

Lindale News & Times

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Place 5 City Councilman Gavin Rasco was sworn in by city of Lindale City Secretary Michelle Wiese during the council's regular meeting on May 17.

Photo by Terry Cannon

New council member sworn in; Runoff scheduled for June 25

Gavin Rasco was sworn in as the newest member of the Lindale City Council on Tuesday (May 17) after votes from the May 7 General Election were canvassed during the council's regular meeting at city hall. Rasco will serve as the council's Place 5 representative. A runoff date was also announced for the Place 4 seat, which was necessitated after Sallie Black, Owen Scott and Jeretta Nance Pate didn't receive a majority on Nov. 7. The runoff will be between Black and Scott on June 25, 2022. Black tallied 117 votes, Scott 99 and Pate, 98. In other action, the council:

- Appointed Ginger Sims to another term as Mayor Pro Tem;
- Approved an ordinance to annex 21 acres of land in the southwest quadrant of Interstate 20 and Harvey Road. No one spoke during a called public hearing on the matter prior to the council's unanimous vote.
- Approved the auditing firm of Gollob Morgan Peddy to perform the city's audit for fiscal year 2021-22. City Manager Carolyn Caldwell told the council the firm has been performing the city's audit for several years and recommended it continue to do so.
- Approved a contract with Muni-Services for Sales Tax Compliance Review Services;
- Approved plats at 16132 FM 16 W., in Lindale; 12648 CR 499 in Lindale;
- Approved \$8,000 for an emergency generator for Water Tower No. 1;

Valedictorian Lehmann, Salutatorian James lead LHS 2022 graduating class

Graduation ceremonies for Lindale High School's class of 2022 will get under way at 8 p.m. Friday, May 27 at Eagle Stadium.

There are 230 graduates in this year's class.

Lindale ISD officials have announced a required practice session will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday at Eagle Stadium. Graduates do not need a cap and gown for practice and participants may wear shorts. Boys must adhere to the district's hair code policy and must be clean shaven, officials said.

Friday night, graduates are to report to the Early Childhood Center by 7 p.m. and enter on the side door facing the stadium. All graduates will be checked for dress code adherence.

Stadium gates will open at 6:30 p.m. Dress code for boys for graduation include dark dress shoes and socks or dress boots, dark dress pants, a light colored shirt and tie. Jeans will not be allowed, nor will khakis or light-colored pants.

For girls, a dress or skirt and shirt with dress shoes or sandals is required. Shoes must be tan, brown, black, white, silver or pewter. Dress or skirt should not be too long or short.

Strapless dresses, flip flops or western boots are not allowed. Caps cannot be decorated.

Following the processional of the graduates, the ceremony will begin with the Pledge of Allegiance from LHS Student Council Vice President Autumn Schoolcraft. Landrie Hay, LHS Student Council Co-President will give the invocation.

Salutatorian Gavin James will give the welcome address and Valedictorian Vivian Lehmann will give the Valedictory Address, followed by the greeting from LISD Board of Trustees President Mike Combs and the certification of the graduates from



2022 LHS Valedictorian Vivian Lehmann



2022 LHS Salutatorian Gavin James

Superintendent Stan Surratt.

Diplomas will be presented by LHS Principal Jeremy Chilek, Assistant Principal Ryan Tomlin and Assistant Principal Melissa Dukes.

National Honor Society President Halle Lambert will give the benediction.

VALEDICTORIAN

The Class of 2022 LHS Valedictorian is Vivian Lehmann, who has earned a 108.1 grade point average at LHS.

She plans to attend Rice University in Houston and wants to study chemistry or biology, in preparation to become a forensic pathologist.

She plans to be on a pre-med track as well.

Lehmann is dedicated to the Lindale community and among her service projects she is involved in the National Honor Society as treasurer.

Extracurricular activities include UIL journalism and Model UN and is the editor of the high school yearbook.

Among her many accomplishments while at LHS, Lehmann has won three state championships in UIL Journal-

ism for editorial writing in 2021 and feature writing and editorial writing for 2022.

SALUTATORIAN

The Class of 2022 Salutatorian, Gavin James, has earned a 108.03 grade point average during his time at LHS.

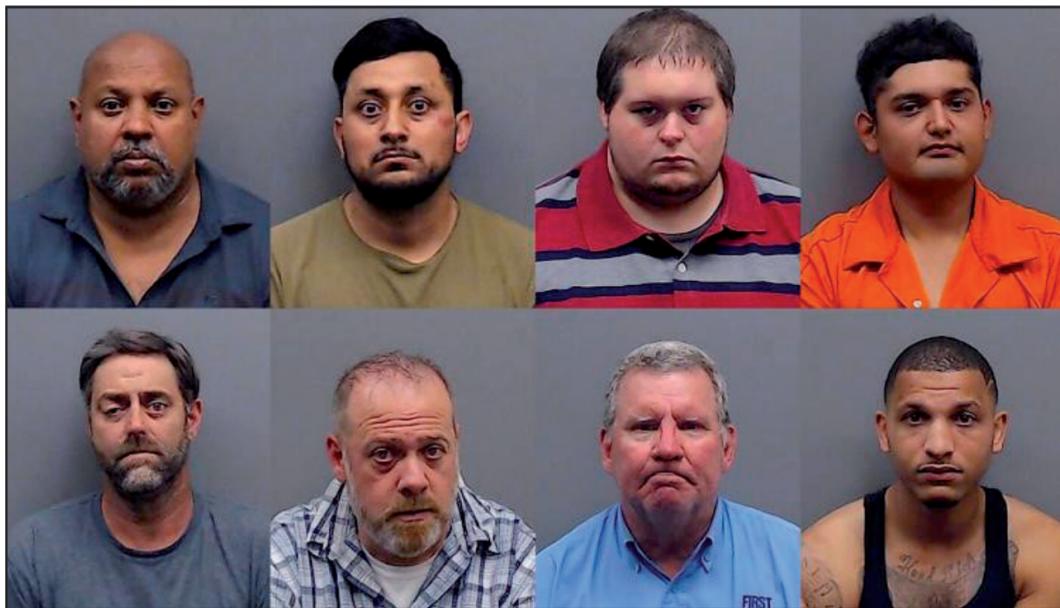
A member of the National Honor Society, James is planning to attend the University of Texas at Austin this fall and major in Radio-Television-Film and wants to pursue a career in screenwriting or media production.

