

# Lindale News & Times

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Thursday, Feb. 9, 2023

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50¢

## Ice storms create havoc across East Texas, again

Although it wasn't the "Snowmegeddon" of a couple of years ago, the winter blast that hit this past week was nonetheless frustrating as freezing rain, sleet and cold temperatures chilled East Texans to the bone.

Power outages, caused by tree branches coated with ice that snapped power lines, were prevalent across the region. Oncor reported more than 100,000 people were without power and more than 31,000 after Wednesday.

Some streets were blocked off due to fallen trees which made them impassable.

On Thursday, Smith County Judge Neal Franklin issued a Disaster Declaration for the county due to the storm damage.

Icy conditions have caused numerous trees and limbs to fall, causing damage to homes, buildings and other county infrastructure, as well as power outages throughout the County.

The Texas Division of Emergency Management said residents who have suffered damages should report them at: <https://damage.tdem.texas.gov/>. Smith County non-emergency offices were closed on Wednesday due to ice on the roads, but reopened Thursday for normal business hours.

Smith County Road and Bridge employees have been working around the clock since Tuesday to clear downed trees and limbs on county roads.

If you live outside of a city limits in Smith County and you need to report trees down in the roadway, call the non-emergency dispatch at 903-566-6600.

For cold weather tips and local resources, check out the 2023 Tyler/Smith County Cold Weather Response Plan, which can be found at [www.smith-county.com/government/departments/fire-marshal](http://www.smith-county.com/government/departments/fire-marshal)

Non-essential county offices were closed late last week as were schools, including Lindale. Several local businesses didn't open or opened late.

For the most part, roads remained passable as the steady rain and temperatures that hovered just above freezing kept roads ice free.

Bridges, overpasses and other high areas were most affected by the wintry mix. Texas Department of Public Safety officials reported troopers had responded to more than 15 wrecks in the county late last week.

Meteorologists reported some areas of the county had received up a half-inch of ice accumulation.



## Will my insurance pay for tree damage? Sometimes

With the recent onslaught of winter weather, many homeowners in East Texas are dealing with uprooted and downed trees because of the ice and freezing rain.

East Texas pine trees are particularly susceptible to winter storms and will snap and break power lines in a matter of seconds.

Homeowners are then left with not just a giant mess to deal with, but also questions about what parts of the damage will be covered by their homeowners' insurance.

Officials with the Texas Department of Insurance have some answers.

So, will insurance pay when a tree crashes down on your car or house?

Sometimes.

If a tree or branch falls on your house or car:

- Take photos of the damage before you move the tree, make repairs, or take other steps to prevent more damage.
- Make temporary repairs to prevent more damage and contact your agent or insurance company as soon as possible.

● Save your receipts for reimbursement. Your homeowner policy should cover materials and labor used to make repairs.

● Many homeowners policies provide some coverage if a tree falls in a storm and your house is damaged or limbs block your driveway.

● But limbs and trees falling in your yard usually aren't covered. Call your agent or company to check.

● If your neighbor's tree falls on your house, their homeowners policy probably won't cover the damage and tree removal, unless your neighbor was at fault. Your neighbor isn't responsible for acts of nature.

If your neighbor's policy doesn't pay, you can file a claim under your own policy. If a tree falls on your car, your auto insurance will pay for damage if you have comprehensive coverage.

Have a question about insurance? Call the Texas Department of Insurance at 800-252-3439 or visit [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov).



Tree branches coated with ice fell on power lines across East Texas this past week causing disruption of electrical service to more than 100,000 people.

Photo by Terry Cannon

## Congressman Moran introduces the Border Security Investment Act

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Nathaniel Moran (TX-01) introduced his first piece of legislation, the Border Security Investment Act last week.

The Border Security Investment Act establishes a dedicated source of funding to fix the crisis along our southern border and perpetually maintain the highest level of border security. If passed into law, it would place a 37% user-based transaction fee on remittance transfers via money services businesses, where the remittance originates in the U.S. and is sent to one of the top five nations of origin for illegal immigration into the United States.

Under the proposed bill, revenue collected from these remittances is placed into two trusts—one trust fund that is used by the federal government solely for critical border security in the form of technology investment, physical barriers, and salaries and wages for border patrol agents. The second trust fund is used solely to reimburse states for expenditures they make for border security enforcement measures in the form of deterring unlawful crossing, detecting unlawful activity and entry into the US, and for gaining operational control of the southwest border. This bill also restores fiscal responsibility by



directing unexpended funds held in trust in excess of \$50 billion between these two trust funds to go towards reducing the national debt.

## Lindale ISD's Surratt feels teacher pay hike possible

By Terry Cannon  
Editor

Texas public school teachers would receive a \$15,000, across-the-board pay raise if House Bill 1548, filed by Austin Democrat James Talarico, comes to fruition.

The bill would provide school districts with funds to grant \$1,500 per month raises for teachers, librarians, counselors and school nurses. Other school district employees would realize a 25 percent salary hike.

How likely is this to happen? Lindale ISD Stan Surratt has

been hearing similar things for many years and hasn't been shy about taking lawmakers to task for not providing for the state's educators.

Yet this time, he sees a breakthrough may have finally occurred.

"There's a major teacher shortage across the state," he said.

"(Teacher raises) is a priority for the legislature because you have to be able to attract more quality teachers and now there's a major surplus of money.

"It's burning a hole in their pockets and it looks like they are

ready to spend it," he said.

According to Talarico, Texas teachers are paid approximately \$7,500 less than the national average.

"It's no wonder that thousands of educators are leaving the profession," he said during a news conference in Austin last week. "We have an emergency teacher shortage in the state and it requires emergency action by the Legislature."

This proposal will face stiff opposition from the Republican-controlled Legislature, but those

favoring the bill feel this could start a much-needed discussion on teacher's salaries.

Additionally, Surratt feels there could be some property and business tax reductions as well as extra funds for security coming from this legislative session.

He said currently the state allots \$6 per child for security purposes but that could increase dramatically, as much as \$100 per student.

"All these (security) things are expensive but safety standards need to be upgraded," he said.

Possible improvements could

come in the form of darkening school windows and fencing.

But most importantly, school districts need equitable funding for the future.

"Now how this money will flow and how much flexibility they have are other questions," he said.

"Everyone seems to be in agreement teachers need raises but to be determined is how much?"

He understands the political machinations behind the dollar amounts but is hopeful that there could be at least a \$6,000 annual

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# OPINION/COMMENTARY

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

## THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

### Getting the gas ...

On December 23, the quantity of natural gas used in the United States set a new daily record.

Consumption in the lower 48 states that day was 141.0 billion cubic feet (Bcf), according to estimates reported by the US Energy Information Administration (EIA). The previous record was 137.4 Bcf, set on January 1, 2018.

A winter storm swept across the United States from December 21 through December 26, 2022, with blizzards, high winds, and extreme cold. Increased demand for heat was largely met (directly or indirectly) by natural gas. During that time, residential and commercial sector natural gas consumption averaged 55% higher than the previous five-year average, and natural gas consumption in the electric power sector was 45% higher than the five-year average. Although electric power generation from renewable energy has grown substantially of late, natural gas remains the primary fuel.

Even as demand increased, production fell. Weather-related issues led to a 16% drop in production, the worst decline since Winter Storm Uri in February 2021. Fortunately, a relatively mild September and October and production growth allowed for refilling of underground natural gas storage, which had been relatively low due to the hot summer. Withdrawals from storage met most of the increased demand, with pipeline imports from Canada comprising the rest. In fact, Canada supplied 10.4 Bcf of natural gas to the United States on December 24, the largest daily import level in nearly 16 years.

The EIA also recently reported that, on an annual basis, natural gas consumption, production, and exports broke records in 2022. Estimated average daily consumption in 2022 was 88.7 Bcf per day, up 8% over 2021. Production increases were led by the Permian Basin and Haynesville regions.

