Swaim, linebacker Daniel Benitez, cornerback Brett Maya, cornerback Keiston Ross, linebacker Levi Thornton.

2020 ALL DISTRICT FOOTBALL TEAM SUPERLATIVES

DISTRICT MVP: Jordan Jenkins, senior, Lindale
OFFENSIVE MVP: Dalton McElyea, senior, Kilgore
OFFENSIVE LINEMAN OF THE YEAR: Luke Sandifer, senior, Lindale
OFFENSIVE NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR: Ilonzo "Deuce" McGregor, sophomore, Chapel Hill
DEFENSIVE MVP: Airik Williams, senior, Lindale
DEFENSIVE LINEMAN OF THE YEAR: Elvin Calhoun, senior, Palestine
DEFENSIVE NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR: Taj' Shawn Wilson, sophomore, Palestine
UTILITY PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Jacob Seekford, junior, Lindale
COACH OF THE YEAR: Chris Cochran, Lindale

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

Quarterback: Cameron Ford, senior, Chapel Hill
Running backs: Tray Epps, senior, Kilgore; Jakaryon Conley, senior, Palestine
Fullback: Sherrick Dudley, sophomore, Palestine
Wide receivers: Tyson Berry, sophomore, Chapel Hill; Donovan Adkins, senior, Kilgore; Jermaine Roney, junior, Kilgore; Brian Brown, senior, Kilgore; Cedric Lowe, senior, Athens
Tight End: Dominique Milton, senior, Palestine

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JORDAN JENKINS



AIRIK WILLIAMS



COLTON WIDEMON



COREY SANDERS



JACOB SEEKFORD



JARET ALLEN



JAYMOND JACKSON



LANDON LOVE



LUKE SANDIFER



SAM PETERSON



WILL HUTCHENS

LNT publisher elected president of Texas Press

Jim Bardwell, owner and publisher of the *Lindale News & Times*, *Gladewater Mirror* and *White Oak Independent* was elected president of the Texas Press Association in a statewide virtual



BARDWELL

TPA board meeting on Jan. 21.

Bardwell began his newspaper career as the co-editor of the *Daily Planet* newsletter as a fifth grader at William L. Cabell Elementary School in Farmer's Branch. The *Daily Planet* was short lived due to labor issues, but it set the course for a life-long career in journalism.

At Longview High School, Bardwell was a member of the school newspaper staff. He went on to work on Kilgore College's *Flare* staff, and eventually at East Texas State University's student newspaper the *East Texan* and ETSU's magazine.

While attending ETSU, Bardwell worked at the *Commerce Journal* newspaper. He was promoted to sports editor after just six months. A year later he joined the *Sulphur Springs News-Telegram* as sports editor. His work led him home to the staff of the *Longview*

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Former Mayor McClenny passes away at 86

Former Lindale Mayor Bobby McClenny, who served in that capacity for more than a decade and a half and helped pave the way for municipal and retail growth

for the city, died this past Friday at age 86.

A lifelong resident of Lindale and graduate of Lindale High School, McClenny was instrumental in helping annex areas of Interstate 20 from U.S. Highway 69 to Hideaway, enabling future economic growth in the area.

After graduating from Lindale High School, McClenny earned a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Texas at Tyler. Upon retirement from Bracken Oil, he started McClenny Business Services.

Lindale Mayor Jeff Daugherty said no one knew more about the city's past than McClenny.

"This city has lost a piece of history," Daugherty said. "There were many times I would get with him and discuss the city's past so I could get a better idea of what to do in the future."

"You have to know where you've been to know where you're going," the mayor added.

Daugherty said McClenny's death was personal as well.

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New road unveiled

A new street running perpendicular between the I-20 westbound feeder road and CR 472 was opened Monday as Mayor Jeff Daugherty and other city officials cut a ribbon officially opening the road that will eventually connect with Centennial Blvd. and CR 474. CR 472, which has been closed to through traffic for several months during the construction is now open.

Photo by Susan Duncan

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Jeff D. Daugherty Robin K. Daugherty

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Gary Borders
Capital
Highlights



It's an honor to take over writing "Capital Highlights" from two capable predecessors, Chris Cobler and Ed Sterling. They are tough acts to follow, but I'll do my best.

Chris has accepted another challenge, so Mike Hodges, executive director of the Texas Press Association, asked if I wanted to take on this task. I echo what Chris wrote in his first piece last July. The need for providing reliable and accurate information is greater than ever, especially as we continue to fight a pandemic that reaches into all corners of Texas and has upended our lives. If there is a Texas topic you think I should cover, please email me at gborders@texaspress.com.

Capital Highlights appears in more than 100 newspapers across the state. My focus is searching through the activities of state agencies, the Legislature and elsewhere for news that affects the readers of these newspapers. Your input is welcomed and appreciated.

Vaccine pace picks up slowly

The rate of COVID-19 vaccine administration is slowly increasing in Texas as we enter the second full month of shots going into arms. The Texas Department of State Health Services last weekend reported that about 1.6 million Texans — overwhelmingly frontline health workers, people over 65 or those with chronic health conditions — have received the first dose. Just over 400,000 are fully vaccinated. The state has received 3.16 million doses so far; nearly half remain to be administered. Texas ranks near the bottom in per-capita doses administered when compared to other states, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Department of Defense sent 80 medical military personnel last week to Abilene, Lufkin and Eagle Pass to assist in administering the vaccine in those cities. "The medical personnel deployed to our communities will provide much-needed support to our front-line healthcare workers," Gov. Greg Abbott said in a news release.

The state surpassed two million COVID-19 cases with nearly 36,000 fatalities as January came to a close. A total of 11,473 COVID-19 patients are in Texas hospitals as of Jan. 31, according to TDSHS. Across the state, there are only 753 intensive-care beds available. Even as vaccines are being administered, health officials across the state are urging Texans to wear masks and follow other safety protocols that have been in place since last March.

Grants available for special needs students affected by COVID-19 Abbott and the Texas Education Agency late last week announced the rollout of a grant program for eligible families of children with "significant cognitive disabilities and complex educational needs." The \$1,500 grants can be used to purchase educational resources and services through the TEA's supplemental special education services program.

A total of \$30 million was allocated, which could provide help for up to 20,000 students. To find out if your child is eligible, email the agency at ssesinfor@tea.texas.gov or call 855-772-3839.

Texas Lyceum poll measures pandemic's impact

The Texas Lyceum, a nonpartisan group of movers and shakers based in Austin, released its annual survey last week. It painted a fairly negative picture of the state's economy as a result of the pandemic and illustrated the widespread impact of the coronavirus on Texas. Responding to the pandemic is the most important issue facing the state, according to 37 percent of respondents. Political corruption and leadership ran a distant second at 10 percent.

The 2021 poll presented the most negative views of the state's and nation's economies since the Great Recession of 2008. Additionally, four in five respondents said they knew someone who had contracted COVID-19, while half knew someone who had died from it. On the somewhat brighter side, nearly three-fourths were either "very hopeful" or "somewhat hopeful" that the nation would get the pandemic under control in the next six months. But just 45 percent of Texans say they plan to get vaccinated when it becomes available to them.

Score one for the chiropractors

In a decade-long battle between the Texas Medical Association and the group that represents the state's chiropractors, the Texas Supreme Court ruled late last week that the lawful scope of practice for chiropractors includes nerves and related testing as it pertains to the musculoskeletal system. TMA originally sued the Texas Board of Chiropractor Examiners in 2011, arguing that such diagnoses exceeded what chiropractors were licensed to do.

In a split decision, the high court overturned a ruling from the Austin Court of Appeals that had sided with TMA. Matt Webb, attorney for the chiropractic board, said in an email: "Today's decision was not only legally sound but a victory for common sense and patient care. A different outcome could have drastically curtailed access to critical chiropractic care for patients across the State of Texas."

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park.
Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Shot-in-the-arm...

As much as I enjoy wearing sweatpants to work on the couch rather than heading to the office, I am ready for life to get back to my typical abnormal. It would be a shot in the arm to go on adventures with my sweetie. So, a shot in the arm it is. Sunday at 9 a.m. Hubby and I wended our way through hundreds of traffic cones and four checkpoints to get our first vaccination for COVID. The second will come on Feb. 20.