He is the LHS Speech and Debate Club President, having spent all four years at the school as a member of the competitive speech team.

In addition, James has been on the competitive speech team while at LHS.

James is also involved with UIL academic events including science, current events and essay writing.

James has worked as a lifeguard at the Hideaway Lake Club swimming pool for the last three summers and plans to continue as lifeguard this summer.



Lindale man arrested in solicitation of prostitution case

A Lindale man was one of eight people arrested this past week in an online solicitation of prostitution operation conducted by the Texas Department of Public Safety, officials said.

The operation took place on Tuesday (May 17) and Wednesday (May 18) and one of those arrested was Ryan Craig Burgess, 30, of Lindale.

All eight of the suspects were booked into the Smith County Jail.

Those arrested include:

- Chaminda P. Alwis, 53, of Tyler
- David Balderas, 32, of Tyler

- Ryan Craig Burgess, 30, of Lindale
- Leonardo Hernandez Rodriguez, 23, of Lovington, New Mexico
- Allen Ronald Johnson Jr., 44, of Lindale
- Jason Wilhelm Veihl, 45, of Canton
- Jeffrey Alan Watts, 64, of Tyler
- Chester Ray Webb, 32, of Tyler

DPS officials said the suspects were arrested on a charge of solicitation of prostitution. Jail records show Johnson and Veihl were also charged with unlawful carrying of a weapon.

Smith County Texas Anti-Gang Unit investigators also assisted in the case, according to DPS.

Commissioners OK using fed money for new county vehicles

The Smith County Commissioners Court approved on Tuesday, May 17 to use a portion of its American Rescue Plan Act funding to purchase police pursuit, emergency and public safety vehicles for several county departments, said Public Information Officer Casey Murphy.

ARPA funding was given to Smith County by the U.S. Department of Treasury as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic downturn.

The purchases will include one grapple truck and four dump trucks for the Smith County Road and Bridge Department, one truck for the Fire Marshal's Office, and 38 law enforcement Chevrolet Tahoes for the Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office and several Constable's Offices.

The order includes four-wheel drive vehicles for the Constable Offices to be used in inclement weather.

Smith County Purchasing Director Jaye Latch said using the ARPA funding for the public safety vehicles will allow the County to place its orders this month, instead of waiting when most counties order at the beginning of the next fiscal year, which begins October 1.

She said there is a supply shortage with law enforcement vehicles and this early order will allow Smith County to receive some of the needed vehicles earlier than expected.

The vehicles will be purchased for just more than \$2.2 million. Smith County plans to buy additional vehicles with ARPA funding over the next couple of years.

"Use of federal ARPA funds in this manner will save taxpayer dollars on the local level," County Judge Nathaniel Moran said.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was created to provide immediate and direct relief to families and workers impacted by COVID-19. The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$350 billion total funding, and \$65.1 billion for counties in the United States. Smith County is to receive an estimated \$45 million, to be encumbered by the end of 2024, and to be completely spent by the end of 2026.

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

THE FIRST AMENDMENT: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of all the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: Suzanne's weekly columns meant a lot to many people over the years and I have received many requests to rerun her columns. I miss them too. So here is the "Best of Suzanne Bardwell." I hope you enjoy them.

Our choice ...

I wonder if someone put a flag on my Daddy's grave in Corsicana on Memorial Day. I wonder how many parents, wives and children observed Memorial Day in a way I will never be able to comprehend. A day that is filled with more heartache than anything else.

My Dad came back from serving in World War II to build a life, raise a family and enlarge a ranch.

He came back.

Dad lived his life shaped by the experiences of war which he never shared except to cry when he remembered a lost friend or to tell a funny story.

Many who serve in combat bear a burden of silence.

That silence can some-

times strangle their lives.

Jim and I have a dear friend who was what was called a 'tunnel rat' during the Vietnam War. The North Vietnamese army built mazes of tunnels through which they moved soldiers, supplies and subversives. As our friend explained, "sometimes we had to clean them out."

Can you imagine going into a small dark hole prepared for hand-to-hand combat not knowing what you are going to encounter? In the dark. Alone.

One long night of a press reception we visited. He enjoyed a bottle of wine as we talked. I, always curious, always interested, asked questions about his war years.

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



Maybe I shouldn't have done that. It was the first time in 30 years he had really shared his memories. Some were so dark they took my breath and my curiosity away.

His wife wasn't there. But a year later when we got together for dinner at the Tower of the Americas in San Antonio she leaned into me and said that my questions and his willingness to answer opened the floodgates allowing for some healing.

I hope so. I dearly hope so. We grow up on movies that either glorify or condemn war. The truth is that sometimes it is just necessary. Necessary for people like GHS alum '63 James Mohon to serve. It was the Vietnam War. There was a draft. He was called. He went. The former Army medic told me at Monday's Memorial Day Observance that he "wasn't a hero, that was just what you did then".

I think it is pretty heroic to serve period. Anywhere. At anytime.

I once had a good looking senior at White Oak who was a bit of a 'lost boy'. He joined the Marines and became more than a man. His mom was convinced he was stationed on a ship in the Mediterranean and was safe. When he eventually came to see me in his dress uniform and I saw the three layers of combat ribbons and medals I knew that he hadn't been on any ship, at least not for

very long. His eyes told the tale as well as the multitude of medals.

The world today seems to do a much better job of respecting our military personnel than when I was growing up. One of my dear friends who is a Vietnam vet told me of being spit upon and called a 'baby killer' when he came back home. He arrived in Vietnam in the middle of a fire fight. He was a kid. He was scared. He survived. He came home to jeers and disrespect. He spent the rest of his working life serving the children of a local school district. I am proud to call him my friend.

We live in a very dangerous world. We now have a professional military where individuals choose to serve. Some choose to die. For their buddies, for their beliefs, for people they have little in common with. Some don't get to choose at all.

