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Thursday, August 4, 2022

Vol. 123, No. 31

1 Section, 8 pages

50¢



Youngsters visiting the Lillie Russell Memorial Library this past week had a bubbly-good time during a special event held on Wednesday, Aug. 27. Courtesy photo

Library schedules special "Splash" Story Time

August looks to be a busy month at the Lillie Russell Memorial Library with activities geared for youngsters and adults alike.

Library hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The library is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

This month only, the Library will be closed on Friday, Aug. 5 for a special story time scheduled for Splash Kingdom Water Park in Canton. Gates will open at 11 a.m.

Visitors must present their discount flyer for special gate pricing at Splash Kingdom, which are available at the Library's circulation desk.

Library officials also announced Amnesty August where fines will be excused by bringing in school supplies.

Also on the schedule for August:

- Tuesday, Aug. 2: Origami Class, come and go, 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 16: Honeybee Awareness Chat and Crafts, 2 p.m.; Art Journaling, 10 a.m.-noon.
- Tuesday, Aug. 23: Watercolor Class, 2 p.m., adults 50 and up.

● Tuesday, Aug. 30: health and Wellness Workshop, 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

● Wednesday, Aug. 10: Rock Painting, come and go, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

● Wednesday, Aug. 24: Domino Social for seniors, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., coffee and snacks.

● Thursday, Aug. 4: Yarn Club, 4 p.m.-5 p.m.

● Thursday, Aug. 11: Yarn Club, 4 p.m.-5 p.m.

● Thursday, Aug. 18: Yarn Club, 4 p.m.-5 p.m.

● Friday, Aug. 5: Story Time at Splash Kingdom.

● Friday, Aug. 12: Lattes for Literacy, Stories and Stones, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

● Friday, Aug. 19: "Back to School" Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

● Friday, Aug. 26: "Bumblebees" Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

● Saturday, Aug. 6: Elementary Story Time, "Birthdays", 10:30 a.m., ages Kindergarten and up.

● Saturday, Aug. 13: Therapet, by appointment

● Saturday, Aug. 20: Elementary Story Time, "Back to School", 10:30 a.m.

● Saturday, Aug. 27: Therapet, by appointment.

County residents back jail proposal for Nov. 8 election

More than a dozen county residents spoke during a special meeting of the Smith County Commissioner's Court Monday (Aug. 1) where discussions were held concerning the Courthouse Bond Proposal, which could be put on the ballot for the Nov. 8 election.

Following the comments and presentation from financial officials, Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran said he would recommend putting the proposal on the Nov. 8 ballot, which would include both the \$160 million courthouse and the \$19 million parking garage.

The issue of calling the bond will be on the Commissioners Court agenda for Tuesday, Aug. 9, he added.

"The citizens of Smith County should have the opportunity to make this decision and determine the future of their courthouse," he said. "It's their money and their courthouse."

At Monday's meeting, there were 15 residents who spoke in favor of the bond election, while one person recommended putting the project on hold.

Moran gave a recap of the community discussion that has addressed the needs for a new courthouse for the last 23 years.

In 2000, a task force of 50 community members was formed and came up with a Master Plan that showed the need for a new Courthouse, Parking Structure, Sheriff's Administration Building and Jail. In 2007, a second study by a different Commissioners Court and different consulting firm showed the need for a new Courthouse, along with a Jail and Sheriff's Office. Since then, a Jail Bond passed that added on to the Jail, (the Jail Bond is expected

to be paid off in 2022), and the Jail Administration Building has also been renovated and paid for with cash.

In 2020, Fitzpatrick Architects designed a new Courthouse after dozens of community and public meetings were held by the County Judge and Commissioners Court. The projected cost of those same designs has seen inflation in the last couple of years, bringing the estimated cost from \$125 million to \$160 million for the new Courthouse, with an additional \$19 million for a parking structure.

The projected tax impact for the Courthouse and parking structure would be 3.67 cents, resulting in an increase on tax bills of \$73.40 per year for a \$200,000 home.

The current courthouse, built in 1955, was planned for two courtrooms and now holds seven. In 1950, Smith County's estimated population was 74,701, which has grown to 233,479 in 2020, according to the latest Census.

The plans for the new Courthouse include security features that the space of the current Courthouse does not allow.

The location of the planned Courthouse, on the east side of the square, was chosen by stakeholders because of its lowest cost to taxpayers, among other benefits, he said.

Multiple studies have been conducted during the past 20 years evaluating potential ways to renovate the current courthouse, but none would address the safety, security and growth needs of the building, Moran said.

Steven Adams, with Specialized Public Finance Inc., gave a presentation on the County's financial situation, including the Road and Bridge Bonds, Phases 1 and 2, and the expected impact of the Courthouse Bond, both with and without a parking structure.

Smith County has an AA+ Bond Rating, according to the most recent ratings review conducted in July.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Terry Phillips said he understands the need for a new Courthouse and he knows it will happen, but is stuck on whether the bond needs to be placed on this November's ballot.

"Safety and privacy have always been my basis for supporting this," Precinct 1 Commissioner Neal Franklin said. "We want this community to have a voice on this."

Precinct 4 Commissioner JoAnn Hampton said she wanted to see the issue on the November ballot.

"It's important for the citizens to actually make this decision ... Now is definitely the time to act," she said.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Cary Nix said he couldn't argue with the need for a new Courthouse. "The voters are going to ultimately decide this," he said.

The deadline to call a bond election for a new Courthouse and associated Parking Garage is Aug. 22.

Judge Moran and other elected officials are continuing to hold community meetings this summer and into the fall to get the word out about the bond election, and to answer any questions regarding the proposal.

Hot times on the gridiron ...

Lindale prepares for coming season in summer's heat

By Terry Cannon

Never has the saying "out of the frying pan and into the fire" been more applicable than this year as it relates to Texas high school football players getting ready for the new season.

Monday was the first day of practice for University Interscholastic League teams, including Lindale's Eagles, who were toiling early in the morning under the watchful and protective eyes of the coaching staff and trainers.

A record-setting heat wave obviously is something the coaching staff takes seriously as it relates to the day's activities and they make sure most of the outdoor work is completed before the searing summer temperatures bear down.

"We'll work for about two hours, take a 40 minute break and go for about another hour," said Head Coach Chris Cochran. "Our trainers are spread out among the players, so we're taking no chances."

The coach added that his players can take water breaks whenever they feel the need and during the indoor rest period, snacks and more hydrations are available.

Players labored in shorts and



Linemen work on their positioning during the first day of football workouts at the high school. Photo by Terry Cannon

helmets this week and soon will be in full pads in preparation for the first scrimmage of the season in Sulphur Springs on Aug. 12.

A home scrimmage against Whitehouse is scheduled for Aug. 18 at Eagle Stadium with the season opener against Kaufman on Aug. 26 in Kaufman.

The rest of the non-district schedule has Pine Tree coming to Lindale on Sept. 2; Van on the road

on Sept. 9 and Gilmer in Lindale on Sept. 16.

The Eagles will once again compete in District 9-4A Division I in Region III. The only change in this year's league schedule is Jacksonville replaced Mabank.

