

Lindale News & Times

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1900"



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Downtown water tower dedication set May 3

A lighting and dedication ceremony for the refurbished, historic downtown water tower is planned for 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 3, city officials announced.

The dedication was announced during the city council's regular meeting on April 18 at city hall.

"This is something (the city) has discussed for some time," say Mayor Jeff Daugherty. "It will part of making our downtown unique."

Daugherty pointed out money for the renovations has come from the city's hotel/motel tax, meaning no tax dollars were used.

The water tower, which hasn't been in use for some time thanks to the larger capacity ones near Lindale High School (200,000 gallons) and the newest one by the Lindale Industrial Park (500,000 gallons).

Considered a part of the historic footprint of downtown, it has been in disrepair for a few years.

City officials wanted to make sure the tower was preserved but also were interested in making it a show piece in the area.

It will be operated by a computer program and two city staffers will be on call to ensure the tower remains illuminated each night.

On specific days, such as football Fridays and holidays, different colors will be flashed depending on the event.

Daugherty envisions on football game nights, the tower will glow blue and white and perhaps during Christmas flash greens and reds. On the Fourth of July, the tower could be bathed in red, white and



A dedication ceremony is scheduled for the refurbished, historic Lindale water tower on Wednesday, May 3.

Photo by Terry Cannon

blue.

The original tower was built in the early 1940s and had seriously began showing its age over the past couple of decades, Daugherty said, adding that it hasn't been in service for many years.

"It will be the talk of the town for a long time," the mayor said.

In other action during the April 18 meeting, council members:

--Approved repairing the roof at the Old Mill Pond Museum,

which has been leaking due to rusted areas.

-- Approved a charge over cost of \$34,514 to Securitas Electronic Security Inc. for additional security cameras at city hall and \$25,900 over cost for city parks and other outside areas.

-- OK'd the building of two new storage buildings at the North Side Sewer Plant for city records and police storage. City staff will oversee and build the facilities.

Four seek Lindale ISD trustee seats

Four candidates will be vying for two positions on the Lindale ISD Board of Trustees as early voting continues for the May 6 election.

Place 3 incumbent Ragan Burgess will be challenged by Barbara Cain and Place 4 incumbent Karen Gott will face Rameka Griffin.

For the city of Lindale, council members voted in March to cancel the May 6 election because Bob Tardiff, Place 1 and Bryan Summerville, Place 3, did not draw an opponent.

Both men served previously on the council but resigned in April, 2022, because the term limits clause in the city charter states council members must wait a year before running again.

By resigning a month before their term ended, both men were able to run this year.

Currently Rick Thelen holds the place 1 seat but didn't seek reelection. He has been on the council since 2016. Ginger Sims, who is also the Mayor Pro Tem, termed out after having served since 2007.

Summerville and Tardiff joined the council in 2012. The city charter specifies council members can serve three, three-year terms before stepping down.

Early voting for the election is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 27-28, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, May 1-2. There will be five early voting locations and nine Election Day polling places. Election Day will be 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 6.

The Lindale Masonic Lodge, 200 W. Margaret Street, is the early voting location as well as the site for Election Day.

Other county locations for early voting include:

- Chapel Hill Administration Building: 11134 CR 2249, Tyler;
- The HUB: 304 E. Ferguson Street, Tyler;
- Noonday Community Center: 16662 CR 196, Tyler;
- St. Violet Baptist Church: 14129 FM 2767, Tyler

Election Day voting locations include:

- Bullard Southern Baptist Church: 716 N. Houston Street, Bullard;
- Chapel Hill Fire Department: 13801 CR 220, Tyler;
- Main Location The HUB, 304 E. Ferguson Street, Tyler;
- New Harmony Baptist Church: 10251 FM 724, Tyler;
- Noonday Community Center: 16662 CR 196, Tyler;
- St. Violet Baptist Church: 14129 FM 2767, Tyler;
- Three Lakes Middle: 2445 Three Lakes Parkway, Tyler;
- Victor Kay Gymnasium: 605 Wildcat Drive, Winona

To be eligible to register to vote in Texas, you must:

- be a U.S. citizen;
- be a resident of the county;
- be 18 years old (you may register at 17 years and 10 months);
- not a convicted felon (unless a person's sentence is completed, including any probation or parole);
- not declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law.