We have a choice. We have the opportunity to choose how we serve the families of the fallen and those who have served. We must remember to do more than respect those who serve. We must, as GEDCO's Robert Johnson urged in Monday's Memorial Day speech, ensure that our military personnel have the health care, resources and employment they need once their job of protecting American interests is ended.

We have an obligation to make sure this happens. It should be our privilege.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Wildfires continue across state

Firefighters are looking to the skies for much-needed rain this week as crews continue battling wildfires across the state. Fires reported Sunday by the Texas A&M Forest Service were being fought in Brown, Taylor, Wilbarger, Llano, Schleicher and San Saba counties.

"Minimal rainfall, hot and dry conditions and an intensifying drought continue to support wildfire activity across the state," said Wes Moorehead, TFS fire chief. "Due to conditions, these wildfires are requiring more time and resources to contain. Texas A&M Forest Service continues to support local fire departments and has situated additional resources to the areas of concern."

Burn bans are in effect in 131 counties, covering nearly all regions of the state with the exception of East Texas.

More teachers added to task force

The Texas Education Agency added 24 more teachers to the Teacher Vacancy Task Force formed in March, bringing the number of teachers to 26 — the same number as administrators originally chosen. TEA drew criticism when it announced the original task force, with just two teachers selected.

"Teachers are the single most important school-based factor affecting student outcomes," said Mike Morath, Texas education commissioner. "And the Teacher Vacancy Task Force will further ensure our ability to provide the best guidance, support, and resources to help schools find and retain the teachers they need for all their students. Having these two-dozen additional perspectives from a diverse and talented pool of Texas classroom teachers is going to immensely benefit the important considerations before the Task Force."

Public school systems both large and small across the state are facing a severe staffing shortage, exacerbated by a flood of retirements and resignations during the COVID-19 pandemic. The task force hopes to develop strategies for addressing the problem.

'Click It or Ticket' campaign underway

Buckling up is always a wise idea, but not doing so could cost drivers a ticket as the Texas Department of Transportation conducts its 20th annual "Click It or Ticket" campaign with enhanced enforcement statewide.

"Since its launch in 2002, the Texas Click It or Ticket campaign has saved nearly 7,000 lives," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "We're proud of the work we've done over the decades and the countless hours put in by our law enforcement partners. But there are still far too many preventable deaths on Texas roads."

Texas officers and deputies will step up enforcement of the state's seat belt and child car-seat laws for the next two weeks. Texas law requires everyone in a vehicle to be properly restrained. Children under the age of 8 must be in a child-safety seat unless they are taller than 4 feet 9 inches. If a child is not secured, the driver faces fines up to \$250.

Tree-killing insect confirmed in Dallas County

The presence of the emerald ash borer (EAB) was confirmed last week in Dallas County. The county has been added to the list of Texas places under quarantine to slow the spread of the insect.

"EAB is a destructive, non-native wood-boring pest of ash trees," said Allen Smith, Texas A&M Forest Service regional Forest health coordinator. "Since 2018, we have deployed nearly 500 traps across Central, East and North Texas annually watching for the insect's presence and movement."

Native to Asia, the aggressive pest has killed millions of ash trees since entering the country 20 years ago. In Texas, it has been confirmed in Harrison, Bowie, Cass, Dallas, Denton, Marion, Parker and Tarrant counties.

Texas A&M Forest Service works with communities under state quarantines restricting the movement of wood into and out of impacted areas.

TDI data breach exposes personal data

A state audit released last week reported a breach of personal information of 1.8 million workers who filed claims with the Texas Department of Insurance. The department said the personal information included Social Security numbers, addresses, dates of birth and other personal information.



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Other Bardwellink publications include: The Gladewater Mirror and White Oak Independent



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Leslie Gallegos **Kaelyn Miller**

And a special "shout out" to our seniors



7 on 7 Eagles headed to state

Lindale High School's 7 on 7 football team is headed to the state tournament in College Station on June 23 after going 3-1 in pool play which took place at Chapel Hill High School. Lindale defeated Bullard twice and Sulphur Springs after losing to Mount Vernon in the first game. (Courtesy photo)

True definition of dereliction of duty

I have come to the conclusion that it might be time for me to change my....my.... well, myself. This is not something new, you know. It's been comin' for a long time.

I've just have been tryin' to ignore it. Now, I know you don't know what I'm talkin' about, so true to my nature, I'll explain it in a long, drawn out fashion.

Several years ago, I was in Orlando, Fla., for a trade show. Now, when you think of Florida, you think of sunny weather, right? Well, it was winter and it was pretty chilly.

The other reps for the company I work for and I had arrived a couple of days early for meetin's and such. The first night we were there, one of us, I can't remember who, had forgotten to pack somethin' or the other, and so we decided to walk a half a mile or so from the hotel to a drug store.

Now, like I said, it was pretty nippy, so we all had our coats on, mine bein' an old leather jacket which is one of my favorites.

We milled around in the store for a while and I'm not one for shoppin', so I walked back outside, to wait for everybody. Well, the temperature seemed like it had dropped a few more degrees. They say that 80 percent of your heat escapes from your head, but that's for people who have hair. About 99 percent escapes from us follicle challenged.

In other words, bald people lose heat faster.

Anywho, my head was actin' like a chimney and I was gettin' cold, so I reached into my jacket pocket and pulled out an old sock hat that I keep in there for times like this.

A sock hat is what some people call a toboggan, or watch cap. Well, I put the thing on and pulled it down over my ears, crammed my hands into my jacket pockets, and stood, with my back to the drug store door, and waited for my buddies.

I waited and waited and waited. I was just fixin' to go back in to find out what was keepin' them, when they finally emerged.

I turned toward them, and they were all lookin' at the ground and movin' away from me at a steady clip.

"Hey!" I said. "What took y'all so long?" One of them, Bob Rich, looked up at me in surprise.

"Oh, it's you," he said and started laughin'.

"What's so funny?" I asked.

"Well," he snickered. "We had checked out and were about to leave the store, and we saw you with your back to the door, but with that old jacket, and that hat, and that beard of yours, I said, 'Great. Look there. There's some old derelict out there that's probably going to hit us up for some money.' So we were waiting, hoping you would leave.

Now, this probably would have hurt my feelings, but it was just too blamed funny.