The organization was amazing, the efficiency of everyone from first responders directing the hundreds of cars to the medical check-in and vaccinators was smooth as silk. I got the Pfizer shot in my left arm and yet it is my right arm that hurts...but that could be because I hit it while carrying my dirty clothes basket to the washer. Gracefulness is not one of my gifts.

The vaccination process was seamless. Despite the fact that I had a pink warning sticker attached to my shirt which required an extra 30 minutes in the post shot holding pen. With pre-existing conditions we were able to get signed up, but with a previous reaction to a drug I got to chill and watch the people sitting in 2s and 3s, socially distanced by family groups. Most had smiling eyes and appeared relieved they were finally able to do something. Anything, to protect themselves and those they love.

I watched as one nervous fella went to the EMT check station to make sure he wasn't having a reaction. I think it was nerves because after a brief check he was cleared. No one is a fan of needles. And frankly I feel just a touch of anxiety knowing that I am in what is basically a clinical trial of millions. But hey, we have to stop this COVID monster and vaccination is the way to at least slow down the mutating Beast.

I don't know how many times since last March I was told this is 'just the flu', or 'this will go away once the election is over', well folks neither statement was true, not remotely true. One friend asked me a couple of months ago if I knew of anyone who had died, as if people I didn't know weren't dying by the hundreds of thousands. And yes, I know personally MANY people who have died. There is no medicine for the pain of the families who have empty chairs at their tables.

My nurse practitioner daughter-in-law and her co-workers mask up with TWO masks, cover their hair, their scrubs, their shoes and care for the sickest of the sick. Straight from the hospital frontline I have seen her cry for those who have been lost. Listened as she told of having to call families with heartbreaking news.

Suzanne Bardwell



Today a lot of folks got a vaccination, a sticker and hope. Now let's work on some of the other fallout from COVID.

I pray we learn to be kinder after the horrors of 2020, and there were plenty of horrors to go around. I also pray that we learn to pay attention to science and experts. I pray that we have the grace to stop politicizing behaviors like mask wearing when others' lives are at stake. I pray we go back to caring enough about one another to quit screaming and stop and listen. I pray that we return to lives that matter, lives that we are called to...we all need a shot at making our world a kinder and more loving place. It is long past time to take our shot at doing just that.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

The Minimum Wage

One idea currently getting a lot of attention is increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. A wage floor is an artificial impediment to the smooth functioning of the labor market, but one with some justification. It's complicated.

In a country rich in natural capital, and human resources, the adoption of a minimum wage is a matter of choice. In making this decision, the US opted (beginning in 1938) not to be globally competitive in certain low-wage sectors and to build our economy around higher value-added industries. The vast majority of Americans concur with this approach, and the results speak

for themselves. The challenge is to get it right.

The proponents of a \$15 universal minimum wage, who are predominantly well-intentioned but misguided, often cite the notion of a "living wage." This concept has merit but ignores salient facts. Slightly over 2% of the workforce and only 1% of full-time workers are paid at or below the minimum wage.

Many of these employees are teenagers, retirees supplementing their incomes, or secondary earners.

For the economy to work properly, wages must be generally tethered to productivity. There are key sectors, such as hospitality, which could not support an increase of this magnitude. An unfortunate outcome of a \$15 minimum wage would be fewer jobs available for those that the

measure is designed to help. There are very real problems associated with the working poor, but more than doubling the minimum wage is not the solution.

Similarly, there are substantial variations in the industrial compositions, educational levels, and cost structures around the country. A \$15 minimum may well be appropriate in some areas, but not all. The Texas economy could not absorb an increase of that magnitude without disruptions.

Some level of minimum wage hike may well be warranted. It's been over a decade since the last adjustment. The US raised the federal minimum wage in 2007-09 from \$5.15 to \$7.25, which seemed to work well and was not an impediment to the recovery from the Great Recession.

One reasonable approach could be adjusting to the same level of purchasing power as in 2009 (about \$8.75). Periodic recalibration helps to assure that the underlying objective is maintained. Different areas of the country could continue to make adjustments compatible with their economic structures and priorities.

Finally, as noted, there are valid reasons to reassess the minimum wage, but a stimulus bill is not the proper vehicle. Minimum wage changes are a poor stimulus mechanism. They are diluted and occur only gradually.

The purpose of a stimulus package is to immediately juice the economy, and funds should go to individuals and firms that will quickly spend them. As I said, it's complicated.

Stay safe!

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Texas our Texas: Let's just stay put

One might think that after more than six decades on this big, blue planet my cynicism would have provided me with a shell against all kinds of nonsense, especially the type of tripe tossed about from politicians.

Yet some things continue to make me shake my head and say "Wait, what?"

Consider the bill Rep. Kyle Biedermann (R-Fredericksburg), has filed with the Texas Legislature during its current session.

It's called the "Let Texas Vote" Act, which would, if he has his way, make Texas a separate nation once again, just as it was in 1836.

In fact, a group known as the Texas Nationalist Movement, has taken to cyberspace and provided more information via a recent email.

"The Let Texas Vote act would give Texans an opportunity to head to the polls in November of 2021 and start the process of reasserting our status as an independent nation," according to the email. "If the people vote in favor, the bill provides for the establishment of a committee to begin working on a transitional plan which would address all of the issues related to decoupling from the federal government."

Texas Nationalist Movement President Daniel Miller chimed in:

"This bill is simply to put the question to the people of Texas. Even if legislators don't personally support TEXIT (kind of like Brexit, don't you see) at a minimum, they should support your right to publicly debate and vote on the issue. Your representatives either believe that you are smart and responsible enough to make this decision, or they believe that they know what's best for you regardless of what you think. There is no middle ground."

Rep. Jeff Leach, R-Plano, wasn't amused with Biedermann's action and both men got into a recent Twitter spat.

"The federal government is out of control and doesn't represent the values of Texans," said Biedermann. "That is why I am committing to file legislation that will allow a referendum to give Texans a vote



for the state of Texas to reassert its status as an independent nation."

Leach labeled this legislation "a ridiculously outrageous waste of time. It's a joke and should be treated as such. Yes, I have concerns for our nation but I still believe in the promise of America and the vast majority of Texans do too!"

And there's more from Leach, saying the proposal appears to be the "most anti-American" bill he's seen in his four-plus terms in the Texas House. "It's a disgrace to the Lone Star State. (It's) the very definition of seditious, a true embarrassment. And you should be ashamed of yourself for filing it."

And one final note about Biedermann. He admitted to being part of the riotous mob that attempted to tear down our democracy at the Nation's Capitol on Jan. 6.

He said he "peacefully marched" with the thousands incited by the former president before the rioters tried to seize control of the Capitol.

"We came because we wanted to be heard, and we're sick and tired of what's been going on by the elite media and the elite politicians who continually ignore us," Biedermann told a talk radio host.

Um, OK. Anyway, back to his plans for seceding from the U.S., it remind-

ed me of the bumper stickers I see from time to time insisting that Texas "secede."

Now, I'm as much a Texan as Stephen F. Austin and can be overly dramatic in pointing out our state's virtues, but I would never think our beloved Texas should become a separate nation again.

This is one of those things that might sound worthy of a second thought on the surface, but once you dig – just a little – you'll discover how truly inane it is. For one thing, it's illegal, which is kind of important.

But let's play in Biedermann's world for a moment and say Texas does secede. Gone would be the 32 military bases in the state, gone would be the federal highway funds and federal assistance to schools, meaning, of course, there would be an immediate need for a standing army, navy and air force as well as a rather oppressive tax to pay for these things.

There would be no more federal courthouses, no more federal grants for local governments and no funding for 14 parks managed by the National Parks Service, including Big Bend National Park and Guadalupe Mountains National Park.

Oh, and let's don't forget the Johnson Space Center in Houston. It doesn't seem likely Uncle Sam would want it located in another country.

Any attempt at border security would be more chaotic than it is now.

Most countries, I suspect, would be a bit leery of a new Republic of Texas and it might take a while to recognize a country within an established country.

One can only hope there's enough sense among the state's lawmakers that this would shrivel on the vine. I would like to think so, but I've been wrong before. Five years ago I laughed at the possibility of a former TV reality show host winning the presidency.

