

Lindale News & Times

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Thursday, April 20, 2023

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TXDOT calls for safe driving in work zones to continue downward trend in fatalities

Work zone crash fatalities decreased for the first time since 2018

Following a year in which fewer people were killed in work zone crashes in Texas, TxDOT is calling on all drivers to stay vigilant and help continue that downward trend. As National Work Zone Awareness Week kicks off, TxDOT's "Be Safe. Drive Smart." campaign is reminding drivers to stay alert and exercise caution when going through road construction and maintenance areas.

In the Atlanta District in 2022, there were 515 crashes in work zones, resulting in 27 serious injuries and three fatalities. "We don't want anyone hurt or killed in our work zones, or anywhere on our roads," said Atlanta District Engineer Rebecca Wells. "We need motorists to do their part, to drive with care, especially in work zones. We want them to drive as if it's their loved one out there working so close to traffic every day."

The Atlanta District includes Bowie, Cass, Camp, Harrison, Marion, Morris, Panola, Titus and Upshur Counties.

Statewide, traffic fatalities in work zones were down 16% in 2022, decreasing for the first time since 2018. Despite that, 205 people lost their lives and another 788 were seriously injured in Texas work zones last year. The vast majority of those killed, 85%, were drivers or their passengers.

"Although it's encouraging to see a reduction in the number of work zone crashes and fatalities last year, one life lost is too many," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "We're calling on all Texas drivers to slow down and stay alert when traveling through work zones. Doing so could save a life, including your own."

The "Be Safe. Drive Smart." campaign offers five tips for safely navigating work zones:

1. Slow down. Follow the posted speed limit and proactively adjust your driving to match road conditions. Excessive speed is one of the leading causes of work zone crashes.

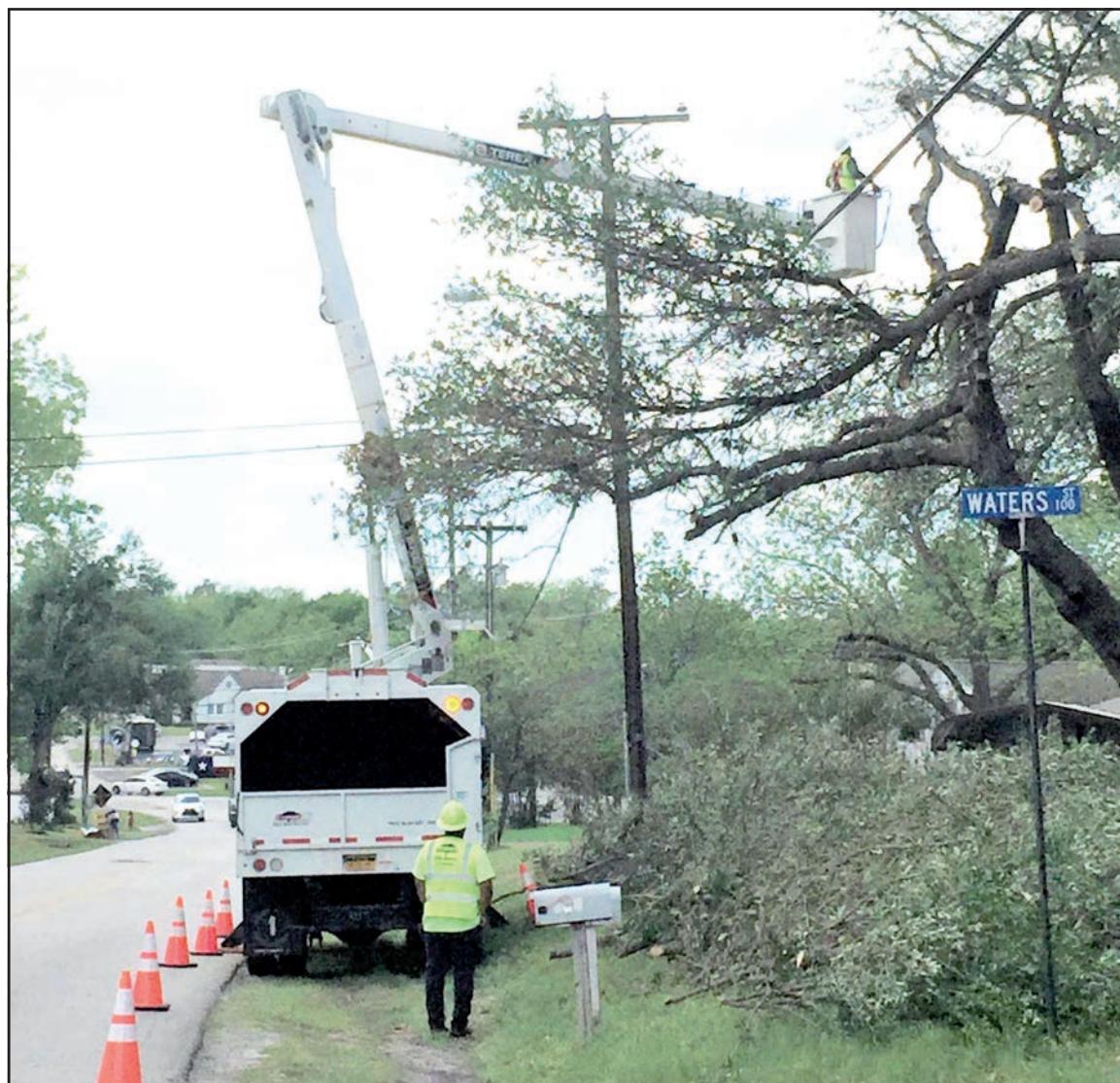
2. Pay attention. Avoid distractions, keep your mind on the road and put your phone away.

3. Watch out for road crews. Roadside workers want to get home safely, too. Always follow instructions and be mindful of construction area road signs.

4. Don't tailgate. Give yourself room to stop in a hurry, should traffic stop suddenly. Rear-end collisions are the most common type of work zone crashes.

5. Allow extra time. Road construction can slow things down. Count on it, and plan for it.

TxDOT also reminds motorists of the state's Move Over/Slow Down law that requires drivers to move over a lane or reduce their speed to 20 mph below the posted speed limit when approaching TxDOT, emergency, law enforcement, tow truck or utility vehicles stopped with flashing lights activated on the roadside. Traffic fines double in work zones when workers are present and can cost up to \$2,000. Failure to heed the Move Over/Slow Down law can also result in a fine of up to \$2,000.



Bucket trucks such as this one on South Street in Lindale this past week have been busy recently, giving trees an essential haircut to keep winter freezing risks to a minimum.

Photo by Terry Cannon

Tree trimmers perform proactive service

Part of East Texas' beauty, aside from the spectacular displays of wildflowers along roadsides and in parks and landscapes, is the glorious foliage provided by trees in fall and summer.

But this winter, a vicious freeze not only caused residents to shiver but adversely affected trees, causing downed power lines and traffic hazards.

So once the weather became more spring-like, it became necessary to trim these towering testaments to Mother Nature's palette.

For the past few weeks tree

trimming services have been out in force across East Texas, including Lindale.

These trimmers' mission is always the same: make sure to prune away the branches that could pose a threat if another blast of Old Man Winter arrived several months from now.

This isn't the first time towering trees such as pines and oaks have unintentionally posed a threat to East Texans. When winter rains turn to ice, homeowners cast a wary eye upward and hope that magnificent species in the back-

yard doesn't snap from the heavy coating of ice.

Tree trimming services have a double responsibility: keep homes safe while making sure the trees have been trimmed adequately so they no longer will be a threat to power lines, which will pay off next winter.

So when you see a tree trimming bucket truck along the side of the road, make sure you give them plenty of space. These busy people are helping to make sure winter power outages are kept to a minimum.

Sales Tax Holiday for emergency supplies, April 22-24

With the severe weather season upon us, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds Texans they can purchase certain items tax-free during the state's sales tax holiday for emergency preparation supplies, which begins at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, and ends at midnight on Monday, April 24.

"While we can't know in advance when the next flood, tornado or hurricane may strike, we can make sure our families, homes and businesses have the supplies they need to face these and other emergencies," Hegar said. "This tax holiday can help Texans save money while stocking up for emergency situations. Don't wait for disaster to strike. Take the time now to get prepared."

The Comptroller's office estimates shoppers will save

nearly \$2 million in state and local sales taxes during the tax holiday, which was approved by the Texas Legislature in 2015.

There's no limit on the number of qualifying items you can purchase. These include:

- household batteries, fuel containers and flashlights priced less than \$75;
- hurricane shutters and emergency ladders priced less than \$300; and
- portable generators priced less than \$3,000.

For purchases made online, note that delivery, shipping, handling and transportation charges are part of the sales price. Consider these charges when determining whether an emergency preparation supply can be purchased tax-free during the holiday.

For example, if you purchase a rescue ladder online for \$299 with a \$10 delivery charge, the total sales price is \$309. Because the total sales price of the ladder is more than \$300, tax is due on the \$309 sales price.

Purchases that do not qualify include:

- batteries for automobiles, boats and other motorized vehicles;
- camping stoves and camping supplies;
- chainsaws;
- plywood;
- extension ladders and stepladders; and
- tents.

A list of emergency preparation supplies that may be purchased tax-free can be found on the Comptroller's website.

Local sales tax revenue continues to exceed 2022

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$977.2 million in local sales tax allocations for April, 12.8 percent more than in April 2022.

These allocations are based on sales made in February by businesses that report tax monthly.

Lindale continues to ride a wave - exceeding previous year's numbers month after month.