Well, a year later I was at another trade show, and I was roomin' with Bob Rich at a nice hotel in downtown



Dallas. We had just finished eatin' at a nice restaurant not far from where we were stayin', and were headin' back to the hotel to watch the Cowboys game.

It was cold. I don't mean just regular cold, I mean, cold, cold. It was 19 degrees and the wind was blowin'. You could tell where your drawers came to; it was that cold.

Anywho, when we got back to the room, I remembered I'd left my aspirin and Tums in my truck. I was pretty sure, from how much I ate, that I was goin' to need the Tums and I had a little bit of a headache.

I left Bob and headed back down to retrieve the fore mentioned items. While I was in the room, I grabbed my gloves and my sock cap and put them on while ridin' down the elevator. When I reached the lobby I walked up to the register's desk. She had her back to me.

"Ma'am," I said. She turned and when she looked at me her eyes registered fear.

"Yes," she said cautiously. "Where do y'all park the cars?"

"Why do you ask?" she said movin' slowly back toward the door to the office.

"Well," I said. "I need to get to my truck to get some drugs."

"Drugs?"

"Yes, Ma'am, I'm pretty sure I'm gonna need 'em later."

"Let me call someone," she said, and reached for the phone. She covered the mouthpiece with her hand and said somethin' into it, then slowly replaced it, and smiled a sheepish smile.

About that time, I noticed someone behind me. I turned and was starin' into the chest of a rather tall man. The badge on the part of the chest I was starin' at said, "Security."

I turned back to the lady, and she was gone.

"Are you the one looking for drugs?" the man asked.

I turned back and looked up at him. "That would be me." I said. "Actually, I'm tryin' to find out where y'all park the cars, so I can get in my truck and get 'em."

"Sir," he said. "What kind of drugs?"

"Tums and aspirin," I said.

"Oh," he said, and sighed. "Do you have your claim ticket and may I see your driver's license?"

"Sure," I said and I produced them. He looked them over, and asked what room I was in, and I told him. He looked it up, handed me back my stuff and pointed the way where the cars were parked. He asked if I wanted my key to the truck, but I told him I had a spare.

The parkin' garage was down about a block and I walked the street. When I walked outside, it felt like the temperature had dropped and the wind had really

kicked it up a notch.

I pulled my collar up, shoved my gloved hands into my pockets, and headed to the garage. I noticed that people comin' toward me on the sidewalk would either look down and away from me or cross the street to avoid me. I looked down to make sure I had zipped up my britches.

I found my truck and retrieved my stuff and headed back. I decided to cut across the street at an angle to save time. There was no traffic, so I wasn't too worried about gettin' run over.

Just as I approached the other sidewalk, I noticed a young man and young lady emergin' from a restaurant. They stepped out just as I stepped up on the curb. The young man, more or less, shoved the lady behind his back and looked at me.

"We have no money," he stated. It kind of took me by surprise.

"You need some?" I asked. Then he looked surprised.

"Uh....no....uh....uh.... excuse us," and he headed off. I looked back at him, shook my head, and walked the last 50 yards or so to the hotel. I opened the door, and there was a man standin' there.

"Are you the shuttle driver?" he asked.

"Uh, no," I said. Then he looked me up and down and started lookin' back out the door.

There were several people in the lobby and all were cautiously lookin' at me. I made my way to the elevator, pushed the button, and when the door opened, I stepped inside. There, on the back wall of the elevator, was a mirror. When I saw myself, I almost fell backward out the door.

Heck, I scared myself. Bob was right. I did look like a derelict.

Then not long after that I was sittin' on a bench on the Strand down in Galveston while the rest of the family was shoppin' somewhere. I had an empty coffee cup in my hand because I was too lazy to get up and walk the 10 feet to the trash can.

I was starin' off in the distance daydreaming when someone walked by and dropped a handful of change in my cup.

A minute later the family walked out and Janet says to me, "Are you ready to go?"

"Naw," I replied as I shook my cup at her. "I'm doin' pretty good right here."

She looked in the cup and gave me her tilted head half-eyelid look and sighed, "We are just going to have to buy you some new clothes."

So, I've decided to change myself. Yep, from now on, especially when it's cold, and I'm walkin' downtown in some city, I'm gonna just see how many people I can make feel uncomfortable.

Heck, I didn't even know I had this power.

Let us never forget our solemn pledge

EDITOR'S NOTE: This week, I am proud to hand over this space to Joseph Reagan of Wreaths Across America whose stirring words are a timely reminder of why we need to hold our nation's Veterans in high esteem.

**By Joseph Reagan
Director of Military and
Veterans Outreach, Wreaths
Across America**

On Memorial Day, 1945, the war in Europe had ended but the fighting in the Pacific continued.

Lt. Gen. Lucian Truscott voiced remarks at the Sicily-Rome American Cemetery at Nettuno, Italy. Turning his back on the assembled VIP's he faced the rows upon rows of headstones and apologized to the 20,000 fallen Americans who had been laid to rest far from home.

He was quoted as saying, "All over the world our soldiers sleep beneath the crosses. It is a challenge to us — all allied nations — to ensure that they do not and have not died in vain."

Fast forward to Memorial Day 2022, and the familiar voices of brothers in arms begin to call one another on the phone. People usually think of reconnecting with former military buddies as a joyous happening.

However, for this Memorial Day, the topic of conversation was not an armistice, a promotion, or even a daughter's wedding or new addition to a home, it was about the latest in a string of suicides that silence the voice of our brothers but brought renewed connections from other familiar voices.

One desperately said, "Sir, I needed to call someone who could understand this."

Everyone in the greatest generation understood war. At home they experienced rationing, schoolchildren collected scrap, and women took up factory jobs while overseas the troops endured combat and were witness to some of the largest and most brutal atrocities in the modern age.

When the war was over, they followed the lead of Lt. Gen Truscott and committed their lives to ensure that they "have not died in vain."

The shared sacrifice of a generation united them and helped them solve tough problems.

In subsequent wars, such as the Korean and Vietnam era, Veterans did not experience the same level of understanding and thus either turned their voice inward or used their voice to fight for one another on subjects that varied from Agent Orange, PTSD, and other once-silent conditions.