For more information, visit: www.smith-county.com/government/departments/elections/current-election-information

Commissioners approve election precinct changes

Smith County Commissioners approved boundary changes for some county election precincts – including one for Lindale – during their regular meeting this past Tuesday, said Public Information Officer Casey Murphy.

For Lindale, Precinct 19 was changed to match the city limits with the precinct boundary, while Precinct 15 was changed to match the city of Hideaway city limits with the precinct boundary.

Commissioners approved these changes to comply with the Texas Election Code and after a presentation by County Elections Administrator Michelle Allcon.

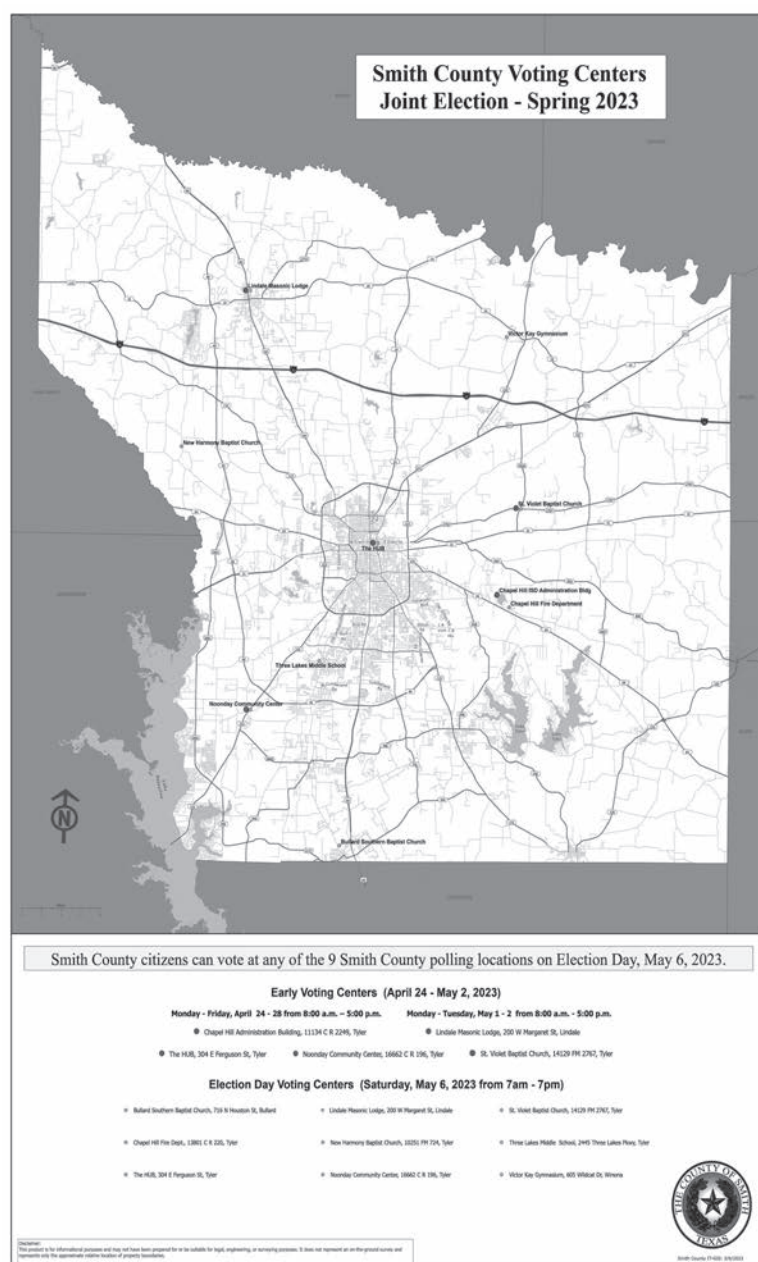
The proposed changes stem from population growth in some areas, other areas being annexed by the city of Tyler or city of Lindale, and changes needed after redistricting, Allcon said.

