

Lindale News & Times

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Thursday, June 30, 2022

Vol. 123, No. 26

1 Section, 8 pages

50¢



Lindale voters choose Place 4 council member

Sallie Black is the new Place 4 member of the Lindale City Council following a runoff election victory over Owen Scott this past Saturday. Black received 68 votes (63.55 percent) to Scott's 39 votes (36.45 percent).

The runoff was needed following the May election when Black tallied 36.6 percent of the vote for 31.8 percent for Scott.

Jeretta Nance Pate was third in that race with 31.5 percent of the vote.

Black will now join Rick Thelan (Place 1), Yvette Martin (Place 2), Mayor Pro Tem Ginger Sims (Place 3) and Gavin Rasco, elected in May to Place 5.

Rasco won the Place 5 seat on the council with 60.7 percent of the vote over Brandon Whitham's 39.2 percent.

The two Lindale council seats came open this election cycle due to term limits mandated by the city charter.

Bryan Summerville (Place 5) and Bob Tardiff (Place 4) had served on the council since 2012 but were limited to three consecutive, three-year terms or nine consecutive years.

The charter also allows for former council members to run for re-election after being out of office for a year.

Lindale city council works through lengthy agenda

Lindale city council members addressed several issues during their second monthly meeting at City Hall on Tuesday, June 21, approving several plats, appointing a new parks board member and giving their OK to a new roof for the I.B. Rice Youth Building at pool park.

Upon a recommendation from Mayor Jeff Daugherty, Christy Smith was appointed to the Lindale Parks Board by a unanimous vote.

Council members also agreed to spend \$9,800 from the I.B. Rice Fund to pay for a new roof on the Rice Youth Building at Pool Park.

City Manager Carolyn Caldwell noted the roof was beyond repair and told council members there was approximately \$22,000 in the fund. She said the cost for an entire building renovation would be \$11,600.

"We've inspected the roof and it's in really bad shape," she said, adding this was a discussion topic during the first meeting in June.

In other action, council members:

- Approved the use of Eagle Spirit Drive/Brad Circle for the 2022 Turkey Trot to take place on Thanksgiving Day, 2022;

- Scheduled a Christmas movie – "The Santa Clause" for Darden Harvest Park following the annual Christmas Parade;

- OK'd an emergency expenditure for the city's Water Well No. 5 for electrical repairs;

- Approved a Water Capital Fund expenditure to refurbish the Belt Press at the North Side Sewer Plant;

- Approved a TML Intergovernmental employee benefits pool re-rate notice for health, dental and vision;

- Amended the nepotism section of the city's employee manual for part time employees.

Plats approved included:

- Eagle Creek Addition located at Timber Park Drive;

- Eagle Meadows, creating six lots from 2.85 acres at CR 463/Wood-springs Road;

- BlackBerry Addition, creating one lot from 2.86 acres at 219 Black-berry Blvd.;

- Hyde Park Addition, creating two lots at 412 Crosby Street;

- Lot 33 of Stevens Creek Estates, creating two lots at 17435 Oak Drive

Go ahead, cool off ...

City of Lindale doesn't anticipate water restrictions

By Terry Cannon
Editor

In case you haven't noticed, the full force of summer has arrived, which means people are going to be on the lookout for ways to stay cool.

The splash pad at Darden Harvest Park is one of those places. For the next several weeks, youngsters will cavort through the cooling showers of water, warding off the oppressive heat.

But with dry conditions all around, does this mean the splash pad will dry up as well?

No, says Lindale Mayor Jeff Daugherty, who added the city of Lindale doesn't foresee and water restrictions for the city's residents.

The splash pad uses fresh water which is then pumped into the nearby pond.

No recirculated water for the kiddos, said Daugherty.

"When we decided to have a splash pad we looked into recycling the water like some other cities do," he said. "But we didn't want our kids using that type of

water. It's fresh water coming from our water system."

And the city's water system, which pulls water from several wells in the city, is maintained constantly by the water utilities department.

The maintenance of the wells allows the city to provide as much water as residents need, despite the unforgiving temperatures of a Texas summer.

Earlier this month, the city of Bullard had to restrict water usage. According to the city's website, Bullard pulls its water from four wells and one emergency well from the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer. The city has one water tower with 500,000 gallon capacity and another with approximately 200,000 gallon capacity.

Lindale has a 500,000 gallon capacity water tower at the Lindale Economic Development Corporation site (the city's newest water tower) and another near Lindale High School with a 250,000 gallon capacity.

"We don't use all our wells all the time," Daugherty said. "And (the city's) maintenance people do a fantastic job of keeping things running."

Continued on Page 8



Easton and Lyla York of Mineola were happy to cool off recently at the splash pad at Darden Harvest Park in downtown Lindale. Photo by Terry Cannon

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

Make it sparkle...

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

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

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

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

At twilight, as soon as we saw the lightning bugs flashing it was time to bring out the sparklers. Daddy would light them for us and we would whirl away ignoring the tiny sparks

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



that hit our arms. As we got older, bottle rockets and Roman candles were just dangerous enough to get us in trouble, but not too much because our parents remembered their own childhood fireworks.

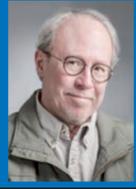
Hopefully our son recalls the July 4 fireworks of his youth. When our neighbors Belle and Mr. Marion would sit in their swing across the road and pray that Josh and his Dad's firework shenanigans wouldn't catch their roof on fire while clapping loudly for the little boy who had the same glee his Momma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

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

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

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.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Abortion officially illegal in Texas

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe vs. Wade effectively ends all legal abortions in Texas within the next 30 days, many news media outlets reported.

"Planned Parenthood and Whole Woman's Health, with clinics across Texas, stopped performing abortions following Friday's decision, due to uncertainty about how the ruling will affect the state's trigger law and a long-standing ban on abortion that predates Roe v. Wade, officials with those organizations said," according to the Austin American-Statesman.

"Texas is a pro-life state, and we have taken significant action to protect the sanctity of life," Gov. Greg Abbott said in an issued statement.

State senator sues DPS over Uvalde records

State Sen. Roland Gutierrez, who represents Uvalde, has sued the Texas Department of Public Safety over records relating to the Uvalde school shooting that have been withheld.

"In the wake of the senseless tragedy, the people of Uvalde and Texas have demanded answers from their government. To date, they have been met with lies, misstatements, and shifts of blame," Gutierrez said in a lawsuit filed Wednesday, according to the Texas Tribune.

Both state and local Uvalde officials are contesting releasing the records that could shed light on the botched emergency response to the shooting, which killed 19 children and two teachers. Law enforcement responding to the shooting waited more than an hour before breaking into the classroom to kill the shooter.

Meanwhile, Gov. Greg Abbott said his office has been transparent in providing information since the May 24 massacre, in a statement released by his press secretary: "The governor and his office will continue making all available information public, including the full results of the ongoing investigation by the Texas Rangers and the FBI. The governor wants all facts of this tragedy to be made public as quickly as possible and will do his part to achieve that goal."

Wildfire risks grow as heat wave continues

The risk of wildfire across a large swath of Texas continues as the state enters summer after enduring a hot, dry spring.

The Texas A&M Forest Service reported that last week marked the third week in a row with high-pressure weather systems dominating the state.

Above-normal temperatures and below normal rainfall are again forecast throughout Texas. As a result, the forest service reported responding to seven wildfires that burned more than 1,000 acres as of late last week. All but one had been contained — the Dempsey Fire in Palo Pinto County, which has burned more than 1,000 acres.

A total of 160 Texas counties have enacted burn bans to date.

Drunk drivers cause one in four state traffic fatalities

One in four traffic deaths on Texas roads last year were caused by drunk drivers, while more than 25,000 traffic crashes involved drunk driving — up 9% over 2020.

