

Lindale News & Times

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1900"



Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022

Vol. 123, No. 50

1 Section, 8 pages

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Constable found guilty of theft

Suspended Smith County Pct. 1 Constable Curtis Traylor-Harris was found guilty this past week of stealing several items from a Tyler home while serving an eviction notice.

A jury in the 241st District Court deliberated four hours before delivering the verdict. The sentencing phase for Traylor-Harris began earlier this week.

Traylor-Harris was arrested in November 2021 on official oppression and property theft by a public servant charges for theft accusations while issuing an eviction notice along with Pct. 1 Sgt. Derrick Holman and former Pct. 1 Chief Deputy LaQuenda Banks.

Traylor-Harris pleaded not guilty to the charge of property theft by a public servant on Tuesday, Dec. 6. The oppression charge will be tried at a later date.

Traylor-Harris and two of his deputies were indicted by a county grand jury in February, 2022 for the alleged theft of cash, ammunition and other items while serving an eviction notice in November 2021.

In addition to Traylor-Harris, former Pct. 1 Chief Deputy LaQuenda Banks and Pct. 1 Sgt. Derrick Holman were arrested in November on charges of abuse of official capacity, official oppression and property theft.

According to an arrest affidavit from November, 2021, body camera footage allegedly shows Traylor-Harris, Banks and Holman going through the residence of a Tyler resident – who was receiving an eviction notice – while the occupant was away.

In February 2021, the resident reported several items were missing, including several watches, some .22 caliber ammunition, some sunglasses as well as a safe containing antique coins, military medals and a Social Security card.

Also, more than \$750 in cash was reported missing, according to information from the affidavit.

Included in the affidavit was a statement from Texas Ranger Chris Baggett that he received a USB drive which contained body camera footage from Banks while in the home.



From left, Tyler Mayor Don Warren, Smith County Judge Neal Franklin, CampV Executive Director Travis Gladhill, U.S. Congressman-Elect Nathaniel Moran and Smith County Veteran Services Officer Michael Roark pose for a picture during the groundbreaking ceremony for the renovation of a building for Smith County Veteran Services Office to locate at CampV. Courtesy photo

Groundbreaking held for Smith County Veteran Services Office

The Smith County Veteran Services Office held a groundbreaking ceremony at CampV Tuesday, Dec. 6, to kick off renovations to a building that will house its services, said County Public Information Officer Casey Murphy.

Currently, one of Smith County's Veteran Services Officers is stationed out at a satellite office at CampV each week, but once the renovations are complete next year, the entire office will relocate to better provide services to veterans in one location.

Camp V is located at 3212 W. Front Street in Tyler. CampV Executive Director Travis Gladhill said since CampV started several years ago, it has become the pinnacle for services for veterans in East Texas. CampV assists about 340 veterans per month, he added.

Gladhill said CampV and Smith County Veteran Services have established a cohesive relationship to serve East Texas veterans and their needs. The building being renovated will serve as the headquarters to all Smith County Veteran Services Officers.

"The goal out here is to take care of veterans, the well-deserved care that they need" Smith County Judge Neal Franklin said. "The goal of the Smith County Veteran Services Office is to do the same."

"I think this is going to be a great collaboration between Smith County and CampV," Smith County Veteran Services Officer Michael Roark said.

Tyler Mayor Don Warren agreed. "CampV is a one-stop shop and they just keep adding more and more," he said.

U.S. Congressman-Elect Nathaniel Moran said he began having discussions as County Judge years ago with CampV co-founders Jim Snow and Susan Campbell about their vision. He thanked them for their leadership.

"I am grateful the County was able to be a part of your service to the community," he said.

Smith County is paying for the renovations of the building with its American Rescue Plan Act funding.

"I'm excited to be partners with you all, to be teammates and for the future," Franklin said.

The Smith County Veteran Services Office is currently located at 210 E. Ferguson St. in Tyler and is open from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The purpose of the Smith County Veteran Services Office is to assist veterans and their survivors and help them deal with the often confusing and overwhelming task of completing the correct forms/applications and collecting the appropriate documentation to support a claim for benefits. For more information, call 903-590-2950 or visit: www.smith-county.com/government/departments/veterans

CampV's mission is to integrate military and civilian resources through one central location providing efficient and effective support and fellowship for veterans, active duty, reserves, guards and their families. For more information, visit: www.campvtyler.org/

Lindale man headed to federal prison for child porn

Michael James Quam, 29 of Lindale was sentenced to 87 months in federal prison this past week after pleading guilty to possessing or accessing child pornography, said Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston.

Quam pleaded guilty on July 20, 2022 to the charges and was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Jeremy D. Kernodle.

According to information presented in court, on March 5, 2020, a law enforcement official, working undercover, connected to a social media sharing group.

A user in the group, later identified as Quam, posted to the group a link to a "cloud storage" provider that led to a folder providing access to files that included videos containing child pornography. Quam admitted that he knew the folder included videos of child pornography when he posted the link to the group. Quam was indicted by a federal grand jury on March 17, 2022 and charged with federal violations.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.justice.gov/psc.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Homeland Security Investigations and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan R. Jackson.

City council OKs \$17,500 for wetlands mitigation

In its final meeting of the year, the Lindale City Council worked through a short agenda on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at city hall.

The council voted in November to cancel the meeting originally scheduled for Dec. 20. Meetings are regularly scheduled the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

On Dec. 6, council members approved a payment of \$17,500 for wetlands mitigation to Pinewoods Mitigation Bank for using one-half acre of city owned property deemed wetlands for the Southside Sewer Plant.

Also, council members OK'd the painting of the city logo on the historic water tower downtown at a cost of \$20,500.

Lindale players, trainer earn Academic All-State honors

Lindale High School's football team has long been successful on the field, but just as importantly the players and trainers have excelled in the classroom.

The Texas High School Coaches Association, along with the Texas Army National Guard, have recognized several Eagles by naming them to the 2022 Football Academic All-State team for Class 4A.

According to information from the THSCA, the award recognizes high school athletes who excel in the following categories: GPA, class rank, and ACT/SAT score. These recipients are recognized as team members based on their scores in these categories and are grouped into Elite Team, 1st Team, 2nd Team, and honorable mention. "THSCA is very passionate about the celebration of our coaches and athletes as we recognize the elite academic efforts of our student athletes," said THSCA Executive Director Joe Martin. "We're excited to celebrate over 20,000 student athletes for their academic accomplishments during the 2022-23 school year." To be nominated for Academic All-State, a student must be:

- A senior
- An athlete, student trainer or manager in good standing with the team
- Of good moral character
- Have an overall grade point average of 92 or above (including courses from grades 9-11 and courses completed from grade 12). GPA and class rank are considered in the scoring.

When reviewing the nominations, students receive points based on each category. The total number of points determines which team students are placed on.

The classification of the school is not a factor, and there is not a limit on how many students can make a team. The highest honor a student athlete can make is the Elite Team, as a player must have near perfect scores in all categories. The hierarchy then follows by 1st team, 2nd team, and honorable mention.

LINDALE ACADEMIC ALL STATE HONOREES

- Christian King 1st Team Player
- Will Hutchens 1st Team Player
- Landon Sullivan 2nd Team Player
- Gabe Hart 2nd Team Player
- Ethan Heller 2nd Team Player
- Cory Watts 2nd Team Player
- Trey Mazratian 2nd Team Player
- Aliah Price Honorable Mention Trainer
- Christian Widemon Honorable Mention Player
- Brandon Pettway Honorable Mention Player
- Brett Maya Honorable Mention Player

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Staying on the Track

We just avoided a major train wreck!