Smith County's election precincts will grow from 72 to 75. All three precincts being split are Republican, Allcon said.

The precinct boundaries are required to be reviewed every two years.

The changes approved by Com-

Continued on Page 2



Three suspects arrested in local fuel thefts

Three Dallas-area suspects have been arrested in connection with the theft of thousands of gallons of diesel fuel – including stations in Lindale – which were then resold at a large profit for the thieves, court records show.

The three arrested – Ramon Perez Torrez, 29 of Mesquite, Duni- esky Ondarza Gonzalez, 36 of Dallas and Camila Cruz Concepcion, 25, of Dallas – are currently in the Smith County Jail on bonds of \$750,000 each.

An arrest affidavit described the method for stealing the fuel is known as "pulsar tampering" where a pump is manipulated into dispensing less fuel than it actually does.

The pulsar device is a part of the pump that records the amount of fuel and those tampering with the pump remove parts of the pulsar and attach a battery-operated device that causes the pump to count much slower than it actually does, up to 1/20th of the amount.

This stolen fuel is then sold at a rate which undercuts the market price.

Two stations in Lindale were affected, with the first losing a reported 1,783 gallons worth \$7,827 and the second, 709 gallons worth \$3,183. Another Smith County location was victimized for 504 gallons worth \$2,200.

Others stations in East Texas victimized include:

-- The city of Mabank, in which 119 gallons of fuel were reported missing from the affected station, as well as an estimated \$1,099.67 worth of damage to the pulsar device.

-- The city of Palestine, in which 264 gallons of diesel were stolen throughout the night, which the station valued at \$1,214.14.

-- The city of Elkhart, in which an estimated \$1,996 worth of diesel was stolen in the same fashion.

This investigation began in June, 2022 and concluded in August, 2022.

Security cameras and payment records at each station helped identify the suspects and that they were working together.

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

I remember it well ...

It was a horrible storm. You could hear the shingles lifting on the ranch house. It got so bad Mom had me standing with her in an interior room while we prayed for my Daddy and baby brother who were out on the ranch with the cattle.

When my Daddy came in sopping wet, his first words were, "I saw something I have never seen before. I saw a ball of fire fall out of the sky."

That "ball of fire" was Braniff International Airways Flight 352. That ball of fire fell 50 years ago.

Two of my best friends, Sara and Joyce were playing outside when they saw that "ball of fire".

That ball of fire crashed into a million pieces on farmland outside of Dawson in Navarro County. It was May 3, 1968.

We were in eighth grade.

"They" turned our gym into the morgue. The mortuary workers who came from all over wore masks and smoked cigars to mask the smell.

The gym was not air conditioned.

The government sent in the National Guard and occupied our town and the surrounding area for weeks.

Men and teenage boys of the community picked up the pieces after the crash.

Literally.

It has taken decades to pick up the pieces of the trauma itself. The plane was en route from Houston's Hobby Airport to Love Field in Dallas. The Lockheed L-188A Electra carried five crew members and 80 passengers. There were no survivors.

Among those killed was Texas state representative Joseph Lockridge, the first black man to represent Dallas County in the Texas Legislature, several doctors and their wives returning to Dallas after a conference, half a dozen Air Force and Army personnel and several Mobil, Continental and General American oilmen.

This was a month after Martin Luther King was assassinated. The Vietnam War was at its height and it felt like the world was wobbling on its axis.

And it was.

I remember our high school boys and local farmers, ranchers and businessmen turned into recovery workers. They gave willingly of

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



their labor in a scene of absolute horror at a time in which no one worried about emotional impact on those involved.

For years jewelry or something from a piece of luggage would turn up and be turned over so that it could be traced and sent 'home' to a family member.