The Texas Department of Transportation has again launched its "Faces of Drunk Driving" campaign to remind motorists of the human toll a drunk-driving crash causes on the lives of both victims and survivors. The campaign features testimonials from both victims of drunk drivers and drunk drivers as well.

"Every crash and every death caused by a drunk driver is 100% preventable," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "We hope these personal accounts from real offenders and survivors wake people up to the consequences of drinking and driving. Always get a sober ride through a designated driver, taxi, rideshare app, or calling a friend—or simply stay where you are."

Applications to become a 'Bird City'

It's time for cities to go to the birds.

Audubon Texas and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are accepting applications from communities that would like to receive Bird City Texas certification. The program, in its fourth year, recognizes the contributions that communities make to improve nature in and around where people live, work and play.

"All communities, big and small, are eligible to participate," says Richard Heilbrun with TPWD. "Bird City Texas is a great way to demonstrate that a community values nature, that they're willing to improve that nature, and that residents are encouraged to get outside and experience nature."

Certification is based on work in three categories: education and engagement, habitat management and improvement and removal of threats to birds. Community residents are encouraged to be part of the process, Heilbrun said.

Applications for Bird City certification will be accepted through Dec. 2, but applications must be started by Nov. 1. More information can be found here: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/wildlife/birding/bird-city-texas>.

COVID-19 cases up, deaths down

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University rose once again in Texas the past week, with 61,682 reported — up 28% from the previous week, though deaths dropped sharply to 66. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Texas hospitals rose to 2,055, up 17.6% from the previous week, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.



Editorial

"We hold these truths to be self-evident ..."

The Declaration of Independence was an 'in your face' rebellious statement to our mother country of Great Britain. There was nothing overly diplomatic about it. It was concise, eloquent and to the point.

The author, Thomas Jefferson, with a little coaching from John Adams and Ben Franklin, split the sheets with Great Britain. With the signatures of the men we now call Founding Fathers, the document put their lives on the line for their convictions.

Most of us remember the rallying cry of "no taxation without representation" from our high school history courses. What we don't remember is the problem of Britain's frontier policy and their refusal to 'hear' colonial concerns.

With the slamming shut of the important port of Boston and the declaration of martial law in Massachusetts under British colonial governors they rubbed the wrong 'fathers' the right way. At least for our future it was the right way.

Self-educated, wise old diplomat Ben Franklin and fire-brand intellectual John Adams were the proof readers for Jefferson's work of heart. They managed to preserve the voice, the beauty and the clarity of Jefferson's words and still strike some controversial passages, especially the ones blaming King George III for the transatlantic slave trade, as well as passages blaming the British people rather than their government for unpopular colonial policies.

It was certainly wise editing because there turned out to be much sympathy among the British for their cousins across the pond. And some of those sympathetic were effective voices in parliament as George Washington became more experienced and successful in warfare. Who wants to kill and die in a bloody family feud?

The British government did its best to frame the Declaration of Independence as trivial but the words were just too important. The United States of America is the ONE nation born of ideas rather than geography. And the ideals of the Declaration were just too powerful to dismiss. In fact, they came to influence changes around the world and laid the philosophy that created the American Dream. And

yes, it may have taken 200 years for us to begin effectively living up to all those ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence but indeed, some Americans throughout our history have striven to make those ideals reality. Many have died doing so.

There is great power in these words that shaped not only our country but made it a 'City on a Hill' to generations of the oppressed and is still so today as evidenced by the hundreds of thousands who continue to try and reach America.

Carefully read and embrace these words that express what it means to be an American:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness...That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

And in those eloquent phrases equality, individual rights and self-government were created. It is time we again fix our eyes on those ideals. It is time that we strive once more to uphold the American ideals of respecting individual rights and respecting those with whom we disagree. After all, we have fought many wars to protect the ideals put forth in the Declaration of Independence and the hard won freedoms that have sometimes taken generations to establish.

Jefferson and Adams especially were often at odds with one another, sometimes stridently so. Yet in their later years they struck up a friendship of depth which is preserved in their letters. Ironically they died within hours of one another on July 4, 1826 the last surviving members of the original American revolutionaries.

It is time we follow their example of grace for one another, find our common ground with those we disagree with and stand up as Americans together in pursuit of our lives, our liberties and our pursuit of happiness. Only then will we be able to effectively govern this great nation again.

May your Independence Day be blessed with the recognition of the liberties you possess.



The Lindale News & Times

News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday

104 S. Main St., Lindale, TX 75771
Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
(closed Wednesday)

Telephone: 903-882-8880 Fax: 903-882-8234
Email: classified@lindalenews-times.com

Owners: Jim & Suzanne Bardwell

Publisher: Jim Bardwell

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advertising@lindalenews-times.com



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

The *Lindale News & Times* is published every Thursday. Offices are located at 104 S. Main, P.O. Box 1559, Lindale, Texas 75771. Periodical rates paid at Lindale Post Office (USPS No. 314040). Annual subscription rate is \$35 for delivery inside Smith County, \$40 outside of Smith County and \$50 out-of-state. Any erroneous information reflecting upon the character, person or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of this newspaper will be corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the publisher. Reproduction of any portion of any issue of this newspaper is not allowed without the permission of The *Lindale News & Times*.



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What actual state is our state in?

Considering the recent happenings at the Texas Republican Convention in Houston, the elephant in the room (see what I did there?) must be addressed.

Simply put, have Texas Republicans lost their ever-loving minds?

Look, I fully understand how red this state has been for a long time. Even when Democrats ran things, it was still bedrock conservative. From the late 1800s to 1979, Texans elected a Democratic governor. Bill Clements' win in '79 changed the face of Texas politics and opened the door for George W. Bush, Rick Perry and Greg Abbott.

However, after the final gavel pounded in Houston, voices from our neighboring states – in my view – were fully justified in asking “What’s wrong with those people?”

The convention approved a platform that supports ideas so far right they are completely off the screen.

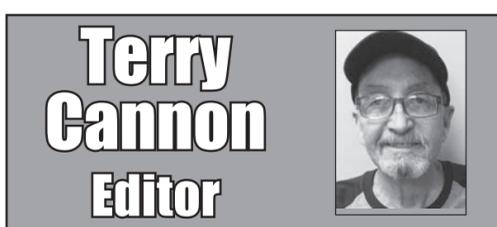
To wit:

--Approving the calls for Texas to secede (Lord, here we go again);

-- Declaring President Joe Biden wasn't legitimately elected;

-- Rejected the certified election results because of “widespread fraud” in metropolitan areas of five states, saying election officials in those states were complicit in the “fraud”;

-- Booed U.S. Sen. John Cornyn after his convention speech because he is actually trying to tamp down gun violence with bipartisan action in Washington. It should be noted he further distanced himself from this group of far,



far, far right wingers by calling them a “mob.”

But if Cornyn's 2020 election results show anything, he's still popular among Texas' real conservatives because he received more than 75 percent of the vote. His approval rating as late as April was still over 50 percent among Texas voters.

Let's circle back on some of these items and boil 'em down.

--Texas secession: Do we really have to explain, once more, how dumb this idea truly is? As I've written in the past, leaving the U.S. is, (1) illegal and (2) indefensibly ignorant. It's been proposed by state groups in the past few years and never gotten within 100 miles of being seriously considered by Austin lawmakers.

Why? Well let's see. Texans currently on Social Security would lose that as well as Medicare. No more military protection, no more federal infrastructure support, no more national parks and a new nation's taxes would be so prohibitive that another revolution would surely erupt.

-- Joe Biden really isn't the president: For all you sycophants of the former president, Joe Biden was elected in a fair and secure manner. Repeat after me: Joe Biden is president – Joe Biden is president...

