

Lindale News & Times

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Canadian newlyweds Aleksander and Liliana Lindale dropped by the Lindale News and Times office this past week and met office manager Darla Strickland.

Courtesy photo

Lindale newlyweds take long road – to Lindale

By Terry Cannon
Editor

Most newlyweds, when considering a honeymoon destination, might consider places with mountains, beaches or some other type of exotic getaway.

Others will detour off the beaten path and choose a road less traveled. A road less traveled, as say, from Canada.

As say, to Lindale from Uxbridge in Ottawa, Canada. And if that wasn't interesting enough, the honeymooners in question have a familiar last name.

Welcome to Lindale, Mr. and Mrs. Lindale. That's right, Aleksander and Liliana Lindale had a big time in this little East Texas city over the past few days, meeting lots of friendly folks.

This journey – some 1,400 miles and 21 hours -- took shape a few years ago when the couple were first dating and Aleksander came upon the Lillie Russell Memorial Library's Facebook page.

Then when the wedding date was set (which took place on June 25), they decided it would be fun to hop in the car and visit their namesake city.

They made reservations at Honey's Hideout, an Air BNB just off Jim Hogg Road.

From there, spontaneity ruled the day. "It's just been a random road trip," Liliana said. "We made an eight-day reservation (at Honey's Hideout) and just started seeing the sights."

Visits included the Lindale Candy Company, the library (of course), M&M Monogramming (for Lindale T-shirts), the Pink Pistol and the city of Lindale tourism office.

"When we got here one of the first things we noticed was our name on all the signs," she said, laughing. "That reminded me that I had a new last name."

They also visited places outside of Lindale, including Gladewater and Canton, where they took in First Monday Trades Day.

The size and scope of the Trades Day was impressive, she said, as was the friendliness which extends across the region.

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Sallie Black, left, was sworn in on Tuesday night (July 5) at city hall by Lindale City Secretary Michelle Wiese. Black was elected to the Place 4 position on the council.

New City Council member takes oath

Sallie Black was sworn in as the new Place 4 member of the Lindale City Council during the council's first meeting of July (Tuesday July 5) after winning a runoff election over Owen Scott on June 25.

Lindale City Secretary Michelle Wiese performed the swearing in duties.

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.

Black joins 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 council canvassed the votes from the June 25 election prior to Black being sworn in then ap-

proved the results of that election. In other action, the council:

-- Awarded a bid for a utility relocation project on FM 16. The bid for \$3.04 was awarded to FM Construction.

-- Approved annexation service agreements for properties located at 17631 Cory Ray Lane; 13397 Choice Circle and 38.4 acres of land in the R.W. Chapman Survey. Council members also called a public hearing for 6 p.m. July 19 to discuss the improvements needed for the projected project.

Council members learned that plans call for 100 new houses to be built in this area of the city. City

Continued on Page 2

County	City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Smith	Arp	1.500%	\$19,088.22	\$14,904.41	28.07%	\$147,320.96	\$129,369.76	13.87%
Smith	Bullard	1.500%	\$65,261.49	\$58,592.16	11.38%	\$488,078.47	\$415,580.34	17.44%
Smith	Lindale	1.500%	\$380,969.69	\$337,933.88	12.73%	\$2,543,906.23	\$2,274,991.53	11.82%
Smith	New Chapel Hill	1.000%	\$1,556.02	\$1,573.86	-1.13%	\$13,038.21	\$10,830.34	20.38%
Smith	Noonday	1.000%	\$20,670.15	\$20,541.13	0.62%	\$145,127.74	\$125,173.44	15.94%
Smith	Troup	1.500%	\$56,525.52	\$51,036.88	10.75%	\$413,292.28	\$337,074.48	22.61%
Smith	Tyler	1.500%	\$4,563,296.31	\$4,363,388.59	4.58%	\$33,897,359.15	\$29,887,067.79	13.41%
Smith	Whitehouse	1.500%	\$113,413.46	\$108,890.29	4.15%	\$805,934.88	\$695,899.22	15.81%
Smith	Winona	1.250%	\$15,514.00	\$17,616.65	-11.93%	\$121,710.56	\$109,620.50	11.02%

Local sales tax revenue remains strong

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$1.03 billion in local sales tax allocations for July, 15.3 percent more than in July 2021. These allocations are based on sales made in May by businesses that report tax monthly.

Lindale continued to post strong growth - recording another month of positive sales tax numbers. Lindale's sales tax revenue was 12.73-percent above last year's numbers for this time of year - \$380,969.69 compared to \$337,933.88 in 2021. For the year, Lindale sets at 11.82-percent ahead of 2021 numbers - \$2,543,906.23 compared to \$2,274,991.53.

In June, state sales tax revenue totaled \$3.68 billion, 16.4 percent more

than in June 2021. The majority of June sales tax revenue is based on sales made in May and remitted to the agency in June.

"State sales tax collections surged in June, outpacing inflation, with strong growth in receipts from all major economic sectors," Hegar said.

"The strongest growth was in sectors driven primarily by business spending, with receipts from the mining sector nearly doubling collections from last year, and with receipts from the manufacturing, wholesale trade and construction sectors also up sharply. Receipts from restaurants and the services sector were strong once again in June, as consumers continue to spend more on live events with entertainment options becoming available that were not available the last two years."

Local woman identified in July 4 hit-and-run

Esperanza H. Guillen, 37, of Lindale was killed as she road a scooter on Woodlands Drive (County Road 4191) early Monday, July 4, by a hit-and-run driver, according to Jean Dark of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Guillen was driving south on Woodlands Drive as a car was driving north on the same road, Dark said.

The car then crossed the roadway and hit Guillen.

The driver, who was driving a 2003 Buick Century, fled the scene, officials said.

Guillen, who was wearing a helmet, was pronounced dead at the scene.

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

Not a garden party ...

When you break your fairly new computer it sure ain't a garden party. More like "Dumb and Dumber"...I could play both parts in that ridiculous movie I have never seen. One thing I know for sure is that stupidity, at least my brand of it, is expensive. As in flat-pocket expensive.

Ever the multi-tasker I was working on my computer and answering an office phone call when I knocked over a glass of tea that short circuited my one year and four month old MacAir laptop computer ending its young and productive life.

That \$2 glass of tea is one mistake I will NOT be repeating. AND, this go round the \$260 Apple Care insurance for my new laptop looks like an excellent bargain.

Now here is the rub...we can't set the new computer up because I can't remember my Apple ID which is locked and inaccessible for several days before I can reset it. Have I told you lately how much I HATE technology?...at least when it comes to expense in money, time and my darlin' hubby's limited patience in the delay to activate the new computer.

I am paying to have my old hard drive salvaged. Please put that on your prayer list because naturally I hadn't backed up all that important info in, oh, say, a year. Plus the stuff I needed for this week's papers resides somewhere within the corroded circuits.

Indeed, dumb and dumber.

And fellow mid-lifers don't you just hate going to Best Buy, the Apple store or to buy a smartphone and those smart aleck, millennial geeks who work there are smirking at your attempts to purchase the right computer or phone for poor, old decrepit you?

Maybe AARP needs to come up with a dedicated computer model for Baby Boomers as they did with the geriatric cell phone which we smirkingly bought for our parents in their 80s and 90s. Dang, now that I recall my own smirk, I owe that Geek Squad kid at Best Buy an apology.

The AARP computer would have a screen the size of an

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



old drive-in movie theater and process at the speed of light. And while they are at it 'they' need to create a Help Desk that speaks impatient Baby Boomer. Yeah, yeah, Mac says it does, but if I can't figure out the solution in two minutes or less I am done. I need someone to TALK me through it NOT a long list of 'Help Desk' instructions that Dumb and Dumber here can't decipher...which actually translates to: I don't have the patience to wade through to completion. Just give me a great big red SOLUTION button for me to push NOW. (MY typical 'solution button' is named Jim Bardwell and when working on computers he does sometimes turn red.)