Winon and Whitehouse, Bullard and Arp also posted sales tax revenue numbers above 2022.

County	City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Smith	Arp	1.500%	\$17,854.48	\$14,560.80	22.62%	\$78,815.89	\$74,534.04	5.74%
Smith	Bullard	1.500%	\$61,555.13	\$56,590.06	8.77%	\$297,726.08	\$266,813.67	11.58%
Smith	Lindale	1.500%	\$354,832.41	\$295,154.07	20.21%	\$1,542,513.31	\$1,426,143.69	8.15%
Smith	New Chapel Hill	1.000%	\$2,584.64	\$1,627.37	58.82%	\$10,798.84	\$7,356.64	46.79%
Smith	Noonday	1.000%	\$22,631.21	\$18,610.11	21.60%	\$84,788.56	\$82,601.44	2.64%
Smith	Troup	1.500%	\$42,688.64	\$56,352.30	-24.24%	\$194,235.63	\$236,371.38	-17.82%
Smith	Tyler	1.500%	\$4,634,302.60	\$4,111,504.49	12.71%	\$20,636,725.19	\$19,357,242.02	6.60%
Smith	Whitehouse	1.500%	\$129,203.21	\$100,050.73	29.13%	\$529,856.94	\$451,003.31	17.48%
Smith	Winona	1.250%	\$18,016.54	\$14,767.64	22.00%	\$73,774.82	\$71,564.43	3.08%

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

I am a bookaholic...

Hi! My name is Suzanne, and I am a bookaholic.

I don't just enjoy books I devour them. I once had a professor who said that I didn't READ a book I RAVISHED it (only he used a different term).

I have bookshelves next to my bed, books squirreled into a space by my pillow, a box of books crammed to overflowing in a hidden corner just waiting to be read. In the den my magazine rack is spilling over and there is a handy, dandy paperback under the couch within reach. My dream bathroom was built by my dreamy husband and has a huge spa tub...with books stacked under the window in easy reach.

My charming country kitchen has a cookbook nook that is full. I enjoy reading them more than using them to produce meals. There are NO books in the unused dining room...I think. But our son's old bedroom has its fair share, I have a small library room that no longer holds books. The books are holding the shelves together they are packed so tight.

As far as I know there are no books in my laundry room...just piles of laundry. But in our big living room we seldom use, of course there are books and sheet music, and hymnals, and my complete collection of high school yearbooks I advised and will always cherish.

But wait, there's more. I keep books in my car and in Jimmy's SUV. You never know when you may need a read at Sonic, or in a traffic jam, or while waiting for an appointment.

And yes, I have a Nook with several books downloaded and unread. And yes, I have a Kindle I won as a prize and have never used. I am tactile. I love to touch the paper, bend the corners of the pages and snap the spine of a paperback so that it knows whose hands it is in.

After working on a screen for hours upon hours the last thing I want to do is read on a screen. Heck, I even love the way books smell. Most. Not the moldy ones.

Reading is essential to my life.

Every night regardless of how late I get in or finish working at home, I read for at least an hour. Usually three.

I have been around the world, to outer space, other worlds and throughout time. My inner space is where all these characters and worlds reside. The place where a turn of phrase can make me stop to make a note. Where an idea can make me go deeper. Where opinions that are not my own remind me I am not always

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



right, nor am I the center of God's creation.

If you are not a reader, well, you must be or you wouldn't be reading this column...if you are not 'much' of a reader I challenge you to set aside 15 minutes a day to read. I will even give you a list of works that have impacted my life in powerful and profound ways.

1. The Bible—no book has influenced me, or history for that matter, as much as the Good Book. I strongly recommend an Amplified Version for greater understanding.

2. "All Over But the Shouting" by Rick Bragg—that man can write better than anyone I have ever read. Heads up, it is non-fiction and he had me when he said that he crawled up his mother's backbone to success.

3. The Narnia Chronicles by C.S. Lewis did a great deal to mature my theology. These are children's books...supposedly.

4. "Gone With the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell. I thought I was Scarlett when I was young. Somewhere in my 40s I realized I was Melanie with Scarlett's attitude.

5. The Ring Trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien. Those fantasy worlds speak truth about sacrifice, nobility and purpose.

6. The New York Times obituaries and wedding announcements. I used them to teach kids about the importance of showing who someone is not telling who they are or were.

7. Handwritten letters from the people I love. (Refer to your own collection please.)

8. The Constitution of the United States and the Federalist Papers...for obvious reasons.

9. Tim O'Brien's "The Things They Carried" about the Vietnam War. Caution: not for children.

10. "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen...oh, to live during a more polite and civil time when words were used as weapons of love and wit.

Of course, my list could go on, and on. Just remember your homework and read every day. It's good for the mind and feeds the soul.

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

Outlook for the Texas Economy

It goes without saying that there's a lot going on in the economy these days. The United States (and most of the rest of the world) is dealing with high (though moderating) inflation, rising interest rates, struggling industries and markets, geopolitical tensions, and a host of other uncertainties.

Nonetheless, I remain optimistic regarding the potential for growth, although the path will probably not be as smooth as we would hope.

For Texas, recent performance has been strong. Over the past year (ending in February, which is the latest data available), the state gained 604,800 net new jobs. That is an annual employment growth rate of 4.59%, significantly higher than the corresponding US rate of 2.91%. The professional and business services segment is leading the way in terms of the numbers of new jobs, and all major industry groups saw job gains in Texas over the period.

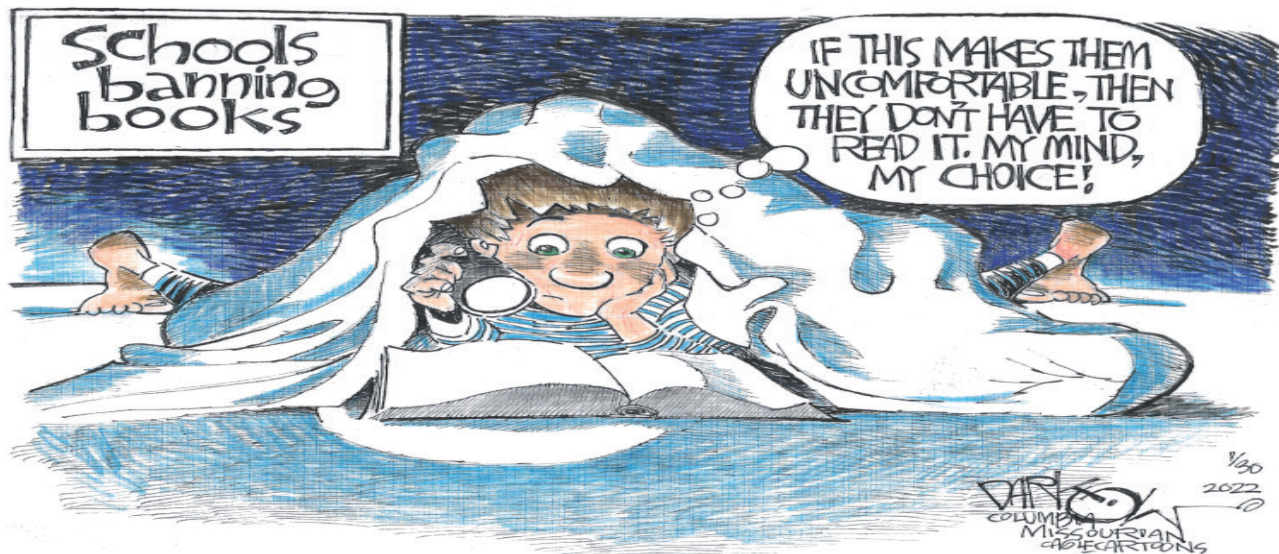
In addition to this momentum, the state continues to attract more corporate locations, expansions, and investments than any other by a huge margin. The ongoing capital commitments and future opportunities are substantial. We are also seeing an influx of people, including many highly skilled professionals. Things are beginning to slow to some extent, but positive expansion is anticipated.

Though the state's industrial base is far more diverse than in decades past, it helps that oil and natural gas development and production has been on an upswing of record proportions. Uncertainty regarding global economic performance and, thus, demand for fuels is a dampening factor for price levels, but China's reopening and OPEC's surprise production cuts are a useful counterweight. It appears as if trading will continue in a profitable range going forward.

Over the next five years, we are projecting that Texas economic output (real gross product) will expand at a 3.49% annual pace, with mining (oil and gas) playing a dominant role. We are also forecasting a gain of about 1.3 million net new jobs through 2027, an increase of 1.83% per year. The largest sources of employment growth are projected to be the professional and business services industry group, as well as health care and social assistance.

Texas obviously cannot fully escape the current challenges. With the state providing \$1 of every \$6 in US exports, the performance of the international economy can't help but notably affect overall performance. Similarly, Texas firms and consumers must also face essentially the same inflationary pressures and higher borrowing rates as those in other areas. Despite these risks, Texas is well positioned to deal with what comes and emerge with momentum. The state's multi-faceted industrial mix and enormous natural resource endowments will help to diffuse the worst of any downturn that may come our way.

Stay safe!



Parental book bill passes the Senate

The Texas Senate passed a bill last week that would require schools to inform parents of all books their children check out of school libraries, The Dallas Morning News reported. The bill's sponsor, state Sen. Angela Paxton, R-McKinney, said she sponsored the bill after being contacted about sexually explicit materials in school libraries.

"I cannot unsee what I saw," Paxton said on the Senate floor. "More importantly, a child cannot unsee sexually explicit materials, and this certainly shouldn't happen in a school library, of all places."