The War on Terror introduced a unique time in our nation's collective history as acts of war played out in real-time on our media devices.

Although only one percent of Americans served post



9/11, it seems 100 percent of the country used their voice to express their opinions of this shared history as it unfolded.

For Korea and Vietnam Veterans, war was not a shared experience and therefore various voices helped further the national conversation regarding the treatment of veterans leading to safer and more thoughtful approaches.

Unlike the veterans of Korea and Vietnam, the veterans of the last several decades did not return home to the voices of dissent that could be addressed directly, instead, they returned to a polite nation that creates media of dissent and very little opportunity for honest, open dialog.

This new era of media, learning, and personal discussions bring rise to the question, "Do people really remember why we hold our veterans in a place of honor?"

For years, voices saying meaningless phrases like "the enemy gets a vote" or "there's nothing you could have done" were meant to comfort those of us who have held the heavy responsibility of leading troops in combat.

However, many people seem to lack the understanding that our hearts have been forever scarred by the invisible wounds of war, scarred by guilt and grief, and by the longing for forgiveness that will never come.

Even if forgiveness was offered, it would be hard to accept as no mere words can undo a life experience and because of this, we often feel isolated, misunderstood, and undervalued therefore our voices remain silent.

As conversations with the voice on the other end of the phone come to its inevitable conclusion, I am reminded that to remain silent is a betrayal of my obligation to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

As Horace Bushnell once said, the best thing for us to do is to remember "what they have put it on us to do for the dear common country to which they sold their life."

As we gather as one nation this Memorial Day, my hope is that instead of directing shallow words of gratitude at each other, we do as Lt. Gen. Truscott did and direct our gratitude directly towards those who made the ultimate sacrifice. In both our words and actions, let us all commit ourselves to serve the

country to which they gave their lives.

While there is still much work to be done, the generation of Veterans from this century have access to vast resources, life-saving technology, and increased information.

This same generation of Veterans is just now starting to define our post-service legacy and like our grandparents, return home with a deep commitment to service, and a desire to address the many problems that we face.

One such issue needing to be addressed is helping Veterans find purpose in their post-service lives. Truscott's apology to the dead are not empty words, but a strong voice reminding us that we have an obligation to choose resilience and purpose when faced with guilt or grief.

As an example, Gold Star Families, who have experienced tremendous loss, continue to serve their communities to maintain the legacy of the loved one they lost.

I often recall a colleague of mine responding to the question "why do you do so much to help Veterans?" he simply held up his finger, choking back tears he responded, "for the one I couldn't save." By choosing to use his voice to advocate for other veterans, he not only helped them find their purpose — he found his own.

It's often said that for those who have served "every day is Memorial Day," a traditionally silent observance in the Veteran's mind that can best be described as an impossible trinity made up of an overwhelming sense of guilt, grief, and grit.

Usually, a moment of silence on this day is a welcomed and solemn way to honor the voices from our past, but for myself, after losing three former soldiers to suicide in the past few months, silence is no longer an option and the freedom to use our voice is the greatest gift that our veterans have to offer this Memorial Day.

Joseph Reagan has almost 20 years experience working with leaders within government, non-profit, and Fortune 500 companies to develop sustainable strategies supporting National Security, and Veterans' Health. He served 8 years on active duty as an officer in the U.S. Army including two tours to Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division. He is the recipient of multiple awards and decorations including the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

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Times of Lindale



EDITOR'S NOTE: This column comes from the archives of the Lindale News and Times, which is available online for \$2.99 per month. Call 903-882-8880 to set up your online subscription.

ONE YEAR AGO, May 27, 2021

Lindale ISD Superintendent Stan Surratt and Lindale Mayor Jeff Daugherty said Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's lifting of the mask mandate across the state was affirmation for actions already taken.

Specifically, Surratt noted the LISD Board of Trustees acted in April to make mask wearing optional across the district.

"Our data showed we had improved (in COVID-related issues) so much since vaccinations started that the board chose to make mask-wearing optional," he said. "Out of 4,900 people in the district (students, staff and support personnel) we were having just one instance per week."

As to the city of Lindale, the mayor cited proactive decisions made by the city council during the previous months positioned the city to be ahead of the curve.

When the governor issued mandates during the heavy spike in COVID numbers last year, city council members allowed Daugherty to issue specific guidelines as they related to Lindale.

"The council has allowed me the issue local declarations and one of those has been to already be in line with what (Abbott) wanted," the mayor said. "As mayor, I needed the support of the council (for local mandates) and I got it."

FIVE YEARS AGO, May 25, 2017

Four Lindale Junior High students and one Lindale High School student were the recipients of the second annual More Than Yourself, Inc. Scholarship. The organization awarded the scholarships based on student applications and an essay contest. Kathryn Anderson (LHS 9th grader) received a \$1,000 scholarship. Autumn Schoolcraft (LJH 7th grader) received the \$750 award. Courtney Gregory, Hannah Lee, and Jesika Miller (LJH 7th graders) were each awarded a \$500 scholarship.

More Than Yourself, Inc. is a non-profit organization started by Kristine Brown (LJH teacher), Teri Stripling, (LJH teacher), and Melissa Dickerson (community member). The purpose of the scholarship program is to encourage junior high girls to continue setting goals for college. Each girl submitted an essay about what they would do to change the world. The essay contest is open to 7th, 8th, and 9th grade girls enrolled in public schools in Smith County.

10 YEARS AGO, May 24, 2012

Lindale City Council members approved the appointment of Bryan Summerville to the Place 5 position on the council to replace the late Charles Morphis.

Also, Place 3 council member Ginger Sims was sworn in after being re-elected to the board over local businessman John Droblyn. Place 2 Councilman Clyde Harper and Mayor Robert Nelson, both unopposed in the previous election, were sworn in during the regular meeting.

OBITUARY

Benjamin Paul Smith



Funeral services for Benjamin Paul Smith, 93 of Lindale, are scheduled for 2 p.m. Friday, May 27, 2022, at the Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home Chapel in Lindale with Bro. Ray Lewis officiating. Interment will follow at the Memorial Park Cemetery in Tyler.