"It's been two years since we played (Jacksonville) in district," he said. "But even though they are a new team on the block, we know they are well coached and will do

things the right way."

Jacksonville's enrollment is 1,278 making them the largest school in the district with Lindale second at 1,201.

Henderson will be Lindale's Homecoming opponent on Sept. 23, followed by a road game to Athens on Sept. 30.

October features a home game against last year's district winner Kilgore on Oct. 7, followed by Chapel Hill (away) on Oct. 14, Palestine in Lindale on Oct. 21 and against Jacksonville on the road on Oct. 28.

Lindale's bye week is the week of Nov. 4.

"These are drawn out of a hat, they are completely random," Cochran said. "And to be honest, I don't think that's too bad of a position, especially if you are getting ready for the playoffs. It gives you an extra week to prepare for the opponent and time to get everyone healed up."

Remaining in Region III means any playoff scenarios would include teams to the south which could necessitate the same lengthy travel which has been the case the past two years.

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

Life best lived ...

It is 8 p.m. WAY past deadline and there is no column written. Yet.

I am flat exhausted after a long day, a weekend Art Stroll and not enough time to breathe. So to tackle my assignment I will list some of my favorite 'guidelines' I tend to live my life by. Sometimes with great success, sometimes red-faced and sometimes just getting by. Here goes: Life Best Lived According to Suzanne...

1. It is DEFINITELY sometimes better to ask forgiveness than get permission.)

2. When you have a project that needs doing, kick the naysayers to the side, grab the realistic optimists with a work ethic, roll your sleeves up and get busy.

3. If you say you are going to do something, do it or your credibility will disappear.

4. When life interrupts and you don't get done what you said you would, explain why and how you are going to either gracefully remove yourself from the job and find a competent replacement or set a deadline that you will meet...NO MATTER WHAT!

5. If you aren't the most talented person on the team make sure you have the best work ethic. That usually translates to you being perceived as the most talented person. No kidding.

6. Don't take things personally. A lot of problems in life are created by one of the following: insecurity, a need to control, inability to communicate clearly, or sheer negativity. GET OVER IT! Life is too short.

7. Treat everyone with respect but be realistic about their shortcomings and work around them to achieve success. They will only be a roadblock if you let them.

8. If you aren't a proven judge of character then don't throw all your eggs in one basket. You are sure to get them cracked if you do.

9. Be willing to admit when you are wrong.

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



10. Apologize when you need to and sometimes when you don't have to. You can never go wrong taking the high road.

11. Be careful about repeating gossip. You are one story away from ruining reputations and lives.

12. Be kind. It costs you nothing and gains you much.

13. Be joyful! It is like catnip to the world. Much of the world will be drawn to you.

14. If you break something, make a mistake, lose something, TELL THE TRUTH! Once you lose your integrity you are done where it counts the most.

15. Have insatiable intellectual curiosity! Don't stop learning until you are comatose or six feet under (and frankly because I believe in an EVER AFTER I think we keep on learning.)

16. Have FUN at what you do and be at peace with WHO you are. Life is too short to be in angst about what others are thinking or saying for that matter.

And finally...

17. As my hero Winston Churchill said so eloquently and loudly: NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GIVE UP!

That ought to do it. I have finished another column, shared some of my favorite personal commandments, and been a bit of a preachy teacher which is just pretty much built into this old girl.

Have a great week, smile, and remember: make a difference in your corner of our world. It is the only legacy we ultimately leave.

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



DSHS gets nearly 15,000 monkeypox vaccines

The Texas Department of State Health Services has received and distributed 14,780 doses of the monkey pox vaccine to local health departments and DSHS regional offices. Another 27,000 doses could be made available by the Strategic National Stockpile.

The disease causes a serious skin rash with painful lesions and appears to be spreading through direct contact with the skin or saliva of an infected person. The disease is preventable by avoiding skin contact with someone who has the disease.

"Risks include having sex, kissing or hugging someone with monkeypox or sharing cups, utensils, bedding or towels with them," according to DSHS.

Through July 29, a total of 5,189 monkeypox cases have been reported nationwide, with 351 of those in Texas. While certainly painful, monkeypox is very rarely fatal.

Commuting times show increase in state

When it comes to commuting to work in Texas, two items stand out. Nearly 90 percent of Texans travel alone to work, and it takes longer to get to where one's going these days.

According to census data analyzed by the Texas Demographic Center, the number of commuters who from 2015-2020 spent up to an hour on the road getting to work stood at 17.2%, up from 15.7% from 2010-2015.

More than 95% drove a car, truck or van to work, while a scant 1.3% used public transportation, excluding taxis. Folks who walked to work totaled just 1.5% of all Texas commuters.

'Urban heat islands' exacerbate summer temps

It's been hot out there this summer, and cities are recording record temperatures. The Texas A&M Forest Service notes that developed areas often experience higher temperatures than rural areas.

"Areas in these microclimates of a highly developed city, known as urban heat islands, can be up to 20 degrees warmer than surrounding areas that are more rural, according to Climate Central, a nonprofit news organization that analyzes and reports on climate science," according to the news release.

Mac Martin, with the forest service, noted planting or saving large expanses of trees in urban areas can go a long way toward cooling temperatures. Mature trees can release hundreds of gallons of water vapor daily through their leaves, cooling the air. Shaded areas can be between 20 to 45 degrees cooler than peak temperatures in unshaded expanses of concrete.

Despite rain, fire danger remains high

Scattered rain in the upper Texas Panhandle, the Upper Gulf Coast and East Texas have lessened the fire danger somewhat in those areas, but the risk remains high with temperatures hovering above 100 degrees. There were 14 active wildfires as of Sunday, the largest still being the Chalk Mountain Fire in Somervell County, covering 6,746 acres and 53% contained, according to the forest service.

With 224 counties now under burn bans, officials are urging landowners to be extra vigilant about preventing fires. The Austin American-Statesman reported a spate of fires in Central Texas in recent days.

"We just want people to have a hyper sense of awareness," Hank Jones, Williamson County Fire Marshal, told the Statesman. "We are so dry just this week alone we had a fairly large grass fire in Jarrell caused by a truck that blew a tire and when the rim hit the asphalt it created a spark that had 20 to 30 acres burning."

Cedar trees can especially cause problems in Central Texas because they drop needles underneath that can quickly ignite. Homeowners are urged to consider limiting the use of cedar trees around their houses.

New COVID-19 cases drop in Texas

The number of new cases of COVID-19 in Texas dropped in the past week to 72,653, with 154 deaths reported, about even with the previous week, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at John Hopkins University.

The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations rose slightly to 3,624 across the state, according to DSHS. The BA.5 variant is now prevalent in Texas and elsewhere but seems to have less serious effects, especially for people who have been fully vaccinated and boosted, according to health officials.

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

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Bio Bonanza!!

The Texas economy has been setting the standard for economic growth, leading the country in major new corporate locations for the past 10 straight years. The population



is also diverse and growing, which is not the case in many parts of the country. We're also seeing the continued emergence of industries in the state as the business environment encourages growth. One segment where Texas once lagged other regions was that of biosciences and related manufacturing. Well, folks, that has changed!!