The ladies of the Garden Club made sandwiches, as did church groups, for weeks on end as if they were the local USO serving the soldiers who had our community on lockdown.

One FAA investigator described the crash graphically.

"When he (the pilot) went into the cloud it was almost a tornado. He tried to get out, and when he pulled that split-S maneuver, it tore the wing off. It just yanked the wings off it," investigator Dean Montgomery reported.

According to a story in the Corsicana Daily Sun Montgomery said he wondered repeatedly about the passengers and their last terrible moments.

"They were alive until they hit the ground," he said in that 2008 story.

A marble marker sits in Dawson's city park surrounded by blooming roses. A plaque is posted with the names of those lost. The gym still stands. Only the flooring has been replaced.

The memories have faded but hauntingly remain.

I was a part of this story. It was our gym. Our friends, our family and community members who picked up the pieces. Learning to fly without fear has been one of the greatest accomplishments of my life.

On this the 50th anniversary of the Braniff crash I pray for the families who lost a loved one and I pray for the men and boys who saw unspeakable horror and did what had to be done. I remember the ladies of the community feeding hungry soldiers and law enforcement personnel. I remember the roadblocks and fleets of hearses. I remember a community that did what it had to do.

I remember it all.

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

The Counting Man

Dr. Steve Murdock, our foremost Texas demographer and my dear friend, recently passed away. Steve had a distinguished career spanning endowed positions at three major universities, designation as the State Demographer, and a stint as Director of the US Census Bureau. More important, however, he was the clarion voice proclaiming a reality that we all needed to hear.



Over 40+ years, Steve and I undoubtedly shared hundreds of platforms and hearing rooms and many more hours of lively conversation about my native and his adopted state. We often collaborated on projects. He had a wonderful wit that was about as dry as his

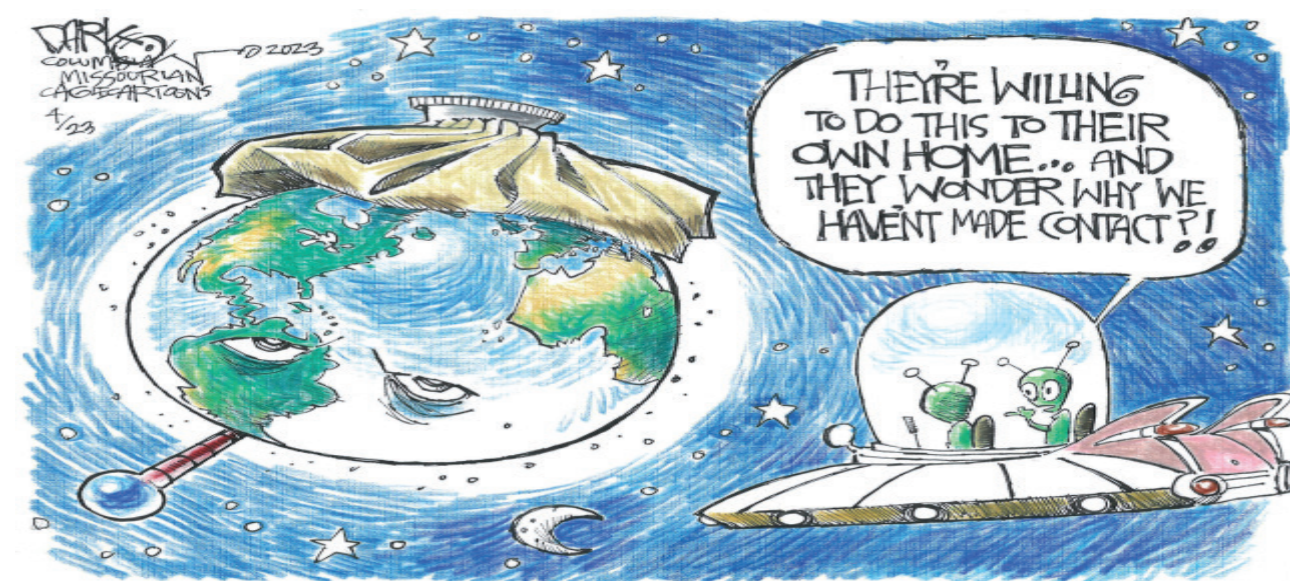
subject matter. Whenever I was asked to assemble a group to explore the future of Texas, he was my first call — and he invariably said "Yes!" I tried to reciprocate. Our research approaches were vastly different, but we were bound by an unwavering belief that the results we generate are neither liberal nor conservative — Republican nor Democratic. They are simply the unbiased product of careful analysis.