The laptop I am typing on is my worn out teacher model with a short which requires me to hold the screen and my mouth just right to type. Serves me right. Repentance occurred with my MacAir's death certificate, penance is occurring as I type this on my ancient, by computer standards, MacPro. When I am not repenting from cursing my laptop, I am praying to find solutions. I don't know if that means this situation is good for my spiritual growth or not.

The moral of this tale is: ALWAYS keep a lid on drinks, keep them well away from your computer, ALWAYS buy the computer protection plan AND appreciate the fact that your boss/hubby says patiently "these things happen" when you kill a \$1,700 computer and then overlook his meltdown when you can't remember your Apple ID to access your new computer for the newspaper deadline.

Apple...hmmmm...wasn't that the first problem in the Garden of Eden?

That sounds about right.

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



TEA releases STAAR results for grades 3-8

The Texas Education Agency has released the 2022 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

Results for grades 3-8, which showed across-the-board improvements in all grades and subjects, with especially significant gains in reading.

"The investments that the state is making in reading academies and accelerated instruction are clearly paying dividends for our students, and the results are a testament to the hard work of teachers across our state," Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said. "While we still have much work to do to recover from COVID-related learning loss in mathematics, the improvements our students have made in reading are clear."

The spring results include exams in mathematics and reading for grades 3-8, 5th and 8th grade science, and 8th grade social studies.

Military bases have big impact on state's economy

A study analyzing the impact on the state's economy from U.S. military installations concludes they contributed at least \$114.1 billion to the Texas economy last year and supported more than 600,000 jobs across the state. Texas is home to 15 military installations and the U.S. Army Futures Command, which is located in Austin and runs modernization projects for the U.S. Army.

The study was completed by the comptroller's office at the behest of the Texas Military Preparedness Commission.

"It is amazing to see the tremendous economic impact these military installations have in Texas," said Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar. "The importance of these bases reaches far beyond direct jobs and personal income. The facilities, and the men and women who work and are stationed at them, form the backbone of communities and support countless businesses and induced jobs throughout the state."

Grant program to benefit travel industry

The travel industry, hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, is set to receive \$180 million of funds under a grant program funded by the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The program is designed to provide grants for the recovery of Texas businesses in the tourism, travel, and hospitality industry affected by the pandemic.

"Travel and tourism are critical components to both the state and local economies," said Gov. Greg Abbott. "Visitor spending at Texas destinations brings new money into communities and spurs local job creation across industries in every region of the state."

A series of webinars are slated to provide information for specific businesses. To get more details and register, go to: <https://ttir.gov.texas.gov>.

Demographic center analyzes state census results

The U.S. Census Bureau has released its 2021 population estimates, and the Texas Demographic Center has crunched the numbers to determine:

- Texas is growing both older and more diverse. Median age increased to 35.4 years in 2021, up from 33.6 in 2010.
- Texas has more Black residents than any other state.
- All urban core counties in Texas, except for Travis County, lost non-Hispanic white population.
- The state has the third-largest Asian population in the country.
- Harris County has more Black residents than all other counties in the country except Cook County, which includes Chicago.

Sharing the road with large trucks

Anyone who has driven the state's major highways recently likely has noticed the number of 18-wheelers on the road has risen as businesses and industries work to fill demand in many sectors. The Texas Department of Transportation is reminding motorists to take extra care when driving around big trucks.

Drivers are especially at risk in the state's energy sectors, according to TxDOT. Last year, more than 79,000 crashes occurred in the state's five major energy production areas, resulting in 1,119 deaths — a 20% increase over the previous year.

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

An Initial Step Forward

After agreeing not to support any new fossil fuel investments with public dollars after 2022, the G-7 has backtracked and decided to facilitate development of liquified natural gas (LNG) infrastructure. The G-7 provides a forum for leaders of the seven nations with the largest developed economies (as well as the European Union as a non-enumerated member) to discuss key issues and policies. Although this action is regarded as quite controversial by many, it's the right move at a critical time.



Essentially, by supporting the LNG infrastructure, the decision helps transition natural gas into a global market rather

than one controlled by the pipeline corridors on various continents. Natural gas can be liquified in places where it is plentiful (such as Texas), then shipped on tankers to be regasified for use in Asia, Europe, and other markets with insufficient supplies of their own.

The global LNG market has grown rapidly since its inception just a few years ago. In 2021, US LNG exports averaged 9.7 billion cubic feet per day, up 50% over 2020. Upon completion of planned projects along the gulf coast, export capacity will increase even further. China is one of the largest importers of US LNG, which is beneficial for reducing the reliance on coal, with South Korea being another major market.

From a geopolitical perspective, the G-7's action dilutes Russia's power over Europe through control of natural gas supplies. It can also help to even out pricing variations and meet pressing energy needs. LNG facilities are expensive, and using public resources to accelerate their development is both rational and essential.

While it's imperative to deal with the climate crisis, it's also crucial to be realistic about future energy requirements. In every scenario recently projected by the Energy Information Administration, oil and natural gas will be needed in greater quantities than today at least through 2050, even with the substantial deployment of renewables. Global economic growth is increasing demand, and developing economies require reliable power and affordable fuels in order to improve living standards and even subsist going forward.

The Russia invasion of Ukraine put an exclamation point on the incontrovertible fact that we cannot curtail the use of conventional fuels in the manner and at the pace that some might like.

A key part of the solution to the very real climate dilemma is to responsibly deploy conventional fuels cleaner. Natural gas inherently involves low emissions, and also lends itself well to effective carbon capture.

Although the G-7 statement in support of LNG development is a step in the right direction and a "wake up call" regarding the economic and geopolitical realities confronting the world, it is but a first step in a long journey.

Stay safe!

Peterson on Academic All-State team

Lindale High School's Sam Peterson, standout pitcher for the Eagles this past season, has been named to the Texas High School Baseball Coaches' Association Class 4A Academic All-State Team, officials announced.

Peterson, who will attend Texas State University in San Marcos on a baseball scholarship this coming season, was also an all-district selection as the Eagles' quarterback the past two seasons.

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

Owners: Jim & Suzanne Bardwell

Publisher: Jim Bardwell
Editor: Terry Cannon
news@lindalenews-times.com

Advertising: Daria Strickland
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New City Council member takes oath

Continued from Page 1
Manager Carolyn Caldwell said residents of the area asked to be annexed into the

city limits.

-- Approved the purchase of a vehicle for the public works department with

funds from capital expenditures. The truck will be a 1.5 ton pickup to be used for moving heavy equipment.

Caldwell noted that because of changes implemented by automobile manufacturers, vehicles used for city fleets aren't as readily available as they once were.

"This is the first time this has happened," she said about having to use capital expenditure funds for the vehicle.

Council members approved up to \$70,000 to be spent on a truck, which will have to be bought off of a dealer's lot.

Lindale newlyweds take long road – to Lindale

Continued from Page 1

"When we got to the parking lot, (the attendant) saw our Ontario license plates and let us park for free," she recalled. Lilianna said she and her husband will always treasure the new friends they made in Lindale and East Texas.

"We felt blessed everywhere we went," she said.

Now, the happy honeymoon couple is heading east with visits to Mississippi, Alabama and Myrtle Beach as well as a town in Georgia.

Not surprisingly, it's called Lindale.

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Scammers target elderly for their dirty business

At the risk of sounding pretentious, I've never been able to understand how someone can be talked into handing over their money to strangers offering outrageous promises.