Another source of demand for natural gas is liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities (about 12.5 Bcf per day). Located primarily along the Gulf Coast of Texas and Louisiana, these plants convert natural gas into a form which can be shipped to foreign markets. LNG usage is developing rapidly, with many nations in Europe and elsewhere investing in the infrastructure needed to regassify it for use in their pipeline networks. The Russia-Ukraine war has made the need for natural gas supplies from allies such as the United States abundantly clear, and our ability to supply LNG helps stabilize global markets, economies, and politics.

The bottom line is that natural gas is an essential fuel and will remain so for the foreseeable future, as confirmed by every forecast from the EIA and many other sources. Developing natural gas resources and delivery capacity in responsible ways can facilitate our efforts to maintain energy security and sufficiency while both pursuing climate-related objectives and enhancing geopolitical security.

This is not rocket science. Stay safe!

### ... Stacks

Stacks of books surround me at home. I have a Nook and a Kindle but rarely turn them on. I like to hold the book that holds the words that transport, teach or entertains me.

A community is defined by what it values, and learning and access to learning is a mighty important thing to support and share with the next generation.

As I dug through an old stack at home to fill a box for donation I found a journal from 1978 that made me blush with my youthful gushing. But it also convicted me about the importance of a return to wonder and thirst for knowledge.

Books can do that, ratchet up that sense of wonder and desire to learn. They can take you anywhere and enable you to see through the eyes of other cultures, times, worlds.

There is a picture of me reading to our son when he was two weeks old. The reading didn't stop until early junior high when he banned me AFTER we finished the entire Hank the Cow Dog series read in melodramatic character voices. Which he has asked me to read to his kids (if he and daughter-in-heart ever get around to having any).

Reading to kids is one of the best ways to share a sense of wonder and a love of words. Every Wednesday at 11 a.m. Lee Library hosts story time.

Last Wednesday I participated in the National Read-In with sixth graders at White Oak in the classroom of one of my former students. I did my best to transport those kids by reading "Sneetches" and "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" by Dr. Seuss, one of the great-

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell

est modern philosophers. I bet you though he just wrote children's books.

Maybe that's what we all need to take us away from the 24/7 politicking and more frightening aspects of the world we live in. Stories are not just an escape, often they are a mirror.

Pick up the "Hunger Games" or "Divergent" series and you immediately see the darkness reflected in young adult literature. But folks, it has always been this way. "1984", "Brave New World", "Animal Farm", "Fahrenheit 451", the Narnia Chronicles and the Ring Trilogy all were born from the

cracking of 20th century history by fascism, communism and war.

The lessons are there for this shaky 21st century. They are to be found in great literature and in history. Lessons our society needs to survive and thrive.

Maybe we should all go dig through the books at the local library. It might do more than support the library and its summer reading program. It might help us address some of our society's problems or maybe even some of our own.

The power of the pen is surely more powerful than the sword. The proof is in the stacks.



## Ice storm wreaks havoc

Residents in Central and Northeast Texas are still cleaning up after a winter storm last week snapped power lines and tree limbs, causing widespread power outages, canceled flights and damage to homes and vehicles.

At its peak, nearly 400,000 Texas households were without power, according to poweroutage.us. As of Sunday, that number had dropped to 62,456.

The outages were due to downed power lines, not by problems with the state's power grid. The Texas Railroad Commission said the state's natural gas supply also held steady, with natural gas utilities reporting no service issues during the storm.

Airports in the state's metropolitan areas reported several hundred flight cancellations because of icy conditions. Many schools in the Dallas area and around Austin were closed for the entire week.

The Texas Department of Insurance offered some advice to homeowners dealing with damage cause by fallen tree branches landing on vehicles and homes. That includes taking photos of the damage before moving the tree; making temporary repairs and contact your insurance agent as soon as possible; and saving all receipts for labor and repair materials to be reimbursed.

While the danger from last week's storm has largely passed, the Texas Department of State Health Services provided advice for future winter events, urging people to use extreme caution with electric generators and heaters that produce carbon monoxide.

Generators should only be used outdoors, at least 10 feet away from buildings. Outdoor grills, camp stoves and other heaters that produced carbon monoxide should only be used outside. Carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas that can cause death.

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights

### Fentanyl test strips backed by lawmakers

Test strips that would determine whether pills, powders, or other forms of drugs are laced with deadly fentanyl might be legalized, if a bipartisan group of lawmakers have their way.

The percentage of overdose deaths tied to fentanyl has risen to 97%, according to a report in the Austin American-Statesman. Gov. Gregg Abbott has ended his opposition to legalizing the strips, and several nearly identical bills have been filed in both the House and Senate as a result.

"They deserve action, action that will save other innocent families from the devastation they have suffered," Abbott said in January. "And they will get that action this session."

Legislators are also considering measures to increase the penalty for manufacturing or delivering fentanyl even in small amounts to a third-degree felony. Right now, it is a state jail felony.

Meanwhile, the state comptroller's office is being pushed to speed up distribution of more than \$1 billion in funds from the Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund, intended to mitigate the fentanyl crisis. The money comes from settlements with opioid manufacturers and distributors.

"We've somewhat sacrificed expediency in getting dollars out the door," Hegar said. "We have to create a system that treats everybody fairly and everybody understands the process."

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Telephone: 903-882-8880 Fax: 903-882-8234  
Email: [classified@lindalenews-times.com](mailto:classified@lindalenews-times.com)

Owners: Jim & Suzanne Bardwell  
Publisher: Jim Bardwell  
Editor: Terry Cannon  
[news@lindalenews-times.com](mailto:news@lindalenews-times.com)  
Advertising: Darla Strickland  
[advertising@lindalenews-times.com](mailto:advertising@lindalenews-times.com)

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**STUDENT BOARD**

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**TAEGAN MICHEL** is the daughter of Jennifer and Chad Michel. She is the treasurer for the National Honor Society and a member of the Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Key Club, and the varsity tennis team. Taegan believes she is impacting the world by serving as a leader to her peers and building them up to be leaders in their own spheres of influence. She plans to attend Oklahoma State University and study American Sign Language. Taegan's future goals include working as an interpreter for hospitals and law firms when serving the deaf community.

**MADELEINE MORTON** is the daughter of Dr. Michael Morton and Jackie Morton. She is the vice president of both the student council and the National Honor Society and a co-president of the Key Club. She is also a manager for the cheerleading team and a member of the University Interscholastic League competition teams for math, calculator, science, and numbersense. Madeleine believes she is impacting the world by participating in community service projects and demonstrating a strong work ethic in school as she pursues her future career goals. She plans to attend New York University and study biochemistry and pre-medicine. Madeleine's future goals include working as a pediatric surgeon.

**JULEE KING** is the daughter of Jennifer and Joey King. She is the president of the National Honor Society, reporter of the Future Farmers of America, and a leader for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). She is also a member of the Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy and the varsity golf team. Julee believes she is impacting the world by training the next generation of Christian students at her school by mentoring younger girls and leading FCA meetings. She plans to attend Texas A&M University and study recreation, parks, and tourism sciences. Julee's future goals include working in a fun environment where she can make a difference in the world.

**CARLIE DAVIS** is the daughter of Carrie Shough and Anthony Davis. She is a member of the chess club and the founder of the anime club. Outside of school, Carlie is a martial arts student at Tyler Kung Fu and Fitness and a volunteer with the Rock Steady Parkinson's Patient Program and the Caldwell Zoo. Carlie believes she is impacting the world by encouraging her friends and fellow students to pursue excellence in their classes. She plans to attend Emory University and study psychology. Carlie's future goals include earning her master's degree in psychology.

Texas Bank and Trust celebrates the thirteenth anniversary of the Lindale Student Board of Directors, recognizing outstanding seniors from Lindale High School who have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, and a commitment to community service. We are proud to introduce the following members of the 2022-2023 Student Board.

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**MEMBER FDIC**

# All too often social media is simply anti-social

For those of us of a certain age (i.e. old), we have more get-off-my-lawn moments than a lot of younger folks.