One of our more humorous interactions occurred as he was being named the first "State Demographer" by the legislature. I always testified supporting his requests for additional funding, but, in this instance, he asked that I prepare a brief analysis showing the value of his efforts. For decades afterwards, I called it "The Economic Impact of Steve Murdock" study. That apparently annoyed him greatly (which, after all, was the point), but I think (hope) that he secretly enjoyed it. In fact, it made its way into some of his infamously dense slide presentations.

As noted, demography is not the most scintillating of sciences. Essentially, it is the study of how many of us are born, how many die, and where we live in between. What Steve found in his tedious efforts was, however, a gripping tale of obstacles and opportunity. Texas remains in the midst of massive changes in the sheer size of its population, with seismic shifts occurring in age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and urban/suburban concentration. These movements have profound policy implications for public and higher education, workforce preparedness, healthcare access and affordability, infrastructure, water resources, rural viability, metropolitan area livability, and myriad other issues.

Through prolific writing and speaking, Steve kept these facts ever before us, reminding us that the stakes were immeasurably high. It is no exaggeration that the demographic patterns which he painstakingly chronicled simultaneously represent the greatest potential asset and the most formidable challenge facing Texas.

Steve Murdock meticulously documented the half of the equation that we don't control. Our future prosperity — indeed, our future sustainability — depends on our response. The messenger will be sorely missed, but the message will endure and must be heeded! Stay safe!



Medicaid expansion for new moms possible

The Texas House has passed a bill that allows low-income moms to stay on Medicaid for a full year after childbirth.

The Texas Tribune reported that is a marked increase from current practice, in which postpartum Medicaid expires two months after birth in Texas.

The bill has widespread support, including from Gov Greg Abbott and more than 170 groups in the state across the political spectrum. However, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presides over the Senate, has not publicly stated his position on the measure.

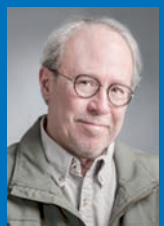
Texas has the largest uninsured population in the country, with nearly 1 in 5 Texans lacking health insurance, the Tribune reported.

"As I have said before, it is essential that the Texas House makes meaningful progress this year on better supporting mothers and children in the state — and that starts with extending health coverage for new moms to a full year," House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, said previously when outlining his priorities for the legislative session.

Bill bans 'sexually explicit' books in school libraries

The Texas House last week passed a preliminary measure that requires vendors to assign a rating to books with sexual content before selling them to school districts, *The Dallas*

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Morning News reported. The measure requires one more vote in the House before heading to the Senate, where it is likely to pass.

"This bill is about radically sexual content in the hands of unaccompanied children in public school libraries," state Rep. Jared Patterson, R-Frisco, the bill's sponsor, said from the House floor Thursday.

Opponents to the measure are concerned it would lead to books about LGBTQ people being banned from libraries. About a dozen people with the Texas Freedom Network held a read-in on the Capitol rotunda's floor as the bill was being debated.

State Rep. Venton Jones, D-Dallas, is one of eight openly LGBTQ legislators. He said the bill would hurt children who grow up feeling out of place because of their sexual orientation.

"I remember going to my school library looking for books when healthy conversations with my loved ones were not always available or always comfortable," Jones said. "What I was looking for was materials that spoke to me and for stories of the people who came before me."