Perhaps it was the influence of the common sense dispensed by my mom and dad while growing up that has made me suspicious of anything that sounds too good to be true.

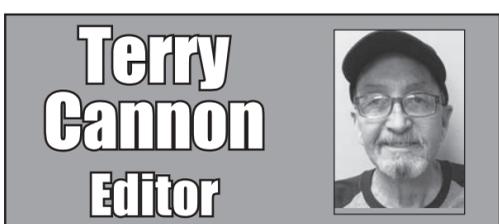
The downside to this, of course, is cynicism. The longer I've been in the newspaper biz the more cynical I've become because unfortunately, a lot of people say some outrageous things that require proof.

But I'd rather be too cynical than too gullible, which is what too many senior citizens – and I am indeed one – have become.

I've known family members and co-workers who've had to deal with their elder relations being all too willing to hand over cash to some sketchy schemer.

Recently, I came across some helpful information from the American Association of Retired Persons on how to avoid being scammed or taken for a bunch of money from the nefarious elements in our midst.

There are numerous variations in the scammer's playbook, but many use



similar language, wording or phrases to trick you and rip you off. separate fact from fiction if you listen for five key things. Here are common phrases phone scammers use:

-- We need your Medicare number

One of the most common scams is asking for your medical insurance number. You might receive a phone call from a fake laboratory, clinic or doctor's office, with the caller claiming they need to do further tests. They'll need your Medicare number to process the order.

We get these type of calls at our office several times a week. Most of these calls are recorded so the best thing to do, according to AARP, is to hang up immediately.

If you don't Medicare can get billed for unnecessary tests, many of which it doesn't cover.

-- We can help with a refund

A regular claim from scammers, they offer to help you get a refund from a recent unauthorized online

purchase. Obviously, no such transaction took place, and your account is still secure.

The caller will ask for your banking details or other personal information and giving it can put you at risk of fraud and identity theft. Hang up the phone and contact the online provider directly if you think you have business with the company.

-- Your electricity will be shut off by the end of the day

Nobody wants to get a phone call about shutting off their utilities, and scammers know the panic it can cause.

In this scam, the caller will claim to be from the local electricity or water company and claims your account is past due. You can prevent this by paying the outstanding balance immediately.

Utility companies send an email first, and scammers use robocalls for this scam. So end the call and phone your utility provider through its official number to find out the true status of your account.

-- We need you to down-

load this to your phone

Usually aimed at the elderly, a scammer pretends to be from a well-known tech company. While the reason they claim to be calling varies, it usually involves claims that your device is infected with malware and they can help remove it. Hang up the phone immediately.

Legitimate tech companies will never call you out of nowhere, claiming to know your device is infected with malware. The scammer instructs the victim to download a particular app, but it's nothing more than malware or an application to take complete control of your device.

-- Your Social Security check has been frozen

In this scam, a robocaller will claim that there is a freeze on your Social Security check, and you must pay to prove your identity.

This will never happen, as no federal or state government official will ask for payment or further personal details over the phone unsolicited. Hang up the phone immediately and report the call through the Office of the Inspector General's fraud hotline at 1-800-269-0271.

And finally, the best advice for anyone of any age is simple this: if it sounds too good to be true it usually is.

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, July 15, 2021

Lindale City Council members approved an engineering firm to oversee the Texas Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School Sidewalk project during their regularly scheduled meeting.

Brannon and Associates won the unanimous approval from the council for the project. Traylor and Associates was approved as the administrator of the state grant, which was approved by TXDOT in 2019. Sidewalks will connect Ruby Trails subdivision with Lindale Junior High School, Velma Penny Elementary, E.J. Moss Intermediate School and Pool Park.

FIVE YEARS AGO, July 13, 2017

Lindale ISD hired Mike Maddox as its new Athletic Director, replacing Mike Meador who took a coaching job in the Sulphur Springs ISD.

Maddox will oversee all athletic programs for grades 7th-12th.

"We are very excited to recommend Coach Maddox to join our Lindale team," said Lindale ISD Superintendent Stan Surratt. "Coach Maddox is a perfect fit for our athletic program. He has the reputation of not only being one of the most respected coaches in East Texas, but also as a wonderful mentor for young athletes and coaches."

Maddox coached for 11 years at Grace High School in Tyler, reaching the playoffs for the past eight consecutive years. Maddox was also named NCSAA National Coach of the Year in 2016.

Before taking the helm at Grace, Maddox was the Offensive Coordinator for the Gilmer Buckeyes. In 2004, Gilmer won a state championship.

TEN YEARS AGO, July 12, 2012

The Lindale U12 Dixie League All Star Girls softball team won second place in the regional tournament in New Chapel Hill to qualify for the state tournament in Palestine. Team members include Brina Kuslak, Hanna Knox, Sarah Day, Audrey Myers, Calli Johnson, Brianna Epperson, Tyra Rodden, Erica Boyd, Hallie Haxton, Deanna Saunders, Anna Westberry and Brooklyn Bowman.

John Wayne pistols, "teef" and another Creature

Here lately, all of the phone calls I've been getting have been those blame robocalls. Man, you can't have any fun with those things. Well, I guess you could call 'em back, but who wants to do that.

Well, low and behold, an actual phone creature called this week. Phone creatures, for you out there that haven't been readin' this junk I write for very long are what I call those pesky telemarketers.

Anywho, here's how it went.

"Yellow," I said into the receiver. No one said anything, so I figured it was goin' to be a robocall, but I stayed with it. "Yellow," I said again. Then I heard that little faint click and I was pretty sure it was goin' to be a genuine phone creature.

"Mister Mitchum, this is William with," the creature said, but I jumped in real quick-like and started talkin' before he could tell me who he was with.

Let me stop here and tell you that I decided to talk to him in a voice that sounds



like a cross between Carl of "Slingblade," and Mr. Darling of "The Andy Griffith Show."

"Low there William," I said. "How you doin'?" I guess you's callin' 'bout that pickup truck I gots for sale. It's a good 'un."

"Uh....no sir...."

"Yeah, it is, too. Oh it's a little hard to start and it smokes like it's burnin' pine knots, but once you git 'er cranked, she run good."

"Uh, Mister Mitchum, I'm afraid you're....."

"Now William, I know three hunnerd dollars is a lot of money, so if'n you aint' gots it, I'd be willin' to do some tradin'."

"Mister Mitchum...."

"You see, William, I've been hankerin' to git ahold of one of them there revol-

vin' pistol guns. What I really want is one like ol' John Wayne carried."

"Mister Mitchum...."

"You know who John Wayne is?"

"Uh, yes sir, but...."

"Now I know he had a lot of different guns in his picture shows, but the one I want is like the one he carried in one of his shows that not a lot of people seen."

"Mister Mitchum...."

"He wuz in this here picture show in the 70s called 'Wyatt Earp verses The Sex Pistols.' It wuz a punk rock western, but to tell you the truth, it wudn't that good, but he did have a nice gun. You may have to goggle it on the compooter to see what kind of gun it wuz."

"Mister Mitchum...."

"It wuz filmed up at Dew-

ey's Grooms ol' place up in Dallas. You know, the Longhorn Ballroom. You ever been to the Longhorn Ballroom?"

"Uh, no sir, but...."

"Purdy good place to meet women, you know. You gots a woman, William?"

"Yes sir," he sighed

"Good. Every man deserves a good woman. I've had five. Weren't all good though."

"Mister Mitchum...."

"First one died from eatin' bad mushrooms. I shot the second one."

"What? You shot her?"

"Yeah. She wudn't eat her mushrooms." It got really quiet.

"Uh...Uh....," he stammered.

"Har, Har!" I said. "I's just a funnin' you William. Say, this woman of yours gots her own teef?"

"Teef?"