Critics say the bill could lead to politicized book bans and undermine the work of librarians. It requires school boards to create local library advisory panels made up mainly of parents.

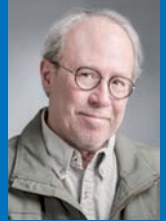
The bill now heads to the Texas House for consideration.

Drought expands into Central, W. Texas

Warmer temperatures and less rain in March expanded drought conditions throughout the central and western parts of the state, hydrologist Dr. Mark Wentzel of the Texas Water Development Board reported. More than two-thirds of the state is affected by drought, up five percentage points from the previous month. The exception is in the eastern portion of Texas, which is now drought free.

The La Niña weather system, which is at least partially responsible for drought conditions in the state for the past

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



two-and-a-half years, is predicted to give way by fall to El Niño conditions, which tend to be wetter, according to Wentzel.

"Why are La Niña, neutral, and El Niño conditions important to Texas? Each of these conditions sets up different atmospheric circulation patterns that impact weather around the world, including Texas," Wentzel wrote.

100's apply for HISD board of managers

With the Texas Education Agency taking over management of the Houston Independent School District, nearly 400 applications have been received to join the district's Board of Managers. In a news release, TEA said it is looking for Houston residents with "a wide array of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives who believe all children can learn and achieve at high levels when properly supported and who can work together as a governance team."

"I am looking for Houstonians with wisdom and integrity

who can be laser-focused on what is best for students," Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said. "It is exciting to see so many Houstonians express a willingness to help move the school system forward in service of students."

The Board of Managers will hold public board meetings and has the same legal requirements and obligations as any elected school board, according to TEA.

More funding for community colleges?

A bill approved last week by the Texas House would allocate additional funding to the state's 50 community college districts, the Statesman reported. The additional amount each district would receive would be based on several factors, including the number of degrees and certificates a college awards "that equip students for continued learning and greater earnings," the Statesman reported.

The bill is one of House Speaker Dade Phelan's priorities and has more than 90 co-authors.

"This would be the most significant state investment for community colleges in decades," said Ryan Franklin, senior director of policy and advocacy for Educate Texas.

Community colleges in Texas are funded by a combination of local property taxes, tuition and fees, state revenue, and various other sources. The bill guarantees a certain amount of funding for rural community college districts that are unable to raise as much in property taxes as urban districts.

LACC Rodeo returns May 18th

The annual Patterson Ram Lindale Championship Rodeo presented by the Edwards Team at Century 21 First Group returns to the Cross Brand Cowboy Church Arena beginning at 6 p.m., Thursday, May 18, publicity officials announced.

The event, which is free to the public, will continue through Saturday, May 20. Each night's festivities will conclude at 10 p.m. Muttin' Bustin begins at 6:15 p.m. each night with the rodeo events to follow at 7:30 p.m.

Sponsors include: Patterson Tyler Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep Ram; The Edwards Team Century 21; Chick Fil-A; Christy Trinity Mother Frances, KLTV; Cavender's; Coca-Cola Southwest Beverages; Texas; Hawley Disposal Service; Heritage Land Bank; Little Buffalo Creek; Office Barn; Petty's Steak & Catfish; Texas Bank & Trust; Texas Farm Bureau Insurance and Tyler Pipe.

Also, Biomax Spray Foam Insulation; Body Goal Medspa; Hank's Diesel & Auto Repair; Schindler Carpet and Floor Center; Tuttle Christian Foundation; United Ag & Turf; Adelyn Elaine's Boutique; Allstate Insurance-Smith Agency; Austin Bank; Dream Maker Bath & Kitchen; Evergreen Roofing & Solar; T-Mobile and Town Square Media.

Also, Altra Federal Credit Union; Brookshire's; Burger

King; Cracker Barrel Old Country Store; Elite Restroom Trailers; JK Trucking & Construction; Leon's Signs; Lindale Veterinary Clinic; McDonald's; National Property Inspections of East Texas; Oncor Delivery; Red Dirt Transport; Southside Bank and UT Health East Texas.

Also, Azalea Orthopedics; Biomax Spray Foam Insulation; Boot Barn; Calvary Plumbing; D&H Quality Cabinets; ETX Weight Loss and Vitality; Law Office of Alicia Barkely; Lindale Car Care; Lindale Pet Hospital; Shelby Savings Bank, SSB; Walmart and Whataburger.

Also, Alice Ann Brown Realtor; Bell Sand Company; CBS 19; C.K. Jones Developers; Cross Brand Cowboy Church; Donut Palace; ETV Software; ETX Legends Coffee; Fleming Farm & Ranch Supply; Garden Hill Apartments KETK/FOX51/KTPN; Landmark Title, Inc.; Sturdy Box Storage; Tobacco Junction; Triple M Trailers and Tyler Oaks RV Resort.

Also, CenterPoint Energy; Italian Garden; Kitchen Tune-Up; KMOO 99.9; Quality Investments; Sky Ranch; The Legends of Lindale; Bailey's Lawn & Tree Service; Brady Environmental Services; Texas National Bank; The Rugged Rose Gift Company; The Watt House LLC and TJC North.

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Governor sets disturbing precedence in murder conviction

Back in the prehistoric era of 1978, yours truly graduated from East Texas State University with a degree in journalism and history.

In all the time I spent in junior college and university classrooms, not once did I take a course in law or jurisprudence.

But recent developments involving the conviction of U.S. Army Sgt. Daniel Perry in the killing of a protestor at an Austin Black Lives Matter demonstration in July 2020 suggest that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott — despite being the state's attorney general before he was governor — doesn't know much more than I do about the way the court system works.

Abbott has asked the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles to consider a pardon for Perry, who is not only a convicted murderer of Garrett Foster but has talked of killing Muslims and posted racial comments on social media outlets over the years. Unsealed documents show Perry's racial bias and his rants including a post on the night of July 25, 2020 that he "might have to kill a few people" on his way to work, referring to protestors gathered outside his apartment protesting the George Floyd death in Minneapolis.

Perry, armed, drove into a crowd of the protestors and



confronted and shot Foster, who was also armed. This led to Perry claiming he acted in self-defense because Foster had "raised his rifle" at him.

An Austin jury didn't buy it and convicted the Army sergeant of murder on April 7. He has yet to be sentenced.

Which brings us back to Abbott, who seemed to have been pushed into this pre-emptive action by irritating Fox "news" megaphone Tucker Carlson who said of Perry's conviction: "It means in the state of Texas, if you have the wrong politics, you're not allowed to defend yourself."

Well this pushed our governor into the morass of trying to appeal to his far-right base instead of letting the Texas court system do its job.

During his screed against Texas jurisprudence and citing the "legal atrocity" of Perry's conviction, Carlson criticized Abbott was not wanting to come on his show and discuss the matter.

The next day, Abbott tweeted "he was working as swiftly as Texas law allows regarding the pardon for Sgt.

Perry."

Our court system can be a maddening thing, but it remains the best in the world. A person is arrested and if indicted by a grand jury, is then scheduled to stand trial before a jury of his or her peers.

Most of the time the system works. Bad people are found guilty, sentenced to prison or given probation and the wheel makes another turn.

In Perry's case, an Austin grand jury performed its duty by examining the facts and determining there was enough evidence to bring him to trial. The jury deliberated 17 hours over two days after an eight-day trial and delivered its guilty verdict.

Travis County District Attorney Jose Garza, naturally, wasn't a fan of Abbott's plan.

"After hearing from civilian eyewitnesses and expert witnesses, and deliberating for over 15 hours, they reached the unanimous decision that Daniel Perry did not kill Garrett Foster in self-defense and was guilty of

murder beyond a reasonable doubt," Garza wrote. "In our legal system, a jury gets to decide whether a defendant is guilty or innocent — not the Governor."

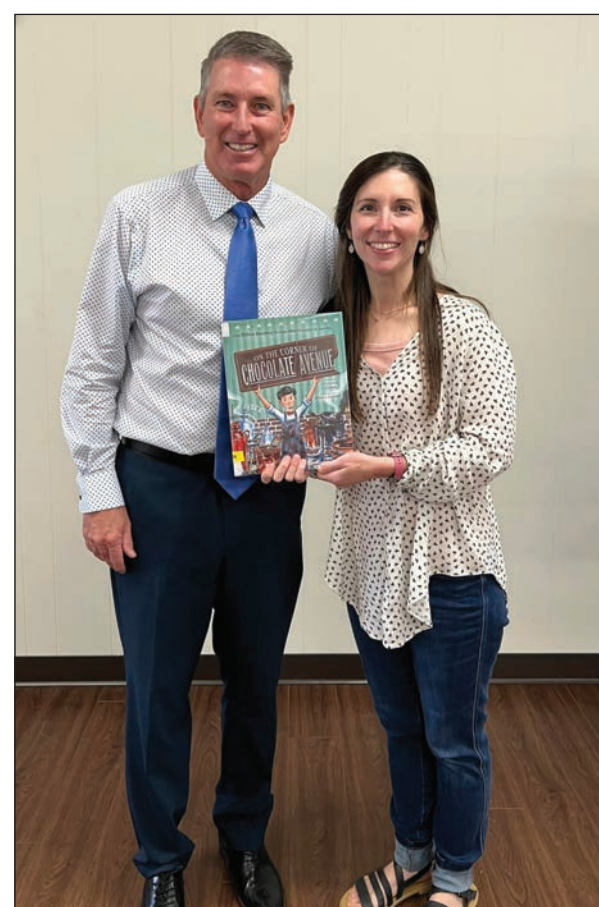
Abbott has not pardoned many convicted criminals, just two in the past year. Yet, after being bullied by a far-right "news" network, he's all in on undoing the work properly performed by a jury.