Rail is a crucial component of the US logistics system, and a prolonged strike would lead to chaos. It would exacerbate ongoing supply chain challenges, put additional upward pressure on prices and, thus, do substantial economic harm. We rarely stop and think about how critical railroads are in knitting our complex economy together, but we came perilously close to a stark reminder.

Although a tentative agreement had been reached between the major railways and union representatives (with assistance from the Biden Administration), it required ratification by members of 12 unions before going into effect. That didn't happen, and a strike loomed large.

Fortunately, Congress has the power to force the issue, and it did. Under the new contract, workers will receive an additional paid day off and a 24% pay raise through 2024. There are also provisions related to health insurance premiums and deductibles. Eight rail unions ratified the agreement, but four did not, primarily because of concerns regarding paid sick leave.

To illustrate the economic damage such a strike could have wrought, we recently analyzed the cost of a hypothetical one-month shutdown to the US and Texas economies. This assessment is based on the proportion of the economy that relies on the system and involves modeling the use of rail freight across several hundred detailed sectors.

We estimate that a one-month rail shutdown would have cost the US economy over \$285 billion in gross product and nearly 1.3 million job-years of employment. (A job-year is the equivalent of one person working for one year, although in this instance, it would primarily be multiple individuals working partial years.) For Texas, the corresponding losses would have been over \$29 billion in gross product and about 97,700 job-years.

Industries which would be particularly hard hit by a rail strike include chemicals and petroleum refining, processed food, electric and electronic equipment, petroleum and natural gas, agricultural products, and fabricated metals. Most of these are key export generators for both the United States and Texas.

A major rail strike would have been a substantial blow to the economy, and the timing was particularly bad. The supply chain is only now recovering from the pandemic disruptions and other calamities, and the last thing it needed was a further challenge. Higher prices and fewer choices for consumers would also have been part of the inevitable fallout. With inflation already high and the holiday season approaching, the effects would have been magnified.

We most definitely dodged a major bullet. While I prefer that such matters be resolved in the private market and it is unfortunate that Congress had to intervene, it was the only choice without devastating consequences.

Stay safe!

"...if only in my dreams"

I don't want things to change...but they do, and they have. Maybe that is why the Christmas carol "I'll Be Home For Christmas" brings a little bit of an ache to my heart along with tender smiles. Growing up, Christmas was magical and shiny, with Christmas Eve celebrated at my widowed grandmother's neat little home around a silver tinsel tree, with the bonus of a mesmerizing color wheel.

Of course, old St. Nick came on Christmas morning to our country home. My younger brother and I were not allowed to run like ban-shees into the living room until my Mom or Dad had brought our older brother Donnie, who had severe cerebral palsy, into the living room in front of the tree. Then it was Katy bar the door and a mad dash for the goodies left by Santa. After breakfast we went to my Mom's parents for more Christmas, and food that I dream about to this day. Why I didn't make it home to snag the tinsel tree or my other grandmother's plastic icicles when their households were broken up I still deeply regret.

My sweetheart and I participated in First Christian Church's Living Nativity as Mary and Joseph when we were young. The sacred Christmas Eve service with the "Hallelujah" chorus ringing in Christmas on the stroke of midnight was profoundly spiritual and joyous. As magical as those cherished Christmas memories were, the best was yet to be.

I can still remember our son's first Christmas and his big hazel eyes when he focused on our Christmas tree. I will never forget him patting my cheek with excitement. By year two he was a little whirlwind, still patting my cheeks and telling me he loved me. By age three Josh had asked Santa for a backhoe, and boy did Santa deliver. When his dad tried to

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The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



show him how to maneuver it our son's response was, "No! Josh do it his way." And he has throughout his life, done it in ways that matter. But, I do so miss that sweet little boy, Birthday cakes for Jesus, innocent wonder, and, that soft, loving pat on my cheek.

On a recent trip to our family ranch I walked through the silent house of my childhood, sat on the couch and looked out the big picture windows by the fireplace. In that moment I closed my eyes and heard my Daddy call me his "Darlin' Daughter" and my son his "little buddy". I saw the big bulb Christmas lights of my childhood reflecting in my older brother's deep brown eyes. I heard my ever busy Mom in the kitchen, and my little brother's excitement over his Hot Wheels. I felt the hand of my sweetheart as we stood beside a manger with shepherds and wisemen. I saw the lights of trees across the years and across the miles. I felt the love I have always known...

...and then, I hummed the Christmas song of my heart...

"I'll be home for Christmas

You can plan on me...

...Christmas Eve will find me

Where the love light gleams

I'll be home for Christmas

If only in my dreams"



Retiring senator named Secretary of State

Retiring state Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, has been named the next secretary of state by Gov. Greg Abbott. She replaces John Scott, who announced his resignation effective at year's end.

Scott was the third nominee for the post not confirmed by the Senate. He was appointed in October 2021, and the Legislature has not met since then. Nelson, who is completing 30 years in the Senate, should be a strong candidate for approval because of her lengthy tenure there. A new legislative session convenes in January.

The secretary of state's office, among other duties, oversees the state's election process.

"I look forward to this new chapter of public service and appreciate the confidence Governor Abbott has placed in me to serve as Secretary of State," Nelson said in a statement. "Voters expect fair elections with accurate, timely results, and I am committed to making that happen. Texans with all political views should have faith in our election system."

TikTok banned on all state-issued phones

Abbott last week ordered all Texas state agencies to ban use of the social media app TikTok on any government-issued device, saying it risks allowing China to gain access to "critical U.S. information."

The popular video-sharing application is owned by a Chinese company and is used by an estimated 85 million people in the United States.

TikTok maintains the Chinese government has never tried to access the data of its users, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Abbott said he is prepared to work with state lawmakers to make the ban permanent during the next session, and to extend the ban to devices issued by local governments, such as cities and counties.

"We must work together to stop the Chinese government's efforts to collect, store, and distribute Texans' data and personal information," Abbott wrote in a letter to Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Dade Phelan.

TPWD stresses testing harvested deer

The recent discover of chronic wasting disease in Kaufman County has spurred biologists with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to stress the importance of testing deer taken this hunting season to curb the spread of the deadly disease.

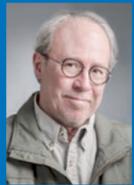
The neurological disease is highly contagious and affects white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, and moose. It has been found in 17 Texas counties and documented in both captive and free-ranging deer in 30 states and three Canadian provinces, according to TPWD.

Anyone hunting in an established CWD zone must bring their deer to a check station within 48 hours of harvest for testing. There are about 30 check stations and drop boxes across the state. For more information, visit the TPWD website at tpwd.texas.gov.

Largest teacher prep program under fire

The Texas Education Agency is recommending that Texas

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Teachers of Tomorrow have its accreditation revoked after failing to improve training of teacher candidates. The *Dallas Morning News* reported the company, which certifies thousands of teachers mainly through online courses, failed to meet demands by TEA that it ensure all candidates receive adequate actual classroom training.

The State Board of Educator Certification met Friday to consider the company's fate. Texas Teachers of Tomorrow and TEA are expected to present arguments before an administrative judge, and the case could stretch on for months or even more than a year.