There has always been a disconnect between young and old, but this gap seems to have gotten wider with the proliferation of the internet and, especially, social media.

I'm not ashamed to admit I don't partake in social media. No Facebook, no Instagram, no Tik Tok, no Twitter. None of those "modern" things have any appeal for my cobweb-infested brain.

My chief complaint concerning social media is anyone with a keyboard can tap out the most outrageous and egregious things and not be held responsible.

Recently, a disgusting situation from the Frisco Independent School District hammered this point home.

A 20-year teaching veteran with the final 11 in the Frisco ISD, Kacie Smith quit her job because of an Instagram account that showed one of her students had posted threats which mentioned rocket-propelled grenades and "doing things that would violate the Geneva convention." Smith said the entire Instagram account was "dedicated to hatred toward me."

Smith reported all this to the school and the principal



took it to the Frisco Police Department. The school's resource officer looked over the posts and said they were "mean" but didn't feature any "overt threats."

A Frisco PD spokesman said the department felt there wasn't a "actual threat" made to anyone.

And the Frisco communications department said while it takes all threats seriously, it also considers factors such as whether any student may "have means to carry it out."

Smith asked the district to identify the student but they wouldn't and to make matters worse, they didn't remove the student from her class despite her pleas to do so. What happened, Smith said, was she was told the student was given two days of in-school suspension, which couldn't be confirmed because of privacy laws.

It's entirely possible the whole thing might have been a typical teenage temper tantrum, but the crux of the matter is unregulated social

media allowed what might be a hissy fit from a teenager to grow exponentially into a dangerous situation.

(Kind of like a bunch of American conspiracy nuts gleefully latching onto one idiotic internet theory after another – prodded to action by a particular election loser -- and before you know it, thousands of traitors are trying to burn down our democracy.)

So the state of Texas lost a 20-year teaching veteran who decided that having to deal with an undisciplined teenager's vile threats wasn't worth adding to the other assorted nonsense teachers face on a daily basis.

Despite what might appear to be Frisco ISD's weak response to this situation, school districts already have enough to deal with without having to police all their students' social media activity.

A report from the Department of Education cites a 56 percent rise in classroom disruptions and a 48 percent increase in disrespect toward

teachers.

While social media isn't solely to blame, it shoulders a good portion of it because it provides an avenue for youngsters to hide behind a wall of anonymity as they spew offensive diatribes.

So what's the solution? As is the case with a good number of these situations, parental control is the key. Not to cast aspersions on this particular student's parents, but I couldn't imagine how frightening the encounter with my dad would have been if I dared to even think of belittling any of my teachers, much less make a death threat.

Lawmakers can lend a hand as well, changing the way social media is regulated. Smith doesn't have much recourse because Washington has provided social media companies far reaching immunity from civil liability from what's posted on websites. Anonymous accounts are a convenient avenue for many wishing to post anything they want which means they can't be held accountable.

People, especially young people, are so locked in to their devices they barely look up when they are walking in your direction, or worse, driving.

Social media should be a diversion, not an addiction.



## Ray and Rita Lewis' 77th anniversary

Ray and Rita Lewis of Lindale will celebrate 77 years of marriage on Feb. 10.

They met in Dallas in 1945 when Ray was stationed at Eagle Mountain Lake, a Naval Air Station.

On Feb. 8, 1946 Ray was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marines and married Rita on Feb. 10, 1946. They lived in Dallas until they both retired.

Ray was a Dallas Police Officer for 26 years and Rita was a secretary at Texas Instruments.

After retiring they moved to Lindale and Ray started Lewis Polygraph Service and Rita was his secretary.

They are members of First Baptist Church of Lindale where they both served their Lord teaching adult Sunday School classes.



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.

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### ONE YEAR AGO, Feb. 10, 2022

The Lindale Lady Eagles secured the 2022 District 16-4A championship with a 54-50 victory over the Bullard Lady Panthers in Bullard.

Lindale, now 19-10 on the season and 10-1 in district, earned a spot in the state bi-district playoffs.

Marley Keith tormented the Lady Panthers with 27 points, including three baskets from behind the three-point line to lead the Lady Eagles to the title.

As the game began to tighten in the fourth period, Keith took command, scoring nine of her game high total.

Other scorers for the Lady Eagles included Brenley Philen with 10; Brooke Everest, 7; Maggie Spearman, 5; Makenna Burks, 3 and Madison Luster with 2.

### FIVE YEARS AGO, Feb. 8, 2018

Palmer Hannah of Lindale earned a place on the Provost Honor Roll for the fall semester at Whitworth University in Spokane, Wash. Hannah maintained a 3.75 grade point average for the semester. Whitworth is a private, liberal arts university affiliated with the Presbyterian church.

### 10 YEARS AGO, Feb. 7, 2013

Lindale High School's Academic team brought home a second place in sweepstakes and a second place team in journalism and speech at a tournament held at Van High School.

Those earning high finishes included: Austin Baker, 1st student congress, 2nd current events, 2nd public forum

Logan Herrera, 1st public forum, 2nd student congress  
Jessie Elliott, 1st public forum, 1st oratory, 3rd headline writing

Jacob Grono/Alec DeJong, 1st duo  
DeForest Gordy, 1st congressional debate, 2nd persuasive speaking, 5th CX debate

Bethany Thompson, 1st editorial writing, 4th news-writing  
Ashley Ward/Joc'lyn Lovett, 2nd duo

Charles Turner, 2nd public forum  
Jessica Warren, 2nd LD debate, 3rd congressional debate

Shelby Cooper, 3rd feature writing  
Logan Jones, 3rd oratory

Emma Johnsen, 3rd newswriting, 4th student congress  
Natalie Borger, 4th poetry

Brenton Browne, 4th student congress, 4th current events  
Ryan Clayton, 5th computer science

Michael Olsen, 5th CX debate  
Drew Austin, 5th news writing, 6th feature writing  
Ashley Chambers, 5th, number sense

Maggie Pierce, 5th poetry  
Griffon James, 6th informative speaking

# It's that "time" of year once again

You know, this is one of my favorite times of the year. That's right, Valentine's.

I know, it's spelled, and pronounced V-a-l-e-n-t-i-n-e, with an "N", but it ought to be Valentine. After all, that's the way a kid says it.

I've always loved Valentine's Day, especially when I was a kid in school. I remember Valentine's in the first grade. I was Valentine King and my childhood sweetheart, Kathey Bell was Valentine Queen.

We sat side by side on our thrones, with our paper crowns and presided over our subjects. It was magical.

Although that day was fun, getting ready for it was even better. For a whole week we would prepare for Valentine's Day. Mrs. Gregory, our first grade teacher, had us kids makin' all sorts of stuff to hang from the ceiling, and on the wall.

There were hearts, and red crepe paper streamers everywhere. We cut out the hearts ourselves, so some of them looked kind of lopsided, especially the ones the boys made. We still hadn't got the hang of using those little blunt nosed scissors we had.

And of course, we had glued everything that needed glued with that jar of paste that also doubled for a mid-morning snack. But the best things we made were those big heart pockets to hold all of the Valentines.

You remember the heart pockets don't you? We cut two big (I'm talkin' about



big) hearts out of heavy paper. Then we pasted the edges of the two bottoms together to form a pocket.

We then got to decorate the heart anyway we wanted. The girls would draw all sorts of little hearts and flowers and junk like that. Boys would draw anything that popped in their mind. Some had footballs, and baseballs. A lot had war scenes.

I remember mine had an U.S. Army tank shooting at a bunch of Nazis, while over head the Air Force was bombing the crud out of them. Now-a-days, the teacher would probably report me to the principal.

He in turn would have to report me to the school board, and they would vote to kick me out of school. Then they'd send me to a shrink who would tell me that I was not a normal boy, because I didn't draw something nice and pretty like the girls did.

The next thing you'd know I'd be on Good Morning America with my mom being grilled by Katy Couric or whoever's on Good Morning America now-a-days. And I thought it was tough bein' a kid back then.