At the very least, this action would not only undermine future trials but would lay the foundation that if a governor — any governor — doesn't like a verdict they can simply wave the pardon wand and make a conviction disappear.

Governors, like all politicians, are elected to represent all the people not just the ones social media nitwits and cable news blowhards say they should represent.

And in the case of our governor, he might want to revisit what he said in 2018 regarding the commutation of another murderer: "As a former trial court judge, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Attorney General involved in prosecuting some of the most notorious criminals in Texas, I have the utmost regard for the role that juries and judges play in our legal system. The role of the Governor is not to second-guess the court process or re-evaluate the law and evidence."

Exactly.



LISD Superintendent Rotary guest

Lindale ISD Superintendent and Rotarian Stan Surratt, shown with Lillie Russell Memorial Librarian Shannon Reid, was the guest speaker at the weekly meeting of the Lindale Rotary Club this past week. Surratt provided club members with updates concerning the LISD as well as legislative issues which will affect school districts across the state. He has led the Lindale ISD for the past 16 years. (Photo courtesy of Alice Ann Brown)



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, April 21, 2022

A nine-run second inning boosted the Lindale High School Lady Eagles to a 12-2, District 16-4A softball win over the Chapel Hill Lady Bulldogs at the Lindale ISD Baseball and Softball complex.

With the victory, Lindale improved to 6-3 in league play.

The Lady Eagles jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first and put the game away with their nine-run outburst.

In that decisive second inning, Kayli Vickery lashed a triple and Libbi Rozell lined a double to highlight the attack. Elizabeth Watkins, Liliana Miller and Emily Myers all had singles to fuel the Lady Eagles' offense.

In the second, RBIs were recorded by Watkins, Woodrum, Miller, Myers, Vickery and Rozell.

Woodrum was the winning pitcher for Lindale, allowing two runs on three hits and striking out three in four innings of work.

Addison Frazier pitched a spotless inning of relief for Lindale.

Lindale's offense cranked out 14 hits during the game, with Woodrum, Vickery, Olivia Gary, Jesika Miller and Rozell all coming through with multiple hits.

FIVE YEARS AGO, April 19, 2018

Jeannie Tomlinson was promoted to assistant vice president of the Lindale branch of Texas Bank and Trust, chairman of the board Rogers Pope announced. Tomlinson has served with the bank for seven years and has experience as a teller, bookkeeping, new accounts and as the branch's operations manager.

10 YEARS AGO, April 18, 2013

During its monthly meeting in the administration building, Lindale ISD board members took a major step towards achieving a goal to place innovative technology into the hands of every student by approving purchases that will provide iPads for each Lindale ISD classroom and significantly improve the district's wireless infrastructure.

Trustees approved \$142,000 for the purchase of 374 iPads to be placed in every instructional classroom at each of the six LISD campuses.

Board members also approved \$253,295 for the purchase of an improved wireless management system, switches and wiring.

LISD Director of Technology Leslie Garakani said the upgrades will sustain the district's wireless capabilities for the next eight to 10 years.

Back when hunting Easter eggs wasn't a shell game

After watchin' numerous videos of Easter egg hunts this past week on Facebook, I've figured out why kids now-a-days are so soft.

I mean all they are doin' is pickin' up plastic eggs that are layin' on top of the ground.

Back when I was a kid it was entirely different.

First, we didn't have any plastic eggs. We had real eggs; eggs that we had watched our mamas boil.

Then we got to help her dye the eggs. Then the grownups would go off into the backyard, by themselves, and hide the eggs, and I mean hide 'em.

And they'd be out there for hours, too.

All the while, we'd be stuck in the house with an older kid who was given instructions to watch us and make sure we didn't peek out the windows, which by the way were just short of boarded up so that not only could we not peek, but not even a sliver of sunlight could slip through.

This older kid the grownups had watchin' us wielded his newfound power with



the enthusiasm of a 1930's fascist.

Finally, a grownup would crack the door open and tell us to grab our baskets and come out on the back porch. We busted through the door and then they'd line us up and one would tell us that they would count to ten and we could start huntin'; and huntin' you'd have to do.

There were no eggs on top of the ground. There were no eggs in sight! They were hid! I mean hid!

Then the count would begin. A grownup would count to 10 slower than a first grader on his the second day of school. As the anticipation built up, our little bodies would start shakin' like spider monkeys on their third espresso.

Finally, when the grownup's voice said 10, all that was left on the porch was flyin' Easter egg basket grass

and fadin' kid shadows. The air was filled with screams of delight as us little heathens scrambled to be the first to find an egg.

It might be five or 10 minutes before we found one, too. I'm tellin' you, they were hid. You had to stoop, climb, jump, run your hand up into gutter downspouts, belly crawl under shrubs, and things kids now-a-days just wouldn't do.

Finally, someone would scream and you knew they had found an egg. Everyone would stop, run over and look at the egg like it was the Holy Grail or somethin'. Then we'd "ooo" and "ahh" and then turn and take off back to huntin'.

This would go on for hours. Finally, when everyone was dead tired, the grownup would call us all back on the porch.

We'd line up and they'd

count the eggs in our basket to determine who the winner was. That's right, back then we had winners and losers.

When the winner had been determined, everyone would slap him or her on his or her back and congratulate them, whether you wanted to or not. What did they win, you ask? They won that basket full of dyed boiled eggs, that's what.

Then everyone would sit around crackin', shellin', and eatin' some of their eggs. As soon as the grownups went inside the real fun would begin.

Egg Wars!

If you've never been hit between the eyes with a boiled egg, well, I feel sorry for you. It was character buildin'.

Were all the eggs found? Heck, no! Years later you might run across a purple egg in the crotch of a crepe myrtle limb or some other superb hidin' place.

Oh yeah, for you environmentalists out there, our eggs were biodegradable, too!

Plastic eggs on top of the ground..... Pfffttt.

Parks department begins catfish stocking

Spring is here and that means catfish angling is back at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Neighborhood Fishin' lakes across the state, TPWD officials said.

The program provides an opportunity for friends and families to participate in the Texas traditions of outdoor recreation by reeling in catfish close to home.

TPWD began stocking thousands of catfish at 18 Neighborhood Fishin' lakes this past week, including five in Dallas-Fort Worth, four in the Houston area, two each in Austin and San Antonio, and one each in Amarillo, College Station, San Angelo, Waco and Wichita Falls.

"Neighborhood Fishin' lakes are conveniently located in urban and suburban areas so that Texans don't have to

travel far to have a great experience," said Craig Bonds, director of Inland Fisheries. "Catfish are fun and easy to catch for anglers of all ages and experience levels. If you've never fished before, these are the perfect places to get started. If you are an experienced angler, these are the perfect places to introduce fishing to a friend or family member."

Each lake will receive channel catfish every two weeks through the end of October — with a brief pause during the heat of August — to ensure there are plenty of angling opportunities for everyone throughout the spring, summer and early fall.

Neighborhood Fishin' lakes are located in city and county parks with ample parking, restrooms, lighting and other recreational amenities, in addition

to fishing.

Anglers can keep up to five catfish of any size per day. At some locations, cleaning tables are available nearby to make it easy for families to clean their catch. Children under 17 fish for free, but adults who fish must have a fishing license. Fishing licenses can be purchased for as little as \$11 for "one-day, all-water" access. All proceeds go toward management and conservation of the fish and their habitats.

To find the Neighborhood Fishin' Lake near you, find stocking locations or to sign up for email updates, visit www.neighborhoodfishing.org.

Neighborhood Fishin' is supported by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation through donations from Phillips 66 as well as the local municipalities across the state.

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SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight

American Legion Car Show May 13

The American Legion Post 15 in Lindale has scheduled a car show, featuring 28 classes, which will get under way at 7 a.m., Saturday, May 13 at the post located at 18251 County

Road 498 in Lindale, publicity officials announced.

Live music and plenty of food will be on the menu as well.

Registration ends at 10 a.m. on May

13. Advance registration fee is \$20 and will be \$25 the day of the show.

Trophies will be handed out by 2 p.m.