The company has been on probation for several months, and TEA found it did not meet the terms of their agreement to improve. The state already faces a teacher shortage that could be exacerbated if the company's accreditation is revoked.

TABC working with retailers over holidays

'Tis the season for tipping, and the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission is working with retailers to make prevent illegal alcohol sales. TABC plans inspections across the state to ensure retailers are following the law and not selling to people under 21 as well as those who are visibly intoxicated.

"Now is the best time, before the holiday season kicks into high gear, for business owners and managers to educate their staff on ways to prevent illegal alcohol sales," TABC executive director Thomas Graham said.

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety, drunk driving was a factor in nearly one-fourth of all traffic deaths last year. Businesses who violate state alcohol laws face fines or suspension of their alcohol licenses, while individuals could face misdemeanor charges resulting in a fine or jail time.

Holiday happenings at state parks

State parks across Texas are hosting a variety of holiday events in December, including themed guided walks, scavenger hunts and more, according to TPWD. However, anyone planning to visit a state park should reserve their day pass in advance to avoid turned away from parks that reach capacity. You can do so on the TPWD website (tpwd.texas.gov) or by calling 512-389-8900.

Activity examples include elves running loose at Fort Boggy State Park on Saturday, Dec. 10, with prizes to folks who spot the first 10 elves on the Lake Sullivan Trail. At Big Bend Ranch State Park, the darkest skies in Texas provide excellent star gazing. A full list of holiday events at state parks is on the TPWD website.

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

The Lindale News & Times is published every Thursday. Offices are located at 104 S. Main, P.O. Box 1559, Lindale, Texas 75771. Periodical rates paid at Lindale Post Office (USPS No. 314040). Annual subscription rate is \$35 for delivery inside Smith County, \$40 outside of Smith County and \$50 out-of-state. Any erroneous information reflecting upon the character, 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.

No Fun League's problems are truly outside the bucket

One would think that on the list of National Football League's priorities, fining players for "excessive celebrations" would be pretty low on the list and perhaps needs to be reexamined.

To wit: In the past few weeks, Dallas Cowboy players have been fined for "excessive celebrations" which consisted of players jumping into the Salvation Army's donation bucket after scoring a touchdown.

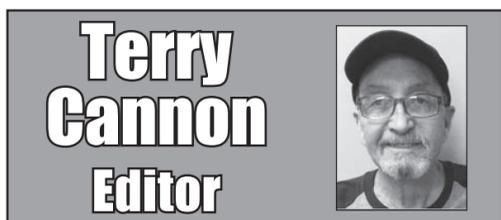
For those not aware, every year around Thanksgiving the Cowboys help publicize the Salvation Army's holiday donation drive by placing an oversized replica bucket near the endzone.

In 2016, Dallas running back Ezekiel Elliott scored a touchdown during week 15 against Tampa Bay and hopped into the pot, which had been in place since Thanksgiving.

The NFL, which in this instance should stand for the "No Fun League," promptly fined the running back.

This past Thanksgiving as the Cowboys were beating the New York Giants.

Tight end Peyton Hendershot (gotta love that name) scored a touchdown padding the Cowboys lead to 28-10. Fellow tight ends Sean McKeon, Jake Ferguson and Dalton Shultz hopped into the bucket and Hendershot performed a planned "Whack-A-Mole" celebration. (If you don't know that that is, look it up. It's too hard to explain



Terry Cannon
Editor

in print).

So naturally, the big cheeses at the offices of the No Fun League frowned. Can't have that type of nonsense. Gavel bangs, and fines were levied. Shultz, \$13,261, Ferguson \$4,895, Hendershot \$3,944 and McKeon, \$4,994.

So on Sunday, Dec. 4 in the fourth quarter during a Dallas beat down of the Colts, that trouble maker Elliott scored and, you guessed it, jumped into the bucket.

He pulled quarterback Dak Prescott into this nefarious jack-in-the box scheme, who operated an imaginary crank on the side of the bucket and presto! Up popped Zeke.

More scowls from the No Fun League's Grand Poohbahs and another bang of the gavel. Zeke was fined - again.

But here's the important thing to remember about all of this: These celebrations bring welcome publicity for the Salvation Army. Zeke has proved his heart for this charity is as big as that bucket because not only is he happy to put the focus on the Salvation Army, but this past week he donated

\$50,000 of his money to the charity and has adopted three angels from the Angel Tree program.

And Elliott teased there may be more celebrations coming in the next couple of weeks.

Let's review: the players are hopping into a charity kettle to celebrate touchdowns and aren't making the other team look bad. It's bringing priceless publicity to a very worthy cause.

So what's the problem? Someone smarter than me will have to explain that one.

And all the while, the No Fun League labors along with bigger problems than celebrating bucket jumpers.

The list begins with a definite lack of minority head coaches and continues with the ongoing sad saga of owner Dan Snyder of the Washington Commanders.

Mike Tomlin in Pittsburgh, Lovie Smith (of Big Sandy) in Houston, Todd Bowles in Tampa Bay and Steve Wilks in Carolina represent the full list of African American head coaches in a league where nearly 70 percent of the players are people of color.

Now to be fair, the league tried to address this issue this past summer by requiring the hiring of minority offensive assistant coaches and women in other high level jobs.

As to Snyder, this is a quagmire the league isn't likely to emerge from unscathed. Reports surfaced in 2020 that more than 40 women, who were former members of the organization, had been sexually harassed by Snyder and other male executives.

Lawyer Beth Wilkinson, conducting an independent investigation, concluded in 2021 that incidents of sexual harassment, bullying and intimidation were commonplace. The NFL fined the team \$10 million.

This past Thursday, the House Committee on Oversight and Reform reported Snyder had given misleading answers in earlier testimony over the alleged controversies. The report also cited Snyder as having paid hush money to former employees so they wouldn't testify on behalf of the plaintiffs.

And, in another shot across the bow of the NFL, the report said the league hasn't protected workers from sexual harassment and abuse.

Does it make sense to punish a few players for hopping into a charity bucket when other more serious things continue to swirl?

One would think not.

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, Dec. 12, 2021

The Lindale High School boys basketball team fell in its home opener to Huntington, 68-65, in overtime. The Eagles jumped out to a 20-10 lead after the first period behind the contributions of Taegan Terry, Colby Wood and Ryder Johnson, along with Walter Johnson.

The Eagles fell behind by 11 in the third period but found the range to cut the deficit to just five entering the fourth period.

FIVE YEARS AGO, Dec. 14, 2017

Lindale residents Kelly Kizer, Courtney Watts and Melissa Danaher were honored by Austin Bank during the company's 2017 Service Awards Banquet held in Tyler. The banquet honored 59 employees with a combined 760 years of experience.

TEN YEARS AGO, Dec. 13, 2012

Lindale High School Senior Bethany Williams was presented with the third Good Neighbor Award of the 2012-13 school year from R.J. Collins State Farm Insurance.

Johnson received a framed award, a gift certificate to Doc's Pizza in Lindale and a car safety kit from Collins.

Williams plans to attend Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., where she will pursue a degree in Religious Studies and Health. She is involved in several extra-curricular activities at Lindale High School and maintains one of the most rigorous course loads offered at LHS.