"Yeah, teef. You know them thangs in your mouth you chew with."

"Oh! Teeth! Uh, yes sir she has her own teeth."

"That's good. That's real

good. Last woman I married didn't have her own teef. Well, when I met her she did, but I found out later they wuz her daddy's teef.

She'd borrowed 'em so she could snatch her a man, I guess. They's nice teefs too. 'Cept for that little gap in the middle. What kind of idiot buys a set of false teef with a gap in the middle? That gap came in handy though. She kept the butt of her cigarette stuck in there.

"Anywho, we gots married later that night and she took me home to meet her folks. That's when I found out about her teef. Her daddy made her give 'em back. Changed her whole appearance. First time I saw her gummin' on a chicken leg I almost puked."

"I've got go, Mister Mit-

chum!" the creature said loudly.

"Oh, OK William. Come on by when you git a chance. I'll be here all day. Well, 'cept I'll be gone for a little while. I gots to go git Momma some snuff, but that won't take long. If'n you find one of them John Wayne pistols, holler at me and we'll do some swappin'."

"Yes sir," he said hurriedly and hung up.

I slapped my knee and chuckled. I turned, and there stood you know who with her arms crossed.

"What?" I asked.

"Seriously, what is wrong with you?" Janet asked.

"Heh heh," I chuckled.

"You know, if I died right now, I'd die a happy man."

She just looked at me.

"Don't tempt me."

Basil: Growing "perfumer" in the garden

By Jim Powell
Smith County Master Gardener

Add flavor to your garden and cooking with the versatile, delicious basil herb.

Throughout history basil has been regarded as having extraordinarily powers in religion, medicine and cooking.

It's sometimes called the "perfumer" of the garden because of its fresh and spicy fragrance.

In the Garden: Basil seeds can be planted two weeks after the last frost in the spring. Simply prepare the bed, broadcast the seed and cover them with ¼ to ½ inch of soil.

Also, container basil plants can be purchased in the spring. Planting two or three plants in a flowerbed should supply enough leaves for most families.

To flourish, basil needs six or more hours of direct sun. It is an annual plant, so the planting procedure will need to



be repeated each year.

By July, the basil plant, or plants, will reach 2 ½ to 3 feet tall. They will thrive

until frost kills them in November.

Container Plants: If you have limited space you can grow a basil plant in any type of large container. Just make sure it has a way to drain the excess water. As with all container plants, be sure to keep the plant watered through our hot summer.

Harvesting or Pruning: The leaves can be harvested anytime after the plant gets 6 to 8 inches. Pinch the leaves from the tips of the stems to encourage the branch to make more leaves. As the plant matures it wants to bloom. To keep the plant growing and lush, pinch off all the bloom stems as they appear. You can dry basil leaves, but freezing the leaves preserves more of the herb's flavor.

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

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ETBU awarded \$100K grant from ETMC

East Texas Baptist University recently received a \$100,000 grant from the East Texas Medical Center Foundation, publicity officials announced.

This marks the third year ETBU has received grant funds from ETMC to help meet the growing need for mental healthcare in Smith County and the greater East Texas region.

"As we continue to grow and develop our ETBU-Tyler campus center, East Texas Baptist is grateful for the ETMC Foundation and their continued partnership in meeting the mental health needs of the East Texas region," ETBU President J. Blair Blackburn said. "Our desire is to stand in the gap between East Texas citizens and the need for mental health care in the region. The ETMC Foundation's support over the last few years has been crucial to the growth of ETBU's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program and the increase in clients that the Community Counseling Center at ETBU-Tyler has been able to serve."

ETBU opened the Community

Counseling Center in 2020 at the ETBU-Tyler site and launched a Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at ETBU-Tyler in January of 2021. The total number of students enrolled in the program at the Marshall and Tyler campuses has doubled since 2019 as a result of the additional ETBU-Tyler campus.

"Our Community Counseling Center has experienced a significant rise in the number of clients seeking counseling services since we began in 2020," Director of ETBU-Tyler's Community Counseling Center Terrie Howe said. "I believe these numbers are strong indicators that the program is making a positive impact on the mental health needs in Smith County, yet are even more reflective of the vital need for more accessible and affordable mental health counseling services."

Both the counseling center and classes for the MA program are designed with working professionals in mind, featuring flexible evening and online courses. The University's two-pronged

approach enables ETBU to address current needs for mental healthcare while providing for the growing demand for additional qualified and trained Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC) in the mental health field.

"In a post-COVID world, the mental health needs of all ages have become more acute," ETBU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Thomas Sanders said. "This investment by the ETMC Foundation provides care for the needs of people today and increases the capacity for more licensed counselors in the future."

The ETMC Foundation is a private foundation created by the sale of the East Texas Medical Regional Healthcare system to Ardent Health Services in 2018. To learn more about the graduate Clinical Mental Health Counseling program or for counseling services information, contact Dr. Terri Howe, Assistant Professor of Counseling and Director of Counseling Care Center, 903.923.2383 or thowe@etbu.edu.

OBITUARY

MARVIN D. BOATRIGHT



Funeral services for Marvin D. Boatright, age 83 of Tyler were held Sunday, July 10, 2022, at the Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home Chapel in Lindale with Bud Allred and Pastor Tom Saali officiating.

A private interment was held at Lindale City Cemetery.

Marvin passed away Wednesday, July 6, 2022, in Tyler. He was born July 22, 1938, in Tecumseh, Mo., to the late Orville and Ruby Ella (Powers) Boatright. Marvin had recently moved to Tyler where he was a member of Cornerstone Assembly of God Church and was previously of Mineola and Lindale.

He served his country in the United States Navy and later retired after 30 years of building homes in Tyler including his own home and for other family members.

Marvin was a member of the Tyler Area Home Builders As-

sociation and enjoyed carpentry, bowling, and spending time with his family and friends. He also enjoyed volunteering for Casas for Casa building many of their miniature houses and spent many years as Scoutmaster for Troop 359 in Whitehouse. He was well known for his generous and caring spirit. Marvin was preceded in death by wife, Carol Jean Boatright; siblings, Wilda Smith, Mary Pullen, Effie Donabauer, Ralph Boatright, and Shirley Boatright.

Marvin is survived by his wife, Pat Boatright of Tyler; son, Brian Boatright and wife, Danielle of Georgia; stepson, Randy Crawford and wife, Antje of Fort Worth; stepdaughter, Karen Crawford of Whitehouse; granddaughter, Trisha Boatright of Georgia; sister, Julie Daffern of Las Vegas; sister-in-law, Peggy Simmons Barker and husband, Calvin of Lindale; sister-in-law, Barbara Jackson and husband, Dick of Whitehouse; nephews, Jimmy Jackson and wife, Carri of Whitehouse, Johnny Jackson and wife, Denise of Bullard; and numerous other loving family members and friends.