Anywho, the teacher would then tape the big heart pocket to the front of your desk. Then one by one, each

kid would go up and down the rows putting a Valentine in each heart pocket. That was Mrs. Gregory's rule. Everybody got a Valentine, whether you liked them or not.

I still feel funny when I think back about havin' to put a Valentine in a boy's heart pocket. I mean, they all said just about the same thing, "Be my Valentine" and junk like that. But I guess when you're in the first grade, you don't think about stuff like that.

The part that was the hardest about getting ready for Valentine's Day was fillin' out all of those little cards. By fillin' out, I mean writing your name on them, so whoever got it would know who gave it to them.

I know what you're thinkin', "What's so hard about writin' your name on a card?" Well, back then you had to write legibly. It was the law; that and the fact that you had to use a pencil the size of a fence post. You know, I've never figured that out.

They make a first grade kid, whose hands are little biddy, use a pencil that they have to prop on their shoulder like a baseball bat. And don't dare give a kid an ink pen. Why, they might get

ink on themselves, heaven forbid. It's true.

The first three years of school, if we'd been seen with an ink pen in our hands there's no tellin' what might have happened to us. Then, when you got in the forth grade, you were a responsible person and you got to use an ink pen. And do you know what the first thing the kid did when he got the pen? That's right, he drew on himself.

Heck, until I was in the sixth grade, there wasn't a day that went by that I didn't have some kind of self drawn tattoo on my arms. They were worst lookin' than prison tats.

What was I talkin' about anyway? Oh yeah, Valentine's.

When the big day finally arrived and all the Valentines had been delivered to the big heart pockets, we voted on who would be Valentine King and Queen. Well, I've already told you who won. Kathey Bell and I sat in our make shift thrones side by side and presided over the class.

Moms were there to take pictures and pass out cookies and Poly Pop (that's what Kool-Aid was called back then). It was just like in a fairy tale, except we didn't have an old witch tryin' to eat us.

Anywho, this Valentine remember what Mrs. Gregory taught me. Everyone gets a Valentine, whether you like them or not, so here is yours. "Will you be my Valentine?"

# Lambert nominated in four Grammy categories

Longtime songstress Bonnie Raitt landed Song of the Year honors at the 65th annual Grammy Awards held this past Sunday in Los Angeles, while Lindale's Miranda Lambert, nominated for four Grammys, failed to score a win.

The 73-year-old Raitt won for "Just Like That," a tribute to prolific songwriter John Prine who died this past year.

In the Best Country Solo Performance Category, Lambert's "In His Arms" lost to Willie Nelson's "Live Forever."

Lambert and Luke Combs were nominated in the Best Country Duo/Group Performance category for "Outrussin'

Your Memory," which was won by Carly Pearce and Ashley McBryde for "Never Wanted to Be That Girl."

In the Best Country Song category, Lambert, along with Jesse Frasure, were nominated for "If I Was A Cowboy." "Till You Can't" by Matt Rogers and Ben Stennis.

Lambert's "Palomino" was nominated in the Best Country Album category, which was won by Willie Nelson for "A Beautiful Time."

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# Some animals require special needs in cold weather

When the weather dips into cold and freezing temperatures, especially at night, humans stay cozy by turning on heaters and pulling out extra blankets. Food animals, on the other hand, require special preparation to stay warm and survive cold weather conditions.

Dr. Isabelle Louge, a clinical assistant professor at the Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, pointed out that the best way to keep food animals warm is to make sure they have enough food.

This is because when animals shiver from the cold to increase their internal body temperature, they use more calories. Using calories without replenishing them by eating can lead to health risks such as losing too much weight. Providing animals, especially those that are still growing, with extra calories will continue to keep them warm as they shiver.

"This is especially necessary for very young animals that are being bottle raised," Louge said.

Owners who are bottle feeding during the colder months should use milk or milk replacer, mixed according to the manufacturer's instructions, and ensure the liquid is warmed prior to feeding, according to Louge.

Herbivores, like ruminants, generate more heat after eating hay than grain because hay has more fiber. Herbivore gut

microbes, or microorganisms that live in the digestive tract of animals, ferment the fiber in hay, which produces extra heat as a byproduct of the fermentation.

"Grain is very quickly broken down by the fermentation process, while hay takes longer for the bacteria to break down," Louge explained. "So the longer breakdown process of hay produces more heat over time than grain breakdown."

If herbivores are fed grain during the winter, Louge advises owners to increase the amount of grain slowly and not give excessive amounts, since overeating can lead to digestive problems and digestive diseases. Local veterinarians can guide owners on the amount to feed their animals.

Omnivores such as pigs and chickens, on the other hand, can warm up by increasing the total amount of feed.

In addition, because water is the most essential nutrient, Louge encourages owners to check their animal's water every three to four hours to ensure it remains unfrozen during freezing temperatures. Alternatively, owners can use thawing devices and immersible water heaters to keep water thawed for longer periods of time.

"Animals can become dehydrated quickly in the cold," Louge explained. "Often, one of the challenges is encouraging them to drink when the water is very cold; many do not enjoy drinking water below 60 degrees Fahrenheit. You can sometimes encourage drinking by offering warmer water (50-70 degrees Fahrenheit)."

Another way to keep animals toasty is to provide areas that keep them out of the elements.

"It's easier to be warm when you are dry and out of the wind," Louge said. "Very muddy and wet conditions will make an animal's fur and hair less efficient at trapping heat and chill them much faster as the temperature drops."

Providing additional heat sources in an animal's environment can be beneficial, but not all sources of heat, such as heat lamps, are safe for animals. If owners insist on using

heat lamps, Louge recommends following the manufacturer's instructions when hanging lamps and ensuring lamps are hung far away from bedding and the walls to avoid a fire. Additionally, owners should check that their animals cannot reach the lamp.

"In general, I always advise against heat lamps," Louge shared. "I've had too many clients lose their animals to barn fires, even when they were being careful."

Instead, Louge suggests using deep bedding as an alternative to heat lamps for keeping animals warm during winter weather.

Incorporating these tips into your winter preparation routine is an easy way to keep food animals warm during colder months. By having plenty of food, warm water, and cozy bedding, food animals will remain comfortable, and you can have peace of mind knowing they are safe.

*Pet Talk is a service of the School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University.*

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## OBITUARY

### Edward Halleck

A private memorial gathering for Edward Halleck, 82, of Lindale is scheduled for 1 p.m.-3 p.m., Saturday Feb. 11 at the family residence.

Mr. Halleck was born May 18, 1940 in Longview and has lived in Lindale since 2003.

Survivors include his wife LaPrincess Halleck, daughters Cynthia and Cathy, son Eddie Jr., stepsons Jimmy Allen and David Allen, their families and many great grandchildren and grandchildren.

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Lindale, TX 75771  
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903-882-8501

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11915 FM 2015, Tyler, Texas 75708  
903-535-9155

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903-882-7269

#### Garden Valley Bible Church

17117 FM 1253  
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#### Grace Community Church

15567 Wood Springs Rd  
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903-882-3323

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### Lindale Police Department call log for Jan. 27-Feb. 3

**FRIDAY, JAN. 27:** 12:50:01 PM, Shoplifting 100 blk E Centennial Blvd; 3:02:56 AM, Reckless Driving, 16000 blk Interstate 20 E; 1:43:59 PM, Soliciting, Interstate 20 W / HWY 69; 2:05:01 PM, Accident, 1000 blk Mt Sylvan St.; 3:14:35 PM, Welfare Concern, 13000 blk CR 472; 4:21:26 PM, Suspicious Person, 500 blk Sunset Drive; 5:32:29 PM, Public Service, 100 blk Ballard Drive; 5:38:33 PM, Public Service, 100 blk E Centennial Blvd; 10:32:39 PM, Welfare Concern, 3500 blk S Main St; 11:35:16 PM, Suspicious Person, 400 blk Hamrick St.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 28:** 1:47:32 AM, Suspicious Circumstance, 400 blk Elm Ln, 1:19:52 PM, Public Service, 3400 blk S Main St; 3:27:39 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 50 blk Miranda Lambert Way; 4:56:04 PM, Theft, 500 blk S Main St; 5:23:01 PM, Welfare Concern, Charles Dr / E Hubbard St; 7:30:45 PM, Motorist Assist, 300 blk S Main St; 9:00:48 PM, Suspicious Person, 40 blk Miranda Lambert Way; 9:24:47 PM, Public Intoxication; 55 blk Miranda Lambert Way; 9:49:25 PM, Loud Noise Complaint, 15000 blk FM 16 W.