Lindale Rotary Club lends a hand
Charlene Burton, left, and Susan West of the Lindale Rotary Club recently worked a shift as bell ringers for the Salvation Army donation area at the Lindale Walmart. (Courtesy photo)

Remembering Christmas spirit, past and present

I'm sure some of you have already started your Christmas shoppin'. You're puttin' up decorations and such, and gettin' ready for visitors, and plannin' to have a big time.

Some say that they wish Christmas was like it was back when they were kids. When I feel that way, I just close my eyes, and go back.

I remember months before Christmas, wonderin' if it ever would arrive.

I remember prayin' that if I had to die, to make it after Christmas, so I could see what Santa was bringin' me.

I remember school durin' the Christmas season. We'd make Christmas ornaments out of Styrofoam balls with beads held in place with straight pens, then we'd sprinkle glitter all over it. Man, we thought they were beautiful. We'd make chains with the links made of red and green construction paper that reached all the way around the room. We'd sing Christmas songs and each of us would stand in front of the class and tell what Santa Claus was goin' to bring us.

We were all extra good durin' that time, too. That's because the threat of Santa not comin' to see us if we were bad was held over heads.

We also would be busy getting' ready for the school Christmas program. Back then, it was still OK to include God in school activities. He hadn't been expelled yet, so our Christmas programs always included a Nativity play. I was always a shepherd, 'cause I had a housecoat that my mom had gotten me when I was in the hospital.

"How many of you boys have housecoats?" the teacher would ask. Those of us who did would raise our hands. "OK, y'all are all shepherds," she'd say. I didn't mind bein' a shepherd, but I always had a hankerin' to be Joseph. I never got to be Joseph.

The teachers said I wigged too much to be Joseph. I never got to be a Wise Man either. That was OK though, they had to wear shiny dress like things and I always thought it made them look like sissies.

You should have seen us shepherds. Some of the housecoats we wore were plaid, and some were checkered, and we all had bath towels wrapped around our heads. And of course we all had on our blacktopped tennis shoes stickin' out from under our housecoats. We looked pathetic.

Luckily, we didn't have to sing. All the girls would be off to the side on the stage doin' all the singin'. Everyone, that is, except the one who played Mary.

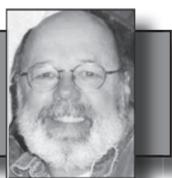
The play never went off like it was supposed to, but nobody out in the audience knew. We knew, and the teacher knew, but that was it. Afterwards, you had to endure all the hugs and cheek pinchin' and head rubbin' from the parents. That goes along with bein' a star, you know.

At home we'd be getting' ready for Christmas, too. We couldn't figure out why Mom always had the snots around Christmas, until she found out she was allergic to cedar.

I remember when we got our first artificial Christmas tree. Mom, my sister Teri, and I put the thing together. Dad was not allowed to help, 'cause mom had caught him the year before nailin' the tree to the floor 'cause it kept tippin' over. Anywho, when we got it put, up we stood back and looked at it. It was beautiful. It was shiny aluminum, and I thought we had become rich. Mom bought all new balls for the tree and they were all blue. Well, all of them except the Styrofoam one I had made in school. Mom put it up front, 'cause she thought it was so beautiful.

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Then Mom would start cookin'. She cooked good stuff, too. She made divinity, fudge, chocolate turtles, and a bunch of other stuff. Man, could she cook.

A few days before Christmas, we'd pile into our '59 Chevy station wagon and head into town.

Dad would never say where we were goin' but we always knew. We were goin' to Monkey Wards. Monkey Wards was where Santa Claus was. Man, I couldn't wait. Santa Claus scares some kids, but he never scared me. I loved Santa Claus.

The only part I didn't like was havin' to wait in that long line to see him. My sister, Teri, always let me go first, that way she could cue me as to what to ask for. I wasn't as smart as she was, and I'd get so excited I'd forget what to ask for, and she'd tell Santa for me.

On the way home, Dad would drive down through what we called the rich part of town, and we'd look at the Christmas lights. I'm colorblind, so I probably didn't get the full benefit of the lights, but they were still pretty to me. I especially liked the houses that had all blue lights. Blue is one of the colors I can see pretty well.

Dad would always take us by this one house that had a mechanical Santa Claus that was tryin' to climb a tree, and there was a mechanical dog beneath Santa jumpin' up and tryin' to bite him.

The dog had a patch of Santa's suit in his teeth, and Santa's suit was missin' a patch, from the rear end. It was great.

Now, the night before Santa arrived was really excitin'. You see, the local TV station would be trackin' Santa on the weather radar all the way from the North Pole. They'd break in on regular programin' like "The Fowler Playboys" show to let you know when he was getting' close. Radar back then wasn't as sophisticated as it is now. It was a round screen with a hand that swept around and each time it passed it would light up a cloud, or in this case it would light up Santa's sleigh. Even though it was sort of crude, you could make out Santa's sleigh and reindeer.

"Well, it looks like Santa's sleigh is moving into the vicinity," Kip Kippenbrock, the weatherman, would say. "All of you good little boys and girls, better head off to bed." Man, he didn't have to tell us twice. Teri and I would take off. We knew that if you weren't asleep, Santa might pass you by. I'd have my eyes slammed shut, but I'd be listenin' for Santa to land on our roof. The next thing I'd know, it would be mornin'. I'd jump off the bed (you always jump, 'cause

that way the things that live under you bed can't grab your legs and pull you under) and run and peek around the corner. Man, presents were all over the place. Then I'd run back and get Teri. We didn't have to get Mom and Dad, 'cause they heard us screamin' from excitement and they'd join us.

Back then, Santa didn't wrap presents like he does now. Everything was laid out in the open like it was meant to be. That way, you could take it in all at once, and sometimes it was just too overwhelmin'.

Now, I wouldn't get everything I asked for, but I sure got a lot of it. I'd always get some kind of toy gun. I loved toy guns, and still do. Once, I even got a whole case of caps for my guns. That's right, a whole case, and I didn't even ask for it. I guess after all the guns that Santa had brought me; he knew that I could use a lot of ammo.

I felt sorry for my sister. She never got any good stuff. She got dolls, and a little oven, that actually made cakes, and junk like that. Oh yeah, and those stupid batons that she rattled my brains with all the time. Of course she thought it was good stuff, but I knew better.

She did get a little cotton candy machine once that I thought was pretty cool, but that's only because I like cotton candy.

What was really sad, though, was that Santa only brought my parents one gift each. Their gifts were always wrapped. Dad would dig Mom's out from under the tree and give it to her, and she'd do the same for him.

I don't remember what Santa brought them, but it must have been good, 'cause they always hugged and kissed each other after they opened them.

I always saved my stockin' for last. I knew what was in it 'cause it always had the same things, and they were my favorite things. There were a couple of tangerines, a bag of little Hershey candy bars (the dark chocolate ones were my favorite), a bag of Tootsie Rolls, and a book of Lifesavers. Man, that was a Christmas.

Do you know what I asked for this year? That's right. The only thing I asked for is a couple of tangerines, a bag of little Hershey candy bars, a bag of Tootsie rolls, and a Book of Lifesavers. Oh yeah, and some 22 bullets.

Let me tell you one more thing, the most important thing. Even though we were little kids, we still knew what Christmas was really about. Our parents made sure of that.

We knew we were celebratin' the birth of Jesus. For us, He was, and still is, the most important part of, not only the Christmas Season, but also the rest of the year. Remember, without Christ, there would be no Christmas. And that, my friends, is what the Christmas Spirit is all about.