In one breath, pillow talk was over

By Janet Mitchum

Rusty is out of town again and I'm going to take over the reins again. Not that I really enjoy this, but I feel like it's my duty to let you know that I'm not as bad as Rusty makes me out to be. I do get frustrated with him from time to time. Well, to be honest, I get frustrated with him most all of the time, but it's not my fault.

I sometimes wonder what it would be like to be married to someone normal. I talk to other women and they tell me about the kinds of conversations they have with their husbands, and I guess I get sort of jealous.

Oh, I have conversations with Rusty all the time, but I wouldn't call them stimulating. Those women tell about how they go to bed at night and they will be lying on their pillow facing their husbands discussing their day. They said they also talk about their fears, their dreams, their wishes, things like that.

Then there's Rusty. The other night I thought I'd try to engage Rusty in some conversation. (You women out there know how much men like to discuss their "feelings"). Of course, first I had to let him get settled down. Rusty is like the Tasmanian devil on caffeine.

It takes him quite a while to get situated. First, he jumps in bed, literally. Then he wiggles, flips the pillow, scratches, and yawns so big you'd think he'd turn himself inside out. Finally, he quiets down. This is an every night ritual.

"Are you through?" I asked. "Through with what?" he asked.



"Through making your nest," I replied.

"Yeah, I guess," he sighed.

"Good," I said. "Do you know what I'd like?"

It got really quiet for a moment, and then Rusty began to sing seductively.

"Heh, heh Baby, you know what I like."

"Great," I said, as I rolled my eyes. "I'm in bed with Jerry Lee Doofus. What I'd like," I continued, "is to talk."

"Talk?" he said. "In that case, I think I'm tired."

"Rusty," I warned.

"OK, OK," he sighed. "What do you want to talk about?"

"Whatever you want to talk about," I said.

"Awww, come on," he whined. "Don't do this to me."

"Rusty."

"OK, I give up. Let's see? I know. Let's talk about your breath."

"My breath? What about my breath?"

"Well," he said. "The last couple of nights, it's smelled kind of funny. Not bad, just funny; familiar, too. I've smelled that smell before."

"Oh," I said. "The other day I went to the dentist and the hygienist told me to start rinsing with Listerine before going to bed. It's supposed to be good for my gums."

"Listerine!" he exclaimed. "That's it. It makes your breath smell like Odie Dozier's dump."

"My breath reminds you of Odie Dozier's dump?"

"Not your whole breath," he said. "Just the Listerine part."

"I know I'm going to regret asking this," I said, "but why does the Listerine remind you of Odie Dozier's dump?"

"Well," he began. "Back behind Mr. Dozier's house was his burn pile. You know, where he burned his trash? Anywho, me and Coy..."

"Coy and I," I corrected him.

"No," he said. "I'm pretty sure it was just me and him. This was before I knew you."

"Go on," I sighed.

"Well, Mr. Dozier didn't burn his trash very often, so we'd go dig through it."

"What for?"

"You're kiddin', right?" he asked.

"No, I'm not kidding. Why would you dig through his trash?"

"To find stuff," he said. "Why else would you dig through somebody's trash?"

"I wouldn't know about stuff like that, but go on," I said.

"Well, we'd find bottles and jars and such to use as targets for our BB guns."

"What does this have to do with my breath?"

"I'm comin' to that," he said.

"Like I said, we'd get the bottles and jars and line 'em up on top of his trash pile and take turns shootin' at 'em."

"Wow," I said. "Sounds like loads of fun."

"Yeah," he said ignoring my sarcasm. "It was. Mayonnaise jars were the coolest. You see, they be lyin' out there in that hot sun and the mayonnaise that was left in the jar would start workin' and would build up pressure and when you'd hit it with a BB, it'd blow up and sound like a firecracker goin' off."

And talk about stink, Pee-yew! That's why I can't stand mayonnaise to this day."

"Fascinating," I sighed.

"Idn't though? Anywho, he always had a bunch of Listerine bottles and when we'd bust them, well, the air would start smellin' like your breath does now. Pretty good story, huh?"

he said.

"Riveting," I said.

"Hey, this is fun," said Rusty. "What do you want to talk about now?"

"That's OK," I said. "I think we've talked enough."

"I know," he said. "Did I ever tell you about the time I got my bubble gum stuck in my armpit hairs?"

I turned over and faced the other direction. "Good night Rusty," I said.

He snuggled up next to me and put his mouth next to my ear. "Good night, Odie," he said.

Please pray that I do not kill him. Although, I'm pretty sure I would be acquitted.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Spiritual relationship is essential

Dear Editor,

What does the future hold?

No one knows exactly the day or hour of any future event but God Almighty. What is evident from the signs around us is there could possibly be very few days remaining before God calls his believers to heaven.

For many, and maybe even you, might be feeling overwhelmed and life seemingly spinning out of control. You may not understand what is happening today or tomorrow, but eventually God will reveal why you are going through hardships. Do not have any fear for He is always with you. Know that you are never alone. God is with you, holding you, comforting you and most of all loving you no matter what.

I am writing to encourage you to develop a closer relationship with God through his son Jesus Christ. You or someone you know is probably going through a long, hard time. But, God is reaching out to give hope, answers, healing, and direction for the future.

All you need to do is open up your heart and mind and call on his name. No matter how your day is going God is with you every moment of the day. Jesus stated in John 16:33 that we will all go through tribulation and trials, but we should have courage because He has overcome the world. Let Him have all your worries and cares, for He is always thinking about and watching everything that concerns you. (1 Peter 5:7).

I encourage you to examine your life, give your burdens to the Lord and he will take care of you (Psalm 55:22). The joy of the Lord will be your strength (Nehemiah 8:10).

Let Jesus Christ, the son of God provide you with the peace of His presence. Trust in Him and give your life and heart over to Him. He loves you and wants a closer relationship especially as we enter into the unknown of the future.

God bless you.
Sincerely,

Edmund Kaup
Lindale

Smith County Appraisal Review board applications being accepted

District Judge Robert Wilson, administrative judge for the state district courts in Smith County, has announced he is accepting applications from Smith County citizens interested in service on the Appraisal Review Board for the Smith County Appraisal District.

An application should be submitted to Judge Wilson through the SCAD Taxpayer Liaison Officer no later than Monday, Feb. 28, 2021, to be considered.

The ARB is responsible, by statute, for reviewing the appraisal records and attending hearings where members will make determinations regarding taxpayer protests, motions to correct the appraisal roll and taxing entity changes.

The ARB is made up of Smith County citizens and has the power to make the necessary changes to solve property tax problems.

The ARB comprises seven regular board members and up to 15 auxiliary board members.

All members are appointed in the same manner, for the same staggered two-year term, and are subject to the same eligibility requirements.

Auxiliary board members may hear taxpayer protests before the ARB and serve on hearing panels.

Auxiliary board members are considered regular board members for all purposes related to the conduct of the hearings. However, they may not vote on any ARB final determination, may not be counted toward a quorum, and may not serve as chairman or secretary of the ARB.

Most protest hearings occur during the months of June and July. Hearings are conducted by panels of three members with periodic meetings of a quorum of the board. Typically, members will be needed to serve on a panel for three or four half-days per week during June and July. At other times of the year, board

meetings are scheduled as needed, approximately once a month.

Annual training is required for both new and returning ARB members. Workshops are sponsored by the State Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division and are held each year in the spring.

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OBITUARIES

NICKY CHARLES WOOD



Funeral services for Nicky Charles Wood, age 61, of Quinlan were held Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021 at the Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale with Bro. James Cowart officiating.

Interment was in the Lindale City Cemetery with services under the direction of Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home.

Nicky died Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021 in Dallas. He was born Jan. 24, 1960 in Tyler to Jesse Cecil and Doris (Hilburn) Wood.

Nicky grew up in Lindale and graduated from Lindale High School. He worked as a concrete contractor and was a member of Central Baptist Church. Nicky really enjoyed fishing and traveling.

He was preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents, Thomas and Maurine Hilburn and William and Ruth Wood.

Nicky is survived by his parents, J. C. and Doris Wood of Lindale; brothers, Randy and Staci Wood of Lindale, Greg and Cheryl Wood of Mineola and Brad and Marcie Wood of Alba; and by several aunts, uncles and cousins. Serving as pallbearers

were Dennis Bodiford, Daniel Straps, David Glasscock, Bruce Wood, David Bryan, and Bubba Isham.