Texas has world-class health care institutions, research organizations, research universities, research laboratories, and medical schools. In fact, the world's largest medical center and the nation's largest military medical complex are located here. The state has top medical schools and research universities, a large and growing technology sector, excellent research labs, a culture of innovation, and a regulatory environment conducive to progress. The result is the emergence of a vibrant medical research and technology sector.

Texas also has catalysts for growth, such as The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT). CPRIT has been overwhelmingly supported by Texas taxpayers, who have twice voted to provide about \$6 billion in funding for cancer research and screening. The institute has attracted leading scholars and researchers, improved cancer

outcomes, and generated billions in economic benefits. Another example is Pegasus Park, which includes an incubator for new biotech industries. In addition, the Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute has supported the state's efforts for decades. These are three among many initiatives, a number of which involve both the public sector and private entities.

Economic data demonstrates the fruits of efforts to support medical research and commercialization. Texas is outpacing other states in job growth in key areas. In the period since 2010, health-related manufacturing has expanded by 32.9% in Texas, well ahead of the US pace (12.2%) and major competing states. In fact, Texas growth ranks well above California (13.4%), Illinois (11.8%), North Carolina (10.6%), Georgia (5.1%), and Ohio (1.2%). Employment in bioscience manufacturing is actually shrinking in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

The bottom line is that Texas' dynamic economy and ability to attract capital investment can accelerate the transition from research findings to new treatments, supporting growth in related manufacturing. Accelerating the deployment of new discoveries into pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and other treatments also improves health outcomes.

These emerging industries generate substantial spillover benefits throughout the economy, providing well-paying jobs and opportunities for other Texas businesses. The state provides an environment for success in seeing that the breakthroughs of researchers translate into new medicines and medical devices, and the data clearly indicate that it's working. Texas may have started this race near the back of the pack, but it is closing very rapidly. Stay safe





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)

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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, standing 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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FCC's edict aside, don't wait for end to warranty calls

Have you ever read or heard something, that at first blush, seemed like a great thing, but after a few minutes common sense booted that thought right out of your head?

Well, being a lifetime member of Cynics International (just made that up), I'm well versed in "I'll-believe-it-when-I-see-it" things.

Recently, I came across an item that the Federal Communications Commission had instructed phone companies to put a stop to robocalls about renewing "your auto warranty."

When I first read this, my brain was on autopilot, which is usually the case when I'm scanning things in the newspaper. Every once in a while, an item will send a charge to my cranium which kickstarts my attention span.

Which is what happened in this case.

First Thought: "Hey, that's a great idea! Why haven't they done this before?"

Second Thought: "Let's read some more. We might be getting somewhere!"

Third Thought: "Hey you two, Cynic Guy here! Stop it! This won't happen! Get rid of your hopes! There's no chance this is happening!"

What we have here, aside from a lot of exclamation points, is my recognition that while it would indeed be wonderful if the FCC could actually stop these incredibly annoying calls, it ain't gonna happen.

To be fair, let's examine just what FCC officials said in the story.

Voice service providers in the U.S. of A. must "take all necessary steps to avoid carrying this robocall traffic" or provide a report outlining how they're mitigating the traffic.

In a statement released by the FCC's Robocall Response Team (a bureaucratic group if I've ever heard one) the calls are coming from Roy Cox Jr., Aaron Michael Jones and related companies.



FCC Chairwoman Jessica Roseworcel said, "consumers are out of patience and I'm right there with them."

Well, duh.

Again according to the FCC, the above mentioned group is supposedly responsible for making more than 8 BILLION (!) unlawful prerecorded calls to Americans since 2018.

Not only that, but the operation is the target of an ongoing FCC investigation and a lawsuit from the Ohio Attorney General's office.

In 2021, auto warranty renewal calls were the top robocall complaint filed with by consumers with the FCC, from 7,600 in 2020 to more than 12,000 in 2021.

(Shoot, that's nothing. I bet we've gotten at least 100 here at our little office in the past three months. But I digress.)

The calls often include specific information about your particular car and warranty that can make the call seem more legitimate, according to the FCC.

Other top categories for robocalls were Social Security number phishing scams, credit and credit card scams, fake insurance and healthcare, and phony lawsuit or criminal charges, the FCC said.

Americans received over 4.3 billion robocalls in June, marking an 8.5 percent increase from May, according to a tally by YouMail Inc., a developer of software that blocks the

calls. Because May has one more day than June, robocalls were actually up 13.4 percent on a daily basis.

The calls are a perennial top consumer complaint, the FCC says.

If you happen to be one of the half-dozen people in the U.S. who don't own a phone, here's how the auto warranty scam call goes:

"Hello," a recorded voice says, "I'm calling about important information about your car's warranty. Press one if you wish to speak to a customer representative."

Normal people hang up at this point, after gnashing their teeth knowing they've wasted a couple of minutes on nothing.

Others, not so normal (such as me) like to play along.

A few months ago, after getting probably the fifth or sixth such call in one day, I decided to see how far I could go if I pushed "one" and "was able to speak with a customer service representative."

Someone then came on the line asking for my name, the make and model of my car and its vehicle ID.

I said "Why do you need my name? You called me. You don't know the person's name you just called?"

"Sir we just need your vehicle's make, model and ID."

"But you called me. Don't you know all that already? How can you renew my warranty if you don't have all that information?"

"Click."

Not too long ago, we got another and I yanked their chain again.

They asked all of the same information, to which I answered "Yes, I'd like to renew my warranty on my 1962 Valiant."

"Click."

Score a couple for us.

It felt good.

Perilous punishment from petticoat gang member

I was talkin' to a man the other day, and he asked me what I thought about all the gang activity that was goin' on now-a-days.

Well, that got me to thinkin' about back when I was growin' up. You see back when I was in elementary school, we had gangs roamin' the school grounds. These gangs made the gangs now-a-days look like sissies.

Oh, they were terrible. There were usually four or five to a gang and they could be seen everywhere. They wore their hair in ponytails, dressed similar, and they all carried the same weapon.

These gangs were called girls, and their weapon of choice was a club that they called a baton. The sound of this word still sends a shiver up my spine.

Oh, you laugh. Well, you wouldn't have been laughin' back then, especially if you were a boy. These gangs struck fear into the hearts of boys.

Why, you ask? Well, it was because, not only did they wield these weapons of destruction, but they weren't afraid to use 'em.

A baton is a metal rod that has a small rubber ball attached to one end and a larger ball on the other. The small ball was to keep the gang members hand from slippin' off as she pummeled you with the large end.

These gangs called girls hung around together all the time. They were never alone. Heck, they wouldn't even go to the bathroom by themselves (something they never out-grow).

Their main goal in life, besides makin' life miserable for boys, was to become what they considered the greatest thing a girl could become: A majorette.

These gangs were



interestin' to watch. Let's say they were walkin' on the playground. They'd walk along emittin' strange sounds called "giggles," when all of a sudden they'd stop.