Janet and I would like to wish y'all a Merry Christmas, and may God Bless each and every one of you.

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Nutritional needs changes as we grow older

By Claudann Jones
Smith County Extension Agent
Family and Community Health

Food tastes develop as toddlers, but are nutritional needs the same at age 30 and 65?

Not according to the National Institute of Aging.

Aging individuals need more protein, less sodium, and more key vitamins like B12. Eating a variety of foods with little to no added sodium, saturated fats, and sugar reduces risk for conditions like high blood pressure, diabetes, and heart disease.

The aim should be for more quality-of-life years and here are some tips on how to maintain your health as you grow older

Muscle matters, especially for preventing fall injuries. Protein sources such as seafood, dairy, fortified soy products, beans, lentils, and quinoa are fuel for muscle.

Get rid of the saltshaker. Lemon juice, citrus, and fresh herbs will add variety, keeping your taste buds feeling young and adventurous.

Meal planning is the best way to remove obstacles to healthy eating. Establish a budget, shop according to the sale papers, make a list ahead of time, and pick a prep time with which you are comfortable.

The USDA MyPlate Kitchen alongside the MyPlate Plan are great recipe planning and dietary guidelines based on your age, height, weight, and physical activity level.

Sliced fruits and vegetables and nuts make great on the go snacks and help stabilize blood sugar.

Stay hydrated. Adequate water consumption aids in the digestion of food and absorption of nutrients, so make your

water interesting by infusing it with cucumber, fruit, or mint, and ditch the empty calorie sugary drinks.

Be flexible. Be ready to implement changes in your shopping, cooking, and eating habits knowing they will help you reach your goals by keeping your body healthy and strong.

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

Like our Facebook page: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Smith County. Stay well and stay safe.

CCF to hold special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Officials with Community Christian Fellowship have announced there will be a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service this year beginning at 6 p.m., Dec. 24 at the church located at 15704 State Highway 110 North in Lindale.

The community is invited to the event which will include the singing of Christmas carols, the Christmas story presented by children, special Christmas music and the lighting of the candles.

For more information, call 903-882-8501.

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903-882-7597

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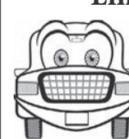
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Lindale Police Department call logs, Dec. 2-9:

FRIDAY, DEC. 2: 8:41 a.m., 900 block Brad Circle, suspicious circumstance; 10:09 a.m., 13000 block FM 2710, theft; 10:18 a.m., 100 block Ballard Drive, public service; 10:20 a.m., 900 block E. Hubbard, assist Lindale ISD police; 10:58 a.m., 900 block E. Hubbard, assist Lindale ISD police; 1:16 p.m., 3500 block E. Main Street, criminal mischief; 3:17 p.m., 600 block South Main, public service; 4:53 p.m., 400 block Baker Street, welfare concern; 6:05 p.m., 100 block E. Centennial, accident; 7:42 p.m., 3500 S. Main, welfare concern; 11 p.m., 1400 Lakeside Court, simple assault; 11:33 p.m., 19000 block County Road 4116, assist Smith County Sheriff's Office.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3: 8:01 a.m. 300 block Bowers Street, inquest/unattended death; 10:17 a.m., 3500 block South Main, child exchange; 10:24 a.m., 2100 block S. Main, traffic hazard; 3:23 p.m., 500 block Miranda Lambert Way, lockout; 8:07 p.m., 500 block Asher Lane, suspicious circumstance; 8:21 p.m., Eagle Spirit/South Main, traffic hazard; 9:17 p.m., Interstate 20 East, assist another agency; 9:19 p.m., 100 block Ballard Drive, public service.

SUNDAY, DEC. 4: 3:06 a.m., 300 block S. Main, suspicious person; 1:51 p.m., 200 block Sandy Drive, welfare concern; 2:53 p.m., 100 block Ballard Drive, motorist assist; 6:32 p.m., 100 block Ballard Drive, child custody dispute; 7:30 p.m., Freedom Drive service road, motorist assist; 10:33 p.m., 200 block Cannery Row, suspicious vehicle.



MONDAY, DEC. 5: 1:41 a.m., 1500 block Britain Court, suspicious circumstance; 7:02 a.m., 100 block E. Centennial, criminal trespass; 8:04 a.m., 900 block Mount Sylvan Road, criminal mischief; 10:05 a.m., 100 block S. Main, business alarm; 10:48 a.m., 100 block E. Centennial, parking violation; 11:14 a.m., 15000 block CR 463, assist Lindale ISD police; 4:24 p.m., CR 474/S. Main, motorist assist; 4:51 p.m., 3500 block S. Main, suspicious vehicle; 5:37 p.m. 3500 block S. Main, accident; 8:46 p.m., 17000 block CR 4112, simple assault; 9:30 p.m., 25000 S. Main, suspicious vehicle; 11:37 p.m., 35000 block S. Main, welfare concern.

TUESDAY, DEC. 6: 4:37 a.m., 17000 block CR 4112, disturbance; 9:09 a.m., 1400 block S. Main, disturbance; 10:28 a.m., 2500 block S. Main, business alarm; 10:51 a.m., 500 block N. Boyd, assist another agency; 4:18 p.m., 1800 block E. South, welfare concern; 4:26 a.m., Blackberry Blvd./E. Hubbard, motorist assist; 4:27 p.m., 400

block Eagle Spirit, public service; 4:42 p.m., 900 block Mount Sylvan Road, disturbance; 5:31 p.m., 500 block N. Main, suspicious person; 10:06 p.m., 13000 block CR 472, suspicious circumstance; 10:18 p.m., 100 block E. Centennial, suspicious person; 11:53 p.m., 13000 block I-20, loitering.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7: 2:37 a.m., 12000 block I-20, accident; 2:48 a.m., CR 431/CR 474, assist another agency; 3:12 p.m., 300 block S. Main, accident; 4:54 p.m., 500 block Pierce Street, motorist assist; 5:27 p.m., 15000 block CR 467, public service; 6:54 p.m., 400 block S. Main, business alarm; 7:01 p.m., 3500 block S. Main, theft.

THURSDAY, DEC. 8: 12:29 a.m., 13000 block Highway 69 north, suspicious person; 1 a.m., 3300 block S. Main, warrant service; 8:21 a.m., 100 block Ballard Street, public service; 8:30 a.m., 1500 block Country Acres Drive, city ordinance violation; 8:33 a.m., 13000 block I-20 west, accident; 8:59 a.m., 15000 block CR 463, assist Lindale ISD police; 3:10 p.m., 300 block S. Main, accident; 6:09 p.m., 3500 block S. Main, deadly conduct; 6:19 p.m., 3500 block S. Main, traffic hazard; 7 p.m., 2800 block S. Main, assist EMS; 9:47 p.m., 100 block Ballard Drive, suspicious person; 10:15 p.m., 21000 block Highway 69 north, suspicious vehicle; 10:57 p.m., 13000 block I-20 west, business alarm; 11:37 p.m., 400 block S. Industrial, public service.

FRIDAY, DEC. 9: 2:25 a.m., 3200 block S. Main, welfare concern; 3:13 a.m., 3200 block S. Main, public service.

Whitehouse man gets 18 months for tax evasion

A Whitehouse man has been sentenced for a federal income tax violation in the Eastern District of Texas, announced Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston.

Anthony D. Klein, 48, pleaded guilty on March 30, 2022, to attempting to evade or defeat tax and was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Jeremy D. Kernodle.