-- Rampant election fraud: Again, for those still kissing the feet of the former president, the election wasn't “stolen.” He lost. Repeat after me: He lost – he lost – he lost.

This isn't just me saying this. The U.S. Supreme Court said so as well after the former president's minions lost dozens of court challenges on their way to the highest court in the land.

In addition, election officials from several key states have testified before the House Select Committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection and riot there was zero evidence of election fraud.

During the Texas GOP confab, some of the speakers – not surprisingly – shouted about “fraud” above the din of banner-waving followers of the former president.

Now there's a surprise, huh?

After all of this, the question I have is: where have all the moderate Republicans gone in our glorious state?

If you listen to those shouters at the convention, Texas is no place for an actual conservative. According to them, “true” Texas Republicans must be so far right they will teeter on the edge.

Texas is a magnificent state and a place I been proud to call my home for nearly seven decades.

But with the radicalization of what was once a proud Texas Republican Party, it may lose some of its luster.



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, June 30, 2021

Smith County residents learned a new District Court was to be added on Jan. 1, 2023, after House Bill 3774 became law.

House Bill 3774 (an omnibus jurisprudence bill) was signed by Gov. Greg Abbott and created the 475th District Court in Smith County, the County's fifth district court.

Under state law, Abbott has the power to appoint the new district judge initially, but that appointment would only be effective until the next succeeding General Election in November 2024, at which point the citizens of Smith County will elect a succeeding judge for the position.

The most recent district court added in Smith County occurred in 1977, when the county's population was approximately 100,000. Currently, the population is about 230,000 people.

Rep. Matt Schaefer (R-Tyler), who represents the majority of Smith County in the Texas House of Representatives, authored the legislation on the House side after coordinating with local County officials about the need last year.

FIVE YEARS AGO, June 29, 2017

Lindale City Council members dealt with some issues centered in the downtown area as well as approving five subdivision plats during their regular meeting held at city hall.

Also, council members denied a request from Oncor Electric for an 11.8 percent increase to the city's electrical rate.

The council also approved John Johnson as the newest member of the Lindale Planning and Zoning board. As the Cannery District downtown continues to take shape, a need has arisen for lighting in certain areas such as the parking lot around the new Darden Harvest Park.

Council members agreed to do some of the prep work for the lighting such as installing conduit and putting the rest of the project out for bids.

The first phase of Darden Harvest Park has been open since March. The second phase, which is waiting on a matching grant, will include a splash pad and playground.

10 YEARS AGO, June 28, 2012

Lindale High School baseball players Matt Boeh, Sam Saunders and Zayne Neely were named to the Class 3A All State Academic Team by the Texas High School Coaches Association.

Boeh was also named to the Class 3A All State team. All three players were standout players for the Eagles during the 2012 season, helping the team to a 21-5-1 record and advance to the area playoffs against Paris High School.

The Eagles won the 14-3A championship with a 10-0 record and dominated the all-district selections. Saunders was named Pitcher of the Year, Boeh was first team catcher and Neely was chosen to the first team as an infielder.

Close encounters of the Rusty kind

I finished mowin', cleaned up, and laid down on the couch to rest my eyes.

The next thing you know I was out. An hour or so later, I woke from my nap with a start.

“Man!” I exclaimed and sat up. Janet looked up from her book and over at me on the couch.

“Problem?” she said. “Nightmare,” I said as I rubbed my eyes. “Wanna hear about it?”

“Not particularly,” she replied.

“It was nighttime,” I said, and I heard Janet sigh.

I continued. “I was headed down County Road 42. That's the road we live on.”

Janet gave me the look.

“I know the road we live on,” she said.

Ignorin' her, I continued.

“Suddenly there was a bright light above my Jeep. This was up just past the Gilmore's house. I tried to look up at it, but it was blindin' me. I couldn't see and I missed the curve, left the road, and was headin' for the ditch. I pulled on the steerin' wheel and managed to get back on the road.

“The light was still above me, so I stepped on the gas. I came to the stop sign at the end of the road but didn't dare stop. I tried to slow down enough to turn, but I ended up goin' across the road, through the Kindig's



bob wahr fence, and plowed through their front pasture.

“Fortunately, I was able to cut back toward the road. I broke though another stretch of bob wahr and turned upon 724 and headed south. I mashed down on the foot-feed a good two inches below the floorboard and before long I was doin' about a hunderd and ten.

“Hold it,” said Janet. “A hundred and ten?”

“Yeah.”

“In your Jeep?”

“Hey! It was a dream.”

“Your Jeep wouldn't go a hundred and ten if it was pushed off of the Empire State Building..... even in a dream.”

“Are you through?”

“For now.”

“Anywho, when I passed the church I was goin' so fast it sucked the letters off of the sign.”

Janet rolled her eyes.

“It's an electronic sign,” she sighed.

Still ignorin' her comments, I continued.

“When I rounded the curve at the Cates', I was on two wheels and I stayed that way until I passed Gimble road.

The light stayed with me over Blackfork Creek and then it started gettin' lower. It was almost touchin' the top of the jeep. Just as I topped Verner Hill, the Jeep's lights went out and the motor shut off. I tried to get out, but the doors were locked and I couldn't unlock 'em.

“Then the lights moved behind me and dropped down to the road. I was yankin' on the door handle while lookin' in the rear view mirror. Then the bright lights dimmed and what I saw was this here little flyin' saucer.

“Then I saw a door on the side of it lift up and somethin' stepped out. It had a big ol' head and long spindly arms. Its legs were really short and they didn't have any knees. It was wearin' what looked like German lederhosen shorts and a crop top.

“It started wobblin' toward my side of the Jeep. I started yankin' on that door handle like crazy. It stepped up to my window. It had great big ol' eyes and they were crossed. It pointed this long knobby finger at me and started twirlin' it like

it wanted me to roll down the window. I slowly rolled down the window to about the halfway point, stuck my mouth up to the window and said, “Say man, what's up?”

Janet was still givin' me “the look,” but this time she included an eye roll.

I continued.

“It opened what I guess was its mouth, but it looked more like an eyelid with an empty socket behind it. Then it spoke.” I didn't say anything else and just looked at Janet.

“Well,” she said.

“Well what?”

“What did it say?”

“Oh! In a high pitched squeaky voice it said, ‘Pardon me, do you have any Grey Poupon?’”

Janet's eyes narrowed. She didn't say anything. “Well,” I said, “I told it I didn't have any Grey Poupon, but I rambled through the console and found a couple of some old packets of Whataburger mustard and gave it that.”

Then I looked at Janet real serious like and said, “Now let me tell you the weird part.”

She stuck up her hand to stop me. “I know the weird part,” she said. “I married the weird part.” Then she got up and walked into the kitchen mumblin'.

“Brain tumor,” she said. “It just has to be a brain tumor.”

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Partisan Supreme Court threatens freedoms

Dear Editor,

When Donald Trump was in office, he and Mitch McConnell made three lifetime appointments to the Supreme Court. McConnell went so far as to defy Ruth Bader Ginsburg's dying wish — that the next president appoint her replacement — by packing the Court with Amy Coney Barrett just eight days before the 2020 election.

The result? Today's Supreme Court

has been taken over by a hyper partisan supermajority that just dismantled abortion care in America.

But there's something we can do. The Judiciary Act of 2021 would add four seats to the Supreme Court bench — restoring balance to the court. It's the solution we need to move away from the extremely partisan rulings that now threaten our fundamental freedoms.

Recent polling showed that the majority of voters support expanding the court.

Congress has changed the size of the

Supreme Court seven times already in our nation's history. It's time to do it again. I'm urging our representatives to back this important bill now so we know they want to protect the rights of the American people. The stakes are too high to stay quiet on this important issue.