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

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Animal shelter employees honored

The Smith County Commissioners Court adopted a resolution Tuesday, April 11 proclaiming April 9-15, 2023, as "National Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week" in Smith County and is encouraging all residents to thank the Animal Control Shelter officers and staff for their hard work and dedication to the community. The entire staff was in court to be recognized. Smith County Animal Control and Supervisor Amber Greene introduced her staff and thanked them for taking such good care of the shelter's animals. "Thank you each for going above and beyond to make sure our animals are in a safe, clean and welcoming environment," she said. "We are incredibly proud and grateful for our Animal Control and Shelter employees." (Courtesy photo)

Celebrations of Faith

- ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
The Church of Garden Valley - Lindale Campus
307 Eagle Spirit Dr - 903-882-9150
Pastor Jacob Chaffin
- BAPTIST**
Antioch Baptist Church
793 CR 313W Tyler TX 75706
903-597-6131
Pastor Stephen Nipp
- Bethel Baptist Church**
FM 16 West, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8275
- Bible Baptist Church**
16173 CR 431, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-1454
- Carmel Baptist Church**
10969 CR 481, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3852
James Cheatham
- Central Baptist Church**
13745 FM 16 East, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3179
Byron Howard
- Damascus Baptist Church**
17052 CR 4105 Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3392
Bennie Portwood
- Dover Baptist Church**
21166 FM Road 1995, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-5106
- Duck Creek Baptist Church**
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-9558
- East Foothills Missionary Baptist Church**
810 E South St, Lindale, TX 75771
903-574-2672
Gary Dinger
- Fairview Baptist Church**
Van Highway, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-9500
- First Baptist Church**
Hwy 69 (in Swan) Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-6432
- First Baptist Church of Lindale**
110E Hubbard St. Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3396
Tom Buck
- Foundation Baptist Church**
715 S Main St. Lindale 75771
903-881-9490
- Garden Valley Baptist Church**
17816 CR 442, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7671
- Greater Hopewell Baptist Church**
10480 CR 492 • Tyler, TX 75706
903-882-4726
- Hopewell Baptist Church**
11804 CR 494, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-5381



- Hopewell Valley Baptist, Church No 1**
CR 429 • Van, TX
903-882-5136
- Mt. Sylvan Baptist Church**
13073 Hwy 110 N • Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3890
Bruce Rudd
- New Harmony Baptist Church**
10251 FM 727, Tyler, TX 75704
903-593-5811
- Red Springs Baptist Church**
Red Springs, TX
903-858-2365
- St Mary Baptist Church**
12050 CR 452., Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8066
- Thompson Hill Baptist Church**
14657 CR, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-0849
- Walnut Springs Baptist Church**
211 Walnut Springs., Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7858
- Wood Trails Baptist Church**
11804 CR 494,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-5381
- CATHOLIC**
Holy Family Catholic Church
16314 FM 849,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-4079
Rev. David Bailey, Pastor
- St. Joseph the Worker Tridentine Latin Mass**
5075 FM 14, Tyler, 75712
903-593- 5055
Rev. Joseph Valentine, FSSP
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Church of Christ – Lindale
211 W. Hubbard, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-6455
- Church of Christ – South Main**
2425 S Main St,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8933
- Church of Christ – Swan County**
Road 471, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8009
- EPISCOPAL**
St Luke's Episcopal Church
16292 FM 849
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8118
Rev. John Carr
- LUTHERAN**
First Century Christian Fellowship
10119 Gina Rd., Lindale, TX 75771
Dr. Lawrence Zillmer
- METHODIST**
ChristPoint Methodist Church
402 W Hubbard St • Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8506
Michael Peschke
- Harris Chapel Southern Methodist Church**
17069 CR 452 Lindale TX
903.253.3175
John Roach, Pastor
- Mt Sylvan United Methodist Church**
Mt. Sylvan • 903-882-5479
- Swan-Wood Springs Methodist Church**
Hwy 69, Tyler, TX 75706
903-882-6382
- NON DENOMINATIONAL**
Clearview Church
13933 Hwy 110 N
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8949
- Community Christian Fellowship**
15704 Hwy 110 N Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8501
David Hickey
- Cross Brand Cowboy Church**
11915 FM 2015, Tyler, Texas 75708
903-535-9155

- Crossroads Community Church**
20465 US Highway 69 North
Lindale TX 75771-4206
903-881-9844
Tim Letsch
- Bethesda Church**
2401 S Main St
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7597
Steven & Camilla Charles
- Friendship CME Church**
20428 CR 482
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7269
- Garden Valley Bible Church**
17117 FM 1253
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-9665
- Grace Community Church**
15567 Wood Springs Rd
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3323
- Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church**
1115 Lake Cross Rd
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-6966
- Life of Glory Church**
14623 CR 463
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7997
Ed & Becky Colville
- Life Source Community Church**
1601 S. Main, Lindale
Pastor John Offutt
- Lone Star Cowboy Church**
23425 FM 1995
Lindale TX 75771
615-480-0289
Jayc Harold
- River's Edge Church**
18492 Hwy 69 North,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-0555 • Phil Brown
- Trinity Fellowship Church**
Shady Lane Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3885 • Ben Steen
- PRESBYTERIAN**
Bethesda Community Church
FM2710 • Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3861 • Dr. Everitt Nix
- PENTECOSTAL-CHARISMATIC**
Rose Heights Church
12465 FM 16, Lindale, Texas 75771
903-881-5260
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18475 FM 1804
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713-254-3598

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Lindale Police Department call log for March 31-April 9:

FRIDAY, MARCH 31: 9:12:00 AM, Public Service, 200 BLK Jeffries St; 11:07:56 AM, Animal Complaint, 300 blk Perryman Road; 11:09:48 AM, Assist Another Agency, 300 BLK Perryman Road; 1:30:30 PM, Stolen Vehicle, S. Main St/Centennial Blvd; 2:04:08 PM, Animal Complaint, 300 BLK S MAIN ST; 2:44:33 PM, Assist Another Agency, 13000 BLK Interstate 20 E; 3:49:53 PM, Driving While Intoxicated, 900 BLK S MAIN ST; 4:31:35 PM, Public Service, 100 BLK Ballard Dr; 5:25:57 PM, 911 Hang Up Call, 1100 BLK Woodlands Park Dr; 6:09:23 PM, Possession Drug Paraphernalia, 18000 BLK Hwy 69 N; 7:14:23 PM, Vagrant, 100 BLK E CENTENNIAL BLVD; 8:13:18 PM, Threats, 200 BLK Cannery Row; 8:55:23 PM, Accident, 200 BLK W Hubbard St; 10:29:24 PM, Warrant Service, 100 BLK E CENTENNIAL BLVD.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1: 3:48:18 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 1300 BLK Interstate 20; 4:26:36 AM, Driving While Intoxicated, 15000 BLK INTERSTATE 20 E; 7:45:34 AM, Criminal Trespass, 17000 BLK Hwy 69 N; 8:21:28 AM, Family Violence, 100 BLK Hudson St; 8:58:09 AM, Alarm Business, 1400 BLK S MAIN ST; 12:52:50 PM, Soliciting, 100 BLK E CENTENNIAL BLVD; 1:31:37 PM, Soliciting, 200 BLK Patience Ave; 2:53:18 PM, Accident, 15000 BLK INTERSTATE 20 E; 7:20:01 PM, Assist EMS, 100 BLK Legends Court; 7:52:51 PM, Lockout, 300 BLK S Main St; 9:23:52 PM, Traffic Hazard Eagle Spirit Dr/S Main St; 11:50:42 PM, Warrant Service, 1800 BLK S Main St.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2: 3:59:27 AM, Assist SCSO, 12000 BLK CR 433; 7:57:26 AM, Suspicious Person, 100 BLK E CENTENNIAL BLVD; 8:27:30 AM; Theft, 1200 BLK Summit Street; 8:40:18 AM, Welfare Concern, 900 BLK Mount Sylvan St; 11:28:39 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 400 blk Perryman Road; 12:03:49 PM, Motorist Assist, 13000 BLK Interstate 20 E; 2:00:51 PM, Criminal Trespass, 3500 BLK S MAIN ST; 4:13:48 PM, Accident, 3200 S MAIN ST; 7:48:37 PM, Welfare Concern, 500 BLK S MAIN ST; 8:31:14 PM, Assist SCSO, 11000 BLK INTERSTATE 20 W; 10:21:14 PM, Assist Another Agency, 13000 BLK Lauren Lane; 11:09:19 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 500 BLK Sunset Drive.

MONDAY, APRIL 3: 3:22:48 AM, Motorist Assist, 100 BLK S MAIN ST; 7:22:54 AM, Accident, 14000 BLK CR 411; 9:08:12 AM, Traffic Complaint, Interstate 20 W/HWY 69; 11:26:45 AM, Traffic Hazard, 3500 BLK S Main St; 12:19:17 PM, Animal At Large, 1000 BLK Mt Sylvan St; 4:18:19 PM, Animal Complaint, 500 BLK S MAIN ST; 4:59:23 PM, Theft, 100 BLK E CENTENNIAL BLVD; 6:52:21 PM Accident, 3500 BLK S MAIN ST.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4: 12:21:45 AM, Suspicious Circumstance, 3500 BLK S MAIN ST; 2:58:15 AM, Welfare Concern, 13000 BLK CR 472; 7:28:11 AM, Accident, 15000 BLK Interstate 20 E; 8:05:34 AM, Suspicious Circumstance,