BOBBY E. MCCLENNY



Funeral services for Bobby E. McClenny, age 86, of Lindale were held Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021 at the Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale with Bro. Ira Lynn officiating.

Interment will follow in the Lindale City Cemetery with services under the direction of Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale.

Bobby died Friday, Jan. 29, 2021 in Tyler. He was born in Smith County on April 22, 1934 to the late James Wilburn and Alpha Odena (Black) McClenny and was a lifelong resident of Lindale.

Bobby graduated from Lindale High School. He continued his education and received his BBA from Texas Eastern University Tyler (later the University of Texas at Tyler) and received his MBA Degree from UT Tyler.

Not only did he enjoy learning, he also taught classes at a business school in Tyler. He was a me-

ticulous accountant and office manager for Bracken Oil Company until his retirement from the firm. He then started his own business, McClenny Business Services and continued his accounting practice.

Bobby and his wife, Mary Ann, were devout Christians. They attended and were active at the South Main Church of Christ in Lindale. Bobby was minister to the Lindale Church of Christ for many years and also preached at other Churches of Christ in the area when needed.

Bobby loved the Lord and lived his life accordingly. Bobby loved his family and was a dedicated husband, father and Papa. He always had time for family. He was from a large family and spent many hours recording and studying family history.

He wrote poetry and received several awards for his poems. He was an avid gardener and loved working outdoors in his garden and his yard.

Bobby loved Lindale. He took great pride in serving his community with excellence, and served on the City of Lindale City Council as Mayor for a number of years.

During that time, Bobby was instrumental in the annexations and extending the city of Lindale city limits to Interstate 20 and along the interstate to the front door of Hideaway, placing Lindale on the map and creating the economic engine for growth along

the Interstate that we see today.

Bobby received numerous awards including Citizen of the Year in Lindale. Bobby was part of numerous organizations both locally and in neighboring communities. He was very proud to have served on the East Texas Council of Governments, Smith County Historical Society, Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce, Lindale Rotary Club, garden clubs and many other organizations.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years Mary Ann McClenny; brothers, James McClenny and Chuck McClenny; and sister, Betty Hilburn.

Bobby is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Kent and Laura Sue McClenny of Lindale; daughters and sons-in-law, Jan & Carroll Anderson of Hideaway and Mary Beth and Mark Whitaker of Tyler; brother and sister-in-law, Eugene and Joyce McClenny of Lindale; sisters and brothers-in-law, Sara and Dan Hicks of Lindale, Eloise Cook of Lindale, Nita and Curtis Herring of Lindale, and Carolyn Brown of Lindale; sisters-in-law, Coralee McClenny of Lindale, Carolyn Philpot and husband, Jimmie of Lindale and Doris Allen and husband, Richard of Conroe; 9 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Pallbearers will be Kurt McClenny, Rusty Humphries, Russell Humphries, Colin Steel McCoy, Nathan James and Jimmy McGonagill.

Celebrations of Faith

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Lindale Assembly of God Church
 307 Eagle Spirit Dr, Lindale, TX 75771
 903-882-6179

BAPTIST
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
 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

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 18475 FM 1804 Lindale, TX 75771
 713-254-3598

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Friday, Jan. 22, 2021

Officer Fortunus responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a fraud at 500 block Circle Dr, report taken. Officer Gillham responded to a violation of protection order at 100 block Ballard Dr, report taken. Officer Fortunus responded to a fraud at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Sgt Flores and Officer Wedgeworth responded to a business alarm at 3300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Flores and Officers Allen and Wedgeworth responded to an assist smith co at 16200 block Circle Dr, settled at scene. Sgt Flores and Officers Gillham and Wedgeworth responded to an assist other agency at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Gillham, Allen and Wedgeworth responded to a welfare concern at 300 block N Henry St, settled at scene. Officers Wedgeworth, Allen and Gillham responded to a possession of drug paraphernalia at 700 block E Hubbard, Report taken. Officer Wedgeworth responded to a suspicious vehicle at 1400 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021

Officer Trombley responded to a motorist assist at 2100 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 100 Liberty Crossing, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 500 block N College St, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officers Leevey and Trombley responded to an assist smith co, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officers Trombley and Leevey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officer Shurley responded to a theft at 75 block Miranda Lambert Way, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officer Capps responded to a suspicious circumstance at 500 block Sunset Dr, unfounded. Sgt Houghton and Officers Capps and Shurley responded to a suspicious vehicle at 400 block Waters St, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officers Capps and Shurley responded to a loud noise disturbance at 15200 block Country Acres Dr, settled at scene. Officers Shurley and Capps responded to a loud noise disturbance at 300 block Molly Ln, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to a suspicious vehicle at 900 block E Hubbard St, settled at scene.

Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021

Sgt Houghton and Officers Trombley and Leevey responded to



an accident at 1500 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 100 block W Hubbard St, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officer Trombley responded to a burglary of a motor vehicle at 200 block Margaret St, report taken. Officer Capps responded to a suspicious vehicle at 100 block N College St, settled at scene.

Monday, Jan. 25, 2021

Officer Trombley responded to an animal complaint at 1100 S Boyd St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a burglary of a motor vehicle at 300 block Arlene St, report taken. Officers Trombley and Leevey responded to a disturbance at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a theft of service at 400 block Eagle Spirit Dr, report taken. Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 500 block Mount Sylvan St, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 1400 block Wood Springs Rd, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 400 block Hamrick St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a welfare concern at 800 block E South St, settled at scene. Officers Capps and Shurley responded to an assist smith co at 19000 block FM 1804, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton and Officers Capps and Shurley responded to a welfare concern at the 800 block N Main St, unfounded. Officers Capps and Shurley responded to a business alarm at 500 block S Main St, false alarm.

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021

Cpt Chambers and Officers Leevey and Trombley responded to a

disturbance at 100 block Hudson St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to an assist other agency at 556 E I-20, settled at scene. Officers Leevey and Trombley responded to a suspicious circumstance at 554 E I-20, settled at scene. Cpt Chambers, Sgt Houghton and Officer Leevey responded to an accident at 800 block S Main St, report taken. Sgt Houghton and Officer Leevey responded to a theft at 100 block E Hubbard St, report taken. Sgt Houghton responded to a welfare concern at 14700 block CR 474, settled at scene. Officer Shurley responded to an accident at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Sgt Houghton and Officer Shurley responded to a disturbance at 1200 block Brad Cir, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton responded to a suspicious vehicle at 1600 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to a business alarm at 2800 block S Main St, false alarm. Cpt Chambers, and Officers Shurley, Capps, Ramsey and Fortunus responded to a warrant service at 17800 block N Main St, arrest made.

Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2021

Cpt Chambers, Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Ramsey and Fortunus responded to a criminal mischief at 200 block Margaret St, arrest made. Sgt Flores responded to an assist other agency at 100 block Hideaway Ln Central, report taken. Officers Allen, Wedgeworth and Gillham responded to a driver under the influence at 14200 block CR 474, arrest made. Officers Gillham and Wedgeworth responded to an accident at 554 E I-20, report taken.

Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021

Chief Somes, Cpt Chambers and Officers Ramsey and Fortunus responded to an assist other agency at 18600 block CR 4116, settled at scene. Chief Somes, Cpt Chambers and Officers Ramsey and Fortunus responded to a suspicious circumstance at 1500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Flores and Officers Fortunus and Philpot responded to a suspicious circumstance at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a public service at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Fortunus responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officers Wedgeworth and Gillham responded to an accident at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Officers Allen and Wedgeworth responded to a business alarm at 2500 block S Main St, false alarm. Officers Allen and Wedgeworth responded to an animal complaint at 200 block Bonnie St, settled at scene. Officers Gillham, Allen and Wedgeworth responded to a welfare concern at 200 block Charles Dr, settled at scene.

Eagles dump Chapel Hill in key district match

With Walter Smith knocking down 21 points and Colton Taylor adding 14, the Lindale High School boy's basketball team upended No. 20 Chapel Hill, 58-47, this past Friday in the LHS gym to draw to within a half-game of the District 16-4A Bulldogs.

The Eagles, 7-1 in district and 17-5 on the season, jumped out to an 11-2 margin in the first quarter and never looked back.

With the win, the Eagles ended Chapel Hill's 10 game winning streak and set up an interesting chase in the second half of the district season.