I am not for abortions for convenience but do support abortions when they are the result of rape or incest because having to carry these pregnancies to term further traumatized the girl or woman.

Linda Stegall
Lindale

UT Health adds medical oncologist to staff

UT Health East Texas is expanding oncology services in Tyler with the addition of board-certified hematologist and medical oncologist Kavitha Donthireddy, MD, who specializes in lung cancer treatment and sees patients 18 years and older, hospital officials said.

She will begin seeing patients at UT Health East Texas HOPE Cancer Center at North Campus on July 5.

Two locals indicted by county grand jury

A Smith County Grand Jury returned 159 indictments recently with one from Lindale and another from Hideaway, said Grand Jury Coordinator Marieliza Martinez.

On May 19, the Grand Jury returned 68 indictments; on May 26, 45 indictments and on June 9, 46 indictments were returned.

Michael Leaks, 20, of Lindale was charged with Injury to a Child/Elderly/Disabled on Feb. 12, 2022.

Sarah Price, 36, of Hideaway, was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance on March 3, 2022.

“I come from a family of doctors and healthcare was part of my childhood. I saw firsthand the difference physicians make in people's lives and the patients' heartfelt appreciation. I knew I wanted to go into the medical field as well,” Dr. Donthireddy said.

Dr. Donthireddy earned her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at Osmania Medical College in Hyderabad, India, where she completed an internship at Osmania General Hospital. She completed residency programs in

internal medicine at The University of Connecticut, State University of New York Buffalo and the VA Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y., where she also served as chief resident. In addition, she completed her fellowship in medical oncology at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo.

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Hot topic: Watering dos and don'ts

**By Greg Grant
Smith County
Horticulturist**

Folks it's officially summertime...hot and dry.

Water is a limited resource in Texas, and it will become more limited as the population grows. Homeowners can conserve a significant amount of water with no loss in grass quality by learning to water their lawns properly.

Most homeowners (and businesses as well) water their lawns far too often. To establish an irrigation plan for your lawn, consider the soil type, grass variety, management practices, and environmental conditions.

The type of turfgrass you have determines how drought tolerant it is. Being from Africa, Bermudagrass is the most drought-tolerant, followed by zoysiagrass, then centipede and St. Augustine which require the most water.

The time of year also influences irrigation needs. During the summer, when temperatures are high and days are long, lawns generally need supplemental watering.

As a rule, lawns in East Texas need one inch of water, applied once a week during the months of June, July, and August only. That's a total of only 12 applications a year.

The rest of the year when it's not so hot, our normal rainfall generally sustains them. I know lots of folks that water 12 times a

month from spring till frost.

Rather than watering on the same schedule each week (or while it's raining), adjust your watering schedule manually, according to the weather.

Irrigate deeply. Then wait until the grass begins to show signs of drought stress before watering again. Symptoms of drought stress include grass leaves turning a dull, gray-green color, leaf blades rolling or folding, and footprints that remain in the grass after walking across the lawn.

To properly time watering, look for the area of the lawn that shows water stress first. Water the entire lawn when that area begins to show symptoms.

A lawn that is watered deeply should generally be able to go a week between watering (or rainfall). Established lawns with deep, extensive root systems can be watered less often. Some years I don't irrigate my lawn at all. This isn't one of those years.

Early morning is the best time to water. Wind and temperatures are usually the lowest of the day, and water pressure is generally good. That allows water to be applied evenly and with little loss from evaporation.

Watering late in the evening, or at night, causes leaves to remain wet for an extended period, which increases the chance for disease, especially brown patch (large patch) and gray leaf spot on St. Augustine and dollar spot on Bermuda and zoysia.

Thoroughly wet the soil to a depth of 6



Most East Texas homeowners with automatic sprinkler systems water too often leading to increased disease and wasted water.

inches with each watering. Shallow watering produces weak, shallow-rooted grass that is more susceptible to drought stress.

Soil type, sprinkler heads, and water pressure determine how much water is needed to wet the soil to a depth of 6 inches and how long a sprinkler must run.

Baby food jars, tuna fish/cat food cans, or similar containers can be spaced around

the lawn to see how much water is being applied and a hole dug with a sharpshooter shovel will expose how deep the water is penetrating.

From personal observation, most homeowners water too frequently and don't apply near enough water with each application resulting in shallow rooted lawns prone to drought stress.

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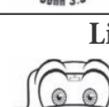
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Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Friday, June 17, 2021

Officer Philpot responded an accident at 800 block N Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Lazarine responded to a residential alarm at 15700 block Brittan Ct, settled at scene. Chief Sones, Cpt Chambers, Sgt Dworaczyk, and Officers Philpot and Dailey responded to an assist other agency at 2800 block S Main St, report taken. Cpt Chambers and Sgt Dworaczyk responded to an assist other agency at 17800 block CR 4112, settled at scene. Cpt Chambers, Sgt Dworaczyk, and Officers Philpot and Dailey responded to a civil matter at 200 block Cooper St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to an assist smith county at 12200 block FM 16 W, unfounded. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist EMS at 13400 block CR 472, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to a failure to identify at 3400 block S Main St, arrest made. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist EMS at 15600 block Brittan Ct, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist smith county at 17200 block Cory Ray Ln, report taken. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 500 block N Henry St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to a failure to identify at 200 block Stadium St, arrest made. Officer Ramsey responded to a criminal trespass at 13700 block Harvey Rd, settled at scene.

Saturday, June 18, 2022

Officer Philpot responded to a suspicious vehicle at 400 block York Dr, settled at scene. Officer Philpot responded to an assist smith county at 3300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Philpot responded to a suspicious vehicle at 1400 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Philpot responded to a verbal disturbance at 3400 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a public service at 15000 block Country Acres Dr, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist smith county at 15400 block CR 498, unfounded. Officer Leevey responded to an attempt to serve at 13300 block CR 472, unfounded. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to a welfare concern at 13300 block CR 472, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist other agency at 300 block S Industrial St, settled at scene.

Sunday, June 19, 2022

Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to an accident at 15400 block CR 431, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to an assist other agency at 15900 block CR 472, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to a disturbance at 3400 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to an assist smith county at 25600 block Toll 49, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumej responded to a sus-



picious circumstance at 16200 block Mission Ridge, settled at scene. Officer Mumej responded to an assist other agency at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Officer Wells responded to a welfare concern at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Wells responded to a suspicious vehicle at 100 block E South St, settled at scene. Officer Mumej and Officer Wells responded to a public service at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Monday, June 20, 2022

Officer Jackquet responded to a residential alarm at 800 block Pineland Ln, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton responded to a public service at 1400 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Houghton responded to a public service at 13400 block CR 472, settled at scene. Officer Jackquet responded to an assist smith county at 556 E I-20, settled at scene. Officer Jackquet responded to a business alarm at 14600 block FM 849, false alarm. Officer Trombley and Officers Jackquet and Shurley responded to an assist other agency at 700 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Lazarine, Sgt Houghton and Officers Shurley and Jackquet responded to an assault at 300 block Noah Ln, report taken. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to a public service at 13400 block I-20, settled at scene. Officer Shurley responded to a fraud at 500 block Asher, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to an accident at 3300 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Jackquet responded to an assist other agency at 13500 block Hwy 69 N, settled at scene. Officer Shurley and Officers Wells and Mumej responded to an assist other agency at 16900 block FM 849, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumej responded to a criminal trespass at 300 block S Main St, warning issued. Officer Shurley and Officer Wells responded to a suspicious person at 400 block W Hubbard St, settled at scene. Officer Shurley and Officer Wells responded to a welfare concern at 14500 block Tucker St, report taken. Officer Shurley and Officers Wells and Mumej responded to a suspicious vehicle at 3400 block S Main St, citation issued. Cpt Chambers and Officers Wells and Mumej responded to an assist smith county at 16300 block CR 4100, transferred to another agency.