**SUNDAY, JAN. 29:** 12:58:05 AM, Possession of Controlled Substance, 2500 blk S Main St; 6:04:53 AM, Miscellaneous 500 blk Sunset Dr; 9:30:33 AM, Welfare Concern, 16000 blk Interstate 20 W; 12:07:39 PM, City Ordinance Violation, 200 blk Cannery Row; 3:44:08 PM, Animal At Large, 100 blk Timber Creek Ct; 4:35:59 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 200 blk Cannery Row; 5:13:40 PM, Public Service, 100 blk Ballard Drive; 5:18:23 PM, Assist Another Agency, 200 blk Shelley Ln; 5:52:15 PM, Public Service 400 blk E South St; 10:36:46 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 400 blk York Dr; 11:51:18 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 700 blk W South St.

**MONDAY, JAN. 30:** 12:58:28 AM, Parking Violation, 3500 blk S Main St; 1:33:38 AM, Disturbance, 500 blk Sunset Drive; 5:10:24 AM Welfare Concern, 17000 blk Interstate 20 W; 12:28:00 PM, Assist LISD PD, 15000 blk CR 463; 6:22:31 PM Accident, 1300 blk S Main St; 9:22:51 PM, Parking



Violation, 500 blk N Main St; 10:05:08 PM, Loud Noise Complaint, 300 blk Cooper St.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 31:** 4:37:06 AM, Accident 14000 blk Interstate 20 E; 4:50:16 AM, Accident, 17000 blk Interstate 20 W; 5:12:32 AM, Accident, 13000 blk Interstate 20 E; 5:23:27 AM, Accident, 13000 blk Interstate 20 E; 6:22:17 AM, Accident, 13000 blk Interstate 20 E; 7:06:50 AM, Accident, 14000 blk Interstate 20 W; 8:06:30 AM, Alarm Business, 14000 blk FM 849; 8:17:18 AM, Traffic Control/direct, 900 blk E South St; 9:14:33 AM, Traffic Control/direct, 700 blk Martha Becker Dr; 9:20:01 AM, Traffic Control/direct, 13000 blk Interstate 20 W; 10:12:19 AM, Traffic Hazard, 17000 blk Interstate 20 E; 11:08:19 AM, Alarm Business, 14000 blk FM 849; 11:19:26 AM, Assist SCSO, 18000 blk C R 4104; 11:28:28 AM, Suspicious Person, 300 blk Helen Dr; 11:46:20 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 100 blk E Centennial Blvd; 12:02:27 PM, Assist Another Agency, 500 blk Pierce St; 12:24:23 PM, Found Property, 200 blk W Centennial Blvd; 1:14:37 PM, Alarm Business, 2500 blk S Main St; 3:17:13 PM, Traffic Hazard, E South St / Martha Becker Dr; 3:54:45 PM, Miscellaneous, 1800 blk S Main St; 4:53:04 PM, Accident, 24500 blk W Toll 49; 4:58:01 PM Welfare Concern, 400 blk Hill St; 5:05:18 PM, Suspicious Person, 300 blk N Henry St; 6:52:41 PM, Traffic Hazard, N College St / W North St; 9:05:45 PM Accident, 13000 blk Interstate 20 E; 11:37:32 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 100 blk

Mission Creek Dr.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1:** 1:12:36 AM, Suspicious Person, 3300 blk S Main St; 1:44:12 AM, Traffic Hazard, E North St / N Hudson St; 2:32:00 AM, Suspicious Circumstance, 300 blk Smith Cir; 7:17:12 AM, Motorist Assist, 2200 blk S Main St; 1:30:42 PM, Traffic Hazard, 500 blk N College St; 4:07:03 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 100 blk E Centennial Blvd; 4:32:25 PM, Traffic Hazard, 2800 blk S Main St; 4:36:38 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 3500 blk S Main St; 4:57:13 PM, Animal At Large, 1500 blk Sugar Hill; 6:12:07 PM, Traffic Hazard, 14000 blk FM 849; 6:43:50 PM, Public Service, 13000 blk Interstate 20 W; 6:56:55 PM, Traffic Hazard, 800 blk E South St; 7:34:29 PM, Traffic Hazard, S College St; / W Hubbard St; 7:47:57 PM, Accident, 300 blk Brazier St; 7:50:25 PM, Peace Officer's Warrant, 3200 blk S Main St; 8:19:33 PM, Debris In Roadway; 500 blk Eagle Spirit Dr; 8:38:46 PM, Welfare Concern, 600 blk Fruitdale St; 8:39:56 PM, Public Service, 104 blk Hudson St; 8:43:20 PM, Assist EMS, 200 blk W Centennial Blvd; 9:10:02 PM, Public Service, 19000 blk Hwy 69 N; 10:06:41 PM, Public Service, 300 blk Hilltop St; 10:18:28 PM, Welfare Concern, 600 blk Jack Dr; 10:49:04 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 200 blk W Centennial Blvd; 10:56:51 PM, Public Service, 200 blk Stadium St.

**THURSDAY, FEB. 2:** 12:35:15 AM, Public Service, 600 blk Perryman Rd; 2:49:07 AM, Abandoned Vehicle, 17000 blk Interstate 20 W; 3:05:40 AM, Alarm Business, 3300 blk S Main St; 5:57:29 AM, Alarm Business, 17000 blk Hwy 69 N; 7:21:06 AM, Traffic Hazard, 300 blk Brazier St; 7:33:04 AM, Miscellaneous, 500 blk Blackberry Blvd; 8:02:02 AM, Accident, Jack Dr / William Dr; 8:39:02 AM, Debris In Roadway, C R 4191 / Woodlands Park Dr; 8:41:35 AM, Miscellaneous, 200 blk W North St; 10:07:57 AM, Assist SCSO, 13000 blk Hwy 69 N; 10:36:55 AM, Theft From Motor Vehicle, 13000 blk Harvey Rd; 11:17:51 AM, Public Service, 13000 blk C R 435; 1:40:46 PM; Motorist Assist, 3000 blk S Main St; 2:43:50 PM, Animal At Large, 1500 blk Sugar Hill; 3:12:58 PM, Animal At Large, 2400 blk S Main St.

## Commissioners honor long term employees

By Casey Murphy  
Smith County Public  
Information Officer

Sharon Scott was honored Tuesday (Jan. 31) by the Smith County Commissioners for 35 years of service with the Smith County Auditor's Office.

She began working for Smith County in January 1988 and serves as the chief internal auditor.

County Auditor Ann Wilson said Ms. Scott is the second longest employee currently working for Smith County, and anything you want to know about Smith County or its history, Scott is the person to ask.

Scott said she would continue her job safeguarding the County's assets and has no plans to retire just yet.

"The Lord has put me here and the Lord has kept me here," she said during Commissioners Court, adding that she never would have made it without the support of her family, church family, friends and co-workers.

She said the part of her job she has enjoyed the most is her co-workers.

### 25 Years

Jay Zehren was recognized for 25 years of service to Smith County.

He began working at the Juvenile Services Department in January 1998, after five years as an adult probation officer with Liberty and Chambers Counties.

"I wanted a change in career to work with younger offenders because I felt that if I could work with younger offenders, I might be able to help them make better decisions and make positive changes in their lives so they would not end up in the adult system," Zehren said.