Jaymond Jackson added 10 to the Eagles' total.

On Jan. 22, the Eagles traveled to Kilgore and clipped the Bulldogs, 32-27 to open up the second half of league play on a winning note.

Some questionable calls limited Jackson's play in the middle, forcing Head Coach Chris Grotemat to keep his burly post player on the bench for a good portion of the game.

In addition to some shaky officiating, the Eagles had to deal with some oddities from the scoring table as well. Leading 11-5 midway through the second period, the Eagles' Colby Wood connected on two free throws (via a technical foul) but the scorekeeper added two points to the Bulldogs total after recording

Wood's two points.

This odd game entered the fourth period with Lindale trailing 18-17, but Colton Taylor, who scored a game-high 13, scored six points to give the Eagles a 23-20 lead with four minutes left. Walter Smith's clutch three-pointer provided some additional separation.

With just under a minute left, Wood hit Smith on a backdoor cut and Lindale had some more breathing room.

"I think when we look back on this season we'll look at this one as a real turning point," said Grotemat. "Despite not scoring, Taegan Terry had two big assists and had his best effort of the year on defense."

With wins over Spring Hill and Cumberland, the Eagles finished the first round of 16-4A action with a 5-1 record.

LINDALE 43,
SPRING HILL 28

A trip to Longview on Jan. 15 resulted in another Eagle win, as Jaymond Jackson controlled the middle and Colton Taylor and Colby Wood attacked the hoop on the offensive end.

Lindale's defense played a big role in the win, allowing just two points to the Panthers courtesy of free throws late in the period.

Ryder Johnson drilled a three-pointer at the first half buzzer

to lift the Eagles to a 25-10 lead.

"We struggled a bit after half-time to maintain the same level of defense focus," Grotemat said. "Credit the Spring Hill coaches and players for adjusting and knocking down some timely shots."

The Eagles continued to play stingy defense in the third period and scored enough points in the quarter to maintain their advantage.

Walter Smith's early three-pointer en route to 10 points in the period helped solidify the Eagles' offense. Lindale was a bit sketchy at the foul line, however, hitting just 7 of 14 attempts.

"We left some points at the foul line," Grotemat said. "Those are some of the things we have to clean up."

The coach was more than pleased with the effort shown on the defensive end.

"The boys have done a remarkable job of prioritizing their performance on the defensive end and holding themselves, and each other, accountable," said Grotemat. We are defending at a level that gives us a chance to win every time we take the floor and I am so pleased with the level of buy-in from our team."

LINDALE 56,
CUMBERLAND 36

The Eagles traveled to Tyler on Jan. 19 to take on the Cumberland Knights in the final game of the first

half of District 16-4A action.

Facing a man-to-man defense, the Eagles used buckets from Taegan Terry, Jaymond Jackson and Ryder Johnson to gain some quick momentum.

Walter Smith added five points in the quarter as the Eagles constructed a 12-8 lead.

"Our team was much stronger in the second period," Grotemat said. "We passed more and dribbled less. Our off the ball screening and cutting was very solid."

An 18-8 run in the second period enabled the Eagles to build a 30-16 lead at the half. Cumberland managed to crawl back in the game in the third period, the Eagles found another gear in the fourth period to put the game away.

Jackson's presence in the middle was a big factor in the win, Grotemat said.

"I am particularly proud of the composure he showed," the coach said. "He stayed poised and just powered through, the epitome of class and competitive character."

Lady Eagles clip Chapel Hill at buzzer

Lindale's Maggie Spearman rebounded a missed free throw and scored the winning basket as time ran out to lift the Lady Eagles to a 38-36 District 16-4A road victory over Chapel Hill this past Friday (Jan. 29).

Spearman's heroics came as three Chapel Hill players contested the Shelbi Steen missed free throw.

"Hats off to Chapel Hill," said Lindale Head Coach Daniel Devisscher. "It was a fight to the very end."

The win, which improved the No. 18-ranked Lady Eagles' record to 20-4 and 9-1 in district, kept the Lady Eagles in a tie for the district lead with Bullard.

Lindale Junior High girls win two from Grace

The Lindale Junior High School Lady Eagles basketball teams played three games with Grace Middle School on Thursday (Jan. 28) in Tyler and won two of the three contests.

The 7th grade B team routed Grace, 27-3, the 7th grade A team scored a 24-21 win and the 8th grade A team fell, 30-18.

For the 7th grade A team, Kirby Kleam, Abigail Kelley and Kaniya Pierce were leading scorers while Abigail Kelley was the leading rebounder. Mayzie Piccoli led the team in assists

and Alena Garza and Kirby Kleam were leaders in steals.

Alyssia Romero led the 7th grade A team in scoring, while Abigail Lee led in rebounding, Macy Luster led in assists and Menah Harley led the team in steals.

For the 8th grade A team, Gaby Saboia was the leading scorer, while Haylee Rodriguez was the team leader in rebounds. Gaby Saboia also was the leader in assists and steals, while Bre Taylor won the Hustle Award.

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Lindale residents indicted by Smith County Grand Jury

Two Lindale residents have been indicted by a Smith County Grand Jury during the panel's recent session, said Grand Jury Co-ordinator Marieliza Martinez.

Phillip Few, 56, of Lindale was indicted on Dec. 10 2020 for two counts of theft. He was

arrested on Oct. 25, 2020.

Ronnie Gilbert, 62 of Lindale, was indicted on Dec. 17, 2020 for two counts of aggravated kidnapping and one count of aggravated sexual assault. He was arrested on Dec. 19, 2020.

FEMA announces \$2.5 billion in COVID funds for Texas

Officials with the Federal Emergency Management Agency have announced an additional \$2.5 billion has been approved for funding to the Texas Division of Emergency Management for Texas Department of State Health Services costs related to the COVID-19 mission.

The pandemic created an immediate threat to the health and safety of the general public requiring emergency response and protective measures throughout the state.

In response to the event, DSHS provided medical care and transport in support of hospitals, nursing homes and long-term health care facilities. Department

staff purchased and distributed commodities, such as personal protective equipment, medical supplies and ventilators.

Grants for emergency protective measures are funded through FEMA's Public Assistance Grant program, which reimburses communities for actions taken in the immediate response and during recovery from a disaster.

Eligible applicants include states, federally recognized tribal governments, U.S. territories, local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations.

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on April 25, 2013, a certain Adjustable Rate Home Equity Conversion Deed of Trust ("Reverse Mortgage") was executed by VERA LOIS FRANKLIN, as mortgagor in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS BENEFICIARY, AS NOMINEE FOR LIBERTY HOME EQUITY SOLUTIONS, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as mortgagee and FIELDER F. NELMS, as trustee, and was recorded on May 3, 2013 under Clerk's Instrument Number 2013-20186 in the real property records of Smith, Texas.

WHEREAS, the Reverse Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the "Secretary") pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the beneficial interest in the Reverse Mortgage is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment dated November 27, 2018, and recorded on June 5, 2019, under Clerk's Instrument Number 20190100018014 in the real property records of Smith County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Reverse Mortgage in that the Mortgagors are now deceased; and

WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of March 2, 2021 is \$107,799.17; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Reverse Mortgage to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, recorded on October 15, 2007 in Dallas County under Clerk's File Number 20070369306, notice is hereby given that on March 2, 2021, at 10:00 AM local time or no later than three hours thereafter, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder:

TRACT ONE - 0.733 ACRES

ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT, LOT, OR PARCEL OF LAND, A PART OF THE MARIA GERTRUDES HENRIQUEZ SURVEY A-11, SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS, AND ALSO BEING A PART OF THAT CERTAIN CALLED 0.903 ACRE TRACT OF LAND (LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION OF 0.903 ACRES THAT WAS CONVEYED TO CLARA WOOLF ARNOLD, CT AL. BY BOUNDARY LINE AGREEMENT) DESCRIBED IN A TRANSFER OF LIEN FOR VERA L. FRANKLIN, DATED OCTOBER 11, 1996 THAT IS RECORDED IN VOLUME 3868, PAGE 407, AND SAID TRACT IS ALSO SHOWN AS A 0.818 ACRE TRACT IN AN AFFIDAVIT TO THE PUBLIC DATED JANUARY 7, 1997 THAT IS RECORDED IN VOLUME 3910, PAGE 40, AND BOTH INSTRUMENTS ARE RECORDED IN THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING MORE COMPLETELY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS TO WIT;