Then one of them would go into what they called a "routine." This girl would start twirlin' the baton. 'Round and 'round it'd go. Faster than an airplane propeller. Back and forth, up and down, and over her head.

Then she'd kick up a leg and pass the baton under and into her other hand, never missin' a lick. It was pretty amazin'. Then to finish, she'd bend down, then straighten up, and toss the baton high into the air. It'd spin skyward and then start down.

She'd catch it and continue spinnin' it, and then she'd stop the spinnin' and let the baton slide to where she was holdin' it by one end. Then she'd put it over her head and behind her like she was fixin' to scratch her back with it, then jump up and kick her foot up behind her and touch it to the baton.

All of the other gang members would oooo and aaaahhh, then they too would start spinnin' their batons. You could hear the whirlin' sound from a quarter of a mile away.

Now, I know what you're thinkin'. You're thinkin' that they don't sound that dangerous, but oh you are so wrong. Let me tell you what happened to me once.

I was walkin' along with some friends on the playground, when we spotted one of those gangs headed our

way. They were not payin' any attention to us, which was normal.

Anywho, they stopped and one of the gang members broke into a routine. We were watchin' as she tossed the baton into the air, but when it came down, she missed it. When she bent down to pick it up, I laughed.

Man, the whole playground went silent. Even the birds quit singin'. My buddies all looked at me with a horrified, almost apologetic look, as they slowly backed away. The girl had her hand on the baton just as I had laughed, and even though she was still bent over, she stopped, looked up, and shot me "the look."

Her formerly pretty face mutated into an ugly mask of rage. Her eyes were narrowed, her lips pinched, and there was pure hatred bein' shot at me, from not only her, but from every girl in the gang.

I looked around, but I was alone. When I looked back, the girl had straightened up and was windin' up for another toss, but this toss wouldn't be goin' straight up. Oh no, this one was comin' for me.

As she let go of the baton, I noticed there were two more batons also headed my way. It was sort of an eerie, slow motion scene that was takin' place.

The first two batons were comin' at me in a vertical manner, but the third was buzz-sawin' at me horizontally, and lower. As I started to turn, to run, the first baton hit me, big end first, right between the eyes.

A millisecond later, the second one punched into my stomach, followed by the third which hit me across my shins. I went down like a sack of mud.

When I finally came to, I was lookin' at a pair of bobby socked legs which disappeared into a forest of petticoats. The legs were standin' on either side of my chest.

As I looked up, I could see a face peerin' at me from the edge of the petticoats. I also saw a finger pointin' down at me. It was the baton twirlin' girl. Then she said those two words that strike fear into every boy.

"I'm tellin'," she said.

As I managed to pick myself up, I noticed that the gang was over talkin' to a teacher and pointin' at me. The girl had worked up some tears, and I don't know what she was tellin', but I had a feelin' that life as I then knew it was fixin' to be comin' to an end. Then the teacher turned and looked at me. Yep, you guessed it. It was one of "those" looks.

Then she pointed to me and motioned for me to come to her. Well, back in those days, it was illegal not to obey a teacher, so I slowly made my way over to her.

I was draggin' one leg and bent over like a hunchback. I felt like Igor, followin' Dr. Frankenstein to the laboratory. I was sure one of my shins was broken, my stomach perforated, and my head caved in, but I finally made it over to the teacher.

She looked down at me, shook her head, grabbed my ear, and dragged me off for more punishment. As she dragged me off, I looked back at the girl. There she was, her nose all squinched up, with her tongue stickin' out at me.

Women.



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, Aug. 5, 2021

Lindale City Council members approved a new contract with the Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce during its regular meeting at city hall.

In addition to the new, two-year contract, council members also approved a third lease agreement with the LACC and the Kinzie House, which houses the chamber's offices. Rent on the Kinzie House was put back to pre-COVID rates.

City Manager Carolyn Caldwell made the recommendation for the new contract with the LACC.

FIVE YEARS AGO, Aug. 3, 2017

Shortly after opening its first branch in Lindale, Austin Bank donated \$3,575 to the Lindale ISD Education Foundation.

The bank, which opened in June, began donating \$25 to the foundation for each \$25 deposited in a new customer's checking account.

"The Education Foundation is excited for the growth of Austin Bank in Lindale and we are honored that they dove head first into our community by giving back to the education of our kids," said LISD Education Foundation President Vickie Frazier.

10 YEARS AGO, Aug. 2, 2012

Target Distribution Center donated \$2,500 to the Lindale ISD Education Foundation to support the district's literacy programs for its elementary students.

Since 2009, Target has donated \$2,500 annually to the LISD Education Foundation and previous grants have supported literacy programs as well as art programs.

"We are so pleased to have the support of Target Distribution," said LISD Education Foundation President Wayne Fletcher. "(The center) is one of the largest employers in Smith County and many of the employees are former Lindale ISD students."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Voting important to keeping democracy

Dear Editor,

The January 6th attack on our nation wasn't a random act by a handful of sore losers, but a premeditated and organized insurrection. Now, thanks to the hearings, there's overwhelming evidence that Trump and his allies were at the helm of it.

We heard from former members of the Trump administration and Republican state officials about how Trump illegally pressured the Vice President, the Department of Justice, and state

legislatures to overturn the election he knew he lost. And when it didn't work, he summoned an armed mob to march on the Capitol Building in a final, violent attempt to stop the peaceful transfer of power.

These insurrectionists haven't gone anywhere. In fact, more than 100 of them have already won their primaries. It's up to us to do our part and vote to make sure they don't win this fall.

Should these dangerous candidates win their elections, we could have election

deniers in key seats of power, like secretary of state and county clerk, ready to overturn whatever election results they don't like.

Our democracy is at stake. If we want to hold onto our freedoms to vote, to have our votes decide elections, and to rely on elections to keep our leaders in check, then we have to cast our ballots during the midterms this year on Nov. 8.

Regards,
Lisa Ham
Lindale

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Succulents: "Lazy" gardener's perfect plants

By Jim S. Powell

Smith County Master Gardener

Succulents are sometimes called the lazy gardener's perfect plants. They get this name because:

-- They store water in their juicy tissues to survive extended periods of drought.

-- They require less pampering, watering, feeding, trimming and repotting than the typical container plants.

-- They enable you to garden on your own terms even when you are time stressed or away from home.

Succulents are excellent plants for containers. Any container with a little room for potting mixture and maybe some gravel or sphagnum moss will hold a succulent. It is best to provide drainage holes in the bottom of the container, but you don't have to. In containers without drainage holes use small pebbles or pea gravel in the bottom of the container to provide a small amount of drainage.

In addition to flowerpots, unusual containers can be used: wire baskets, tin containers, glass jars and vases, wooden boxes, cowboy boots, strawberry pots, metal pans and glass and wooden bowls. I've even seen succulents planted in an old typewriter. Adding a layer of pea gravel or pebbles around the plant adds an additional eye appeal.

The majority of succulents require

well-drained soil that goes nearly dry between waterings. They need protection from excessive rain, humidity, damp cold, and scorching sun (not more than four hours of direct sun per day).

Remember never over-water succulents. A good rule for watering cacti and succulents is, "When in doubt, don't water." During the active growth period soil should be kept about as moist as a wrung-out sponge.