Smith County Juvenile Services Director Ross Worley said during Commissioners Court that Zehren has been the department's court officer for 23 years, and has participated in more than 10,000 juvenile court hearings.

"I would put this guy up over anyone in the state of Texas for his knowledge of juvenile law and proceedings ... on top of that, he has been one of my best friends so I celebrate him today," Worley said.

When he started at Juvenile Services, Zehren was assigned a caseload of felony and misdemeanor offenders. After about a year, he was assigned to the Intake Unit, which consisted of juveniles that had pending court cases. In 2000, he became the primary court officer for County Court-at-Law 3 Judge Floyd Getz

until he retired in December 2022. Zehren now serves as the court officer for Judge Taylor Heaton in the newly created 475th District Court, which now handles juvenile cases.

"The thing that I love the most about working for Smith County Juvenile Services is the commitment that this department and all of its employees have to serving the youth and families of Smith County," Zehren said. "We get to provide supervision and resources to juveniles and their families that has a positive impact on their lives and helps them to grow up and become productive members of society while at the same time, protecting this wonderful community from those juveniles that may cause it harm."

"In looking back on my career, I feel privileged to have served Smith County for all these years and hope to continue to serve into the foreseeable," he said, adding that he plans to retire in five years.

### 20 Years

Margarita Palacio was honored for 20 years of service in housekeeping with the Smith County Facilities Services Department.

Director Ed Nichols said it is rare to come across people so dedicated and trustworthy in their work.

"You're a great example

of what it means to work for Smith County and your efforts have not gone unnoticed. You truly are an asset to the department and the organization," he said. "Congratulations on achieving this milestone and we know you have worked hard for this accomplishment. We truly appreciate your dedication."

Commissioner John Moore said Ms. Palacio is a joy to see at work.

"Whenever she comes into the building, she always has a smile on her face and to me that's a bonus, when you have somebody who stays a long time at their job and they're happy to be here, so thank you."

### 15 Years

Brian Westbrook was recognized for 15 years of service with the Adult Probation Department, where he works as community service coordinator.

He started out in the Alternative Incarceration Center and has been in his current role since 2015.

"Keith is positive, professional and he takes pride in his work and it shows in the job that he does," supervisor Kasey Philpot said.

### 10 Years

Smith County Veteran Services Officer Michael Roark was honored for 10 years with the County.

"We appreciate your service to the County," Com-

missioner Terry Phillips said. "Thank you for providing for our veterans; it's an important need and an important job."

Other Smith County employees celebrating work anniversaries who were not in court include:

**15 Years:** Edna Morris, Elections Office; and Perry Session Jr., Road and Bridge

**10 Years:** Christina Haney, Purchasing; Sheriff Larry Smith, Tim McDonald and Robert Strickland, Sheriff's Office

**5 Years:** Zachary Gillmore, District Attorney's Office; and Tommy Smith, Road and Bridge



Sharon Scott of the Smith County Auditor's Office was honored recently for her 25 years of service. Shown with her is County Auditor Ann Wilson. (Courtesy photo)

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## Jarvis officials host Dr. Leonard Haynes as Black History Month speaker

Jarvis Christian University will host Dr. Leonard L. Haynes as the Black History Month speaker at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, in the Smith-Howard Chapel at JCU's main campus in Hawkins, said publicity spokesperson Janet Ragland.

Dr. Haynes is the former senior director with the U.S. Department of Education, former executive director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and HBCU president.

He brings a combination of policy and practical experience that will strengthen strategic education's support of HBCUs and the students they serve.

Widely recognized for his work in education, Haynes has counseled numerous organizations, such as the Ford Founda-



Ohio State University.

He is a recipient of 14 honorary degrees, the 2018 White House Initiative on HBCUs Distinguished Service Award -- now known as the Leonard L. Haynes III Distinguished Service Award -- and the Servant Leader Award from the United Methodist Church for his work on behalf of HBCUs.

tion and the Merck Corporation. He earned his bachelor's degree from Southern University, his master's degree from Carnegie Mellon University, and his doctorate from

## State agency urges hiring licensed electricians

Many Texas homes and businesses suffered ice damage this week and although repairs to electrical transformers and some lines will be performed by power companies, some repairs may fall to homeowners and business owners because the damage is at their side of the powerline.

Officials with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation said you shouldn't hire unlicensed electricians to perform this important repair.

Anyone performing, or offering to perform, electrical work in Texas must be licensed by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and perform that work through an electrical contractor licensed by TDLR.

The first step in hiring an electrical contractor should be checking the TDLR website ([www.tdlr.texas.gov](http://www.tdlr.texas.gov)) to make sure that they are licensed by TDLR. Licensed electrical contractors must either hold a license as a

master electrician or employ a master.

They are required to carry insurance, which protects you as a consumer on completed jobs.

Make sure that the contractor has gotten any required electrical permit through the city or county before any work begins, and never pay upfront for all the work you've agreed to have done.

### About TDLR

TDLR provides regulatory oversight for a broad range of occupations, businesses, facilities, and equipment in Texas. The agency protects the health and safety of Texans by ensuring they are served by qualified, licensed professionals. Inspections of individuals, businesses, and equipment are done on a regular basis to safeguard the public.

TDLR's Customer Service line is available anytime between 7 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-803-9202. TDLR representatives are fluent in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

## Black History Month celebrated at state parks

After a January kickoff with record attendance at First Day Hikes across the state, Texas State Parks' Centennial Celebration continues with a new round of special community events this month.

In February, state parks in North Texas, East Texas, Huntsville and San Antonio will host a variety of events, including several that commemorate Black History Month.

Everyone is warmly welcomed

to join in the fun.

At [Ray Roberts Lake State Park](#) in North Texas, find out how to be part of the next 100 years of Texas State Parks at a [career fair](#) on Feb. 18. Visit with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff from all divisions to learn about current job postings and career opportunities.

Visitors to [Huntsville State Park](#) can walk in the footsteps of the young men in the Civilian Conservation Corps who built the

park in the late 1930s. The Feb. 18 event lets visitors [experience a day in the life of a CCC enrollee](#) through an interactive tour.

In San Antonio, [Government Canyon State Natural Area](#) park staff are going all out on Feb. 18 with a day of events to suit any interest. Try a [special geocache challenge](#), learn about [the wonders of Texas' native plants](#) and [Government Canyon's history](#), take a [guided hike to see dinosaur tracks](#) and visit the [savan-](#)

[nah restoration area](#).

Celebrate Black History Month at a variety of events across the state, including [Cedar Hill State Park](#) and [Hill Country State Natural Area](#) on Feb. 11, [Brazos Bend State Park](#) and [Atlanta State Park](#), [Caddo Lake State Park](#) and [Ray Roberts Lake State Park](#) on Feb. 18 and [Lake Livingston State Park](#) on Feb. 25.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation is partnering with TPWD and H-E-B to celebrate 100 years

of Texas State Parks. H-E-B, the presenting sponsor of the celebration, has donated \$1 million to help Texas State Parks engage all Texans in discovering and enjoying their state parks.

For more information on the Centennial Celebration, including community events, the history of Texas State Parks and how to make a day visit or overnight reservation, visit the Texas State Parks 100 Years website at [TexasStateParks.org/100years](http://TexasStateParks.org/100years).

## O.H. Ivie back on the board with another ShareLunker

ATHENS -- O.H. Ivie Lake chalked up its second Legacy Class largemouth bass of the [2023 Toyota ShareLunker](#) season Sunday, Jan. 29, publicity officials announced.

Kyle Hall of Granbury hauled in 13.58-pound ShareLunker 635, registering a Legacy Class bass in consecutive seasons. Hall's fish is the third submitted by anglers during the 2023 collection season.

"O.H. Ivie continues to produce Lunker after Lunker, and this season is no exception," said Natalie Goldstrohm, Toyota ShareLunker program coordinator. "Even pro anglers like Kyle are drawn to fish O.H. Ivie because of the quality bass fishery."