3500 BLK S MAIN ST; 8:54:19 AM, Damaged Property, 200 BLK COOPER ST; 9:27:59 AM, Assist Another Agency, 100 BLK Legends Court; 10:08:22 AM, Aggravated Assault, 800 BLK S Boyd St; 11:13:40 AM, Animal Complaint, 100 BLK Hudson St; 12:19:42 PM, Public Service, 100 BLK E CENTENNIAL BLVD; 12:46:41 PM, Motorist Assist, 3500 BLK S Main St; 2:51:18 PM, Accident, 700 blk E Hubbard St; 3:32:00 PM, Warrant Service, 800 BLK S Boyd St; 3:59:12 PM, Accident, S Main St/W Hubbard St; 4:39:58 PM, Public Service 700 BLK S Main St; 4:47:48 PM, Assist Another Agency, 900 BLK N Main St; 6:41:02 PM, Warrant Service, 100 BLK BALLARD DR; 7:36:40 PM, Theft, 500 BLK Sunset Dr; 9:07:31 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 8400 BLK MILITARY DR; 9:28:37 PM, Accident, 3500BLK S MAIN ST.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5: 4:39:53 AM, Assist Another Agency, 3200 BLK S MAIN ST; 7:02:50 AM, Harassment, 17000 BLK Hwy 69 N; 8:19:30 AM, Lockout, 1000 BLK Mt Sylvan St; 9:46:45 AM, Assist LISD PD, 15000 BLK CR 463; 1:03:25 PM, Animal At Large, 1000 BLK Mt Sylvan St; 2:03:49 PM, Found Property, 14000 BLK FM 849; 8:52:17 PM, Disturbance, 300 BLK S MAIN ST; 10:24:40 PM, Pursuit, 100 BLK Hudson St.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6: 2:30:49 AM, Assist Another Agency, 11000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 3:54:52 AM, Public Service, 100 BLK E CENTENNIAL BLVD; 5:04:53 AM, Motorist Assist, 300BLK N MAIN ST; 7:43:13 AM, Accident, N. Henry St/W Hubbard St; 8:06:46 AM, Welfare Concern, 17000 BLK Interstate 20 E; 9:50:31 AM, Suspicious Circumstance, 400 BLK E South St; 3:12:39 PM, Accident, 16000BLK Interstate 20 W; 3:31:14 PM, Accident, 16000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 3:51:30 PM, Accident, 16000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 4:01:13 PM, Accident, 16000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 4:12:49 PM, Accident, 17000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 5:26:44 PM, Accident, 3400 BLK S Main St; 6:22:29 PM, Welfare Concern, 16000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 6:34:31 PM, Found Property, 100 BLK S Main St; 8:20:56 PM, 911 Hang Up Call, 300 BLK N Main St; 10:03:41 PM, Alarm Business, 300 BLK N Main St; 10:18:22 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 13000 BLK CR 472.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7: 12:36:14 AM, Alarm Business, 50 BLK Miranda Lambert Way; 8:18:33 AM, Public Service, 15000 BLK Anna Lane; 8:42:26 AM, Alarm Business, 2500 BLK S MAIN ST; 10:15:51 AM, Animal Complaint, 1300

BLK Brad Circle; 11:00:42 AM, Reckless Conduct, 900 BLK Mt Sylvan St; 11:52:01 AM, Animal Complaint, 200 BLK N Henry St; 12:36:32 PM, Suspicious Person, 400 BLK S Industrial St; 1:33:58 PM, Public Service, 2500 BLK S MAIN ST; 4:34:14 PM, Accident, 15000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 5:02:20 PM, Assist Another Agency, 17000 BLK Interstate 20 W; 5:09:27 PM, Accident, 15000 BLK Interstate 20 E; 5:45:34 PM, Motorist Assist, S. Main St/Centennial Blvd; 5:52:14 PM, Accident, 3100BLK S Main St; 10:51:05 PM, Loud Noise Complaint, 3500 BLK S MAIN ST; 11:42:49 PM, Welfare Concern, 15000 BLK Country Acres Drive; 8:18:33 AM Public Service, 15000 block Anna Lane; 8:42:26 AM, Alarm Business, 2500 block S Main Street; 10:15:51 AM, Animal Complaint, 1300 block Brad Circle; 11:00:42 AM, Reckless Conduct, 900 BLK Mt Sylvan St; 11:52:01 AM, Animal Complaint, 200 block, N Henry Street; 12:36:32 PM, Suspicious Person, 400 block S Industrial Street; 1:33:58 PM, Public Service, 2500 block S Main Street; 4:34:14 PM, Accident, 15000 block Interstate 20 W; 5:02:20 PM, Assist Another Agency, 17000 block Interstate 20 W; 5:09:27 PM, Accident, 15000 block Interstate 20 E; 5:45:34 PM, Motorist Assist, S Main St/Centennial Blvd; 5:52:14 PM, Accident, 3100 block S Main St; 10:51:05 PM, Loud Noise Complaint, 3500 block S MAIN Street; 11:42:49 PM, Welfare Concern, 15000 block Country Acres Drive; 1:05:06 AM, Warrant Service, 13000 block Interstate 20 W.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8: 4:18:19 AM, Driving While Intoxicated, Eagle Spirit Dr/S Main St; 7:28:04 AM, Assist SCSO, 11900 block FM 16 W; 8:44:46 AM, Burglary - Motor Vehicle, 300 block S MAIN Street; 9:47:01 AM, Alarm Business, 13000 block Interstate 20 W; 10:18:07 AM, Public Service., 17000 block HWY 69 N; 10:38:57 AM, 911 Hang Up Call, 13000 block FM 2710; 11:27:39 AM, Escort, 18000 block Hwy 69 N; 11:59:20 AM, 911 Hang Up Call, 1500 block Pearl Street; 12:27:07 PM, Stolen License Plate, 100 block E Centennial Blvd; 2:24:38 PM, Theft, 100 block Ballard Drive; 5:53:15 PM, Reckless Driving, Eagle Spirit Dr/S Main Street; 7:41:59 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 900 block Mt Sylvan Street; 8:04:46 PM, Assist SCSO, 16500 block FM16 W; 8:12:56 PM, Alarm Business, 200 block S Main St; 9:52:39 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 21000 block Hwy 69 N; 10:51:36 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 13000 block Interstate 20; 11:07:25 PM, Public Intoxication, 3500 block S Main Street; 11:19:04 PM, Welfare Concern, 3500 block S Main Street.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9: 12:33:03 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 17000 block Interstate 20; 8:19:39 AM, Assist Another Agency, 100 block E Centennial Blvd; 2:38:18 PM, Scam, 100 block E Centennial Blvd; 2:56:58 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 16000 block FM 849; 4:07:10 PM, Assist EMS, 200 block Freeman Street; 5:06:28 PM, Assist SCSO, 10000 block FM 16 W; 7:08:29 PM, Motorist Assist, 300 block S Main Street; 8:40:33 PM, Stolen Vehicle, 3500 block S Main Street; 9:49:48 PM, Motorist Assist, 15000 block I-20 E; 10:27:18 PM, Assist Another Agency, 15000 block I-20 E; 11:19:49 PM, Welfare Concern, 13906 FM 2710.

Denton County man sentenced for threatening Jewish group

A Denton man has been sentenced to federal prison for interstate communication of a threat violations in the Eastern District of Texas, said Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston.

Anthony Joseph Hammer, 34, pleaded guilty on May 3, 2022, to the charges and was sentenced to 24 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Richard A. Schell.

According to information presented in court, on July 28, 2021, Hammer sent a threatening electronic message to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), a Jewish civil rights organization based in New York, via the ADL's website's contact page.

In his message, Hammer stated the following: "Come and find me. Come after me. Come hunt me down. This is me. This is really me. All of my info. I will kill all of you Zionist pigs. 4th reich soon."

"Threatening to harm others by using phones, computers or mail is a federal crime and taken very seriously," said Featherston. "Hammer believed he could promote his malicious agenda by making threats to kill and to disrupt business activity. That's why he is going to jail and being punished. Others who do the same will have the same fate."

"The FBI is tasked with upholding the Constitution to include the right to Free Speech as outlined in the First Amendment. In this case, the direct threats made by the defendant, fell outside of that protected right," said FBI Dallas Special Agent in Charge Chad Yarborough. "The FBI and our law enforcement partners take all threats seriously and will hold accountable anyone who seeks to intimidate and cause fear simply because they disagree with the views of their fellow citizens."

An investigation by federal agents revealed that Hammer was already under investigation for threatening calls he made to Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf's office.

Hammer made seven calls to Gov. Wolf's office requesting to speak to the Governor. When staff members refused to put him through to the Governor, Hammer repeatedly threatened to kill Wolf and his staff members. This conduct was taken into consideration in calculating Hammer's appropriate sentence in the Eastern District of Texas.

This case was investigated by the FBI and the Pennsylvania Capitol Police and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Ryan Locker in the Eastern District of Texas in coordination with Assistant U.S. Attorney Carl Marchioli in the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Send us your story ideas or share your community events!
news@lindaleneews-times.com

Lindale man gets six-month jail term for Walmart arson

A Lindale man received a six-month state jail sentence for setting fire to some clothes at Walmart in Tyler in December, 2020, court records show.

Tiko Edward Porter, 25 of Lindale, was sentenced to state jail by 7th District Court Judge Kerry Russell earlier this

week after pleading guilty to arson in August, 2021. Porter will also have to pay restitution.

Smith County Sheriff's deputies arrested Porter on Dec. 9, 2020 after City of Tyler Deputy Fire Marshal Larry Crowson responded to a call at the Walmart located at 3829 State Highway

64 in Tyler.

Crowson reported Porter was seen on the store's surveillance footage setting fire to clothes prior to being approached by store personnel.

Porter then exited the store and was arrested, taken to Smith County Jail and was held on a \$100,000 bond.

Time of the year for return of the hummers

By Greg Grant
Smith County Horticulturist

Like clockwork each spring, the ruby-throated hummingbirds arrive when the native red buckeyes and coral honeysuckle bloom.

I owe my first experiences with hummingbirds to the late Marie Daly of Longview. She not only kept food and water out for all birds, but also sported the first martin house, bluebird nest boxes, and hummingbird feeders I had ever seen.

Mrs. Daly was particularly fond of her precious hummingbirds. She had three feeders hanging from the eaves that she had to refill each day. While I mowed "the back forty" as they called it, the back of the house appeared to be shrouded in buzzing birds.

I had never seen so many hummingbirds in one place. Mrs. Daly was as tough as she was nice and would drag her step stool from feeder to feeder so she could snip the wasps in half that were lapping up her birds' nectar. She was a giver and graciously gifted me my first hummingbird feeder.