On succulents, use liquid fertilizer diluted to one-quarter strength every four to six weeks during active growth.

Many popular varieties of succulents include Echeveria, Kalanchoe, Sedum, Euphorbia, and Aloe.

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



OBITUARIES

JULIANN PAYNE

Juliann Payne passed away peacefully at her son's home in Lindale on Sunday, July 17, 2022, surrounded by loved ones.

Mrs. Payne lived a long, full life of 95 years and was known for her dedication to family; her keen sense of humor; her sweet willingness to help others; and her devotion to the Lord.

She was born in Pawhuska, Okla. on Jan. 12, 1927, to the late Robert Buckner Talbutt and Julia Ann (Davis) Talbutt. Mrs. Payne was formerly of Tulsa, Okla.; lived in Monroe, La.; then briefly in Tyler before moving to Hideaway in 1986.

Juliann was a stay-at-home mom until her sons were in their teens. Then she began a career in Office Administration for the Oil and Gas Industry in Tulsa, Okla. Later she worked for the University Library System in Monroe, La.

Mrs. Payne was preceded in death by her late husband John Y. Payne in 2020, and her son Robert David Payne in 1988. She is survived by her son Richard Payne and wife Valerie of Lindale; grandson Reagan Payne and wife Shanni of Lucedale, Miss.; grandson Andrew Payne of Tucson, Ariz.; 1 great-grandson Harrison Payne of Lucedale, Miss.; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Mrs. Juliann Payne is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Aug. 16, 2022. She will be interred with her beloved husband, John, of 74 years (a WWII Veteran) at the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery.

WALTER "DUB" LEE PRESCOTT



Funeral services for Walter "Dub" Lee Prescott, 68 of Lindale, were held Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2022, at the Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home Chapel in Lindale with Charles Gilmore officiating. Interment was in Damascus Cemetery in Lindale.

Walter passed away Thursday, July 28, 2022, in Dallas. He was born July 23, 1954, in Colorado City, Texas to the late Walter and Dorothy Mae (Claxton) Prescott. Walter was a lifelong resident of Lindale where he retired from Duck Creek/Lindale Rural Water.

He enjoyed the outdoors raising horses, off roading, hunting, fishing, working on cars, and slot car racing. Walter was also once very active with the Lindale Volunteer Fire Department.

He was preceded in death by his son, Jesse Lee Prescott and brothers, Ray and Jackie Prescott.

Walter is survived by his daughter Angie Prescott of Lindale; sister, Dottie Armstrong of Lindale; special friend, Cris Prescott of Lindale; niece, Lorie Prescott of Lindale; and numerous other loving family members and friends.

Serving as pallbearers were Aaron Shugart, Tom Shugart, Duane Watts, Johnny Sills, John Sills, and Graham Hiss

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307 Eagle Spirit Dr, Lindale, TX 75771
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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

13073 Hwy 110 N • Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3890

Bruce Rudd

New Harmony Baptist Church

10251 FM 727, Tyler, TX 75704

903-593-5811

Red Springs Baptist Church

Red Springs, TX

903-858-2365

St Mary Baptist Church

12050 CR 452., Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8066

Thompson Hill Baptist Church

14657 CR, Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-0849

Walnut Springs Baptist Church

211 Walnut Springs., Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7858

Wood Trails Baptist Church

11804 CR 494,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-5381

CATHOLIC

Holy Family Catholic Church

16314 FM 849,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-4079

Rev. David Bailey, Pastor

St. Joseph the Worker Tridentine Latin Mass

5075 FM 14, Tyler, 75712

903-593-5055

Rev. Joseph Valentine, FSSP

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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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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

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United Methodist Church

Hwy 69, Swan Lindale, TX 75771

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Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8949

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15704 Hwy 110 N Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8501

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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

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1115 Lake Cross Rd

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6966

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14623 CR 463

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7997

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Pastor John Offutt

Lone Star Cowboy Church

23425 FM 1995

Lindale TX 75771

615-480-0289

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18492 Hwy 69 North,

Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-0555 • Phil Brown

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Friday, July 22, 2021

Sgt. Dworaczyk, and Officer Ramsey responded to a welfare concern at the 2100 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Philpot responded to a found property at 17000 block I-20 W, report taken. Sgt. Dworaczyk, and Officer Ramsey responded to a suspicious circumstance at the 200 block W Centennial Blvd, settled at scene. Chief Somes, Capt. Chambers, Sgt. Dworaczyk, Det. Fortunas, and Officers Philpot, Ramsey and Soltero, responded to an assist other agency at the 300 block of Washington St, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Leevey and Gillham responded to an accident at 3300 block S Main St, report taken. Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 100 block Ballard Dr, report taken. Officer Gillham responded to a business alarm at 15500 block CR 463, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Gillham responded to a disturbance at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Saturday, July 23, 2022

Officer Jackquet responded to a suspicious circumstance in the 900 block of S Main St, unfounded. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to a residential alarm in the 1500 block White Bear Trl, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to a welfare concern at the 556 I20 WB, unfounded. Officer Jackquet responded to a reckless driving at the 554 I20 EB, unfounded. Officer Jackquet responded to a public service in the 3500 block of S Main St, settled at scene. Officers Wells and Officer Mumey responded to assist smith county in the 15300 block of FM 16 W, settled at scene. Officer Wells responded to assist smith county at the 558 I20 EB, unfounded. Officer Wells responded to assist smith county in the 15700 block of County Road 471, settled at scene. Officer Wells responded to a suspicious vehicle in the 13800 block of HWY 69 N, settled at scene.

Sunday, July 24, 2022

Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to a

Five Lindale residents indicted by grand jury

A Smith County Grand Jury returned 139 indictments in June including five Lindale residents, said County Grand Jury Coordinator Marieliza Martinez.

Lindale residents' indictments include:

- Patricia Tomkins, 67, evading arrest with vehicle on March 16, 2022;
- Dereck Duvall, 41, abandonment/ endangerment of a child, criminal

negligence and evading arrest with a vehicle on May 23, 2022;

-- Cori Craig, 39, unlawful carrying of a weapon in prohibited place on July 29, 2021;

-- Stephen Pitner, 20, possession of a controlled substance on Oct. 27, 2021;

-- David Schnitter, 31, evading arrest with a vehicle on June 3, 2022.

Allen man indicted for insurance fraud

An Allen man has been indicted for federal crimes arising from a scheme to extract Unemployment Insurance benefits under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act using the stolen identity of others, announced Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston.

Hilton Ray Kersh, 64, was charged in an indictment filed in the Eastern District of Texas with seven counts of illegal transactions with an access device and seven counts of aggravated identity theft. The indictment alleges that Kersh used multiple bank cards issued to individuals other than himself to withdraw funds from ATMs. The debit cards had been loaded with UI benefit funds based on unemployment relief applications made to the Texas Workforce Commission pursuant to the CARES Act. The individuals whose names appear on the debit cards -- and whose names were used to apply for the benefits -- did not authorize Kersh to use their identities. If convicted, Kersh faces up to 15 years in federal prison for the illegal transactions with an access device charges and two additional years for the aggravated identity theft charges.