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793 CR 313W Tyler TX 75706

903-597-6131

Pastor Stephen Nipp

Bethel Baptist Church

FM 16 West, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8275

Bible Baptist Church

16173 CR 431, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-1454

Carmel Baptist Church

10969 CR 481, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3852

James Cheatham

Central Baptist Church

13745 FM 16 East, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3179

Byron Howard

Damascus Baptist Church

17052 CR 4105 Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3392

Bennie Portwood

Dover Baptist Church

21166 FM Road 1995, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-5106

Duck Creek Baptist Church

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-9558

East Foothills Missionary Baptist Church

810 E South St, Lindale, TX 75771

903-574-2672

Gary Dinger

Fairview Baptist Church

Van Highway, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-9500

First Baptist Church

Hwy 69 (in Swan) Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6432

First Baptist Church of Lindale

110E Hubbard St. Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3396

Tom Buck

Foundation Baptist Church

715 S Main St. Lindale 75771

903-881-9490

Garden Valley Baptist Church

17816 CR 442

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7671

Greater Hopewell Baptist Church

10480 CR 492 • Tyler, TX 75706

903-882-4726

Hopewell Baptist Church

11804 CR 494, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-5381



Hopewell Valley Baptist, Church No 1

CR 429 • Van, TX

903-882-5136

Mt. Sylvan Baptist Church

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903-882-3890

Bruce Rudd

New Harmony Baptist Church

10251 FM 727, Tyler, TX 75704

903-593-5811

Red Springs Baptist Church

Red Springs, TX

903-858-2365

St Mary Baptist Church

12050 CR 452., Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8066

Thompson Hill Baptist Church

14657 CR, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-0849

Walnut Springs Baptist Church

211 Walnut Springs., Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7858

Wood Trails Baptist Church

11804 CR 494,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-5381

CATHOLIC

Holy Family Catholic Church

16314 FM 849,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-4079

Fr. Carlos Piedrahita, Pastor

St. Joseph the Worker Tridentine Latin Mass

5075 FM 14, Tyler, 75712

903-593-5055

Rev. Joseph Valentine, FSSP

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211 W. Hubbard, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6455

Church of Christ – South Main

2425 S Main St,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8933

Church of Christ – Swan County

Road 471, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8009

EPISCOPAL

St Luke's Episcopal Church

16292 FM 849

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8118

Rev. John Carr

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First Century Christian Fellowship

10119 Gina Rd., Lindale, TX 75771

Dr. Lawrence Zillmer

METHODIST

First United Methodist Church of Lindale

402 W Hubbard St • Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8506

Michael Peschke

Harris Chapel Southern Methodist Church

17069 CR 452 Lindale TX

903.253.3175

John Roach, Pastor

Mt Sylvan United Methodist Church

Mt. Sylvan • 903-882-5479

Swan-Wood Springs

United Methodist Church

Hwy 69, Swan Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6382

NON DENOMINATIONAL

Clearview Church

13933 Hwy 110 N

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8949

Community Christian Fellowship

15704 Hwy 110 N Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8501

David Hickey

Cross Brand Cowboy Church

11915 FM 2015, Tyler, Texas 75708

903-535-9155

Crossroads Community Church

20465 US Highway 69 North

Lindale TX 75771-4206

903-881-9844

Tim Letsch

Bethesda Church

2401 S Main St

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7597

Steven & Camilla Charles

Friendship CME Church

20428 CR 482

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7269

Garden Valley Bible Church

17117 FM 1253

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-9665

Grace Community Church

15567 Wood Springs Rd

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3323

Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church

1115 Lake Cross Rd

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6966

Life of Glory Church

14623 CR 463

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7997

Ed & Becky Colville

Life Source Community Church

2808 S. Main, Lindale

Pastor John Offutt

Lone Star Cowboy Church

23425 FM 1995

Lindale TX 75771

615-480-0289

Jayc Harold

River's Edge Church

18492 Hwy 69 North,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-0555 • Phil Brown

Trinity Fellowship Church

Shady Lane Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3885 • Ben Steen

PRESBYTERIAN

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Rose Heights Church

12465 FM 16, Lindale, Texas 75771

903-881-5260

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Friday July 1, 2021

Officer Ramsey responded to a public service at 1400 block Lakeside Ct, settled at scene. Chief Some, Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Ramsey and Dailey responded to an accident at 3200 block S Main St, report taken. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Ramsey responded to an accident at 200 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Ramsey responded to a public service at 800 block Braewood Cir, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to a public service at 2800 block Public Rd, warning issued. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to an assist smith county at 19400 block Hwy 69 N, unable to locate. Officer Leevey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 13400 block I-20, settled at scene. Officer Mumey responded to a business alarm at 400 block S Main St, false alarm. Officer Leevey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 17000 block FM 849, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and officer Mumey responded to an assist EMS at 13400 block CR 472, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Mumey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 13400 block I-20, settled at scene.

Saturday July 2, 2022

Sgt Dworaczyk responded to a suspicious person at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at 200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Ramsey responded to a cruelty to animals at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to a suspicious person at 1500 block Camden Ct, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Capps responded to an accident at 13800 block Hwy 69 N, report taken. Officer Gillham and Officer Capps responded to an animal at large at 15300 block CR 467, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Capps responded to a reckless driving at 8400 block Military Dr, citation issued. Officer Leevey responded to a lost property at 55 block Miranda Lambert Way, report taken. Officer Leevey and Officers Gillham and Capps responded to a disturbance at 300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to an assist smith county at 200 block Daisy Ln, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 13400 block I-20, settled at scene. Officer Leevey responded to a suspicious person at 400 block W North St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officers Capps and Gillham responded to a disturbance at 100 block Mission Creek Dr, unfounded.

Sunday July 3, 2022

Officer Shurley responded to a city ordinance violation at 13700 block Hwy 69 N, warning issued. Officer Shurley responded to an assist EMS at 3200 block S Main St, settled



at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 200 block Jeffries St, settled at scene. Officer Shurley responded to a city ordinance violation at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Shurley responded to a disturbance at 400 block Baker St, settled at scene. Chief Some and Officer Wells responded to a city ordinance violation at 800 block Bentwood Cir, settled at scene. Chief Some responded to a reckless driving at 200 block Shanna Terrace, settled at scene. Officer Wells responded to a city ordinance violation at 400 block Baker St, unfounded. Chief Some and Officers Wells and Mumey responded to a public service at 400 block Baker St, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumey responded to a welfare concern at 700 block Stewart St, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumey responded to an assist other agency at 15600 block CR 4191, settled at scene.

Monday July 4, 2022

Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to an assist other agency at 16100 CR 4191, settled at scene. Officer Jackquet responded to a public service at 200 block Shanna Ter, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to an assist EMS at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Shurley responded to an assist smith county at 13000 block Winding Oak, settled at scene. Officer Shurley and Officers Wells and Mumey responded to a business alarm at 3200 block S Main St, false alarm. Officer Wells responded to a suspicious circumstance at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Chief Some Officer Shurley and Officers Wells and Mumey responded to a possession marijuana at 200 block S Main St, arrest made. Officer Wells and Officer Mumey responded to a suspicious person at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Tuesday July 5, 2022

Officer Trombley responded to an aggravated assault at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to a welfare concern at 600 block Abbey Rd, settled at scene. Sgt Lazarine, and Officers Shurley and Jackquet responded to a welfare concern

at 15000 block Country Acres Dr, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a found property at 800 block Lindale Industrial Pkwy, report taken. Officer Wells and Officer Mumey responded to a driving while intoxicated at 500 block N Main St, arrest made. Officer Shurley responded to a disturbance at 17700 block CR 4112, settled at scene. Officer Wells responded to an assist smith county at 15000 block CR 431, settled at scene. Officer Shurley and Officer Wells responded to a welfare concern at 700 block Stewart St, unfounded.

Wednesday July 6, 2022

Officer Philpot responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officer Capps responded to a criminal mischief at 15300 block FM 2710, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a hit and run at 13700 block Harvey Rd, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Ramsey responded to a child custody dispute at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Ramsey and Capps responded to a criminal trespass at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, trespass warning issued. Officer Capps responded to a fraud at 100 block Ballard Dr, report taken. Officer Leevey responded to a disorderly conduct at 15500 block CR 463, settled at scene. Officer Gillham and Officer Capps responded to a suspicious person at 300 block Rita Dr, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Capps responded to a possession of drug paraphernalia at 1300 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Gillham responded to a business alarm at 13800 block Hwy 69 N, false alarm.