Her love of hummingbirds didn't end with artificial feeders. She also kept a yard full of flowers for them including my first Turk's cap and Mexican petunias.

The constant sulfur butterflies and semi-edible fruit first captured my attention before I noticed that the steady stream of hummingbirds claimed them as their favorite. It was then that I was officially hooked on both hummingbirds and Turk's cap.

The hummingbirds in Marie Daly's landscape were ruby-throated hummingbirds. They are the most common hummingbird in the eastern United States.

Like all hummingbird species, the ruby-throat is only here during the growing season, returning to Central America for the cold winter months and returning each spring when the native wildflowers start to bloom.

Anyone can fashion their home landscape into a hummingbird oasis by providing the same three essentials that all birds need -- food, shelter, and water. We are all familiar with hummingbird feeders filled with sugar water at a ratio



A ruby throated hummingbird visits a feeder. (Courtesy photo)

of 1 part refined sugar boiled in 4 parts water (red dye isn't recommended).

But it's even more satisfying to create a natural hummingbird paradise using their favorite nectar plants. These include all salvias, Turk's cap, pentas, cigar plant, columbine, hibiscus, firebush, firecracker plant, coral bean, red yucca, cardinal flower, Indian pink, standing cypress, red buckeye, cypress vine, crossvine, trumpet creeper, and coral honeysuckle. One can never go wrong with red flowers, especially tubular shaped ones, but blue and purple salvias do the trick as well.

They also need sources of protein including many tiny insects such as aphids. Spiders are especially important to hummingbirds as they provide both food for the birds and material to construct their nests which are made from bits of lichen from old trees bound with spider web.

For more information on hummingbirds in Texas see my friend Cliff Shackelford's book, Hummingbirds of Texas (2009, Texas A&M Press).

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Lindale UT Tyler student wins first place for news photography

Six mass communication students from the University of Texas at Tyler, including one from Lindale, earned eight awards recently during the 2023 Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Conference, publicity officials announced.

Noah Tew of Lindale one first place in the news photo category at the conference.

"These students did a great job representing our university," said Danny Mogle, UT Tyler lecturer and student media adviser. "I am proud that they are doing work being recognized as among the best in the state."

Students earning TIPA awards in competitions held at the convention include:

Noah Tew of Lindale – first place in news photo.

Nathan Witt of Mineloa – first place in headline writing.

LaKyndra Larkin of Flint – third place in

TV news writing.

Students earning TIPA awards for previously published material include:

Breanna Bolle of Longview and Paulina Mata of New London – first place in critical review.

Witt – second place in podcasting.

Brynna Williamson of Mineola – second place in feature story/Spanish language and second place in news story/Spanish language.

Bolle – honorable mention for multimedia feature story.

The annual conference provides on-site competition, training and recruitment opportunities for student journalists from across the state while recognizing excellence for previously published work in student newspapers and websites. For more information, visit <https://texasipa.org/>.

Friends of Lillie Russell Library getting ready for busy month

April will be a busy month for the Friends of the Lillie Russell Memorial Library with several events on the calendar, officials announced.

On Tuesday, April 25 the Friends will conduct a book sale under the covered area on the west side of the Library, featuring hundreds of books in several genres. The Friends volunteers will be wearing special, new T-shirts during the event.

Inside the library, the book sale room is under the direction of the Friends and features hardback and paperback books for all ages with new books added each week.

Another ongoing project is the recruitment of new Friends members with anyone welcome to join as an active member

or a financial donor. The annual event sponsorship drive is nearing an end and all the Friends are grateful to them.

A banner highlighting these sponsors will soon be erected in front of the Library.

Other projects include:

--The Holiday Basket Sale is scheduled for November. Donation of gift baskets are welcome and can be dropped off at the library during regular hours, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

-- The Library's annual Plant Sale is scheduled for May 13.

-- The Friends regular May meeting is rescheduled for 2 p.m., Sunday, May 7 at the Library. All prospective members are welcome.

TPWD cautions don't handle wildlife, especially babies

With extended sunshine and milder days, more people are enjoying the outdoors as native wildlife adds new fawns and hatchlings to their broods which leads to a warning from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials.

Texans may start to notice more wildlife in their backyard, neighborhood or surrounding areas and TPWD experts say the best thing to do is to leave them alone.

Birds, rabbits, deer and snakes become more active this time of year; their young can be mistaken as abandoned.

TPWD officials caution against lending a helping hand and remind you that it is illegal to possess wildlife in most cases.

Baby animals are sometimes picked up by well-meaning citizens. Many such human-animal encounters are unnecessary — they can even be detrimental to the animal.

Fawning season begins in early to mid-May. A newborn fawn's mottled coat hides them from predators. A doe may leave her fawn for hours at a time while browsing for food.

During that time, people may spot the fawn lying alone in tall grass or in a brushy area. Many assume it has been abandoned by its mother and needs help, but this is rarely the case.

Biologists recommend leaving all young animals alone unless they are obviously injured. Spend time observing it from a distance to make the determination.

Staying too close may deter the mother from returning; interfering too soon may do more harm than good.

The same principles apply to young birds out of their nests. If the bird has open eyes, feathers and can hop around, mom and dad are likely nearby. Grounded fledglings will usually be up and flying within a few days.

Various turtle species are also often picked up by well-meaning citizens to assist them in crossing the road. While this can be done safely, biologists say do not take them home as pets. These turtles must remain wild to stay healthy.

If a wild animal is sick or injured, TPWD encourages citizens to contact a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. TPWD staff advise the public not to handle or attempt to transport injured, sick or orphaned wildlife.

Learn more about what to do upon encountering orphaned or injured wildlife, and how to contact rehabilitators on the TPWD Wildlife Division website.

Find more tips from biologists about fawns and baby birds on the TPWD YouTube channel.

Regardless of age, eating healthy always important

By Claudann Jones
Smith County Extension Agent
Family and Community Health



Healthy eating is important at every age, which means all of us need to eat a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, protein foods, and dairy or fortified soy alternatives.

When deciding what to eat or drink, choose options that are full of nutrients and limited in added sugars, saturated fat, and sodium.

Start with these tips:

-- Make eating a social event.

Enjoy meals with friends or family members as often as possible. Take advantage of technology to enjoy meals virtually with loved ones in different cities or States.

-- Drink plenty of liquids.

You may not always feel thirsty when your body needs fluids, and that's why it's important to drink beverages throughout the day. Enjoy coffee and tea if you like, or some water, milk, or 100% juice.

-- Add a touch of spice.

Limiting salt is important as you get older. Fresh and dried herbs and spices, such

as basil, oregano, and parsley, add flavor without the salt.

-- Make the most of your food choices.

Older adults need plenty of nutrients but fewer calories, so it's important to make every bite count. Foods that are full of vitamins and minerals are the best way to get what you need.

-- Be mindful of your nutrient needs.

You may not be getting enough nutrients such as calcium, vitamin D, potassium, dietary fiber, vitamin B12, and also protein. Read the Nutrition Facts label on packaged foods and also speak with your healthcare provider about possible supplements.

-- Keep food safe.

Discard food if it has an "off" odor, flavor, or texture. Refer to the "use by" dates for a guide to freshness. Canned or frozen foods store well if shopping trips are difficult.

The benefits of healthy eating add up over time, bite by bite.

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.

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Donnell Harden, Deceased, were issued on the 10th of April, 2023, in Cause No. 47,285-P, pending in the County Court At Law No. 3 in Smith County, Texas, to: Sandra Harden.

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 11th day of April, 2023
Stephen Hubbard/10140515
Attorney for Sandra Harden
100 E. Ferguson St. Suite 714
Tyler, Texas 75702
(903) 533-0018
(903)597-7702 (F)
shubbard@hubbard-lawfirm.com

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOYCE LOUISE KINARD STANLEY, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration were issued on the Estate of **JOYCE LOUISE KINARD STANLEY**, Deceased, Cause No. 47,297-P, now pending in the Probate Court of Smith County, Texas, filed on or about March 23, 2023, by **MELINDA HERMANN**, Independent Executor/Executrix of said estate. Claims against the estate should be mailed in care of John E. Trube, Attorney at Law, Post Office Box 6594, Tyler, Texas, 75711.

All persons having claims against said Estate now being administered are hereby required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED: April 11, 2023

JOHN E. TRUBE, Attorney for the Estate of **JOYCE LOUISE KINARD STANLEY, Deceased**
Post Office Box 6594
Tyler, Texas 75711
903-561-7904
JohnTrube@att.net
SBN: 20246000

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice to Creditors

Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Glenn M. Guthrie, Deceased, were issued to Elizabeth Ann Guthrie 4/10/23, in Cause No. 47314P, by the County Court at Law #3 of Smith Co, Tx. All persons having claims against this Estate currently being administered are required to present them to Elizabeth Ann Guthrie, c/o Richard Patteson, Attorney, at 218 N. Broadway, Ste.304, Tyler, Texas 75702 within the time and manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for The Estate of Kenneth Roy Umstead, Jr., Deceased, were issued to John Richard Kuna as Independent Administrator on March 10, 2023, in cause No. 47,190P, County Court at Law No. 3, Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate should present them to the Independent Administrator, c/o John Richard Kuna, 1445 Old Hickory Rd. Tyler, Texas 75703 within the time and manner as prescribed by law.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the **ESTATE OF STANLEY JAY EDWARDS, DECEASED**, were issued on **APRIL 10, 2023**, in Cause Number **47,298P**, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas, to **JANE WIGINTON EDWARDS**, Independent Executor.