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Officer Jackquet responded to a suspicious circumstance at 1400 block S Main St, settled at scene. Cpt Chambers and Officers Trombley and Jackquet responded to an accident

at 200 block Mt Sylvan St, report taken. Officer Jackquet responded to a damaged property at 900 block Abbey Rd, settled at scene. Officer Shurley responded to a disturbance at 3300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officers Jackquet and Shurley responded to an accident at 2300 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Wells and Officer Mumej responded to an assist EMS at 21200 block Hwy 69 N, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumej responded to a suspicious vehicle at 100 block N Main St, settled at scene. Officer Shurley and Officer Wells responded to a suspicious vehicle at 13400 block I-20, settled at scene. Officer Mumej responded to an assist smith county at 800 block Stewart St, settled at scene. Officer Wells responded to a suspicious circumstance at 400 block S Industrial St, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumej responded to an assist smith county at 19400 block Hwy 69 N, settled at scene. Officer Philpot responded to a public service at 400 block Cooper St, unfounded.

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Philpot responded to a disturbance at 400 block Hill St, settled at scene. Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist other agency at 100 block Legends Ct, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Philpot and Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Cpt Chambers, Sgt Dworaczyk, and Officers Philpot, Ramsey and Dailey responded to an assist other agency at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Ramsey and Philpot responded to an assault at 3500 block S Main St, arrest made. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Gillham and Ramsey responded to a civil matter at 500 block E Hubbard St, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to an assist smith county at 900 block Stewart St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Gillham and Capps responded to an assist smith county at 300 Arlene St, settled at scene. Officer Gillham and Officer Capps responded to a suspicious vehicle at 100 block W South St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Capps responded to an accident at 2800 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Gillham and Officer Capps responded to an unauthorized use of motor vehicle at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, arrest made. Officer Gillham responded to a business alarm at 2500 block S Main St, false alarm.

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Philpot and Ramsey responded to a residential alarm at 900 block E South St, false alarm. Officer Philpot responded to an accident at 13800 block Hwy 69 N, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to an assist other agency at 300 block Arlene St, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a city ordinance violation at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Officer Gillham and Officer Capps responded to a verbal disturbance at 1500 block Sugar Hill, settled at scene.

Diversify your landscape by adding textures

By **Jolana Damkroger**
Smith County Master Gardener

What comes to mind when you say texture? Is it the feeling by touching or look of a setting?

In your landscape it can mean many things. When you look at your landscape/garden do you only see color? What about complimentary or contrasting shapes/colors as well as non-plant items. What is the feeling that you have when being in the space? Is it formal, soft, hard, relaxing or invigorating? Your garden and/or landscape need to reflect who you are as a person.

If you are fortunate to have both sun and shade gardens then you can really diversify your space. Consider the time of year that each plants blooms or shows colors.

Sunny areas can have lots of hot

bright colors like red and/or yellow. Think about adding a bird bath and some small bushes to contract with the flowers. Stepping stones add a path into your world of color. Adding perennial blue Salva guarantees lots of bees and other pollinators. Place them near your roses and you will add protection from the deer.

Shaded areas can lean toward ferns, hostas, hydrangeas, elephant ears and camellias.

Think of the different textures with ferns alone: holly, autumn, maidenhair and arbor vitea just to name a few. In this peaceful setting add a bench or two to sit on and reflect nature around you.

Adding pottery in all shapes, sizes and colors adds interest. Also think about wrought iron pieces. What speaks to you will speak to others.

In selecting your flowers think about not only their colors but their shapes and heights.

Don't be afraid to experiment with garden ceramic pieces as most are easily moved to another more inviting spot. Consider high plants as well as low. Plants that frame a window or porch. Plants that climb on a wrought iron trellis or low border plants.

Outline your gardens/landscapes to reflect curves not sharp angles. Curves help keep the eye moving! Make beds with trees or along fences. Let your imagination run wild as you design your space.

The Smith County Master Gardener program is a volunteer organization in connection with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

TXDOT's Faces of Drunk Driving campaign puts real faces on stats

Analia Zarate of Edinburg was four years old when she and her mom were headed home from church on a Sunday night.

A drunk driver ran a stop sign and hit their car, killing her mom instantly. More than 20 years have passed since that tragic night, and Analia still remembers every detail as if it happened yesterday.

She wishes the drunk driver could see the pain he caused by taking her mother away from her.

Analia's mom, Nereida Flores Garza, is just one of thousands of people killed every year by drunk drivers—1,061 in Texas last year. Stories like this are why TXDOT is launching its Faces of Drunk Driving summer campaign that puts real faces behind the statistics.

"Every crash and every death caused by a drunk driver is 100 percent preventable," said TXDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "We hope these personal accounts from real offenders and survivors wake people up to the consequences of drinking and driving. Always get a sober ride through a designated driver, taxi, rideshare app, or calling a friend—or simply stay where you are."

Last year, 24 percent of all traffic deaths in Texas were caused by drunk driving. That translates to an average of one person dying every eight hours and 15 minutes. In 2021, Texas saw 25,261 drunk driving related traffic crashes—an increase of 9 percent from 2020.

The Faces of Drunk Driving campaign reminds us that the human toll of a drunk driving crash can devastate the lives of victims and survivors forever. Drinking and driving is 100 percent preventable and can have serious physical, emotional and financial consequences that can last for years. A DWI can be expensive and cause legal hassles, difficulty finding or keeping a job, loss of trust from loved ones, and regret.

That's why the Faces of Drunk Driving campaign also includes stories from people convicted of DUI. Richie tells his story that, after drinking at a friend's house he headed home, lost control of his car and hit a house. As a result, he spent 10 days in jail, was sentenced to a year probation, had to perform 150 hours of community service, pay fines and cover the costs of repairing the house. Richie says he also must face the fact that he is now a convicted felon.

This year's campaign will feature events around the state to share stories of Texans who deal with the consequences of a drunk driving crash every day. Events will include an exhibit of powerful video testimonials. Full video stories and other impaired driving information can be found at SoberRides.org.

The Faces of Drunk Driving summer campaign is an important piece of the larger Drive Sober. No Regrets. campaign.

It is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel, like wearing a seat belt, driving the speed limit, never texting and driving and never driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Nov. 7, 2000 was the last deathless day on Texas roadways. #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to driving safely to help end the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

The information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from the Texas Peace Officer's Crash Report (CR-3). This information was received and processed by the department as of April 12, 2022.

County man sentenced to life for sexual assault of a child

Reginald M. Wickware, 52, of Tyler, was found guilty and sentenced to a life term in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice by a Smith County jury on Wednesday for the offense of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child, county officials announced.

Smith County prosecutors Noah Coltman and Elizabeth Anderson presented evidence that the Defendant sexually abused an 11 year-old girl in October of 2019.

During the punishment phase of trial, the jury also heard evidence that the defendant had 21 previous criminal convictions since the late 1980's.

In total, the defendant had nine prior felony convictions and an additional 12 misdemeanor convictions.

The jury deliberated 15 minutes before returning its verdict.

American Legion Car Show set Saturday

Officials with the American Legion Post 15 in Lindale have announced their annual car show is scheduled for 7 a.m. Saturday, July 2 at the post, located at 18251 County Road 498.

Gates open at 7 a.m., registration ends at 12 noon and trophies will be awarded at 2 p.m.

Admission is free. Registration price is \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the show.

For more information, contact Rusty Morris at 903-571-9570.