Thursday July 7, 2022

Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to a theft at 200 block W Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to an accident at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to a warrant service at 300 block E South St, arrest made. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to a suspicious person at 500 block E Hubbard St, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey and Officer Capps responded to a 911 hang up at 17000 block Crossing Cir, settled at scene. Officer Gillham and Officer Capps responded to a suspicious circumstance at 13700 block Harvey Rd, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Leevey, Capps and Gillham responded to a disturbance at 200 block Cannery Row, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Leevey, Gillham and Capps responded to a suspicious person at 13400 block I-20, unfounded. Officer Gillham and Officer Capps responded to a disturbance at 15100 block FM 16 W, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officers Gillham and Capps responded to a disturbance at 15100 block FM 16 W, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Gillham responded to a welfare concern at 17000 block I-20 W, settled at scene.

South African sentenced to three years for scamming local church

A South Africa man was sentenced to three years in prison after a Smith County jury convicted him of felony theft from a Tyler church, officials with the Smith County District Attorney's Office said.

Livingstone Zitha, 52, was convicted on June 30 of scamming a Tyler church into providing love offerings of several thousands of dollars for his ministry, which he said would go to feeding hungry

children at an orphanage in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Zitha claimed to minister a 5,000-member church in Johannesburg. According to his promotional materials, a donation of \$250 would feed a child for one year.

He was described by witnesses



as a dynamic preacher with a captivating personality, but none of the money went to any ministry.

Church members testified they became suspicious of him after he remained with the church for two months and couldn't give precise details about the ministry.

Two U.S. Secret Service agents from South Africa were called as prosecution witnesses who described his ministries as fraudulent. A pastor from Springs, South Africa also testified he hadn't heard of Zitha, his church or his orphanage.

Bank records showed he spent the love offerings on fast food, coffee, car washes and other personal items.

Zitha's bank records showed that he primarily spent the love offerings on fast food, coffee, car washes, and other personal expenses. The jury also heard evidence that Zitha had defrauded many other churches.

The Smith County D.A.'s office said Detective John Partlow of the U.S. Secret Service's South Africa Office, and the Smith County Sheriff's Office were instrumental in the case.

U.S. Attorney's Office promotes DOJ's Elder Justice Initiative

The U.S. Attorney's Office is promoting World Elder Abuse Awareness in conjunction with the [Department of Justice's Elder Justice Initiative](#) to help seniors in the Eastern District of Texas avoid falling victim to financial exploitation, said Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston.

The U.S. Attorney's Office is participating in events through the summer to provide educational programming to seniors such as a presentation provided to tenants of the Plaza Tower in downtown Tyler.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathaniel Kummerfeld was joined by U.S. Secret Service agents this morning to discuss prevalent

fraud schemes targeting seniors and how to avoid them. Attendees were also provided with tips for recognizing and avoiding scams and resources for reporting.

"Although we prosecute dozens of scammers each year, there are hundreds, if not thousands more we never know about," said Featherston. "Scammers are particularly skilled at tricking victims, often causing the victim to be embarrassed when they realize they have been duped and not report the crime. By educating our seniors we hope to spare them from this heartache. Preventing this crime is a lot easier than trying to investigate and get back the money."

In the last few months, similar programs were provided at a local Rotary Club and the Hamptons of Tyler.

Groups or organizations that are interested in securing a speaker for their event should contact Division Chief Mary Ann Cozby at 903-590-1400.

If you or someone you know is age 60 or older and has been a victim of financial fraud, help is standing by at the [National Elder Fraud Hotline](#): 1-833-FRAUD-11 (1-833-372-8311).

This U.S. Department of Justice hotline, managed by the Office for Victims of Crime, is staffed by experienced professionals who provide personalized support

to callers by assessing the needs of the victim, and identifying relevant next steps.

Case managers will identify appropriate reporting agencies, provide information to callers to assist them in reporting, connect callers directly with appropriate agencies, and provide resources and referrals, on a case-by-case basis.

Reporting is the first step. Reporting can help authorities identify those who commit fraud and reporting certain financial losses due to fraud as soon as possible can increase the likelihood of recovering losses.

The hotline is staffed 10am-6pm Eastern Time, Monday-Friday. English, Spanish, and other languages are available.

Guard against germs while swimming

By Claudann Jones
Smith County
Extension Agent
for Family and
Community Health



When the weather gets warm, you may want to get outside for some fun in the sun. Going to a pool, lake, or beach often tops that list. Spending time in the water can bring health hazards. But some simple habits can help keep your summer fun—and healthy.

Many different germs and organisms can live in water. These include bacteria, viruses, parasites, and plant matter that can make you

sick. A lot of germs that live in water cause stomach and intestinal upset. These can bring diarrhea or vomiting. You can also get skin rashes, ear or eye pain, and a cough or congestion after swimming in contaminated waters.

Common culprits for gut symptoms after swimming are parasites. These include Cryptosporidium (Crypto) and Giardia intestinalis. But bacteria, like E. coli, and viruses can also be the cause.

Many water-borne germs come from the feces of people and animals. So it's important to never go to the bathroom or to change dirty diapers near the water. If you bring a pet, be sure to pick up after them.

Pools are often treated with a chemical called chlorine to kill germs. But it

doesn't work on all of them immediately. Some, like Crypto, can linger for days despite the chlorine. And natural bodies of waters, like oceans and lakes, can't be treated with chemicals.

Certain types of algae also release toxins that contaminate the water and the air. So, in general, it's important to avoid areas with toxic algae and not eat the seafood found there.

Being aware of local water conditions before you go to the beach can help you stay safe. If there are concerns with either the bacteria or other hazards, focus on other activities.

Hopefully these tips will help you enjoy your summer activities in the water. For more information about Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Family and Com-

munity Health programs, contact the Smith County Extension Agent for Family and Community Health at 903-590-2980 or email at cnjones@ag.tamu.edu. Like our Facebook page: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Smith County. Stay well and stay safe.

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Public Announcement

Memorial Service for Sandra L. Lenard (née Rodgers), 1938-2020



The Lenard family would like to inform the Lindale community that a memorial service for our beloved mother, Sandra, will be held on July 30, 2022 at the Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale.

Sandra was a Lindale native and graduate of Van High School (class of 1957) and Stephen F. Austin State University (class of 1961).

Service will start around 2 pm, with a committal ceremony at the Lindale Cemetery to follow immediately afterward. Extensive displays and mementos of Sandra's life will be displayed at the funeral home, and all those who knew her are encouraged to attend.

Sandra's obituary: <https://tinyurl.com/46c5t8nt>

Contact: Mary Lenard (lenard@uwp.edu or on Facebook), David Lenard (DL573@yahoo.com)

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Call Today at 903-882-8880

Great Texas Birding Classic raises \$45K

Famous for being the biggest, longest, wildest birdwatching tournament in the country, this year's Great Texas Birding Classic raised \$45,000 for projects to benefit birds and other wildlife, publicity officials said.

Celebrating its 26th year, the tournament has raised \$1.1 million for on-the-ground conservation work to acquire, restore and enhance wildlife habitat.

More than 1,000 Texans from across the state participated in the all-ages competition to watch and listen for as many species of birds as possible.

"The Great Texas Birding Classic takes place during the spectacular spring migration and this year did not disappoint," said Shelly Plante, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Nature Tourism Manager. "Participants spotted a record 425 species of birds. The tournament gives people a fun way to spend time outside while raising money for a good cause."

Youth team mentor Nicole Biggerstaff said, "We were so impressed with the kids' ability to focus and identify birds. They were completely loving it. I really feel we've ignited a love for nature,

the outdoors and birding in these young kids' lives!"