Klein was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$404,292 to the IRS.

According to information presented in court, for tax year 2016, Klein filed an IRS Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, with the Internal Revenue Service.

On that form, he claimed that he had no

taxable income and that he was entitled to credits in the amount of \$5,836.00. In fact, he had taxable income of approximately \$538,188.07 for tax year 2016. In filing the return, Klein intended to evade and defeat the payment of income tax that was due and owing to the United States.

Klein admitted that the tax loss for tax year 2016 is \$194,780; for tax year 2017 is \$98,431.00; for tax year 2018 is \$74,191.00; and for tax year 2019 is \$36,890.00, for a total tax loss of \$404,292.00.

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan R. Jackson.

Lindale man sentenced to federal prison on child porn charges

Michael James Quam, 29 of Lindale was sentenced to 87 months in federal prison this past week after pleading guilty to possessing or accessing child pornography, said Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston.

Quam pleaded guilty on July 20, 2022 to the charges and was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Jeremy D. Kernodle.

According to information presented in court, on March 5, 2020, a law enforcement official, working undercover, connected to a social media sharing group.

A user in the group, later identified as Quam, posted to the group a link to a "cloud storage" provider that led to a folder providing access to files that included videos containing child pornography. Quam admitted that he knew the folder included videos of child pornography when he posted the link to the group. Quam was indicted

by a federal grand jury on March 17, 2022 and charged with federal violations.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.justice.gov/psc.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Homeland Security Investigations and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan R. Jackson.



Picker's Pavilion is decked out for the holiday season and includes this mail box for anyone wishing to send a letter to the North Pole for Mr. Claus. The pavilion will be open the rest of December to welcome visitors. (Photo by Terry Cannon)



These soldiers stand "guard" at Pickers Pavilion in downtown Lindale as part of the Christmas season decorations at the facility, which will be open throughout December for visitors to enjoy. (Photo by Terry Cannon)

Making sure feathered friends are in fine fettle

By Holly Hollenshead
Smith County Master Gardener

If you are like me, you enjoy watching the different birds come and go from your backyard feeder through the window or from the patio.

Retirement has provided me with the time to become a bird watcher along with Sadie, my pup.

Sometimes she enjoys the birds more than I do. She and I are also working on her not chasing off our bird friends.

As I began my new hobby of bird watching I am finding out there is more to it than just putting out birdseed. It is a commitment and birds can become accustomed to being fed.

They will start to depend on this consistent supplemental food especially during the different seasons with winter being the most important. If feeding stops it can be harmful to their survival. Here are suggestions on how to start and maintain your new hobby to the benefit of your new friends, the birds.

Feeder stations: Feeding stations for birds should contain a watering site, seed and some type of platform or container for seed. Feeders can be as easy as a homemade one or as

ornate as one ordered online or from a store.

Feeder placement: Proper placement is especially important in that you do not want to make it easy for a predator to ambush birds while they feed. If you use a hanging bird feeder, make sure it is far enough off the ground to prevent predators from being able to jump to feeder. If you are placing the feeder near a tree do not place it close to limbs that would allow a predator to jump to the feeder. Try to place feeder at least 8 to 10 feet from branches. You should trim any branches back to deter predators from using branch as a springboard to attack birds. When using a post mounted feeder consider using a metal inverted cone positioned a minimum of 2 feet from the ground.

Types of bird food: Birds can be fussy eaters the same as people. Bird seed mixes are available with several types of mixes to attract specific types of birds. These commercial bird seed mixes can be expensive, but you can search the internet for a homemade version of a particular bird food mix. Changing to different food should be done slowly. It may take weeks for the birds to become accustomed to a new food.



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Eagles collect wins in Athens tournament

Lindale High School's boys basketball team recently completed a busy stretch of games as December has arrived, winning four of five contests including three of four in the Athens High School Tournament Dec. 1-3.

The Eagles begin District 16-4A play on Dec. 20 at home against Brownsboro.

On Dec. 6, the Eagles slipped past Marshal, 43-41, in the LHS gym.

Nov. 29, the Eagles hosted Grace Community and took a 51-27 win over the Tyler school.

In the first game of the Athens tourney, the Eagles defeated Palestine, 50-46 and then downed Tuloso-Midway from Corpus Christi, 51-38. On the second day of the tournament, Lindale fell to Class 5A LaPorte, 55-53, in overtime and the next day, downed Pittsburg, 38-24.

Head Coach Chris Grotemat said he and the coaching staff were proud of the effort displayed by the team despite the heavy workload and some ragged play during that stretch.

"While we ended the (tournament) week at 4-1, our play was uneven at times, and, objectively, left a little to be desired," he said. "(But) I am so proud of our kids for finding different ways to grind out victories, but we have developed a bit of a Jekyll and Hyde personality of late."

LINDALE 43, MARSHALL 41

The Eagles had to hold off a feisty bunch from Marshall to take a 43-41 non-district win which put them at 10-2 on the season.

It was a back and forth affair, with both teams making key baskets in a tight fourth period.

Lindale shot 35 percent from the field, including 27 percent from behind the three-point line. The Eagles outrebounded the Mavericks 28-26.

LINDALE 51, GRACE COMMUNITY 27

Grace, now under the tutelage of Eddie Francis (formerly of All Saints) had won six of eight entering the Nov. 29 contest in Lindale.

But Lindale was able to blunt any momentum the Cougars had even though they scored just four points in the opening period.

Grace played a ball control game which kept the Eagles from building any momentum of their own.

The Cougars managed to keep things close until just under two minutes left in the third period when Ryder Johnson found Connor McClendon who put in a bucket from the post. This helped the Eagles build a 27-23 margin and after Cole Collinsworth scored two more the Eagles held a 31-23 lead going into the fourth period.

Lindale found the range from the outside in the fourth,

as Amare Baptiste capped a 14-2 run to put the game away.

The Eagles connected on nine of 11 down the stretch and clamped down on defense, allowing just four points to the visitors in the final stanza.

"We must now be reflective and demonstrate collective accountability so that we can learn what caused us to be so lethargic for the first 16 minutes," Grotemat said. "Hopefully, we are learning some tough lessons now that help us to avoid having to ponder what went wrong in those pivotal league games in January and February."

LINDALE 50 PALESTINE 46

Palestine's Wildcats brought a rugged defense with them in the opener of the Athens Tournament but the Eagles, thanks to the play of Collinsworth and Johnson, took control in the fourth period to take their eighth win of the year.

A tight struggle resulted in a 20-20 tie at the half.

Lindale, with Johnson and Collinsworth combining for 28 points in the second half, managed to pull out the win. Baptiste added eight, including a couple of power dunks. Masen Rainey added six points to the Eagles' ledger and Kyesen Ripley contributed five points.

This game was unusual in that it was "officialized" under the call your own foul rules which forced both teams to play through contact and not rely on help from an officiating crew.

"We did some good things in the first half, but still had too many mental mistakes for my liking," Grotemat said. "Our disposition was much improved from (the Grace victory)."

LINDALE 51, TULOSO-MIDWAY 38

In the Eagles' second game of the Athens tourney, Lindale used a solid team defense to diffuse the Warriors' offense which in turn, kept them from utilizing their pressing defense.

As a result, Lindale was able to get open looks on its offensive end.