BEGINNING AT A 5/8 INCH IRON FOUND FOR CORNER AT THE N.W.C. OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED 0.903 ACRE TRACT AND 0.818 ACRE TRACT AND AT THE NORTHERLY S.W.C. OF THE RAYFORD DEAN MCKNIGHT CALLED 6.222 ACRE TRACT (VOLUME 1413, PAGE 293) AND IN THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE HIGHWAY NUMBER 135, WHICH IS SHOWN ACCORDING TO THE TEXAS STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT RIGHT OF WAY MAP (SHEET 3 AND 4 OF 11) (59.7 FEET FROM AND AT A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE CENTERLINE OF SAID HIGHWAY), FROM WHICH A FOUND CONCRETE RIGHT-OF-WAY MONUMENT (BROKEN) BEARS NORTH 04 DEGREES 10 MINUTES AND 56 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 187.72 FEET;

THENCE SOUTH 78 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 34 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE N.B.L. OF SAID 0.903 AND 0.818 ACRES AND THE NORTHERLY S.B.L. OF SAID 6.222 ACRES, FOR A DISTANCE OF 175.42 FEET, TO A 4 INCH METAL FENCE CORNER POST (LEANING) FOUND FOR CORNER AT THE N.E.C. OF SAID 0.903 AND 0.818 ACRES AND AT A REENRANT CORNER OF SAID 6.222 ACRES;

THENCE SOUTH 01 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 27 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE E.B.L. OF SAID 0.903 AND 0.818 ACRES AND THE EASTERLY W.B.L. OF SAID 6.222 ACRES, FOR A DISTANCE OF 188.89 FEET, TO A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD WITH AN ORANGE CAP STAMPED "RPLS 4021" SET FOR CORNER AT THE S.E.C. OF SAID 0.818 ACRES AND ON THE BOUNDARY LINE AGREEMENT BETWEEN VERA LOIS FRANKLIN AND CLARA WOOLF ARNOLD, ET AL., DATED OCTOBER 10, 1996 (VOLUME 3868, PAGE 391);

THENCE NORTH 86 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 03 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE S.B.L. OF SAID 0.818 ACRES AND ALONG SAID BOUNDARY LINE ,AGREEMENT, FOR A DISTANCE OF 106.77 FEET, TO A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD WITH AN ORANGE CAP STAMPED "RPLS 4021" SET FOR CORNER;

THENCE ACROSS SAID 0.903 ACRES AND SAID 0.818 ACRES AS FOLLOWS:

NORTH 04 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 56 SECONDS EAST, FOR A DISTANCE OF 49.85 FEET, TO A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD WITH AN ORANGE CAP STAMPED "RPLS 4021" SET FOR CORNER;

NORTH 86 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 03 SECONDS WEST, FOR A DISTANCE OF 75.98 FEET, TO A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD WITH AN ORANGE CAP STAMPED "RPLS 4021" SET FOR CORNER IN THE W.B.L. OF SAID 0.903 AND 0.818 ACRES AND IN THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID HIGHWAY. (59.6 FEET FROM AND AT A RIGHT ANGLE TO THE CENTERLINE OF SAID HIGHWAY);

THENCE NORTH 04 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 56 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE W.B.L. OF SAID 0.903 AND 0.818 ACRES, AND ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, FOR A DISTANCE OF 162.66 FEET, TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 0.733 ACRES.

Commonly known as: 18411 SH 135, ARP, TX 75750.

The sale will be held in Smith County, Texas at the following location: 25 FEET AT OR NEAR AND INCLUDING THE OUTSIDE STEPS AND THE MAIN HALL OF THE WEST ENTRANCE OF THE SMITH COUNTY COURTHOUSE OR AS DESIGNATED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE or as designated by the County Commissioners Court.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will bid \$107,799.17.

There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his prorated share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling \$10,779.92 in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of \$10,779.92 must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of \$500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extension of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD, before public auction of the property is completed.

The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be paid in full prior the scheduled sale is \$107,799.17, plus all other amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, advertising costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices and for the Foreclosure Commissioner's attendance at the sale, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure Commissioner, and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to reinstatement.

Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below.

Date: February 1, 2021

L. Keller Mackie
Foreclosure Commissioner
Mackie Wolf Zientz & Mann, P.C.
Parkway Office Center, Suite 900
14160 Dallas Parkway
Dallas, TX 75254
(214) 635-2650
(214) 635-2686 Fax



LEGAL

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Bernice Griffin, Deceased, were issued to Debra Griffin Martin, on January 27, 2020, in Cause 45123P, County Court, Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to Debra Griffin Martin c/o Richard Patteson, Attorney, 218 N. Broadway, Ste.304, Tyler, Texas 75702 within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JULIA A. HENSON, Deceased, were issued on January 27, 2021, in Cause No. 45111P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: Cathy K. Hommel.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Michael C. Coker Attorney at Law
4540 Kinsey Drive
Tyler, Texas 75703

DATED the 1st day of February, 2021.

Michael C. Coker
Attorney for Cathy K. Hommel
State Bar No.: 04527100
4540 Kinsey Drive
Tyler, Texas 75703
Telephone: (903) 581-1196
Facsimile: (903) 581-1407
E-mail: mickecoker@adams-coker.com

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Linda Mayhugh, Administrator

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EEOC/M/F/D/V

Divide & Conquer Living Estate Sale for Agnes & Arnold Ables

Thurs., Feb. 4 ~ 7:00-5:30 Fri., Feb. 5 ~ 8:00-5:30
Sat., Feb. 6 ~ 8:00-2:00

405 Woodland Hills Dr., Tyler, TX 75701

Off and inside SSW Loop 323, turn north onto Old Bullard Road.
Travel north 2 blocks. Turn left onto Woodland Hills.

This 2544 ft. home is for sale; contents/ consignments must go: fabulous large dining table, 2 leaves, & 12 leather seat armchairs; another dining table/ chairs; china cab.; orig. art by Italian cabinets (one opens to be a bar); original oil by John A. Ruthven; Provincial secretary; red "Gone with the Wind" lamp; sofa; love seat; wing back chair; end tables & match. coffee table; 4 wall units; entertainment center; antiq. settee; antiq. corner chair; large round end tables; lamps; great rug selections; antiq. wall shelves; plant stand; artif. plants; antiq. desk; framed art; consigned jewelry; provincial full bed & match. nightstand; twin headboard; full headboard; recliners; clothes for men & women; shoes; Eng. Johnson Bros. stoneware; German crystal; globe; children's toys; "princess" dresses; baby carrier; linens; pillows; kitchen items; luggage; wreaths; holiday items; Nat. Amer. nativity; Christmas lights; ice skates; oil lamp; few yard tools; file cab.; hand tools; patio furn.; shepherd hooks; planters; garden supplies; Coleman lantern & stove; golf clubs; soooooo much more!
Pictures: DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com

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ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

City of Lindale will receive bids for Repainting of Elevated Water Towers & Ground Storage Tank #5 until 2:00 p.m., on February 12, 2021, at City Hall, 105 Ballard Drive, Lindale, Texas 75771, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals received after that time and date will not be accepted.

Bids are invited upon the several items and quantities of work as follows: Bids are invited upon the several items and quantities of work as follows: The work to be performed under this contract consists of furnishing all labor, tools, equipment, materials, superintendence, insurance, and any other requisite necessary for:

- a. Blast cleaning (SSPC-SP10) and repainting of the interior of the existing 250,000-gallon elevated water tower adjacent to Lindale High School (the High School Tower).
- b. Blast cleaning (SSPC-SP1) and repainting of the exterior of the existing 50,000 gallon, multi-legged, "Tin Man" elevated water tower in downtown Lindale (the Downtown Tower).
- c. Blast cleaning (SSPC-SP10) and repainting of the interior and exterior of the existing 250,000-gallon ground storage tank adjacent to the Wal-Mart parking lot (GST #5).

The above listed items of work shall include but not be limited to:

- 1. Coordinate the draining of said tanks/towers with City of Lindale personnel;
- 2. Performing blast cleaning as required to address rusting and existing paint system failures;
- 3. Repair pits and voids;
- 4. Re-painting of the ground storage tank and the two towers with the appropriate paint systems.