Winning Birding Classic teams get to select which projects to fund. The following is a list of this year's conservation grants awarded throughout Texas:

CENTRAL TEXAS

\$5,000 Intact Flock Lower Texas Coast Big Day Conservation Grant – Selected by Parking Lot Birders

Project: Kerrville Bird Observatory Network – submitted by Schreiner University, City of Kerrville, Riverside Nature Center, Nobilitea, Texan by Nature

Project Location: Kerrville, Kerr County

\$5,000 State Park Conservation Grant – Selected by Armadillo by Morning

Project: Prairie Preservation, submitted by Mother Neff State Park Association

Project Location: Mother Neff State Park, west of Moody, Coryell County

\$1,000 Heart of Texas East Big Sit! Conservation Grant – Selected by Birding on Broadmeade

Project: Enhancing Circle Acres Nature Preserve Grassland and Wetland Habitats – submitted by Ecology Action of Texas

Project Location: Austin, Travis County

DALLAS/FORT WORTH AND EAST TEXAS

\$5,000 Lone Star Bird Award Conservation Grant – Selected by Shore I Saw It

Project: Birding Platform at Gazebo Nature Preserve (at Lake Livingston Dam), submitted by Piney Woods Lakes Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist

Project Location: Livingston, Polk County

\$1,000 Prairies and Pineywoods West Big Sit! Conservation Grant – Selected by Shore I Saw It

Project: Trinity River Audubon Center-Prairie Restoration – submitted by Trinity River Audubon Center

Project Location: Dallas, Dallas County

GULF COAST

\$10,000 Dispersed Flock Statewide Big Day Conservation Grant – Selected by Two Eagles & a Chick, sponsored by Deep South Marine, LLC

Project: Indiangrass Preserve Bird Blind and Wetland Restoration Project – submitted by Coastal Prairie Conservancy

Project Location: northwest of

Houston (near Waller), Waller County

\$5,000 Intact Flock Central Texas Coast Big Day Conservation Grant – Selected by Party Fowl

Project: Packery Channel Oak Motte Sanctuary – submitted by Audubon Outdoor Club of Corpus Christi

Project Location: Corpus Christi, Nueces County

\$6,000 Total Grants:

\$5,000 Sunrise to Noon Conservation Grant – Selected by Swarovski Wandering Hawks, sponsored by Swarovski Optik, North America

\$1,000 Central Texas Coast Big Sit! Conservation Grant – Selected by Swarovski Optik Sighting Hawks, sponsored by Swarovski Optik, North America

Project: Polliwog Pond – submitted by Audubon Outdoor Club of Corpus Christi

Project Location: Corpus Christi, Nueces County

\$1,000 Adult Statewide Big Day Dispersed Flock Conservation Grant – Selected by Swarovski Optik Scattered Hawks, sponsored by Swarovski Optik, North America

Project: Seabourne Creek Nature Park-Wetland Enhancements

– submitted by Coastal Prairie Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist

Project Location: Rosenberg, Fort Bend County

\$1,000 Upper Texas Coast Big Sit! Conservation Grant – Selected by Centerpoint Wirebirds, sponsored by Centerpoint Energy

Project: Creation of Bird Viewing Area with Bird Bath/Water Feature at Bayside Regional Park – submitted by Galveston Bay Area Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist

Project Location: Bacliff, Galveston County

WEST TEXAS

\$5,000 Intact Flock Toyota Upper Texas Coast Big Day Conservation Grant – Selected by Free Falling Falcons

Project: BJ Bishop Wetlands: Creating Space for Birds and People – submitted by Big Bend Conservation Alliance

Project Location: Presidio, Presidio County

This event is made possible by team sponsorships and registration fees, donations from event sponsors Toyota and Texas Ornithological Society, and awards ceremony sponsor, Audubon Texas. For more information, visit the TPWD Great Texas Birding Classic page.



This Mexican sugar maple (*Acer skutchii*) suffered sunscald on its exposed thin bark.

Sunscald real problem for Texas trees

By Greg Grant
Smith County
Horticulturist

Hot temperatures occur every summer in Texas and can cause ugly scars on young smooth tree trunks.

Sunscald is a physiological disorder that occurs on the lower part of the trunk on the southwest side, typically on young trees. Thin barked trees such as Japanese maples, red maples, and dogwoods are especially susceptible, but even young oaks can succumb to the problem.

The trunk damage is most prevalent on young, recently planted trees that have not

developed a thick, corky insulating bark. The damage usually starts a few inches above the ground and extends as high as the first branches.

Sunscald is a summertime problem. Trees are kept cool by transpiration, the evaporation of water from the leaves. If a tree is newly planted or a severe drought occurs, transpiration can be slowed and temperatures in the tree can begin to increase.

Not only does transpiration cool the leaves but the flow of water through the tree trunk also cools the trunk.

Temperatures near 140 degrees are lethal to most cells. In drought conditions, established oak trees with thick bark have been measured with temperatures above 135 degrees, so one can only imagine the trunk temperature of a young, newly planted red maple in an asphalt parking lot or next to the sidewalk in a new subdivision.

The southwest side of the tree gets the most sun so that portion of the trunk will be the hottest. Usually there is no bark cracking when this kind of injury occurs, but a year or two after the damage a flat side of the trunk will develop and new bark growth will push in from the side of the wound, pushing the old, dead bark off of the trunk.

Usually trees survive, but the trunk is disfigured for years, and the open wound can be the source for borers or a hollow tree later in the tree's life.

Preventing sunscald injury means paying special attention to watering during the first few years of establishment for young trees. Keeping the tree trunk out of direct sunlight during the heat of summer is the first consideration.

Retaining as many of the lower branches as possible on young trees and wrapping the trunk with a light-colored

tree wrap that reflects the sun's heat away both work. Thereafter, watering during prolonged periods of drought is also important until the tree develops a large enough canopy to shade its trunk during the heat of summer.

There is no quick cure for trees that have experienced this problem. First assess the damage and see what percentage of the tree trunk's circumference is girdled. This will approximately equal the percentage of reduced growth and vigor in the surviving tree.

If the damage is less than halfway around the tree and new callus growth is growing into it, the tree may be worth saving by cleaning the dead bark and wood from the wound, mulching, lightly fertilizing each spring and fall, and watering deeply once a month during June, July, and August. However, replacement in the fall or winter is often the best option.

Tips for when your pet has inevitable surgery

By Texas A&M College of Veterinary
Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

From routine spays and neuters to dealing with unexpected health conditions, surgery is a nearly inevitable part of pet ownership. By knowing ahead of time what recovery will look like, owners can feel more confident about any procedures their pet may need.

While pets are typically sent home with printed post-operative care instructions, there are many shared features among surgeries that owners can expect. Dr. Jacqueline Davidson, a clinical professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, shares some general advice to help owners prepare for a successful recovery.

By the time a surgical patient is sent home, they usually have fully recovered from anesthesia, but some side effects may linger.

"Some pets may feel a little 'off' for the first evening, and, occasionally, it could take a day or two to regain their normal attitude, but it depends quite a bit on what procedure or procedures were done," Davidson said. "If they seem a little less energetic than usual, the best approach is to encourage them to rest in their favorite quiet place."

Anesthesia may also affect the digestive system.

"Most pets will eat and drink normally after surgery, particularly by the next day, but some pets may not have their full appetite back for two or three days," Davidson said. "Anesthesia can also slow the activity of the intestinal tract. Often, pets may not have a bowel movement for several days or even up to a week after anesthesia."

If a pet is less active following a procedure, it is usually best to let them set their own pace for getting back to normal activity levels.

However, many surgeries require a period of reduced activity for proper healing to take place, which may involve keeping a pet in a contained, low-stress area.

"The recommended time for activity re-

striction depends entirely on the procedure and could vary from none to days to weeks," Davidson said. "In some cases, full activity may be restricted for several months. Your veterinarian will let you know what activity restriction, if any, is recommended for your situation."