On May 17, 2021, the Attorney General established the COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement Task Force to marshal the resources of the Department of Justice in partnership with agencies across government to enhance efforts to combat and prevent pandemic-related fraud. The Task Force bolsters efforts to investigate and prosecute the most culpable domestic and international criminal actors and assists agencies tasked with administering relief programs to prevent fraud by, among other methods, augmenting and incorporating existing coordination mechanisms, identifying resources and techniques to uncover fraudulent actors and their schemes, and sharing and harnessing information and insights gained from prior enforcement efforts. For more information on the Department's response to the pandemic, please visit <https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus>.

Federal Grand Jury indicts company executives in employee fraud scheme

A federal grand jury in Texas has indicted former executives and company leaders at Electronic Transactions Systems Corporation for their conduct in defrauding approximately 7,000 merchant clients out of millions of dollars, Walston said.

Edward Walsh Vaughan, 58, of California; Hadi Akkad, 49, of Virginia; Jill Hall Mandichak, 43, of Virginia; Sean Lynch, 50, of Virginia; Katherine Nguyen, 38, of North Carolina; and Gina Ellingsen, 43, of Minnesota, were all charged with conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Vaughan and Akkad were also charged with money laundering conspiracy.

ETS was a card processing company

located in Virginia that provided equipment and services to facilitate credit and debit card payment transactions for merchant clients, including government municipalities, private businesses, and charity organizations throughout the country. According to the indictment, between 2012 and 2019, the defendants, at the direction of ETS president Ed Vaughan, are alleged to have defrauded ETS merchant clients by deliberately disguising a portion of their processing fees for thousands of clients.

The indictment describes how the defendants executed their fraud, including by embedding the hidden markups in "Interchange fees," misleading merchant clients in emails and contracts, and failing to disclose the true fee structure in billing and account statements.

The indictment also details how Vaughan and Akkad used the fraudulently obtained funds to personally enrich themselves through multimillion-dollar bonuses, luxury vehicles and private aircraft, and high-end real estate purchases.

In addition, because the fraud was concealed prior to ETS' acquisition, Vaughan received an additional \$107 million, and Akkad received \$33 million from the sale of the company.

If convicted, the defendants each face up to 30 years in federal prison.

Mexican national sentenced for attempted prison escape

A Mexican national has been sentenced for an attempted prison escape in the Eastern District of Texas, Walston said.

Juan Fidencio Romo-De La Rosa, 39, of Muzquiz, Coahuila, Mexico, pleaded guilty on Dec. 28, 2021, to escape from federal custody and was sentenced to 27 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Thad Heartfield on July 27, 2022.

The 27-month sentence was ordered to be served following an eight-year sentence De La Rosa was already serving at the time of the attempted escape. De La Rosa was previously convicted of transporting illegal aliens for financial gain and being a felon in possession of a firearm in 2019 in the Western District of Texas.

According to court documents, on Oct. 7, 2020, officers at the Federal Correctional Institute (FCI)-Beaumont-Medium were alerted to an active fence alarm. Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) officers found an injured and bloodied inmate, identified as De La Rosa, in the process of climbing the outer perimeter razor wire fence.

De La Rosa, bleeding from the razor wire, had already cleared an interior fence during his attempted escape. Upon being caught, De La Rosa surrendered to the guards at gun point without incident.

This case was investigated by the FBI and Federal Bureau of Prisons and prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Nicole Stratos.



stolen vehicle at 14000 block FM 849, unfounded. Officer Trombley responded to a parking violation at 100 block E Centennial Blvd, citation issued. Detective Fortunas and Officers Wells and Mumey responded to a burglary at 200 block Patience Ave, report taken.

Monday, July 25, 2022

Officer Trombley responded to a public service at 100 block Ballard Dr, settled at scene. Officer Jackquet responded to a public service at 15700 block Brittan Ct, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officer Jackquet responded to a verbal disturbance at 14500 block Tucker St, settled at scene. Officer Jackquet responded to a suspicious person at 15700 block CR 4191, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officers Shurley and Soltero responded to a disturbance at 600 block Abbey Rd, settled at scene. Chief Somes, Cpt Chambers and Officer Trombley responded to an animal at large at 553 W I-20, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to an assist EMS at 15600 block Brittan Ct, settled at scene. Chief Somes, Cpt Chambers and Officers Shurley and Wells responded to an assist EMS at 300 block Corrigan Trails Blvd, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 13300 block CR 472, settled at scene. Officer Wells and Officer Mumey responded to a public service at 100 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Officer Fortunas and Officer Jackquet responded to a welfare concern at 554 W I-20, settled at scene. Officer Jackquet responded to a theft at 15300 block FM 16 W, settled at scene. Officer Trombley responded to an assist other agency at 2300 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Trombley and Officers Shurley, Jackquet and Soltero responded to a warrant service at 3200 block S Main St, arrest made. Officer Mumey responded to a suspicious vehicle at 16200 block CR 431, settled at scene. Officer Mumey responded to a parking violation at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene.

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Officer Philpot and Officer Ramsey responded to an assist EMS at 500 block Sunset Dr, settled at scene. Officer Ramsey responded to a found property at 3500 block S Main St, report taken. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to a traffic hazard at 552 W I-20, unfounded. Officer Leevey responded to a found property at 3200 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Gillham responded to a suspicious circumstance at 13300 block CR 472, unfounded.

Thursday, July 28, 2022

Officer Philpot responded to a found property at 200 block Cannery Row, report taken. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Philpot responded to an assist smith county at 3500 block S Main St, settled at scene. Officer Philpot responded to a public service at 15300 block FM 16 W, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officer Philpot responded to a verbal disturbance at 15300 block FM 16 W, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk responded to an assist smith county at 10800 block 16 E, settled at scene. Officer Gillham responded to a theft at 13700 block Harvey Rd, settled at scene. Sgt Dworaczyk and Officers Leevey and Gillham responded to an assist Ems at 300 block Jane Ln, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Gillham responded to a public service at 100 block Legends Ct, settled at scene. Officer Leevey and Officer Gillham responded to a business alarm at 3400 block S Main St, false alarm.

Tyler man arrested for two counts of aggravated sexual assault of child

Adyson Marquette Fuentes, 56, of Tyler has been arrested and charged with two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child and two counts of indecency with a child, authorities said.

Officers arrested Fuentes on July 17 and is being held on \$2.5 million in bonds.

According to the arrest affidavit, a girl under the age of 15 claimed Fuentes sexually assaulted her on two separate occasions while she was at his home.

One incident was in June and the other in July, according to the affidavit.

Investigators were able to corroborate the victim's

statements through witness statements and physical evidence.

Fuentes did not confess to the crime, but gave contradictory statements, according to the affidavit and after obtaining a warrant, Tyler police arrested Fuentes on July 22.