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The Lindale Eagles Texas Division II 7 on 7 football team competed at the state tournament this past weekend in College Station. (Courtesy photo)

Lindale falls at state 7 on 7 tourney

The Lindale High School Eagles' entry in the Texas 7 on 7 Championship ended this past weekend with a loss in their first game in the Division II championship bracket to Lorena, 34-19 in College Station.

Lindale went 2-1 in pool play in the tournament, which began on Thursday, June 23.

Bracket play was single elimination.

On Thursday, Lindale defeated Sealy, 26-20 and Hereford, 19-13, to advance to the championship bracket.

This was the first time the Eagles were in the state tournament since 2015.

Competing for Lindale were Clint

Thurman, Patrick Daniels, Nashad Lee, Colter Maya, Marcus Field, Wyatt Parker, Ethan Moriarity, Brett Maya, Alex Romero, Cason Watts, Landon Sullivan, Ryan Betts, Christian Widemon, Jalin Hines, Levi Thornton, Jake Curbow, Ryan Stanton, Aiden Warnell, Trey Mazratian and Jaxon Davenport.

Carmel Baptist Church VBS scheduled

Carmel Baptist Church in Lindale has scheduled Vacation Bible School beginning on July 10 and running through July 14, officials announced.

Ages are Pre-K through 6th grade. Each day's activities will begin at 6:30 a.m. and continue until

8:15 p.m.

Children need to be registered on the first day at the registration booth.

Carmel Baptist Church is located at 19069 County Road 481. The phone number is 903-882-3852.

Keep your pets safe from brutal summer heat

By LSU Veterinary School of Medicine

Summer has officially begun, so it's a good time to remember that pets require special care to avoid heatstroke.

Dogs cannot tell us when they feel hot, and it is our responsibility to ensure that our pets have sufficient shelter from the sun, an adequate supply of water to drink, and a way to cool off as the heat rises.

Be aware of these essential needs when leaving your pets outside during the day. Moreover, do not forget that at this time of the year, it is life-threatening to leave pets in hot cars, even if they are parked in the shade, and even for just a few minutes.

Each summer, the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital sees several heatstroke cases.

A dog's body temperature is normally between 99°F and 102.5°F. A

rise of three degrees to a temperature of 105°F can cause the dog to have heat-related illness.

Puppies and kittens as well as older dogs and cats are predisposed to heatstroke and heat-related illness. Also, brachycephalic breeds (those with short snouts or muzzles such as pugs and bulldogs) are at increased risk.

Early signs of heatstroke include rapid breathing, rapid heart rate, and gums that change from their healthy light pink color to bright red or even dull, grayish-pink.

Vomiting and diarrhea can also be observed. Heatstroke is an absolute emergency. If your dog exhibits these signs, move him to a shaded area, soak the coat in cool water, and get him to a veterinarian immediately.

These signs can be followed in minutes or days by collapse, organ failure, seizure, coma, blood clotting

disorders, and death. All pets with heatstroke need to be treated immediately and monitored carefully for a few days.

Prevention of heatstroke is imperative. Please ensure that your outdoor pets have plenty of shade and water and never leave your pets in a parked car, even with the windows down.

Make sure that your pet has a tip-proof bowl, so that he can't spill his water bowl while you're not at home.

Also, outside water bowls should be kept in the shade, especially if they are stainless steel as these heat up quickly in the sun.

Lastly, do not go jogging or biking with your dog at midday during the summer. Even if you enjoy a jog or bike ride in the heat, it could have disastrous consequences for your dog.

The concrete can also become too hot for the pads of your dog's feet. Plan walks for the early morning or late evening hours when the temperature is relatively low.

Make sure your pet's exercise level is appropriate for the age, breed and body condition. Consult your veterinarian for advice. With a few minor precautions, you and your pets can have a safe and happy summer.



Three Lindale students earn Dean's List honors at Ouachita Baptist

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.— Three students from Lindale have been named to the Spring 2022 Dean's List at Ouachita Baptist University, officials announced.

Ashton Roots, Austin Roots and Sydni Watts earned Dean's List honors with the university.

They joined more than 350 students who compiled at least a 3.5 grade point average and be classified as a full-time student, with a minimum of 12 academic hours and have no incomplete or failing grade for the semester.

Ouachita Baptist University, a private liberal arts university, is in its 136th year as a Christ-centered learning community and is ranked the No. 2 "Regional College in the South" by "U.S. News & World Report." In Fall 2021, Ouachita recorded its highest enrollment in 55 years and its highest-ever four-year graduation rate for the class of 2021. Learn more about the university's highly personal approach, reflected in a student/faculty ratio of 13:1, at www.obu.edu.

Make smart food choices for healthy aging

By Claudann Jones
Smith County Extension Agent
Family, Community Health



It's never too late to make smarter food choices. Healthy eating is an important part of staying healthy as you age. Following these tips can help you maintain a healthy weight, get the nutrients you need, and lower your risk of chronic disease.

Try to eat and drink from these food groups each day: fruits, vegetables, grains, protein, and dairy. Variety is an important part of eating healthfully and also choosing lean sources of protein!

Cut back on foods and beverages that are high in calories and added sugars, sodium, and saturated fats. Shift to healthier options like fresh fruits and vegetables instead.

Instead of high-calorie snacks, such as potato chips, try nutrient-dense snacks, such as carrots.

Instead of fruit products with added sugars, such as fig cookies, try fresh fruit, such as a peach and pair with yogurt for added protein.

Instead of regular cola, try water flavored with fruits or vegetables or infuse your own water with fresh herbs out of your garden.

Use a food diary or app to help you keep track of your total daily calories, carbs, protein, fiber, etc., and see if you are making healthy choices. Learn how many calories you need based on your level of daily activity.

Choose a variety of foods that are packed with nutrients and low in calories. Variety is the key to make sure you are getting adequate amounts of nutrients from all sources.

Check the food labels to understand what foods will meet your nutritional needs each day.

How Many Calories Do You Need Each Day?

Women:

Not physically active — 1,600 cal.

Moderately active — 1,800 cal.

Active lifestyle — 2,000-2,200 cal.

Men:

Not physically active — 2,000-2,200 cal.

Moderately active — 2,200-2,400 cal.

Active lifestyle — 2,400-2,800 cal.

Choosing healthy foods has health benefits for everyone. As you age, food provides the nutrients you need. Learn about making smart food choices as part of your daily life.

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

Stay well and stay safe.

Marketing on shoestring budget

Marketing is a necessity for businesses of all types and sizes. According to the Small Business Administration, the average business spends between 9.6 percent and 11.8 percent of revenue on marketing.

However, small businesses may not always have a large enough budget to launch a massive campaign. The good news is that you do not need a huge budget to begin your marketing strategy.

"While using a trustworthy agency will ultimately give your business the best results," Mechele Agbayani Mills, said. "There are many free or inexpensive tools at your disposal."

BBB provides the following tips on how to promote your business in a big way on a small budget.

Use free online marketing tools

Small businesses can leverage free marketing opportunities provided by search engines. For instance, by creating a profile on search engines, your business will rank in top results when users enter "near me" queries. With optimization strategies like geo-targeting and local Search En-

gine Optimization (SEO), local businesses can appear on the top of the search engine results page without spending any money.

A survey of online user behavior shows that there has been a 200 percent surge of "near me" searches since 2017. The survey also reveals that 97 percent of users discover local businesses through online searches, and that there is a 50 percent chance that users will visit a business's website from their search engine profile.

Search engines make it simple for consumers to find the nearest business providing the goods or services they are seeking, which means this is an important area to concentrate your marketing efforts, especially if you are on a budget.