All quantities are estimated and subject to change. Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are on file at the office of The C.T. Brannon Corporation.

Bid Documents are available at no cost on Dropbox. Email request to Debbie at spears@brannoncorp.com.

A cashier's check payable to the order of the City of Lindale, in the amount of five percent (5%) of bid, or, Bid Bond issued by a surety licensed to do business in Texas in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid shall be submitted with each bid.

The City of Lindale reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

In order to assure that all potential bidders receive any corrections or addendums to the specifications, an official "Bidder's List" will be maintained in the Engineer's office for the project. Any notices of changes in the specifications will be sent to those on the "Bidder's List" and the Engineer will not be held responsible for those not on the list.



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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, THAT:

The City of Lindale, Texas proposes to institute voluntary annexation proceedings to enlarge and extend the boundary limits of said city to include the following described territory, to-wit:

All that certain lot, tract or parcel of land located within the D. Savage Survey, Abstract No. 901 and the E. Dillard Survey, Abstract No. 325 of Smith County, Texas, being all of a called 78.447 acre tract as described in a deed from Frank M, Christian and wife, Marilyn L. Christian to Roger Averitt and wife, Beth Averitt, dated April 29, 1992 and recorded in Volume 3228, Page 760 of the Deed Records of Smith County, Texas, save and except a 1.00 acre tract, described as Tract 2 in the document, and this 77.12 acre tract being more fully described as follows:

Located at 15497 County Road 431 Lindale, Smith County, Texas.

A public hearing will be held by and before the City Council of the City of Lindale Texas on the 16th day of February 2021 at 6 o'clock pm in a virtual meeting hosted by the City of Lindale, for all persons interested in the above proposed annexation. Maps and full legal description are available by request from Lindale City Hall. At said time and place all such persons shall have the right to appear and be heard. Of all said matters and things, all persons interested in the things and matters herein mentioned, will take notice.

Members of the Public may join the meeting live from the following link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/254984453>

Members of the Public may also join by phone by calling +1 (571) 317-3122 and use Access Code 254984453.



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January 31, 2021**

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Lindale Eagles dominate All-District 9-4A football team

Continued from Page 1

Offensive Linemen: Dewayne Lewis, senior, Palestine; Moses Medrano, senior, Lindale; Will Hutchens, sophomore, Lindale; Stevie Montgomery, senior, Mabank; Josh Kennel, senior, Kilgore; Jarrett Henry, junior, Palestine; Cayden Croley, senior, Kilgore; Trey Hudson, senior, Chapel Hill.

Kicker: Landon Love, senior, Lindale

Kick Returners: Airik Williams, senior, Lindale; Donovan Adkins, senior, Kilgore

Utility Players: Max Richardson, senior, Chapel Hill; Jeremy Walker, junior Palestine; Tobaius Jackson, junior, Henderson; Landry Johnson, senior, Mabank; Nathan Sims, senior, Athens

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

Defensive Linemen: Dewaylon Lewis, senior, Palestine; Jaret Allen, senior, Lindale; Kaden Kenney, senior, Kilgore; DeVein Fields, junior, Henderson; Jaymond Jackson, senior, Lindale; Kaizen Burrows, junior, Mabank; Brantly Propes, senior, Kilgore

Inside Linebackers: Brian Brown, senior, Kilgore; Eli Caruthers, senior, Kilgore; Dalton, Modisette, senior, Henderson; Colton Widemon, junior, Lindale

Outside Linebackers: J.K. Davis, junior, Chapel Hill; Daelon Williams, senior, Palestine; Jacob Taylor, senior, Henderson

Safeties: Solomon Macfoy, junior, Chapel Hill; Corey Sanders, senior, Lindale; Marcalien Caraway, junior, Kilgore; David Rider, junior, Kilgore

Cornerbacks: Jahade Adams, senior, Chapel Hill; Tray Hull, junior, Athens; Donovan Adkins, senior, Kilgore

Punter: Sam Peterson, junior, Lindale

Punt Returner: Donovan Adkins, senior, Kilgore

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Defensive Line: Dominique Milton, senior, Palestine; Mason Mumphrey, senior, Chapel Hill; Omarr Webber, junior, Lindale; Derek Killingsworth, senior, Athens; Alex Chaves, junior, Kilgore; Peyton Christian, sophomore, Kilgore; Hunter Lewis, Kilgore; Christian King, sophomore, Lindale

Inside Linebackers: Kemon Ross, senior, Palestine; Caleb Goforth, junior, Mabank; Brack Dyer, junior, Chapel Hill; Connor Clay, senior, Athens

Outside Linebackers: Shedrick Dudley, sophomore, Palestine; Drew Horn, senior, Athens; Chris Ervin, junior, Kilgore

Cornerbacks: Bam Ford, senior, Chapel Hill; Charles Simpson, junior, Henderson; D.J. Walton, senior, Lindale; Dalton Smith, senior, Kilgore

Punter: Cade Phippen, senior, Kilgore; Ty Arroyo, sophomore, Athens

Punt Returner: Airik Williams, senior, Lindale

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Quarterback: Sam Peterson, junior, Lindale; Ty Arroyo, sophomore, Athens

Running Backs: Marcus Pruitt, senior, Mabank; D'Cameron Walker, senior, Henderson

Fullbacks: Marion Smith, junior, Kilgore

Wide Receivers: Solomon Macfoy, junior, Chapel Hill; Tawalan Cook, senior, Palestine; Devin

Phillips, junior, Henderson; Evan Alford, junior, Lindale; Cade Phippen, senior, Kilgore; Jacob Weick, junior, Kilgore; Daniel Franke, senior, Lindale

Offensive Linemen: J.D. Reazin, senior, Chapel Hill; Kaleb Hagens, junior, Palestine; Kooper Hand, senior, Henderson; Trey Mazratian, sophomore, Lindale; Raule Carrasco, sophomore, Mabank; Christian Estrella, senior, Kilgore; Devin Coleman, senior, Kilgore; Francisco Morales, senior, Kilgore; Keviyan Huddleston, sophomore, Chapel Hill; Mason Mitchell, junior, Palestine

Kick Returners: Taj Shawn Wilson, sophomore, Palestine; Jacob Seekford, junior, Lindale

Former Mayor McClenny passes away at 86

Continued from Page 1

“He was a good friend and he represented this city wonderfully over the years,” he said.

McClenny and his late wife Mary Ann were faithful members of the Lindale Garden Club while always being interested in the direction his city was headed.

His was a familiar face at meetings concerning road projects on F.M. 16, Loop 49 and how the building of the loop affected traffic in downtown Lindale.

In 2014, officials with the Texas Department of Transportation held a public hearing at Lindale High School on the Lindale Relief

Route, which eventually connected Loop 49 and U.S. 69 north.

Landowners along the loop’s right of way spoke about the plan as did McClenny.

“There will be a lot of people who will have problems associated with this,” he said, referring to landowners who would be losing part of their property. “And I have

sympathy for those whose property will be affected. But this is something that we need.

“It’s time to get on with it and get it done.”

LNT publisher elected president of Texas Press Assoc.

Continued from Page 1

Daily News and Longview Morning Journal, now the Longview News-Journal.

After several years on the sports staff, Bardwell moved to the news department, where after breaking several news stories, he was promoted to East Texas Editor, a position covering 12 counties. Bardwell was recognized by the Associated Press for breaking numerous national stories, including the New Year’s Eve fatal airplane crash of teen idol, singer Ricky Nelson in Northeast Texas and exposing the National Weather Service’s flawed billion dollar nationwide NEXRAD radar system which left swaths of East Texas unprotected. Bardwell’s reporting resulted in a Congressional investigation and revamp of the program. He also covered the kidnapping and murder of three East Texas teens by Jerry “the Animal” McFadden, as well as his violent escape and subsequent recapture and trial following the biggest manhunt in Texas History at that time. His work has served as a source for documentaries over the event.

Bardwell was awarded the Dallas Press Club’s highest award, The Katie, for his reporting in a multi-part, team investigative feature that exposed social and fiscal deficiencies on Longview’s

south side which led to many of the issues being addressed by city government.