Hall turned in one of 2022's largest catches on March 1 when he landed ShareLunker 624 at O.H. Ivie. The fish topped the scales at 16.10 pounds, one of three that surpassed the 16-pound mark during the last collection season. Hall returned to O.H. Ivie this year in search of another Legacy fish; as he was wrapping up the trip Sunday, his persistence paid off.

"It's pretty unreal to get a ShareLunker in back-to-back seasons," said Hall. "I have spent a lot of time out on the lake the last three weeks and really wanted another Lunker. The last couple of days were slow but I finally got one to bite."

Hall was targeting fish in roughly 40 feet of water and staying on contour lines. He arrived at a hump where some friends had found success catching fish. It proved to be the perfect spot.

"There was a whole school of 9- to 11-pound fish that came up following the swim jig I was throwing," said Hall. "They probably followed the bait for 30-45 seconds. From out of nowhere, the fish came off the bottom, flew past the other fish and ate it."

Hall contacted the ShareLunker program and transported the fish to the holding tank.

"Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff arrived quickly, took some photos and got her ready to go back to the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center," he said. "It was an awesome experience to be a part of the ShareLunker program again."

O.H. Ivie's incredible run continues after producing two dozen combined ShareLunkers in the past two seasons, including a new waterbody record of 17.06 pounds in 2022. It was the biggest catch in 30 years and the seventh-largest largemouth bass ever verified in Texas in public or private waters.

During the first three months of the season (January through March), anglers who reel in a 13-plus pound bass can loan it to TPWD for the ShareLunker selective breeding and stocking program. These anglers call the ShareLunker hotline at (903) 681-0550 to

report their catch 24/7 through March 31.

Anglers who catch and donate one of these 13-plus pound Lunkers earn Legacy Class status, a catch kit filled with merchandise, a 13-plus pound Legacy decal for their vehicle or boat, VIP access to the Toyota ShareLunker Annual Awards event and a high-quality replica mount of their Lunker fish from Lake Fork Taxidermy. These anglers will also receive entries into two separate contests -- a Legacy Class drawing and the year-end Grand Prize drawing. First place in either wins a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree and a resident (or non-resident) annual fishing license.

The year-round Toyota ShareLunker program offers four levels of participation for catching bass over eight pounds or 24 inches in Texas. In addition to Legacy Class (13-plus pounds between January and March), ShareLunker entry classes include the Lunker Class (8-plus pounds), Elite Class (10-plus pounds), and Legend Class (13-plus pounds from April to December).

Anglers who enter data for any Lunker they catch (greater than eight pounds or 24 inches) during the calendar year 2023 also receive a catch kit, a decal for their vehicle or boat and an entry into the year-end Grand Prize drawing to win a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree and annual fishing license.

Once a Lunker is reeled in, anglers need to enter the catch data on the Toyota ShareLunker mobile app -- available for free from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play](#) -- or on the Toyota ShareLunker online app at [TexasShareLunker.com](http://TexasShareLunker.com). In addition to basic catch information, anglers can also provide a DNA scale sample from their Lunker bass to TPWD researchers for genetic analysis.

A new procedure is in effect for the 2023 season. Legend Class ShareLunkers no longer need to be weighed on a certified scale for entry. Anglers must include a photo of their Lunker on a digital scale to qualify for Legend Class.

The Toyota ShareLunker Program is made possible in part by the generous sponsorship of Toyota. Toyota is a longtime supporter of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation and TPWD, providing major funding for a wide variety of fisheries, state parks and wildlife projects.

Prize donors such as Bass Pro Shops, Lake Fork Taxidermy, American Fishing Tackle Company, Stanley Jigs and 6th Sense Fishing provide additional support for this program. For updates on the Toyota ShareLunker program, visit [facebook.com/sharelunkerprogram/](https://facebook.com/sharelunkerprogram/), [@texassharelunker](https://instagram.com/@texassharelunker) on Instagram and online at [TexasShareLunker.com](http://TexasShareLunker.com).

## Lindale student earns President's List honors at Ouachita Baptist

Syndi Watts of Lindale was one of 382 students named to the Ouachita Baptist University's Fall 2022 President's List, publicity officials announced.

To be named to the President's List, a student must compile a grade point average of 4.0 and be classified as a full-time student, with a minimum of 12 academic hours and no incomplete or failing grade for the semester.

Ouachita Baptist University, a private

liberal arts university, is in its 137th year as a Christ-centered learning community and is ranked nationally by U.S. News & World Report.

Ouachita continues to break enrollment records, reporting its highest headcount in 56 years during the Fall 2022 semester. Learn more about the university's highly personal approach to higher education, reflected in a student/faculty ratio of 13:1, at [www.obu.edu](http://www.obu.edu).

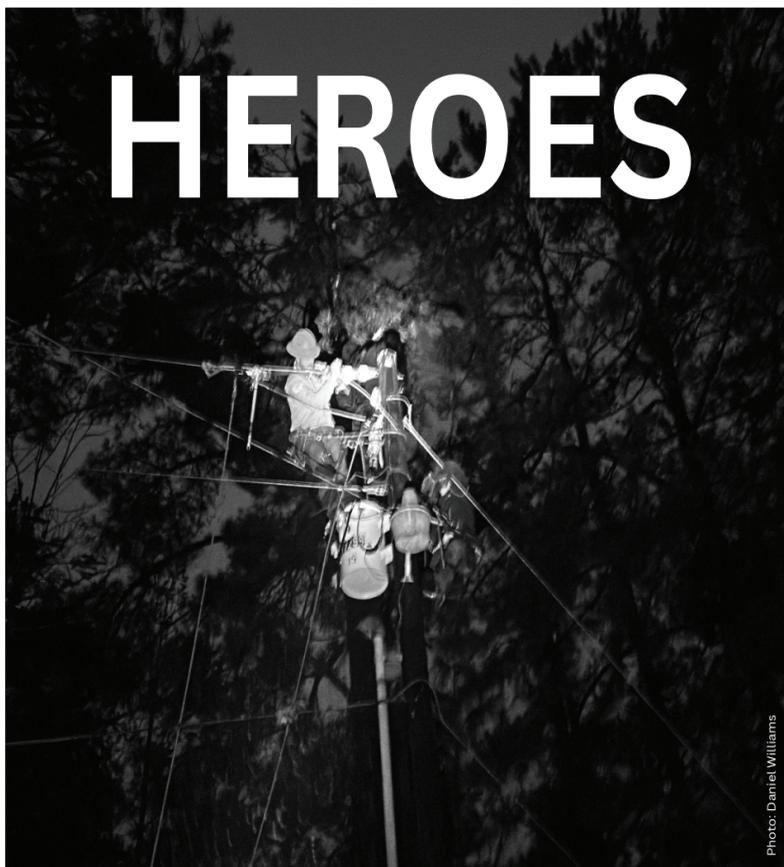


Photo: Daniel Williams

You call us heroes. But our WCEC members are ours! The ice storm was daunting, in every single way. At WCEC, we never want one meter to be out of power. Of course, that's not realistic. So, when it happens, we work hard to quickly restore.

This ice storm was a struggle, as ice built, and trees and limbs crashed. There was no let up. The sheer numbers of outages, coupled with sub-freezing temperatures, icy rain, and soggy ground, were extreme challenges. Our linemen, right-of-way crews, contractors, and linemen from neighboring Co-ops, faced this work head on. That's because they know how necessary electricity is to YOU.

In times like these, it's realistic for members to become frustrated. But not our members. They overwhelmingly gave us grace, kindness, encouragement and support. That says something about you!

All of us here are exceedingly proud to work for what we believe is the best little Co-op in Texas -- because we have the very best Co-op members. You have our thanks and our continued promise to always work hard for you.

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**LEGAL NOTICE****NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Marjorie F. Lee, Deceased, were issued on January 23, 2023, in Cause No. 47085P, pending in the County Court-At-Law No: 3, Smith County, Texas, to: James Wilson.