Billions more for university research likely

Billions of dollars for higher education research appear likely as two bills have passed the House, the Statesman reported. One measure changes the name of the National Research University Fund to the Texas University Fund, while another proposes a constitutional amendment to enact the bill and allocate \$3.5 billion to the fund.

Both bills were filed by state Rep. Greg Bonnen, R-Friendswood.

"This is a transformative piece of legislation that will allow Texas for generations to come to be the intellectual capital of the world," Bonnen said last week. "It changes the eligibility requirements for access to this fund, and it does so in a merit-based approach and in an approach that, as other universities grow and enhance their research performance, they will be able to access this fund and not dilute the ones that are currently in the fund."

Similar measures have already passed the Senate, though that body allocated \$1 billion less than the House measure.

Commissioners approve election precinct changes

Continued from Page 1

missioners Court on Tuesday will become effective Jan. 1, 2024. It will not be an issue for the May 6 City/School Election.

No change discussed will affect what is on a voter's ballot, except for the race of Precinct Chair in the Primary Elections.

The changes will not affect who the resident would vote for Smith County Commissioner, Constable, Mayor or City Councilmember or any other local races decided by boundaries, Allcon said.

The following precincts were approved for boundary changes:

Precincts 0005, 0030, and 41 due to population size.

Precincts 0031, 0033, 0037, 0042, 0057, 0058, 0074 where the city of Tyler incorporated territory meets the unincorporated county territory.

Precinct 0015 to match the city of Hideaway city limits with the precinct boundary.

Precinct 0019 to match the city of Lindale city limits with the precinct boundary.

To view Allcon's presentation to Commissioners Court on April 18, visit: www.smith-county.com/home/showpub-

[lisheddocument/17459/638174142105975182](https://www.smith-county.com/home/showpublisheddocument/17459/638174142105975182)

In other action, commissioners ratified a resolution proclaiming April 13, 2023 as "John Sims Day" in Smith County, in honor of the veteran radio newsman who was laid to rest on Thursday, April 13.

Sims was struck by a vehicle in late March while walking near his home and died a few days later from his injuries.

Since 1998, Sims served as news anchor and editor at KTBB radio. His career in radio spanned 46 years, with 43 of those in East Texas.

"This community was his family," KTBB Account Executive Lonnie Johnson said in Commissioners Court. "It was always obvious but upon his death, it became even more obvious."

Sims was involved in many local community organizations and was respected and admired by those with whom he interacted.

"John was such a unique individual," former Precinct 1 Commissioner Jeff Warr said, adding that he met him in the 1990s, when Warr was a candidate for Tyler City Council. He said Sims was such a good reporter, you never knew which side he was on, as he just reported the facts.

"He was such a high-quality person," he added.



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

Snake tales and why they are beneficial

For some reason, I've always had an affinity for the rather, shall we say, odd creatures that really don't qualify as normal pets.

Growing up I collected an interesting menagerie of animals such as hamsters, ducks, turtles, tropical fish and snakes.

Yes, I said snakes. And while others will grimace just at the mention of snakes, I have always been fascinated by them.

My favorite was a smooth green snake, also known as a grass snake, that startled my mother when she was working in the flower bed one early summer morning.

She knew my affinity for odd animals and called me outside. I picked it up (while she cringed a bit), brought inside and found a large jar for (as it turned out) "her" new home.

At the time, we lived across the street from an elementary school and the parking lot was full of crickets at night, which turned out to be the perfect meal for my grass snake.

After a few days, I discovered the snake was indeed a "she" because lo and behold, she had laid several eggs. But my poor momma snake was at a disadvantage having me as the overseer of her brood because for some reason I thought the eggs needed to be incubated, the same as chicken eggs.

I placed a low wattage bulb above the jar and yep, I baked those suckers flat.

Eventually, she was released into the wild and probably cussed me in snake talk to whoever would listen.

Like them or not, snakes are always going to be around. They actually do good for the environment and actually just want to be left alone. But there's always the chance that while hiking



in the woods or working in your yard you could encounter one.