Paul passed away Monday, May 23, 2022, in Tyler. He was born Oct. 21, 1928, in Tyler to the late Charles E. and Lillie Mae (Chambless) Smith. Paul has lived in Lindale for the last 46 years and was previously of Tyler.

He served his country in the U.S. Army and later retired as a Senior Operator after 34 years of service with Schlumberger.

Paul was a member of the First Baptist Church of Lindale where he was a Deacon and very active with the choir, driving the church bus, worked with both senior and children's groups, disaster relief efforts, and Timberline.

In his spare time Paul enjoyed fishing, hunting, welding, and spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by 10 siblings.

Paul is survived by his wife of 72 years, Annie Mae Smith of Lindale; sons, Benny Paul Smith Jr. and wife, Judy of Winona and Rory Eugene Smith of Flint; siblings, Neta, Gay, Wanda, and Nora; grandsons, Scott and Jamie; 6 great grandchildren, Brayden, Jaci, Riggan, Bella, Brody, and Cord; and numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving family members and friends.

Family will receive friends from 1-2 p.m. prior to the service.

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903-597-6131

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Bethel Baptist Church
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903-882-8275

Bible Baptist Church
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903-882-1454

Carmel Baptist Church
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903-882-3852
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903-882-5106

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903-882-9558

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Fairview Baptist Church
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903-882-9500

First Baptist Church
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903-882-6432

First Baptist Church of Lindale
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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
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903-882-4726



Hopewell Baptist Church
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903-882-5381

Hopewell Valley Baptist, Church No 1
CR 429 • Van, TX
903-882-5136

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903-882-3890
Bruce Rudd

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10251 FM 727, Tyler, TX 75704
903-593-5811

Red Springs Baptist Church
Red Springs, TX
903-858-2365

St Mary Baptist Church
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903-882-8066

Thompson Hill Baptist Church
14657 CR, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-0849

Walnut Springs Baptist Church
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903-882-7858

Wood Trails Baptist Church
11804 CR 494,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-5381

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903-882-6455

Church of Christ – South Main
2425 S Main St,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8933

Church of Christ – Swan County
Road 471, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8009

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St Luke's Episcopal Church
16292 FM 849
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8118
Rev. John Carr

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903-882-8506
Michael Peschke

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903.253.3175
John Roach, Pastor

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Swan-Wood Springs United Methodist Church
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903-882-6382

NON DENOMINATIONAL

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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
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903-881-9844
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Lindale, TX 75771
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903-882-7269

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903-882-9665

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903-882-3323

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903-882-6966

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Friday, May 13, 2022

Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to a criminal trespass at 3500 block S Main St, trespass warning issued. Officer Philpot responded to an assault at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Ramsey responded to an assist smith county at 13400 block I-20, settled at scene. Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to a public service at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist other agency at 1300 block Brad Cir, settled at scene. Cpt Chambers and Officers Ramsey and Philpot responded to an assist other agency at 600 block E Hubbard St, settled at scene. Officer Philpot responded to a public service at 21200 block Hwy 69 N, unfounded. Officer Ramsey responded to a public service at 100 block Legends Ct, settled at scene. Officer Philpot responded to a possession of controlled substance at 2800 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Leevey and Officers Gillham and Mumej responded to a warrant service at 21000 block Hwy 69



N, transferred to another agency. Officer Leevey and Officers Gillham and Mumej responded to a disturbance at 700 block Half St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officers Gillham and Mumej responded to a warrant service at 13400 block Hwy 69 N, arrest made. Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 13300 block CR 472, settled at scene.

Saturday, May 14, 2022

Officer Jackquet responded to a public service at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to an assist other agency at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Officer Jackquet responded to an assist other agency at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to a welfare concern at 100 block Legends Ct, settled at scene. Officer Dailey responded to an assist other agency at 55 block Miranda Lambert Way, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 13400 block I-20, settled at scene. Officer Allen responded to a hit and run at 3400 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Shurley responded to an assist smith county at 17000 block I-20 W, settled at scene. Officer Allen responded to a suspicious vehicle at 3300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Allen responded to a suspicious vehicle at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Officer Shurley and Officers Wells and Mumej responded to a threat call at 55 block Miranda Lambert Way, report taken.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
 § OF SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS
 ELWIN DEAN THEDFORD §
 §
 DECEASED § Sitting as a Probate Court

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of ELWIN DEAN THEDFORD, Deceased, were issued on March 9, 2022 under Docket No. 45794P now pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: Christa Moore, Independent Administrator. The mailing address of the Independent Administrator is:

CHRISTA MOORE
 2286 Royal Drive E Chandler, Texas 75758

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

DATED the 18th day of May, 2022
 ROBERT HINDMAN
 5620 Old Bullard Road,
 Suite I 05
 Tyler, TX 75703
 Telephone: (903) 581-9960
 Fax: (903) 534-0647
 State Bar No. 09684500
 attorney@tyler.net

CAUSE NO. 46254P

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
 § OF
 CLARENCE LEON STRICKLAND § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS
 §
 DECEASED §

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of CLARENCE LEON STRICKLAND, Deceased, were issued on April 21, 2022 under Docket No. 46254P now pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: Shiela Sue Strickland Cushing, Independent Administratrix. The mailing address of the Independent Administratrix is:

SHEILA SUE STRICKLAND CUSHING
 11387 Peaceful Acres
 Tyler, Texas 75706

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

DATED the 18th day of May, 2022.

ROBERT HINDMAN
 5620 Old Bullard Road,
 Suite I 05
 Tyler, TX 75703
 Telephone: (903) 581-9960
 Fax: (903) 534-0647
 State Bar No. 09684500
 attorney@tyler.net

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS § Attorney of Record:
 ROBERT HINDMAN
 COUNTY OF SMITH § 5260 OLD BULLARD RD.
 STE. 105
 TYLER, TEXAS 75703
 903-581-9960

TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF MELODY DARLING HART, DECEASED:

On the 13th day of May, 2022, SEMIE RAY HART filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in a proceeding styled IN THE ESTATE OF MELODY DARLING HART, DECEASED and bearing the number 46493P in the County Court of Smith County, Texas.