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

DATED the 1st day of February, 2023.

/s/ Casey P. Cook  
Casey P. Cook  
Attorney for James Wilson  
State Bar No.: 24094599  
7925 S. Broadway, Suite 800  
Tyler, Texas 75703  
Telephone: (903) 561-8644  
Facsimile: (903) 561-8649  
E-mail: info@mytxestateplan.com

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Shirley Ann Wynne were issued on January 30, 2023, in docket number 47025P, pending in the County Court at Law Number 3 of Smith County, Texas, to Richard Kevin Martin. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

Representative: Richard Kevin Martin Estate of Shirley Ann Wynne  
c/o Charles G. Morton, Jr.  
P.O. Box 166  
BULLARD, TX 75757

Dated February 6, 2023

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lucille Dudley, Deceased, were issued on the 2nd of November, 2022, in Cause No. 46,182-P, pending in the Probate Court in Smith County, Texas, to: Jeannette Marie Dudley Wilson.

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: **Stephen Hubbard Attorney at Law**  
100 E. Ferguson St. Suite 714  
Tyler, Texas 75702

DATED the 6th day of February, 2023.

Stephen Hubbard/10140515  
Attorney for  
Jeannette Marie Dudley Wilson  
100 E. Ferguson St  
Ste 714  
Tyler, Texas 75702  
(903)533-0018  
(903)597-7702 (F)  
shubbard@hubbard-law.com

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

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

**TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF JOHNNY EUGENE STOKER, DECEASED:**

On the 20th day of January, 2023, **MICHELLE VALEN** filed an **APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP** in a proceeding styled **IN THE ESTATE OF JOHNNY EUGENE STOKER, DECEASED** and bearing the number **46893P** in the County Court at Law #3 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 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 **30th day of January, 2023**, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

**KAREN PHILLIPS, COUNTY CLERK**  
**Smith County, Texas**

By: Katherine Beard, Deputy Clerk



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MKT-P0240

**LEGAL NOTICE****NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Herbert Calvin Turner, Deceased, were issued on January 23, 2023, in Cause No. 47072P, pending in the County Court-At-Law No: 3, Smith County, Texas, to: Susan Courville.

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, PLLC**  
c/o: Casey P. Cook  
Attorney at Law  
7925 S. Broadway  
Suite 800

Tyler, Texas 75703

DATED the 1st day of February, 2023.

/s/ Casey P. Cook  
Casey P. Cook  
Attorney for Susan Courville  
State Bar No.: 24094599  
7925 S. Broadway, Suite 800  
Tyler, Texas 75703  
Telephone: (903) 561-8644  
Facsimile: (903) 561-8649  
E-mail: info@mytxestateplan.com

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Estate of Jordan Pellum, an Incapacitated person, were issued on the 25th of August, 2022, in Cause No. 46,266-G, pending in the County Court in Smith County, Texas, to: Cathy Roland.

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: **Stephen Hubbard**  
**Attorney at Law**  
100 E. Ferguson St. Suite 714  
Tyler, Texas 75702

DATED the 6th day of February, 2023.

Stephen Hubbard/10140515  
Attorney for Cathy Roland  
100 E. Ferguson St. Suite 714  
Tyler, Texas 75702  
(903) 533-0018  
(903) 597-7702 (F)

shubbard@hubbard-lawfirm.com

**CAUSE NO. 46981P**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LINDA LEE § IN THE COUNTY COURT  
§  
TUMINO, § AT LAW NO. 3  
§  
DECEASED § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Linda Lee Tumino were issued on January 30, 2023, in cause number 46981P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas, to Michele Rene Tumino. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

Michele Rene Tumino, Independent Administrator  
Estate of Linda Lee Tumino  
c/o Gregory A. Fraser  
P.O. Box 2562  
209 S. Main Street  
Lindale, TX 75771  
Dated February 3, 2023.

By: **Gregory A. Fraser**  
Attorney for Independent  
Administrator of the  
Estate of Linda Lee Tumino

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of T. KEVIN KING, M.D., Deceased, were issued on February 6, 2023, in Cause No. 47122P, pending in the County Court at Law No: 3, Smith County, Texas, to: AMY LOUISE KING COLE. 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: **H. CHUCK BAUMAN, Attorney at Law, 400 E Fifth St., Tyler, TX 75701**

**CAUSE NO. 46981P**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LINDA LEE § IN THE COUNTY COURT  
§  
TUMINO, § AT LAW NO. 3  
§  
DECEASED § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Linda Lee Tumino were issued on January 30, 2023, in cause number 46981P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas, to Michele Rene Tumino. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

Michele Rene Tumino, Independent Administrator  
Estate of Linda Lee Tumino  
c/o Gregory A. Fraser  
P.O. Box 2562  
209 S. Main Street  
Lindale, TX 75771  
Dated February 3, 2023.

By: **Gregory A. Fraser**  
Attorney for Independent  
Administrator of the  
Estate of Linda Lee Tumino

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**Solicitation in the Lindale Reporter**  
(to be published on February 2 and February 9, 2023)

**NOTICE:** The City of Lindale is seeking qualifications from qualified consulting firms to provide services to the community by providing and evaluation of the Faulkner Park space and developing a conceptual design with an architectural rendering. 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 **March 9, 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



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# Lindale ISD's Surratt feels teacher pay hike possible

**Continued from Page 1**  
raise for educators, if not more.

Naturally, increased teacher salaries would attract and retain teachers across the state, including the Lindale ISD.

"We're always going to need to attract great teaching candidates," he said. "Even here, with our great culture, our great community and our great kids, we still lose a certain number due to retirements and financial

considerations.

"But there are a lot of teachers wanting to come here and we need to make sure we have as many qualified teachers in the pipeline as possible," Surratt said.

The downside to the teacher/raise discussion is the possibility that school vouchers – providing money for parents who want to send their children to private schools -- would be tied to the legislation.

"That's just welfare for

the wealthy," Surratt said. "(Lawmakers) say its to give the underprivileged a chance to go to private school, but it actually would go to those parents who already send their kids to private schools."

Talarico's measure would increase the state's minimum teacher salary to \$48,660 per year, compared to the current level of \$33,660. Salaries are determined on a 10-month contract, according to the Texas Education Agency.

2021-2022 Minimum Salary Schedule

Years of Experience Credited	Monthly Salary	Annual Salary (10 month contract)
0	3,366	33,660
1	3,439	34,390
2	3,510	35,100
3	3,583	35,830
4	3,735	37,350
5	3,888	38,880
6	4,041	40,410
7	4,183	41,830
8	4,317	43,170
9	4,444	44,440
10	4,563	45,630
11	4,677	46,770
12	4,785	47,850
13	4,885	48,850
14	4,981	49,810
15	5,071	50,710
16	5,157	51,570
17	5,237	52,370
18	5,314	53,140
19	5,386	53,860
20 & Over	5,454	54,540

Information by Texas Education Agency



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<sup>1</sup>After qualifications are met, earn 6.00% Annual Percentage Yield (APY) on balances up to \$40,000; for balances above \$40,000, APY ranges from 6.00%-6.60 APY depending on the balance of the account. APY effective as of 11/08/2022. Fees may reduce earnings. Rate subject to change at any time. A cycle service charge of \$14 will be imposed every statement cycle that the average daily balance falls below \$4,000. Limited to one account per individual. Closing this account within 90 days of opening results in \$25 fee. If you originate a mortgage loan with Origin during the life of this account you will receive a \$100 lender credit to be redeemed at the time of your closing; there is no minimum balance required for this benefit.  
<sup>2</sup>Qualifications: You must have 16 posted and cleared debit card transactions excluding ATM transactions per statement cycle, make 1 posted and cleared ACH automatic debit or credit per statement cycle, and receive a monthly eStatement on this account or the APY paid on your entire balance will be 0.00%. These monthly requirements must be completed 3 business days prior to the end of your statement cycle.



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