To help, Dr. Toby Hibbitts, curator of herpetology at Texas A&M University Research and Teaching Collections has some tips on how to you and your pet can avoid getting bit by snakes that have emerged from their winter's dormancy.

"The main tip this time of year is to be aware of your surroundings and the scenarios that lead to accidental snake bites," he said. "If you know a snake is there, my advice is to leave it alone and back away to let them go their way."

People can encounter snakes while walking trails, camping, spring cleaning or gardening around the house, he said, adding there is little to fear about snakes if a few basic precautions and principles are applied before and during an encounter.

Snakes are typically not aggressive and will try to escape an area if someone is

approaching, he said. The best ways to avoid snake bites is to watch where you step or reach and to keep your distance if you see one.

Homeowners can remove potential shelter and food to reduce the likelihood of snakes hanging around a location.

This is the time of year snakes will shed their skins quickly, so they are looking for warmer spots that gather and maintain heat, he said. Homeowners should be cautious when moving debris or clutter around the house or when doing yard work, and never put their hands or feet in places they cannot see.

Food sources like rodents and insects can attract snakes, and species like rat snakes are known to seek food in man-made structures like chicken coops. You are more likely to encounter a snake at night or around twilight hours – dawn or dusk – as temperatures increase.

Many Texans may view snakes as a dangerous pest,

but they are integral to Texas' array of regional ecosystems, Hibbitts said. They are an important predator of insects and small mammals.

Only about a dozen snake species in Texas are venomous. These include copperheads, cottonmouths (aka water moccasins), coral snakes and several types of rattlesnakes.

Common non-venomous species found throughout Texas include garter snakes, which people also refer to as garden snakes; rat snakes, also known as chicken snakes; and bull snakes.

Hibbitts said venomous snakes typically do not want to use their venom as a defense. They usually give warnings – like rattlesnakes rattling – before they strike.

In case of snakebite, Hibbitts they should always be taken seriously and the victim should get the hospital as soon as possible.

Tourniquets and suction devices or using other mythologized methods to remove snake venom could do more harm than good. Hospitals have anti-venom on hand and protocols in place to deal with snake bites.

Parents should teach their children to avoid snakes and not to reach inside crevices and under bushes with low-hanging limbs.

Homeowners should also take precautions to reduce the chance of their pet encountering a snake, such as having them on a leash during walks. Hibbitts said leashes are a good idea at night if snake sightings are common in the area.

"It seems that everyone is fascinated by snakes, and everyone has stories about snake encounters, but the best thing we can do is understand them and avoid dangerous situations," he said.



LRML's Penny Turner honored

Penny Turner, children's librarian at the Lillie Russell Memorial Library in Lindale, was honored by the East Texas Educators Association recently as the Citizen of the Year as part of the ETEA's inaugural Merit Awards ceremony at Hideaway Lake's Clubhouse. Others receiving awards were Miriam Ledlow of the Whitehouse ISD, the Kenneth L. Murphy Wings of Heritage Scholarship; Heather Cox of the Brownsboro ISD, the Anna Louise Fisher Literacy in Learning Classroom grant and Hearts and Hands of East Texas a Christian Job Corps Site with the HOC Golden Apple Literacy Award. (Courtesy photo)



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 28, 2022

Three Lindale High School fishing teams earned top 25 places as the final rankings of the Texas High School Bass Association have been released.

In seventh place for LHS was the team of Ryder Dennis-Clint Thurman with 2,421 points, finishing 16th was the team of Riley Brown-Fernando Soto with 2,326 points and finishing 24th was the team of Kye Wedemeyer-Wyatt Parker with 2,267 points.

Brook Hill High School qualified two teams for the championship tournament scheduled for May 14-15 at Lake Belton. Gage Franklin-Tanner French and Drew Lake-Zack Rhea earned enough points to earn a berth at the state event.

All these teams compete in the East Division of the THSBA. Teams include: Arp, Brownsboro, Bullard, Elkhart, Frankston, Grace Community, Lindale, New Summerfield, Palestine, Tyler Legacy, Longview Spring Hill, Troup, Van, Westwood, White Oak, Whitehouse, Grapeland, Jacksonville, Tyler Bridgemark Center, Titan FC, Cumberland Academy, West Rusk, Centerville and LaPoyner.