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Lindale ISD Superintendent Stan Surratt was the guest speaker at a recent weekly meeting of the Lindale Rotary Club. He discussed the upcoming year for the LISD. He was introduced by Shelby Glover. (Courtesy photo)



Preparing for healthy back to school experience

By Claudann Jones

Smith County Extension Agent Family and Community Health

With summer still in full swing, school is probably the last thing you and your child want to think about. But summer is the perfect time to take care of your child's health needs in preparation for the new school year. With a little preparation before school begins, you can avoid some of the stressful mornings that characterizes back-to-school time.

Visit the eye doctor

Vision problems in children are common: about 1 in 20 children have a visual problem. School success depends on good vision, both for close work such as reading and distance vision to see anything shown or written on the board. Children should be screened for vision problems every year.

Make appointments for sports physicals

Children who take part in school sports are likely to be required to have a sports physical, and a doctor usually has to sign a form that says the child is able to play. The focus of the sports physical is different from the typical well-child visit; while a well-child visit focuses on development, a sports physical will check your child's heart health and look at posture, joints, strength, and flexibility.

Take care of vaccinations (shots)

Schools typically require that students have the right vaccinations and ask for proof at school registration. If you're not sure whether your child is up to date, call your child's doctor. If your child is up to date, they will send you a form that you can give to the school.

Get a head start on a healthy routine

Summertime allows your child to sleep late and have a more relaxed schedule than during the school year. As the first day of school approaches, you can help your child to ease back into the school year routine with these helpful hints:

Start the transition to the school year sleep schedule during the last couple of weeks of summer. Getting used to going to bed and waking up earlier is important to avoid the stress-filled rush to get out the door.

Make room in the morning schedule for breakfast. It has been clearly shown that children who eat a healthy breakfast before school do better all day long. For children who get breakfast at school, be sure they arrive at school with enough time to eat before school begins.

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES

CAUSE NO. 46416P.

IN THE ESTATE OF SANDERS C. CUNNINGHAM DECEASED

§ IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW, NO. THREE SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of SANDERS C. CUNNINGHAM, Deceased, were issued on May 23, 2022, in Cause No. 46416P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: KENNETH E. RANEY and JOE K. THIGPEN, Co-Administrators.

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

Joe K. Thigpen
Attorney at Law
102 North College, Suite 808
Tyler, Texas 75702

Kenneth E. Raney
Attorney at Law
1902 Sybil Lane
Tyler, Texas 75703

DATED the 28th day of July, 2022.

Joe K. Thigpen
Attorneys at Law
102 North College
Suite 808
Tyler, Texas 75702
(903) 595-0998
(903) 595-1299 [fax]
joethigpen@yahoo.com

Joe K. Thigpen, Co-Administrator for the Estate of Sanders C. Cunningham, deceased
SBN: 19837400

Kenneth E. Raney
Attorney at Law
1902 Sybil Lane
Tyler, Texas 75703
(903) 561-8456
(903) 561-7692 [fax]
ken@raneylaw.net

Kenneth E. Raney, Co-Administrator for the Estate of Sanders C. Cunningham, deceased
SBN: 16541550

SELL IT FAST
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Smith County employees honored for service

By Casey Murphy

Smith County Public Information Officer

Several Smith County employees were recognized during Commissioners Court on Tuesday, July 26, for a combined 100 years of service to the County.

Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace James Meredith was honored for 20 years of service.

Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran thanked Judge Meredith for his many great years of service, calling him thoughtful, hardworking and very diligent. He also said Judge Meredith was patient, amiable, well-liked and ever-present in the community he serves.

"You are part of the community in every respect," he said. Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 includes the southeast portion of Tyler, as well as Troup, Whitehouse, Arp and New Chapel Hill areas.

"I appreciate all of the people who support me," Judge Meredith said, adding that he is serving his fifth term in office.

Judge Meredith was first elected in 2002. Before becoming Justice of the Peace, he was an officer with the Tyler Police Department for 24 years.

Toby Corley was recognized for 20 years of service to the Smith County Road and Bridge Department.

He began his career driving a dump truck and now is the department's haul truck driver, hauling the Road and Bridge Department's large equipment.

"He is a great person to be around," County Engineer Frank Davis said. "I've never seen him without a smile."

Corley's wife and two children attended Commissioners Court for his service recognition.

La'Mia Prymus was honored for 15 years of service to the Adult Probation Department.

She began working for the department in 2007, as a supervisor of felony caseloads and since 2015, she has been the probation officer for the 7th District Court.

"She does a fantastic job," Supervisor Shaira Lassai said, adding that for several years Ms. Prymus also taught DWI repeat felony offender classes.

"Everyone feels comfortable going to La'Mia for great advice," both for work and personal issues, she said. "She's a hard working person and a great asset to our department."

Dawn Colclasure was recognized for 15 years of service to the County Clerk's Office.

She began working for the department's official public records division in 2007, and has worked her way up to being Chief Deputy of the entire office.

"She never slows down," in her professional or personal life, County Clerk Karen Phillips said. "Dawn goes above and beyond everyone else. She never does anything half way; she always jumps in with both feet."

Mrs. Colclasure routinely fills in for any division in the County Clerk's Office where she is needed. She exhibits "amazing knowledge and wisdom" in every department, Mrs. Phillips said.

Today is "Dawn Colclasure Day" in the County Clerk's Office, she added.

Annette Holmes was honored for 10 years with the County

Clerk's Office.

Mrs. Phillips said Ms. Holmes is always the first employee in the parking lot each day. "She is an amazing person and a great friend," she said.

Ms. Holmes began working for the office in the official public records division and now handles the County Clerk's Office's work for the County Court-at-Law No. 3. She also steps in to help with the other criminal courts, as well as probate court, whenever she is needed.

Teresa Ross was recognized for 10 years with the Smith County Tax Office.

She is one of the lead bookkeepers in the property tax division and she does everything with a smile, Smith County Tax Assessor-Collector Gary Barber said.

"If Smith County has her for another 10 years, it will be a great day," he said.

John Threadgill was recognized for five years of service with the Smith County Facilities Services Department. The department's director, Ed Nichols, said he felt fortunate to honor him for his service, and called him a "detail-oriented guy."

"I really appreciate you," Nichols said during Commissioners Court. "Your diligence and detailed approach to work sets a benchmark for others."

Gina McClung has been with the District Clerk's Office for five years and District Clerk Penny Clarkston announced Tuesday that she has been named the office's new Chief Deputy.

"Gina is the heart and soul of the District Clerk's Office," Mrs. Clarkston said, highlighting her skills, knowledge and her discipline.

Other employees celebrating work anniversaries with the County who were not in court include: Kevin Dingler, 15 years with Adult Probation; Francisco Oviedo Jr., five years with the Sheriff's Office; and Rhonda Laney, five years with Information Technology.



Smith County Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace James Meredith was honored by Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran, right, for his 20 years of service to the county at a recent commissioners court meeting. (Courtesy photo)

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS § **Attorney of Record**
KAITLIN R, TRAVIS
COUNTY OF SMITH § 325 N ST. PAUL,
FLOOR 29
DALLAS TX, 75201
972-667-7764

TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF EMMA MCGEE, DECEASED:

On the 21st day of July, 2022, DAVID MCGEE filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in a proceeding styled IN THE ESTATE OF EMMA MCGEE, DECEASED and bearing the number 46673P in the County Court of Smith County, Texas.