The Court will hear the aforesaid APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP on the Monday next after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of publication of this citation, in the County Court Courtroom in the County Courthouse Annex of Smith County, in Tyler, Texas. All persons interested in the aforesaid Estate are commanded to appear at m before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said Application.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Smith County, Texas in Tyler, Texas.

In compliance with the law, this citation shall be served by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in this, the County in which such proceeding is pending, not less than ten (10) days before the return date hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after the date of issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of office, the 13th day of May, 2022, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

KAREN PHILLIPS, COUNTY CLERK
 Smith County, Texas
 Katherine Beard, Deputy Clerk

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to replace existing radio equipment on an existing 29-foot 1-inch monopole small cell communications tower at the approx. vicinity of 1437 Mayor Street, Lindale, Smith Co., Texas 75771, Lat: [32-30-1.1772], Long: [-95-24-21.9492]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to:
 Trileaf Corp, Abby,
 a.mckay@trileaf.com,
 2550 S IH 35, Suite 200,
 Austin, TX 78704,
 512-519-9388.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice to Creditors

Letters Testamentary for Estate of Elizabeth P. Fullerton, Deceased, were issued to E. Telfair Fullerton on 5/18/22, in Cause No. 46349P, by the County Court of Smith County. All persons having claims against this Estate currently being administered are required to present them to E. Telfair Fullerton, c/o Richard Patteson, Attorney at Law, 218 N. Broadway, Ste.304, Tyler, Texas 75702 within the time and manner prescribed by law.

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ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Lindale, Texas will receive bids for FM 16 Utility Relocation - CSJ# 0522-04-032 until June 28, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at City Hall, 105 Ballard Drive, Lindale, Texas 75771, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on June 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at The C. T. Brannon Corporation. It is highly recommended that companies submitting proposals attend.

Bid Documents may be obtained 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 City of Lindale for a period not to exceed 60 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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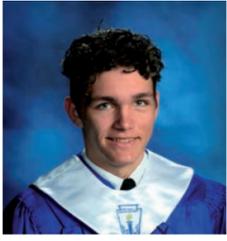
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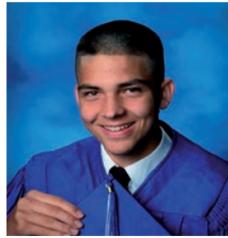
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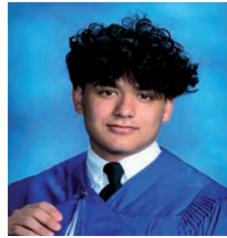
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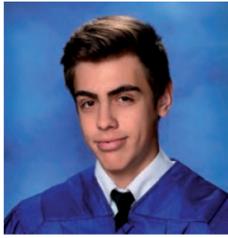
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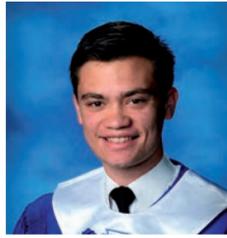
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BRITTANY CHAVEZ



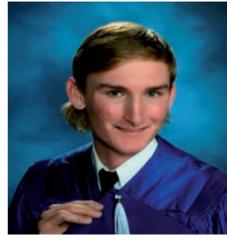
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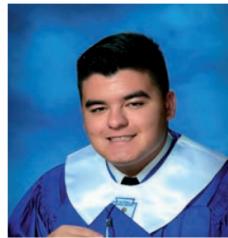
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**VIVIAN
LEHMANN**



**ADDIE
LEWIS**



**ANDIE
LEWIS**



**KAEDYN
LEWIS**



**CADE
LITTLE**



**CALLIE
LITTLE**



**KYLON
LOGGINS**



**JUDSON
LONG**



**CHRISTIAN
LOPEZ**



**ABIGAIL
LOTT**



**SYDNEY
LUMMUS**



**DAWSON
LUNA**



**MCKENZIE
MANNING**



**JAMES
MAY**



**WILLIAM
MAYFIELD**



**COLIN
MAYNARD**



**VICTORIA
MAYORGA**



**MEGAN
MCCLENDON**



**KAYDEN
MCCLENNY**



Congratulations and best wishes to this year's graduates!



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DESTINY MCKINLEY



JADEN MCKINNEY



JULIANA MCKINNEY



KELI MCLELLAN



MACIE MCLEOD



GILARY MEDRANO ARBAIZA



CONNOR MILLER



ERIC MILLER



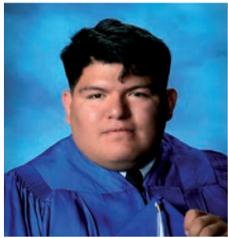
JESIKA MILLER



KAELYN MILLER



KIELER MILLER



JAVIER MOJARRO



PRISCILA MOJARRO



JOHN MORENO-VAZQUEZ



ZANIYA MUMFREY



COLE MURIE



JILLIAN MUSSON



EMILY MYERS



CHLOE NATIONS



JENNIFER ONTIVEROS



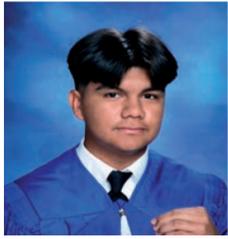
MICHELLE ORTIZ



RYILEE ORTIZ



JANIAH OSCAR-JEAN-LOUIS



JULIAN PAREDES



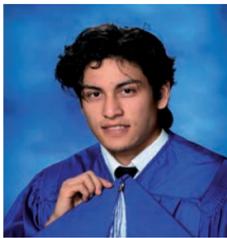
ARYAN PATEL



TIMOTHY PAXON



DAVID PEREZ



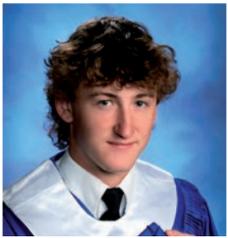
IZAC PEREZ



MADYSON PERKINS-WALKER



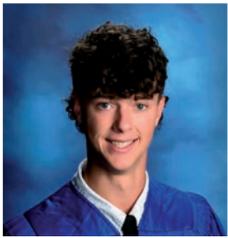
CODY PETERS



SAMUEL PETERSON



BRENLEY PHILEN



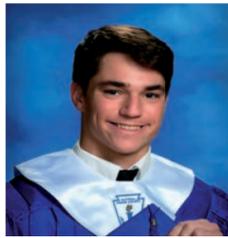
CADEN PICCOLI



MADISON PLUNKETT



LUKAS POE



ISAAC POLLARD



HANNAH PRESTON



APRIL QUINTANILLA



TAYLAR RAGLAND



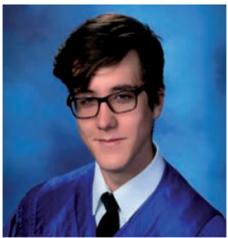
SOPHIA RAI



CHEYENNE RAMIREZ



MAKIAH RAY



ZANDER REED



BLAKE REEVES



AYDIN RENDON



EBIN RETZ



SARAH RICHARDSON



CALEB RICHES



Congratulations and best wishes to this year's graduates!