After 10 years at the Longview News-Journal, Bardwell and his wife Suzanne began East Texas Sports Magazine, a 12-county weekly sports magazine. Westward Communications offered Bardwell the publisher’s job at the Gladewater Mirror and Big Sandy & Hawkins Journal, as well as managing the Westward East Texas regional printing plant. Over the next 20 years Bardwell was named publisher of several other Westward community newspapers in Lindale, Overton, Grand Saline and Edgewood. When Westward Communications purchased the Longview News-Journal and Marshall News Messenger, Bardwell returned to the daily newspaper as city editor.

When Westward Communications sold its holdings, Bardwell and his wife founded Bardwell INK, LLC in 2012, the parent company of the Gladewater Mirror, the Lindale News & Times and the White Oak Independent. The Bardwells have won numerous TPA and NETPA awards annually for news, column, feature and editorial writing, page design and advertising design, page design and community service.

The North & East Texas Press Association honored Bardwell with its highest awards, the 2000

Sam Holloway award which recognizes journalists who have upheld high standards of journalistic integrity and service to the community and the 2004 Tom Mooney Friend of Newspapers award. Bardwell was elected president of NETPA twice, in 1998 and 2007. He has served on the Texas Press Association Board of Directors for a cumulative 20 years. He and Suzanne are both active on TPA’s Legislative Action Committee. Bardwell will represent Texas at the National Newspaper Association’s convention in September.

Bardwell served many years on the Gregg County Crime Stoppers Board including a stint as president. He also served on the Upshur County Child Protective Services Board and currently serves on the Gladewater Police Advisory Board. He has served as a board member on the Hunt County Humane Association and on the Gregg County Humane Society Board. Bardwell currently serves as president of the Gladewater Economic Development Corporation, Gladewater Chamber of Commerce and is a Gladewater Round Up Rodeo Director.

The Bardwells have one son, Josh, who serves as the Texas A&M Forest Service Regional Fire Coordinator for East Texas and is married to Jennifer Bardwell, a Nurse Practitioner Hospitalist.

County elections commission hires new administrator

The Smith County Elections Commission has hired longtime Elections Administrator Denise Hernandez to oversee the county’s election office, said Public Information Officer Casey Murphy.



The appointment was made official on Tuesday, Jan. 26.

After interviewing two candidates and holding several meetings to discuss the issue, the Elections Commission agreed to hire Hernandez, of Athens, who has been the Henderson County Elections Administrator

since 2008.

“There is nothing more important as a foundation to our democracy and government – both locally and nationally – than the integrity of our elections,” Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran said. “For almost two years now, improving Elections Administration in Smith County has been a focus of the Commissioners Court.

“The hire of Denise Hernandez is just another step in that process. We are extremely pleased to add Ms. Hernandez, with her statewide reputation for excellence and her 13 years of experience in Elections Administration, to strengthen the Smith County Elections Office, and to build an elections team that

is second-to-none in the state,” Moran said.

On Dec. 8, 2020 the Smith County Commissioners Court created the new position of Chief Deputy Elections Administrator for Smith County.

Following that meeting, Judge Moran offered the newly-created position to Karen Nelson and she accepted, which created a vacancy in the Elections Administrator position.

Since that time, the Smith County Elections Commission has sought out candidates to fill the Elections Administrator vacancy.

The Elections Commission -- made up of Judge Moran, Tax Assessor-Collector Gary Barber, County Clerk Karen Phillips, Democratic Party Chair Michael Tolbert and Republican Party Chair David Stein – is established by statute and is tasked with the authority to hire an Elections Administrator.

The commission has met several times since December in an effort to vet candidates and fill the vacancy, which it did by a unanimous vote on January 26.

Hernandez is a graduate of Ebbert L. Furr High School in Houston. She began working for Henderson County in 1999, as a property tax bookkeeper. On Jan. 1, 2008, she became the county’s first Elections Administrator. Hernandez was instrumental in the creation of the office, she said.

She is a Certified Elections Registration Administrator, since 2019; and a Registered Election Official.

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Rotary Club accepting nominations for annual Merchant of the Year

The Lindale Rotary Club is requesting nominations for its “Merchant of the Year” Award to be presented at the Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce’s annual banquet and auction scheduled for April 12 at the Texas Rose Horse Park, officials announced.

Nominations will be accepted until 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 23. They should be mailed to Carroll R. Anderson, P.O. Box 1494, Lindale, Texas 75771-1494.

This award has been presented each year since 1991 to a Lindale area merchant who exemplifies the tenets of Rotary International set forth in the service organization’s “Four Way Test,” which states “Is it the Truth?” “Is it Fair to All Concerned?” “Will it Build Good Will and Better Friendships?” and “Will it be Beneficial to All Concerned?”

Nominees must have exhibited these “Four Way Test” standards in their day-to-day business operations. Some past winners have been business owners but one doesn’t need to be an owner to qualify for nomination. Previous nominees who haven’t been selected may be resubmitted in the same manner as a new nomination. Nominations should be in writing and explain why the individual is being nominated and how that individual practices the principles outlined in the Four Way Test.

The merchant does not have to be a Rotarian to win the award.

Past Merchant of the Year winners include:

- 2020 Dave Wilson
- 2019 – R.J. Collins
- 2018 – Nancy McIntyre
- 2017 – Octavio De La Cruz
- 2016 -- James Simmons
- 2015 – Medder’s Brake and Alignment
- 2014 – Eagle Pharmacy
- 2013 – Dr. Karen Gott
- 2012 -- Dale Kile, Medicine Chest Pharmacy
- 2011 – Zackie Gutzke
- 2010 – Carla Boyette
- 2009 – John Pittman
- 2008 – Amanda Froebe
- 2007 – Don Hines
- 2006 – Moe Snoubar
- 2005 – Debbie Wortmann
- 2004 – John Roberts
- 2003 – Delores Goodman
- 2002 – Scott Cassel
- 2001 – Polly Smith
- 2000 – Glenda Dintelman
- 1999 – Ruth Voyles
- 1998 – C. James Rutledge
- 1997 – Jim Withrow
- 1996 – Jean Compton
- 1995 – Larry Camp
- 1994 – Mark Hatfield
- 1993 – Wilbur Terry
- 1992 – Jerry Fleming
- 1991 – Perry Mac Hutchens

STUDENT BOARD

People of Our Community Who Make A Difference

ABBEY VAN ANDEL is the daughter of Dr. Rodney and Mindy Van Anandel. She is the president of the Key Club and a member of the National Honor Society. She is also a member of the varsity tennis team and the Model United Nations. Abbey believes she is impacting the world by raising funds to help create and support a physical therapy program for children with Down syndrome in Guatemala. She plans to attend Oklahoma State University and study applied exercise science. Abbey’s future goals include working as a physical therapist in sports medicine.

LINDSAY HAWKINS is the daughter of Bethany and Shawn Hawkins. She is the leadership officer for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, treasurer for the National Honor Society, and secretary and treasurer of the Key Club. Outside of school, Lindsay is a leader in the youth group at Grace Community Church. Lindsay believes she is impacting the world by setting a positive example for younger students and finding ways to serve her community. She plans to attend Texas A&M University and study biology. Lindsay’s future goals include working as an orthopedic surgeon.

VICTORIA RICKETTS is the daughter of Sabrina and William Ricketts. She is the manager for the drill team and a member of the pep squad, theatre department, and dance team. Victoria believes she is impacting the world by setting a positive example for younger children and by doing her part to slow the spread of COVID-19 through social distancing and following governmental directions. She plans to attend Tyler Junior College and study the performing arts. Victoria’s future goals include working as an actress and writer.

WAKE THRASHER-EVERS is the son of Amy Price and Clayton Evers. He is the vice president of the student council and a member of the National Honor Society, Future Farmers of America, speech and debate team, and the varsity basketball team. He is also a member of youth group at First United Methodist Church and an active volunteer with the David Powell Food Pantry. Wake believes he is impacting the world by using leadership and empathy to show love and compassion to all around him. He plans to attend The University of Texas at Arlington and study nursing. Wake’s future goals include working as an emergency room nurse and becoming a nurse practitioner.

Texas Bank and Trust celebrates the eleventh anniversary of the Lindale Student Board of Directors, recognizing outstanding seniors from Lindale High School who have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, and a commitment to community service. We are proud to introduce these members of the 2020-2021 Student Board. [View more profiles @ www.facebook.com/texasbankandtrust.com](https://www.facebook.com/texasbankandtrust.com)

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