Use email marketing for informational or promotional advertising

Email marketing is proven to drive a worthwhile return on investment (ROI). For every dollar spent, businesses earn an average of \$36 from email marketing efforts. Utilizing email marketing to maintain communication with your

customers while also making sure they are aware of complementary product offerings is a great way to increase sales.

Cultivate sustainable practices

One way to raise local brand awareness is by making positive contributions to the community. Some examples of how your business can get involved in community-centered activities include:

Partner with the local government for environmental beautification.

Mobilize the community to participate in recycling projects.

Donate or participate in community causes, such as raising funds to save abandoned animals, raising funds for local students, or helping cancer patients.

Organize social events, such as annual runs to raise awareness for cardiovascular illness or cook-offs for businesses running eateries.

Use the right social media platforms

While social media users are on the rise, especially in the under-30 age bracket, this trend does not translate to a market niche for small

businesses. Strategizing is vital to driving a positive ROI from your social media marketing efforts.

Some strategies for succeeding with social media marketing include:

Focus on the platforms your target audience frequents. Each social media site has distinct demographics requiring different marketing techniques.

Utilize the free analytics tools on social media platforms to understand the characteristics of your audience.

Engage with your followers and subscribers to build brand awareness and loyalty. Remain consistent in posting.

Make the most of mobile advertising

Research shows that in 2022, worldwide mobile ad spending will reach 395 billion and grow to 494 billion by 2024. This trend is being driven by the global rise of smartphones. There are several inexpensive ways to market your business to mobile users. These include:

Optimize your website for mobile devices and ensure that mobile response times are quick.

Use free tools to create mobile videos for marketing. Most tools have integrated features that simplify the creative process.

Use stories on social media platforms to generate user traffic.

Send out SMS offers.

Form strategic partnerships

You can also promote your small business by partnering with businesses that provide complementary products or services. This can make it easier for locals to fulfill their purchasing requirements.

You can better the package deal by providing subsidized prices for the product or service combination. If you pursue this strategy, however, it's important to ensure that the companies you partner with share your same values.

For example, partnering with a reputable organization like the BBB is a great way to strengthen your reputation. By getting accredited with the BBB, consumers will know that your business is trustworthy and that it adheres to the BBB values, which will boost your brand value.

TXDOT crews work county areas this week

Maintenance crews from the Tyler District of the Texas Department of Transportation will be working in Smith County this week, said TXDOT spokesman Jeff Williford.

Sidewalks at Various Locations in Smith County

Limits: SH 64 in Tyler (Entrada Lane to Parkdale Dr.); SH 110 in Troup (CR 2138 to FM 347); SH 135 in Troup (FM 13 to Tiger Drive)

Contractor: Highway 19 Construction, LLC

Cost: \$3.5 million

Anticipated Completion Date: Summer 2022

No work is scheduled this week. The project consists of sidewalk construction along SH 64 west in Tyler, SH 110 west in Troup and SH 135 north in Troup.

SH 155 Resurfacing Project

Limits: From Loop 323 in Tyler, southwest to the Anderson County line

Contractor: Madden Contracting Company, LLC

Cost: \$17 million

Anticipated Completion Date: Summer 2022

The contractor is scheduled to continue the mill and inlay on the main lanes. Anticipate lane closures while work is in progress. When in progress, hours will be from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m., Sunday through Thursday nights. Expect delays. The project will resurface the roadway, upgrade drainage structures, and repair bridge joints.

Tyler State Park Bridge and

Resurfacing Project

Limits: Park Maintenance Road in Tyler State Park SW to Cedar Point Camping Area Exit

Contractor: Encino Landscape

Cost: \$2.4 Million

Anticipated Completion Date: Summer 2022

The contractor is scheduled to begin construction on the bridge and continue cut/fill work throughout the project. The project will consist of bridge and pavement resurfacing.

No work is scheduled this week. The project consists of landscape development.

Whittle Street, CR 2110 and CR 289 Bridge Replacement Project

Limits: Whittle Street, CR 2110, CR 289

Contractor: THK Construction, LLC

Cost: \$1.25 million

Anticipated Completion Date: Fall 2022

The project replaces the existing bridge with a new structure.

The contractor is scheduled to continue construction on the CR 2110 bridge at Kickapoo Creek. The road is closed to through traffic. The project replaces the existing bridge with a new structure.

No work is scheduled this week on the CR 289 bridge at Prairie Creek. The road is closed to through traffic. The project replaces the existing bridge with a new structure. The contractor will complete one bridge at a time. Weather permitting, the bridge is scheduled to be completed at the end of May.

IH 20 Mill and Inlay

Limits: Van Zandt County Line to SH 110

Contractor: Texas Materials Group, INC.

Cost: \$6 million

Anticipated Completion Date: Fall 2022

The contractor is scheduled to continue base repairs on the westbound (inside lane) and the eastbound (inside lane). Nightly lane closures will be in place. Work will be done at night, Sundays from 9 PM to 5 AM and Monday-Thursday 8 PM to 5 AM. Expect delays on this corridor when construction is in progress. Project consists of an overlay with TBPFC surface, ACP surface, planning, shoulder texturing and pavement markings.

SH 135 Bridge Replacements

Limits: Mud Creek Bridge & Mud Creek Relief Bridge

Contractor: Highway 19 Construction, LLC

Cost: \$4.2 million

Anticipated Completion Date: Fall 2022

No work is scheduled this week. The project is currently under time suspension due to migrating birds nesting under the bridges. The project consists of the replacement of the bridge at Mud Creek and Mud Creek Relief.

US 271 Rehab, Turn Lanes, and Pavement Overlay

Limits: From FM 16 going southwest to I-20

Contractor: Madden Contracting Company, LLC

Cost: \$12.4 million

Anticipated Completion Date: October 2022

Crews will be paving hot mix on the northbound outside lane and shoulder. The

northbound outside lane will be permanently closed with signs and channelizing devices for the affected section. Traffic control will be managed by flaggers as needed. The project consists of paving, structures, MBGF, and pavement markings from I-20 north to the Gregg County line. The portion from I-20 to FM 16 also includes turn lanes and pavement rehabilitation.

IH 20 at Barber Road

Limits: Exit and entrance ramps to Barber Road

Contractor: Longview Bridge and Road

Cost: \$1.49 million

Anticipated Completion Date: July 2022

This project consists of widening on ramps and exit ramps, culverts, drainage upgrades, new metal beam guard fence and bridge rails on the Barber Road overpass, and asphalt overlay. No work this week on this project.

Safety Improvement Project (Van Zandt, Anderson, Smith and Henderson County)

Limits: FM 47, etc.

Contractor: Highway 19 Construction, LLC.

Cost: \$4.5 million

Anticipated Completion Date: Summer 2022

The contractor is scheduled to continue work on driveways and drainage structures on FM 850 in Smith County. Motorists should be prepared for lane closures and delays. The project includes grading, structure work, guard rail replacement and bridge rail upgrades

Fire marshal urges caution during dry weather

Although Smith County is not under a burn ban at this time, officials are continuing to monitor weather, drought and fire conditions daily and urge citizens to be vigilant when it comes to fire dangers, said county information officer Casey Murphy.

"Currently the Keetch-Byram Drought Index, one component of our decision matrix, is lower than our surrounding counties," Smith County Fire Marshal Jay Brooks said. A second factor is that we are currently not seeing an unusual amount of wildfires for this time of year. Finally, we monitor the fires for behavior and are not yet

seeing growth and energy which would necessitate the need for a burn ban."

The Fire Marshal's Office will brief the Commissioners Court and the public each week, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 28, as the conditions are expected to worsen rapidly with the extreme heat and dry conditions the area has experienced as of late, he said.

"We continue to have problems with people who are burning without an adequate extinguishment source like water and people who are setting fires and leaving them," Brooks said.