One shared feature among most surgeries is the risk of infection. Because infections are easier to treat before they become severe, owners should be on the lookout for any changes at the incision site after surgery.

"Signs of infection at an incision site include redness or swelling that is getting worse," Davidson said. "In addition, there may be fluid or pus draining from the incision site. Drainage that is cloudy, yellow or green is particularly suspicious for infection."

Although it can be more difficult to notice a deeper infection, owners can watch out for lethargy or a decreased appetite and contact a veterinarian if they have any concerns.

In addition, by monitoring the incision site daily, owners can reduce the risk of infection.

"If there are incisions, make sure that your pet is not excessively licking, rubbing or scratching them. This is sometimes ensured by having the pet wear a cone-collar, T-shirt, sock or bandage, depending on where the incision is located," Davidson said. "Any bandages must be kept clean and dry. If they become damp, dirty, or begin to smell, they should be assessed by your veterinarian."

Every type of surgery will have different post-operative care instructions, so the most important thing an owner can do is have a thorough discussion with their pet's veterinarian about what to expect and how to best care for their animal after the procedure.

Surgery can be a confusing experience for pets, but they will appreciate their owner's reassuring presence during recovery. In addition to being prepared and taking measures to keep the risk of infection low, showing a pet love and comfort is a great way to ensure recovery goes well.

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TXDOT officials urge caution when driving around trucks

Officials with the Texas Department of Transportation are reminding all drivers to take extra care when driving around trucks because crashes between passenger vehicles and 18-wheelers and other large trucks can lead to death or serious injury.

Thousands of large trucks and 18-wheelers tractor-trailers transport goods along busy Texas highways every day. Weighing 20 times more than an average car, "big rigs" require more time to accelerate and decelerate.

For instance, an 80,000-pound, loaded 18-wheeler going 65 mph can take as much as the length of a football field to come to a complete stop, which is why motorists should avoid driving too closely or swerving in front of a large truck.

Large trucks also have more and larger blind spots than passenger vehicles do. Drivers should avoid these blind spots, which are located around the front, back and sides of trucks. If a motorist can't see the truck driver in the truck's side mirror, that truck driver also can't see them or their vehicle.

To help keep everyone safe on the road, TxDOT asks motorists to give trucks plenty of room and observe the following safety tips when driving around large trucks:

- Stay away from a truck's

"No Zones," or blind spot areas in which crashes are more likely to occur. No Zones include areas along each side of the truck, the space up to 20 feet in front of the cab and the area up to 200 feet behind the trailer.

- Don't tailgate. Maintain a safe following distance. Be sure you can see the driver in the truck's side mirror.

- Pass trucks safely by waiting until you can see both truck headlights in your rearview mirror before moving back into your lane. Pass a truck only when it's legal and safe.

- Never cross behind a truck that is backing up. The truck driver cannot see you, and you risk being hit.

- Don't squeeze between a truck and the curb. Trucks make wide right turns, and the driver may not see you.

Energy Sector risks

Drivers are especially at risk in Texas's energy sectors. Oil and gas activity brings increased traffic and large trucks to production areas and surrounding communities. TxDOT's "Be Safe. Drive Smart." campaign offers these safety tips for motorists in energy areas:

- Follow the posted speed limit and adjust your driving to match road conditions.

- Focus 100% on driving and put your phone away: no talk-

ing or texting when behind the wheel.

- Give large trucks plenty of space. Be patient and pass only when it's safe and legal to do so.

- Obey stop signs and traffic signals.

- Never drive under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

- Always buckle up—drivers and passengers, day and night.

In 2021, more than 79,000 traffic crashes occurred in the state's five major energy production areas—the Permian Basin, Eagle Ford Shale, Barnett Shale, Anadarko Basin and Haynesville/Bossier Shale—resulting in 1,119 deaths, a 20% increase over the previous year. Failure to control speed and driver inattention were the top reasons for crashes in these areas.

"Be Safe. Drive Smart." 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 such as 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.

Tips for building customer loyalty

Maintaining strong customer relationships make a difference between a thriving business thriving and one which struggles to survive. Loyalty is the ultimate compliment for a small business.

If you are managing a business, it is essential to build customer loyalty and engage your customers, even though it can be challenging. Customer retention is likewise much more cost effective than new acquisitions and is the best strategy for growing your business, as approximately 65 percent of most companies' business comes from existing, not new customers.

"Acquiring new customers is not enough," Mechele Agbayani Mills, President and CEO of BBB Central East Texas said. "You must also create experiences which maintain customer loyalty."

Customers are loyal to companies who treat them well. BBB offers the following tips to building and maintaining customer loyalty:

Offer personalized rewards. Personalized rewards will make your customers feel appreciated and valued, creating a strong bond between you and them. You can offer rewards to your customers by giving them discounts, freebies, or other incentives based on their behaviors, such as a percentage off certain products that

they purchase frequently or a free gift on their birthday.

Consider a brand ambassador program. One of the most effective ways to build customer loyalty is to have a brand ambassador program. This allows you to reward your most loyal customers with special privileges or perks.

A brand ambassador program is a great way to encourage your customers to promote your business. You can reward ambassadors with benefits such as free products, discounts, or even special coupons for their friends, family, and followers.

Create special forums for loyal customers. It is essential to keep your most loyal customers engaged and feeling important. You can do this by creating a group where they can interact or starting a forum where you can share information and updates with them.

Groups and forums are the perfect way to build strong relationships with your customers, and they also enable you to easily send out frequent announcements and updates.

Feature user-generated content from repeat customers. Repeat customers are a gold mine. They are the ones who are most likely to recommend your business to their friends and family. They are also likely to generate valuable content featuring your products.



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NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In accordance with Texas property code, Chapter 59, Castlerock Storage-Lindale, located at 19375 US Hwy 69, Lindale, TX 75771, will conduct a public auction to satisfy a Landlord's lien. Units will be sold as-is to the highest bidder online at www.storageauctions.com July 13, 2022 thru July 25, 2022 @ 10:00am. Cash Only. Cleanup deposit and sales tax required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Units include the personal household belongings of the following tenants: Crystal Martin

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Estate of Joseph Donald Barrows, An Incapacitated Person, were issued to Robin Ann Barrows on July 8, 2022, in Cause No. 46542-G, pending in the County Court, Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to Robin Ann Barrows c/o Richard B. Patteson, Attorney, 218 N. Broadway, Ste.304, Tyler, Texas 75702 within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NO. 46465P

Notice is hereby given that on the 29th day of June, 2022, Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Judith Peters York, Deceased, were issued to Richard M. York by the Honorable Court of Smith County, Texas, in Cause No. 46465P pending on the Probate Docket of said Court. All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time prescribed by law to the address being shown below:

Estate of Judith Peters York
c/o Randall J. Cook
Hardy Cook & Hardy, P.C.
2080 Three Lakes Parkway
Tyler, TX 75703

LEGAL NOTICES

CAUSE NO 46455P

ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
ROSLYN E. KEMBERLING § OF
DECEASED § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Roslyn E. Kemberling were issued on July 6, 2022, in cause number 46455P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to Earlene Jeanette Yarbrough. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

Earlene Jeanette Yarbrough, Independent Executor
Estate of Roslyn E. Kemberling
c/o Gregory A. Fraser
P.O. Box 2562
209 S. Main Street
Lindale, TX 75771

Dated July 7, 2022.
BY: Gregory A. Fraser
Attorney for Independent Executor of the
Estate of Roslyn E. Kemberling

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The City of Lindale, Texas will receive bids for Asphalt Rehabilitation until July 29, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at City Hall, 105 Ballard Drive, Lindale, Texas 75771, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

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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