Johnson led all scorers with 21 points, hitting 10 of 14 from the field. Collinsworth was effective underneath, dropping 15 points of his own. Rainey chipped in with six points and three rebounds. Grotemat praised the play of Carter Davis, Will Sterling and especially Marcus Field.

"(The coaching staff) is sure excited to have Marcus back with us after a year away from the program," Grotemat said of the 6-5 front court player. "It will take him some time to shake off the rust, but he is smart, tough, and a great teammate. He will find a way to make an impact before it is all said and done."

LA PORTE 55, LINDALE 53 (OT)

In game No. 3 of the Athens tournament, the Eagles took on the Class 5A La Porte Bulldogs and after the dust had

settled in overtime the team from the Gulf Coast took a 55-53 overtime win.

Lindale fell victim to a pressing defense by the Bulldogs in the first half, committing 15 turnovers in the first half and scoring just 17 in that time span.

This allowed La Porte to jump out to a 15-point halftime lead.

But Lindale righted the ship in the second half, made some adjustments and got back in the game in the third period.

Baptiste got the rally going with a three-pointer to open the third and Rainey, Collinsworth and Johnson combined for 11 points to make it a two possession game heading into the fourth period.

With time running out, Logan Dixon buried a three-pointer to tie the game at the buzzer to send the game to overtime.

Lindale carved out a four-point lead as overtime got under way, more turnovers proved to be the Eagles' undoing.

A late La Porte three-pointer put the Bulldogs ahead to stay.

"I am so proud of the mental and physical fortitude demonstrated by our kids during the second half comeback," Grotemat said. "But the turnovers have to stop, and the loss, though certainly not desirable, may help us to understand the very real consequences of playing too fast and loose with the basketball."

LINDALE 36, PITTSBURG 24

After that late night overtime game against La Porte, a weary bunch of Eagles were back at it in Athens for their fourth game of the tournament, which turned out to be at 36-24 victory over Pittsburg's Pirates.

The turnover bug bit Lindale once again, allowing Pittsburg to stay close for much of the game. The Eagles jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the opening minutes, but mistakes on the offensive end allowed the Pirates to sense an upset.

But Johnson posted seven points in the second period and helped Lindale open up a 29-18 lead at the half. Missed shots created opportunities for the Pirates, but in the end Lindale was able to hold on for the win.

Grotemat recognized his guys were fatigued - having played four games in 36 hours.

"I know our guys were spent, especially after the emotional loss to LaPorte late the night before," he said. "We looked like a tired bunch, and we played like it too."

The Eagles turned the ball over 15 times against a conventional zone defense from the Pirates.

"The rising number of turnovers is a cause for concern," Grotemat said. "Our guys have to protect the basketball as if it is the most precious commodity in the gym."

Donna Edwards welcomed visitors to the Lillie Russell Memorial Library Christmas Open House this past week which featured many delectable treats. (Photo by Darla Strickland)



Lindale's Elizabeth Tagg wins Alabama thesis competition

Lindale High School graduate Elizabeth Tagg who is now a graduate student at the University of Alabama has won first place in the university's virtual Three-Minute Thesis competition, university officials announced.

Her topic was "Gender Expression and Perceptions of Honest Communication."

Hosted by the UA Graduate School, Three Minute Thesis is a research communication competition that challenges graduate students to present a compelling oration on their research and its significance in just three minutes in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience.

Fifteen finalists competed on Nov. 2 for a chance to win scholarships and monetary awards.

This year's competitors represent an array of academic departments and disci-

plines. The winners were:

-- First place -- Elizabeth Tagg - Department of Communication Studies - "Gender Expression and Perceptions of Honest Communication"

-- Second place -- Gil Carter - Communication and Information Sciences - "The New Senate and the Old Senate"

-- Third place -- Kavya Mukundan - Physics and Astronomy - "Galaxies and DNA Kits"

-- Fourth place -- Jessie McCraw - Geological Sciences - "Under the (Cretaceous) Sea, 66 Million Years Ago."

Tagg will travel to the Conference of Southern Graduate School's Three Minute Thesis regionals in Tampa this spring to deliver her presentation.

Tagg also won the People's Choice Award, which was determined by audience vote.

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JoAnne Burkhammer, Deceased, were issued on November 28, 2022, in Cause No. 46956P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: Billy Burkhammer.

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.

My Texas Estate Plan

c/o: Casey P. Cook

Attorney at Law

7925 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 800

Tyler, TX 75703

DATED the 6th day of December, 2022.

Casey P. Cook

Attorney for Billy Burkhammer

State Bar No.: 24094599

7925 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 800

Tyler, TX 75703

Telephone: (903) 561-8644

Facsimile: (903) 561-8649

E-mail: info@mytxestatelplan.co

LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN PROBATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO APRIL RENEE DOTY ALSO KNOWN AS RENEE DOTY:

IN THE ESTATE OF BYRON FREDERICK INMAN,
DECEASED

CAUSE NO. PB1-0605-2021

IN PROBATE COURT NO 1, COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS.

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above-numbered and -entitled estate filed an **VERIFIED APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT OF DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR, AND ISSUANCE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION** in this estate on **April 07, 2021** requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **Byron Frederick Inman**, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

The court **may** act on this application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation.

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court by **filing a written answer or contest** to the application should they desire to do so. **To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of Collin County, Texas on or before the above-noted date and time.** If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Probate Court of Collin County, Texas, at the office of the Collin County Clerk in McKinney, Texas **on this the 8th day of December, 2022.**

Stacey Kemp, County Clerk
Collin County, Texas
By: Elizabeth Goss, Deputy

BOB'S BASEBALL TOURS

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Aug. 18-27, 2023

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AUCTION

45th Annual Cattleman Bull & Female Sale 12:00 Noon, Jan. 21, 2023, El Campo Livestock Exchange, El Campo, Texas. 100 bulls, 250 females, cattlemansale.com.

EVENT

Floresville - Top Hat Emporium Pop-Up Market. Sat. Dec. 17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. outside. 48 vendors inside. 540 10th (Hwy 181), Ste. 140, Floresville, 830-251-3288.

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LEGAL NOTICE**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James A. Pierce, Deceased, were issued on December 5, 2022, in Cause No. 46804P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: Barry Jayson Pierce

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: **Barry Jayson Pierce**
1004 S. WASHINGTON, STE 100
Kaufman, Texas 75771

DATED the 5th day of December, 2022.

Jon G. Burt
 Attorney for Barry Jayson Pierce
 State Bar No.: 03474000
 201 W. Mulberry
 Kaufman, Texas 75142
 Telephone: 972-962-6000
 Facsimile: 972-962-3733
 E-mail: jonburtlaw@gmail.com

CAUSE NO. 21-0371-C
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney.