The Court will hear the aforesaid APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP on the Monday next after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of publication of this citation, in the County Court Courtroom in the County Courthouse Annex of Smith County, in Tyler, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid Estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said Application.

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

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

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

Issued and given under my hand and seal of office, the 21st day of July, 2022, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CLERK OF THE COURT PETITIONER or
KAREN PHILLIPS PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY
200 E FERGUSON, STE 300 JEFFREY COTTEN
TYLER, TEXAS 75702 PO BOX 7792
TYLER, TEXAS 75711
903-533-9900

THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE OF DEFENDANTS: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

TO: **J. L. COLLIER, R. J. MCBRIDE, ROBERT COLLIER, CLARENCE COLLIER, TOM COLLIER, AND F. W. COLLIER, OR, IF DECEASED, THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS.** Defendants, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION at or before ten o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after the date of issuance of this citation, before the Honorable County Court at Law of Smith County, Texas at the Courthouse Annex of said county in Tyler, Texas. Said Plaintiffs Petition was filed in said court on the 5th day of July, 2022, in this case, numbered 74353 on the docket of said court, and styled,

FLORENCE MARIE SMITH vs. J. L. COLLIER, R. J. MCBRIDE, ROBERT COLLIER, CLARENCE COLLIER, TOM COLLIER, AND F. W. COLLIER, OR, IF DECEASED, THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS

The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: **FLORENCE MARIE SMITH**, is Plaintiff and **J. L. COLLIER, R. J. MCBRIDE, ROBERT COLLIER, CLARENCE COLLIER, TOM COLLIER, AND F. W. COLLIER, OR, IF DECEASED, THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS**, are Defendants

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: *

REAL PROPERTY

as is more fully shown by PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION on file in this suit.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court, at office in Tyler, Texas, this date: 8th day of July, 2022.

KAREN PHILLIPS,
County Clerk
Smith County, Texas
By: Elena Kale,
Deputy Clerk

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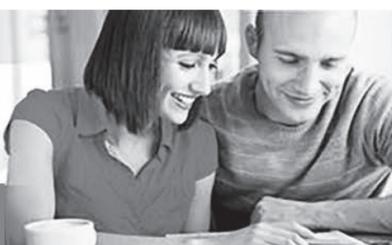
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- Dietary Positions -

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EEOC



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of MICHAEL WEBSTER FRANK, Deceased, were issued on April 27, 2022, in Cause No. 45448P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to VICTORIA MILLS.

The address for the Independent Administrator is:

c/o: LEIGH HUNT GOODSON
The Goodson Firm, P.C.
115 W. Ferguson Street
Tyler, Texas 75702

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

Date: July 28, 2022.

THE GOODSON FIRM, P.C.
Attorney for Victoria Mills

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of SCOTT WAYNE AUDIBERT, Deceased, were issued on May 11, 2022, in Cause No. 46059P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to MARIEL J. AUDIBERT.

The address for the Independent Administrator is:

c/o: LEIGH HUNT GOODSON
The Goodson Firm, P.C.
115 W. Ferguson Street
Tyler, Texas 75702

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

Date: July 28, 2022.

THE GOODSON FIRM, P.C.
Attorney for Mariel J. Audibert

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of SAUNDRA KAY RALEY, Deceased, were issued on July 13, 2022, in Cause No. 46189P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: JANA ANTOS.

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

c/o: JEFFREY P. COTTON
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 7792
Tyler, Texas 75711

DATED the 29th day of July, 2022.

JEFFREY P. COTTON
Attorney for JANA ANTOS
State Bar No.: 24075544
P.O. Box 7792
Tyler, Texas 75711
Telephone: (903) 533-9900
Facsimile: (903) 533-9989
E-mail: office@heindel-law.com

LEGAL NOTICES

NO. 45,638-G

IN THE GUARDIANSHIP OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
§
RALPH NORMAN STEVENSON § OF
§
AN INCAPACITATED PERSON § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that an Order Appointing Permanent Guardian of the person and estate of RALPH NORMAN STEVENSON, an incapacitated person, has been entered by the Court and Letters of Guardianship were issued to RON N. STEVENSON on July 22, 2022, in Cause No. 45,638-G, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas.

The contact information for the Guardian is as follows:

Guardianship of Ralph Norman Stevenson
c/o: Jeffrey P. Cotten
P.O. Box 7792
Tyler, Texas 75701

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

SIGNED on the 29th day of July, 2022.

LAW OFFICE OF B. DIANE HEINDEL, P.C.
JEFFREY P. COTTEN
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No. 24075544
E-Mail: office@heindel-law.com
P.O. Box 7792
Tyler, Texas 75711
Telephone: (903) 533-9900
Fax: (903) 533-9989

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NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

August 4, 2022
City of Lindale
PO Box 130
Lindale, Texas 75771-6814
(903) 882-3422

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Lindale.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about August 22, 2022 the City of Lindale will submit a request to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the release of Community Development Block Grant Program funds under Section 104 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as sidewalk reconstruction including ADA improvements in in the downtown area on South Main and East Hubbard Street, under Contract #CDM21-0133 for the purpose of replacing deteriorated and nonADA compliant sidewalks resulting in hazardous pedestrian traffic. Contractor shall reconstruct approximately 582 linear feet of concrete sidewalk, install 4 ADA compliant ramps, 50 linear feet handrailing, utility adjustments, and all associated appurtenances. Project will also include all associated administration and engineering services, for an estimated cost of \$350,000.00 in HUD funds and \$82,742.50 in non-HUD funds. The project shall take place along South Main (Hwy. 69) from East Valley to East Hubbard and East Hubbard (Hwy. 16) from South Main to North Commerce.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Lindale has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required.

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at 105 Ballard Drive, Lindale, Texas 75771 and may be examined or copied between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Mayor at jdaugherty@lindaletx.gov. All comments received by August 19, 2022 will be considered by the City of Lindale prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Lindale certifies to the State of Texas that Jeff Daugherty in his capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The State's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Lindale to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The State will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Lindale's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Lindale (b) the City of Lindale has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by the State; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Texas Department of Agriculture at CDBG_EnvReview@TexasAgriculture.gov or PO Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711. Potential objectors should contact the State to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Jeff Daugherty, Mayor



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AUCTIONS

101-Acre Commercial/Industrial Property - Aug. 30 - 3050 Hwy 16N, De Leon, TX (5 Miles North of Intersection - Hwy 6 & Hwy 16). ExxonMobil directs immediate sale. Low minimum bid: \$50,000. 1,367' frontage on Hwy 16. FineAndCompany.com, 312-278-0600.

Commercial/Industrial Land - Aug. 30 - Real Estate to be sold Absolute, Regardless of Price. ExxonMobil directs immediate sale: 3.7 Acres South of Marilyn St., Conroe, TX; 38,147 SF, 577 W. Santa Fe St., Conroe, TX; 5.37 Acres, Mc Farland Rd., League City, TX. FineAndCompany.com, 312-278-0600.

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