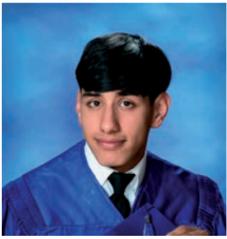


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ALEXIS RIVERA-YANEZ



MALLORY ROBerson



AARON RODEN



ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ



ALONDRA ROMERO



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LIBBI ROZELL



MIRANDA SANCHEZ



NATALY SANCHEZ



HANNAH SCHAFFER



CADEN SCHMIDT



AUTUMN SCHOOLCRAFT



ELSEBETH SCHWIND



JACOB SEEKFORD



AMANDA SHANKLIN



STORMIE SHAPLEY



RYAN SHEPPA



BRIAN SHINE



LIVIYA SIMMONS



NATALIE SIMPSON



AURORA SKIBO



JADEN SLOAN



ADDISON SMITH



CHLOE SMITH



KASSITY SMITH



SARAH SMITH



WALTER SMITH



MARLEE SORRELLS



YAHIR SOTO



MAGGIE SPEARMAN



ALEXIA STEWART



TARAN STREET



HOUSTON SUMNER



ALEXA SUNDHOLM



CODY SWAIM



NATALY TAPIA



CHRISTOPHER TATE



AUSTIN TAYLOR



JEREMY TAYLOR



NORAH TAYLOR



TAEGAN TERRY



BRODY THEDFORD



ABIGAIL THOMAS



ANNA THOMPSON



JAY THORNHILL



MARY TIPTON



JAYMIE TORRES



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Class of 2022



ANTHONY VALDEZ



BRENDA VALDIVIA



DALTON VANDIVER



JOSEPH VASQUEZ



NOE VELA



ANDREW VELARDE



SERENITY VENTRESS



KASEY VILLARREAL



MADISON VILLARREAL



MAX WALKER



ZACKARY WALLER



PRESLIE WALTERS



ELIZABETH WATKINS



JAMES WATKINS



OMARR WEBBER



MCCABE WHEELER



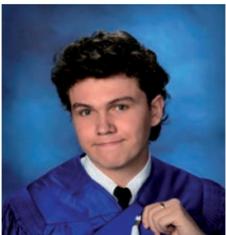
KARA WHITE



COLTON WIDEMON



LANDON WILKERSON



AARON WILLIAMSON



AARON WOLFE



COLBY WOOD



JOHN WOOD-GINN



DARBY WOODRUM



RIGO YANEZ



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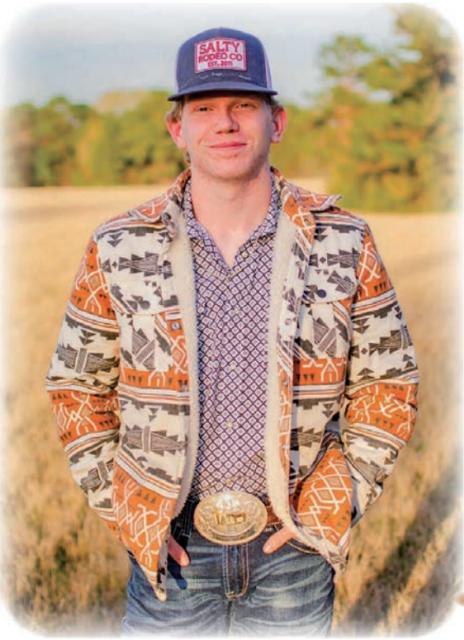
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Congratulations and best wishes to this year's graduates!



Dalton Vandiver
LHS Class of 2022

CONGRATULATIONS!

Whether it be the Military, Game Warden, or other goals, always trust in the Lord for your path!

We are so very proud of you!!

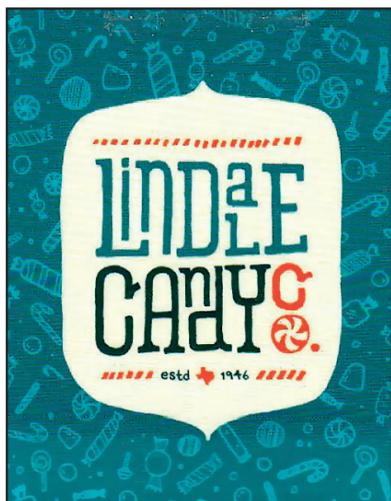
Love Always - Momma, Dad, Sissy, Ryan, Nana,
Uncle Mike & Jennifer, Aunt Cherie & family,
Mamaw, Matt, Amie, & Aunt Karla



For I know the plans for you, declares the lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you

Hope and a Future

JEREMIAH 29:11



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CONGRADulations!



Amanda Froebe, Agent

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Bus.: 903-882-5333
amandafroebe.com
amanda@amandafroebe.com



"You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late." RWE
Jeremiah 29:11



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*We are so proud of
our Lindale High School seniors!*

**Congratulations to the
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FREE CAR WASH

All Lindale Graduating Seniors may receive one free basic wash
(or \$10.00 off any wash of your choice)

Offer good for one wash only on Friday, May 27th, 2022, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



**Congratulations to the
Class of 2022 Graduates!**



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We are Proud of YOU!



TEXAS BANK AND TRUST



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YOU DID IT! CLASS OF 2022, PLEASE STAND UP AND TAKE A BOW!

That's right, Lindale High School grads! You may not be able to see us, but we're giving each and every one of you a standing ovation. Congratulations! Keep your head up, keep going, and keep learning.



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