If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by Ten O'clock (10:00) A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS WHEREVER THEY MAY BE FOUND

GREETINGS: You are hereby commanded to appear before the **241st Judicial District Court** of Smith County, Texas, to be held at the Courthouse of said County in the City of Tyler, Smith County, Texas, by filing a written answer to **Amended Petition For Partition** at or before Ten o'clock (10:00) A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of forty two (42) days after the date of service hereof, a copy of Amended Petition For Partition which accompanies this citation in **Cause Number 21-0371-C**, filed on the docket of said Court on this the 26th day of February, 2021, and styled: **Glenda Houston, Cleo Johnson Durant vs. Jesse Rashard Warren, Ethel Faye Warren-Walker, Ruby Nell Warren-Perry, Marvin Don Warren, Robert E. Warren, Mae Warren Thomas, Waymond Goss, Audra McNeal, Mona McNeal-Rose, Katrina McNeal, Donald Warren, Johnny Hamilton, Kathy Hamilton, Randy Hamilton, Sabrina Hall Nwansi, Sephora Hall Love, Hartley Lee Roy, Veronica Dabney, Freddie Lee Roy, Jr., Tyrone Pinson, Shanda Kaye Pinson, Shannon Pinson, Brenda Roy Freeman, Justin Johnson, Jeremy Johnson, Jaron Johnson, Marcus Johnson, Jose Johnson, Therron Johnson, Angela Johnson-Rogers, Clifton E. Johnson, Eulus Earl Johnson, Richard Johnson, Jr., Jasmine Chantell Johnson, Jacqueline Johnson-McCarter, Retina Beret Johnson-Ahmad, Geri Lynn Johnson, Sharon Johnson-King, David C. Johnson, Terri Johnson, Gregory Johnson, Willie Smith, Jr., Tammy Smith Barnes, Ozzie Smith, III, Jessie Mae Johnson-Gibbons, Kurt F. Jackson, Ramona Jackson Guillory- Morris, Willis Jackson, Jr., Kimberly Jackson Hunt, Dennis Tolbert, Karen Brown, Felicia Fuller, Stephen Brown, Patrick Johnson, Kevin Wynn, Earl S. Lynch, Teresa Lynch Lyons, Stephen Lynch, Robert Wynn, Lola Wynn-Choice, Lessie M. Tatum-Wynn, Melva Wynn Whitmore-Hart, Kenneth Whitmore, Javier Wynn, Charles Houston**
This case involves the heirs of Johnson Wheeler Estate, a suit for partition has been filed. The officer executing this writ shall serve the same according to the 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 Tyler, Texas, this date: November 15, 2022.

ATTEST:
CLERK OF THE COURT
PENNY CLARKSTON
 Smith County District Clerk
 100 N. Broadway, Rm. 204
 Tyler, Texas 75702

By: Gina McClung
Gina McClung, Deputy

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ADDENDUM

Proposals must be received no later than 3:00 p.m. on January 3, 2023

RFQ for Master Planning Faulkner Park

NOTICE: The City of Lindale is seeking prop from qualified consulting firms to provide services to the community to develop a Parks Master Plan. The Parks Master Plan will be a guiding document for future development and redevelopment of the park, baseball, and soccer fields. Please submit your responses to the Request for Qualifications to the address below: City of Lindale, Attn: Jill Childs, Financial Director, 105 Ballard Drive (Physical), P.O. Box 130 (Mailing), Lindale, TX 75771. Proposals must be received no later than 3:00 p.m. on January 3, 2023, to be considered. The City of Lindale reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. The City of Lindale is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. For additional information please call (903) 882-3422.
 A packet can be picked up from city hall or obtain a copy from the city website at www.lindaletx.gov

LEGAL NOTICE**CAUSE NO. 46493P**

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
MELODY DARLIN HART § OF
DECEASED § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of MELODY DARLIN HART, Deceased, were issued on December 5, 2022 under Docket No. 46493P, now pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: SEMIE RAY HART Independent Administrator.

The mailing address of the Independent Administrator is:
 SEMIE RAY HART
 1213 Mallard Run
 Midlothian, Texas 76065

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

DATED the 7th day of December, 2022.

ROBERT HINDMAN
 5620 Old Bullard Road,
 Suite 105
 Tyler, TX 75703
 Telephone: (903) 581-9960
 Fax: (903) 534-0647
 Attorney for Semie Ray Hart

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of David Michael Calongne, Deceased, were issued on November 14, 2022, in Cause No. 46245P, pending in the County Court of SMITH County, Texas, to: Carter Calongne.

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.

My Texas Estate Plan

c/o: **Casey P. Cook**
Attorney at Law
7925 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 800
Tyler, TX 75703

DATED the 6th day of December, 2022.

Casey P. Cook
 Attorney for Carter Calongne
 State Bar No.: 24094599
 7925 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 800
 Tyler, TX 75703
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**LEGAL NOTICE****NO. 45599P**

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
JULIA MAE DEWBERRY HART § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS
DECEASED § sitting as a PROBATE COURT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of JULIA MAE DEWBERRY HART, Deceased, were issued on December 2, 2022 under Docket No. 45599P, now pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: KAREN SUELL Independent Administrator.

The mailing address of the Independent Administrator is:
 KAREN SUELL
 4017 CR398
 Tyler, Texas 75705

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

DATED the 7th day of December, 2022

ROBERT HINDMAN
 5620 Old Bullard Road,
 Suite 105
 Tyler, TX 75703
 Telephone: (903) 581-9960
 Fax: (903) 534-0647
 Attorney for Karen Suell

Notice to Creditors

Letters Testamentary for Estate of Marilyn Jean V'soske, Deceased, were issued to James Ralph Woodburn, Jr. on 12/5/22, in Cause No. 46889P, by the County Court of Smith County, Tx. All persons having claims against this Estate currently being administered are required to present them to James Ralph Woodburn, Jr. c/o Richard Patteson, Attorney at Law, 218 N. Broadway, Ste.304, Tyler, Texas 75702 within the time and manner prescribed by law.

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NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO or the Company) publishes this notice that on September 30, 2022, it filed its Statement of Intent and Application for Authority to Amend Transmission Cost Recovery Factor (TCRF) with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) in Docket No. 54040. The filing was made in accordance with the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) § 36.209 and 16 Tex. Admin. Code (TAC) § 25.239. The TCRF will recover SWEPCO's reasonable and necessary costs for transmission infrastructure improvements as well as changes in wholesale transmission charges under a tariff approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to the extent that the costs or charges have not otherwise been recovered. In this application, SWEPCO seeks to recover its transmission capital investments from April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022. SWEPCO also seeks to recover through the TCRF approved transmission charges that are not otherwise being recovered through current rates. This notice is being published in accordance with PURA § 36.103 and 16 TAC § 22.51(a)(1).

STATEMENT OF INTENT TO CHANGE RATES

SWEPCO requests that the Commission approve an increase of \$8,441,187 above the revenue requirement approved by the Commission in SWEPCO's last base rate case, Docket No. 51415 for its Texas retail customers. This amounts to a 2.1% percent increase in SWEPCO's overall annualized Texas retail revenue requirement. SWEPCO proposes that its requested rate change become effective 35 days after the filing of the Statement of Intent and Application. The proposed effective date is subject to suspension and extension by actions that may be taken by the Commission.

All customers in SWEPCO's Texas retail rate classes will be affected by this change. The impact of the rate change on various customer classes will vary from the overall impact described in this notice.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Persons with questions or who want more information on SWEPCO's Statement of Intent and Application may contact SWEPCO at 428 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101, or call toll-free at (888) 216-3523 during normal business hours. A complete copy of the Statement of Intent and Application and related filings is available for inspection at the address listed in the previous sentence.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. A request for intervention or for further information should refer to Docket No. 54040. Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, motions to intervene will be due 45 days from the date SWEPCO filed its Statement of Intent and Application with the Commission.



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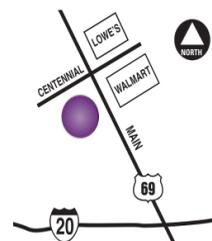
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