The address of record for **Jane Wiginton Edwards** is: **c/o Thomas M. Alleman, Attorney at Law, 100 E. Ferguson, Suite 901, Tyler, Texas 75702.**

All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS § **Attorney of Record: LEIGH GOODSON**
COUNTY OF SMITH § **115 W FERGUSON ST TYLER TX 75702 903-630-9174**

TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF DALE REX KIRBY, DECEASED:

On the 6th day of April, 2023, **DARREN KIRBY** filed an **APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP** in a proceeding styled **IN THE ESTATE OF DALE REX KIRBY, DECEASED** and bearing the number **47331P** 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 6th day of April, 2023, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

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

By: Shanae Howell, Deputy Clerk

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GARAGE SALE

Multi-family garage sale at
Timber Creek Villas on Timber Creek CT
off Brad Circle Lindale
Saturday April 22nd
Gate opens at 8 am – 4 pm

Divide & Conquer Estate Sale for Coy Barrett
Thurs., April 20 ~ 7:00-5:30 | Fri., April 21 ~ 8:00-5:30
Sat., April 22 ~ 8:00-2:00

3503 S. Keaton ~ Tyler TX 75701

Inside SSE Loop 323 and off S. Broadway by Little Italy, turn east onto Amherst.

Go 5-6 blocks and turn right onto S. Keaton. We look forward to seeing you!

This 2574 sq. ft. home is listed by **Judy Kunzman Team at Keller Williams Realty**. Contents

must go! curved back sofa; marble top coffee table; another sofa & love seat; antq. display

cabinets; breakfast table/4 chairs; antq. table/4 chairs; silverplate & sterling selections; crystal;

misc. Francis I sterling dinnerware; "Dolly Madison" china; Fenton; Desert Rose pottery;

Royal Crown "Chantilly Rose" china; hand-painted china; cups & saucers; cut glass & pressed

glass selections; milk glass; rattan settee & side tables; other misc. side tables and chairs;

glass top side table & match. coffee table; bed bench; king bed; twin headboards; hutch; desk

with shelf; office chair; blue & white bowls, garden stool, vases, candleholders, plates, urns,

etc.; Blue Willow Eng. Churchill dishes; Murano; cat cookie jar; dressers, chest, nightstands,

clothes armoire; elephants; brass selections; white wicker chairs, desk/vanity, chest, table,

mirror; Asian plates, statues, mud men, planters, framed art; mirrors; mirrored pedestal; Bi-

fano's milk stole, mink collars; clothes, shoes, cost. jewelry, belts (including Judith Leiber);

vintg. hat boxes; Gillette Aristocrat razor; vanity stools; vintg. vanity items; holiday items; sm.

appliances; dishes; stemware; shells; Singer sew. mach.; vintg. highchair; safe; amber / green

glassware; 8-tract tapes; electronics; refrig.; patio side tables, lounge; table/4 chairs, serv. cart,

concrete benches; **sooooo much more!!**

Pictures: DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS § **Attorney of Record: JOE B. BEAM**

COUNTY OF SMITH § **315 S BROADWAY STE 100 TYLER TX 75702 903-597-8351**

TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF WILMA ALLENE GLOSSBRENNER, DECEASED:

On the 12th day of April, 2023, **STEPHANIE DAWN SMOOT** filed an **APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP** in a proceeding styled **IN THE ESTATE OF WILMA ALLENE GLOSSBRENNER, DECEASED** and bearing the number **42738P** 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 **12th day of April, 2023**, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

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

By: Shanae Howell, Deputy Clerk

CAUSE NO. 46918P

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
BOBBY LANE VAN NESS, JR § AT LAW #3 OF
DECEASED § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of **BOBBY LANE VAN NESS, JR, Deceased**, were issued on April 10, 2023 under Docket No. 46918P, now pending in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas, to: **BOBBY LANE VAN NESS, SR, Independent Executor.**

The mailing address of the Independent Executor is:

**BOBBY LANE VAN NESS, SR
16919 US Hwy 271
Tyler, Texas 75708**

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 11 day of April, 2023.

**ROBERT HINDMAN
5620 Old Bullard Road, Suite 105
Tyler, TX 75703**

Telephone: (903) 581-9960

Fax: (903) 534-0647

Attorney for Bobby Lane Van Ness, Sr

Notice to Creditors

For THE ESTATE OF MARGRET YOUNG, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Margret Young, Deceased were granted on the 3rd of April, 2023 by the County Court at Law Number 3 of Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same to Michael Henning, Independent Executor of the Estate of Margret Young within the time prescribed by law.

My address is c/o Anderson & Brocious, P.C.

10325 Hwy 199 W

Poolville, Texas 76487

Independent Executor of the Estate of Margret

Young, Deceased

CAUSE NO. 47264P

Anderson & Brocious, P.C.

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INDIAN ARROWHEADS WANTED. Point Type: Clovis, Yuma, Firstview & Eden. Must be old, authentic & unbroken. Absolute top dollar paid – up to 5 figures for one point. I am a very serious high-end collector. Call 979-218-3351.

Want to lease an area (small acreage) to find Indian arrowheads in the sand dunes of West Texas. I will pay up to five figures for the right property. Call 979-218-3351.

EVENTS

New Braunfels Area Car Club Swap Meet, April 21, 22 & 23, 2023. Comal County Fairgrounds 801 E. Common Street, New Braunfels. www.newbraunfelsareacarclub.com. Free to public. Gates open at 8 a.m.

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ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Lindale, Texas will receive bids for the LEDC Business Park Lift Station #18 Improvements until **2:00 p.m., on May 09, 2023**, at City Hall, 105 Ballard Drive, Lindale, Texas 75771, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at The Brannon Corporation. It is highly recommended that companies submitting proposals attend.

All quantities are estimated and subject to change.

Bid Sets are available on Dropbox. Email request to Angela at Stout@brannoncorp.com

A cashier's check payable to the order of the City of Lindale, in the amount of five percent (5%) of bid, or, Bid Bond issued by a surety licensed to do business in Texas in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid shall be submitted with each bid.

The City of Lindale reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by the City of Lindale for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

In order to assure that all potential bidders receive any corrections or addendums to the specifications, an official "Bidder's List" will be maintained in the Engineer's office for the project. Any notices of changes in the specifications will be sent to those on the "Bidder's List" and the Engineer will not be held responsible for those not on the list.

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Lindale High School athletes earn THSCA Academic All State honors

Lindale High School athletes have long proven their prowess in the classroom and recent recognition by the Texas Army National Guard and the Texas High School Coaches Association bear this out as 18 LHS student athletes have been named to the academic All-State teams in their respective sports, THSCA publicity officials announced.

Athletes from LHS include:

FOOTBALL

- 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

BOYS BASKETBALL

- JD Locknane ELITE
- Amare Baptiste 1st Team

GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Brooke Everest ELITE
- Makenna Burks 2nd Team
- Jillian Ortiz Honorable Mention

GIRLS SOCCER

- Brooke Everest ELITE
- Kaydee Cox 1st Team
- Alma Silva 2nd Team

Nominations in boys and girls track, boys and girls golf, softball and baseball will be submitted to the

THSCA on May 1.

All nominations are made by the head coach of the prospective sport and the head coach. After the nominations are submitted they are sent to the THSCA for review. While the student might initially meet the criteria for nomination, that does not guarantee the student a spot on a team. When reviewing the nominations, the THSCA considers each student's GPA, class rank, SAT and/or ACT score.

The students receive points based on each criteria. The total number of points they receive determines which team they are placed on. The classification

of the school is not a factor, and there's not a limit on how many players can make a team.

The best team a player can make is the Elite Team, which reflects near perfect scores in all categories.

"THSCA is very passionate about the celebration of our coaches and athletes as we recognize the elite academic efforts of our student athletes," said Joe Martin, the Executive Director of the Texas High School Coaches Association. "We're excited to celebrate over 20,000 student athletes for their academic accomplishments during the 2022-23 school year."

Constable addresses law enforcement issues with commissioners

Smith County Precinct 4 Constable Josh Joplin spoke before the county commissioners court on Tuesday, April 11 and expressed his concerns over some members of the court questioning specific duties related to the constables' office and a specific agenda item dealing with the appointment of deputy constables. The agenda item referred to Texas Local Government Code 86.001.

"Over the course of the past three months, some (commissioners) have said they don't like us doing law enforcement," Joplin said, who began his address by pointing he was speaking on behalf of himself and his office alone. "We swear an oath to uphold the law and the issue I have is the fact we have received threats over a long period of time that (the constable's) law enforcement isn't well received and it isn't appreciated."

Joplin said while some commissioners have backed his office's efforts at law enforcement, others have not. The constable expressed concerns that by appointing the constable's deputies, the court would be able to reduce his manpower.

"I personally contacted all the constables by phone," said Smith County Judge Neal Franklin. "And this is strictly a procedural issue. It is in keeping with our commitment to being transparent to the community."

The item was approved unanimously by the court following a 25 minute executive session.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Pam Frederick made a motion to approve the agenda item with a second from Precinct 4 Commissioner Ralph Carraway.

"We wanted to make sure that (the constables) understood this wasn't an avenue to get at them, we are just cleaning up a procedural issue and it is consistent with 86.001," Franklin said.

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4.55 % APY*

Minimum balance of \$1,000

*APY is Annual Percentage Yield. Above rates as of 04/13/2023. Minimum deposit of \$1,000 required to earn the annual percentage yield. Minimum balance of \$1,000 required to earn the annual percentage yield. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees could reduce the earnings of the account. Offer subject to change.

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