Here are some helpful safety

tips from the Texas A&M Forest Service:

- Check for local burn bans and keep informed of wildfire danger levels.

- Avoid burning trash, leaves and brush on dry, windy days.

- Check to see if weather changes are expected. Postpone outdoor burning if shifts in wind direction, high winds or wind gusts are in the forecast.

- Before burning, establish control lines down to bare mineral soil at least five feet wide around any burn barrels, brush piles or other piled debris. The larger the pile, the wider the line needed to ensure

burning materials won't be blown or roll off the pile into vegetation outside the line.

- Burn household trash only in a burn barrel or other container equipped with a screen or metal grid to keep embers contained.

- Never burn aerosol cans.

- Always stay outside with your fires until they are completely out, and remember to keep water and hand tools, like a shovel or garden rake, ready in case your fire should attempt to spread.

FIREWORKS

Brooks is also urging Smith County citizens to be safe with fireworks when celebrating the

Fourth of July.

"Fireworks go on sale this Saturday across Texas to begin preparing for the celebration of our great nation's independence," he said. "Unfortunately, this weekend we are expecting unfavorable wildfire conditions, which could lead to high risk of firework-associated fires. While we are not currently under a burn ban, we are asking that Smith County residents please hold off on discharging their fireworks until early next week when conditions are expected to improve somewhat. As always, I want to remind the public to be safe with fireworks."

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of William Dean Battenfield, Deceased, were issued to Michael S. McFarlin, as Independent Executor on June 22, 2022, in Cause No. 46413P, County Court of Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate should present them to the Independent Executor, c/o Adams & Coker, P.C., 4540 Kinsey Dr., Tyler, Texas 75703, 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 M. DWIGHT PARSLEY, Deceased, were issued on June 22, 2022, in Cause No. 46395P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: MARTIN DWIGHT PARSLEY.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to:

MICHAEL C. COKER,
Attorney at Law,
4540 Kinsey Drive,
Tyler, Texas 75703.

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Go ahead, cool off ...

City of Lindale doesn't anticipate water restrictions

Continued from Page 1

Other cities in the county, such as Tyler, use surface water (i.e. Lake Tyler) for their needs. If drought conditions persist, this obviously presents a problem for the city's residents.

At city-owned Faulkner Park, a well was dug in a shallow aquifer for usage in the park, which allowed for watering of the baseball and softball fields.

But even though there's plenty of water for city of Lindale's residents, Daugherty still believes conservation is a good idea.

"I've always believed it's a good thing to conserve water," he said. "But we don't anticipate any restrictions in the future."

Which means everyone can cool down at the splash pad without feeling guilty.

Sunday shooting wounds five in eastern Smith County

Smith County Sheriff's Department deputies responded to a shooting early Sunday morning which resulted in five people being injured – one critically – at an event off Old Kilgore Highway in eastern Smith County, said spokesman Larry Christian.

A 13-year-old was shot and was treated and released from a local hospital while a 30-year-old victim remained hospitalized with a gunshot to the face. Deputies received a call just after 12:30 a.m. Sunday referring to multiple shootings at an event organized by Unified Elite Riderz from Marshall, Christian said, describing the event as a horse show, trail ride and ATV ride.

Christian said investigators spoke to witnesses at the scene and have identified several persons of interest they wish to interview.

According to witnesses, an altercation took place near the concert stage which resulted in at least two trail ride groups shooting into the crowd.

Witnesses also said a private security firm was at the event and collected firearms from attendees entering the concert area. After the initial shooting, witnesses obtained their weapons from security and regained their firearms.

A second shooting occurred after that, witnesses said.

In addition to Smith County Sheriff's Deputies, units from the Smith County Fire Marshal's office, the Precinct 4 Constable's Office and Department of Public Safety troopers also responded, Christian said.

Officials believe all injuries occurred during the initial shooting incident.

The hospitalized victim was listed in critical but stable condition.



Smith County firefighters from A Shift at the Red Springs station worked a 6-acre wildfire in the Lindale area off County Road 472 recently. On average, 49% of the fires reported to local fire departments on the 4th of July are caused by fireworks. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) tracks fire statistics from across the US. In 2018, approximately 19,500 fires ignited by fireworks were reported to local fire departments, while hospital emergency departments treated an estimated 9,100 fireworks related injuries. The most common fireworks related injuries occurred to hands/fingers (28%), legs (24%), and eyes (19%). 36% of the victims were under the age of 15. During a 5 year period from 2014-2018, 87% of fireworks fires were outdoor fires and 28% occurred on the 4th of July.

If you are planning on lighting a few of your own fireworks, follow these safety guidelines to avoid becoming a statistic:

- Postpone your fireworks use if the weather is hot, dry, and/or windy.
- Check for burn bans and local ordinances/restrictions on fireworks use.
- Check your surroundings before lighting any fireworks. Do this during the day, if you plan on lighting your fireworks at night.
- Never light fireworks near other people
- Many fireworks injuries occur to bystanders.
- Never allow you children to handle fireworks.
- Never mix fireworks and alcohol.

1 In 4 traffic deaths caused by drunk drivers

AUSTIN – Analia Zarate of Edinburg was four years old when she and her mom were headed home from church on a Sunday night. A drunk driver ran a stop sign and hit their car, killing her mom instantly. More than 20 years have passed since that tragic night, and Analia still remembers every detail as if it happened yesterday.

She wishes the drunk driver could see the pain he caused by taking her mother away from her. Analia's mom, Nereida Flores Garza, is just one of thousands of people killed every year by drunk drivers—1,061 in Texas last year. Stories like this are why TxDOT is launching its Faces of Drunk Driving summer campaign that puts real faces behind the statistics.

"Every crash and every death caused by a drunk driver is 100% preventable," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "We hope these personal accounts from real offenders and survivors wake people up to the consequences of drinking and driving. Always get a sober ride through a designated driver, taxi, rideshare app, or calling a friend—or simply stay where you are."

Last year, 24% of all traffic deaths in Texas were caused by drunk driving. That translates to an average of one person dying every eight hours and 15 minutes. In 2021, Texas saw 25,261 drunk driving related traffic crashes—an increase of 9% over

what was seen in 2020.

The Faces of Drunk Driving campaign reminds us that the human toll of a drunk driving crash can devastate the lives of victims and survivors forever. Drinking and driving is 100% preventable and can have serious physical, emotional and financial consequences that can last for years. A DWI can be expensive and cause legal hassles, difficulty finding or keeping a job, loss of trust from loved ones, and regret.

That's why the Faces of Drunk Driving campaign also includes stories from people convicted of DUI. Richie tells his story that, after drinking at a friend's house he headed home, lost control of his car and hit a house. As a result, he spent 10 days in jail.

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UT Health East Texas Offers Free Lunch & Learn Seminar about Bariatric Robotic Surgery

TYLER - UT Health East Texas will offer a free lunch and learn seminar, Bariatric Robotic Surgery,

on Friday, July 15, at the UT Health Tyler Pavilion,

801 Clinic Drive. Bariatric surgeon Dr. Hugh Babinneau will give a presentation about a minimally invasive option for bariatric surgery.

Complimentary lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with the presentation and questions from noon to 1 p.m.

Register online at UTHealthEastTexas.com/seminars. Seating is limited and reservations are required by July 13.

UT Health East Texas provides care to thousands of patients each year through an extensive regional network that includes 10 hospitals, more than 50 clinics, the Olympic Plaza Tower, 13 regional rehabilitation facilities, two freestanding emergency centers, regional home health services covering 41 counties, an EMS fleet of more than 50 ambulances and four helicopters, and a comprehensive seven-trauma center care network, including the region's only Level 1 trauma facility.

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