Troup's Tucker Howell and Cooper Reid won Angler of the Year honors with 2,454 points. Franklin and French were second at 2,441.

The Texas High School Bass Association has more than 1,620 teams and scholarship awards total at \$355,000. There's also prizes and awards totaling between \$180,000 and \$200,000.

FIVE YEARS AGO, April 26, 2018

Sebastian Coulter was the winning pitcher as the Lindale High School Eagles varsity baseball team downed Jacksonville, 9-1, in a District 17-5A contest at the Lindale ISD Baseball and Softball Complex. Coulter allowed just two hits, one earned run and fanned one in four innings of work.

The Eagles scored three times in the bottom of the fourth to put the game away.

10 YEARS AGO, April 25, 2013

Lindale High School's Mackenzie Bateman in the pole vault and Traviccia Acy in the high jump took top honors in the Class 4A District 15-16 area track meet held at Lancaster High School.

Bateman vaulted to a winning height of 10 feet, 6 inches – one foot better than the competition. Acy meanwhile, jumped 5 feet, 8 inches for first place. She is seeking her second straight trip to the state meet in Austin.

The Lindale pair will now compete in the Class 4A Region II meet at the University of Texas at Arlington this weekend (April 26-27).

LHS distance runner Jeff Watson also qualified for the regional event with a second place time of 9 minutes, 57.21 seconds in the 3200 meter r

And our survey says Oh never mind

Well, they're at it again. Who, you ask? Those pesky ol' Phone Creatures, that's who. Only now they have a new twist.

Of course, I wasn't fooled. Heck, I've been dealing those people (or whatever they are) for too many years to be fooled. Oh, they are still trying to sell something, but they disguise it by starting out sayin' they're conducting a survey.

I got this call the other day.

"Yellow!" I said, into the phone receiver. There was a delay, then a click. "Yellow!" I said again, knowing full well that I was fixin' to be talkin' to a Phone Creature.

"Hello," the creature said. "May I speak to Mr. Rusty Mitchum please?"

"You got him," I said in my old man's voice.

"Ahhh, Mr. Mitchum," said a pretty female voice. "My name is Naomi Callo-way, and I am conducting an informal survey in your area. Would you be so kind as to participate in the survey?"

"Well," I said. "I just had my land surveyed not too long ago."

"Uh, no that's not what I mean...." she said, but I interrupted her.

"Yeah, I had this here Yay-hoo bought some land next to mine, and he started tearin' down my fence. I went over and asked what the big idea was, and he commenced to tellin' me that my fence was over on his land."

"Mr. Mitchum...." she tried to interrupt, but I continued.

"Well, I told him that that fence was built by my daddy and if'n he didn't stop what he was a doin', well I's fixin' to send him to Kingdom Come."

"You don't understand, Mr. Mitchum," the creature said.



"That's what he said," I replied. "I told him I understood real good, and he better start fixin' what he done tore up. Well, he made some smart aleck remark, so I sicked my dog on him. That dog run him all over that pasture, and finally he made it back to his truck. Then he yelled that he was goin' to go git the law. I told him to go ahead and git 'em."

"Please Mr. Mitchum," she pleaded.

"Well now, the law shows up, you see, and that man started tellin' him all sorts of stuff, and I didn't say nothin'. I waited till he was finished, and I told the lawman what that feller was a doin' to my fence. He asked that feller if'n he had spoke with me before he started tearin' up my fence. He said no, but.... then the lawman stopped him and asked him if'n he'd had the land he bought surveyed, and he said no, but.... then the law stopped him agin and told him that they way he saw it that not only was he tearing up my property, but he was also trespassing.

"Man, you should have seen that feller. He was madder'n a cat. Anywho, he got him a surveyor, and sure enough he was wrong. Well, not only did the lawman make him fix my fence, but he made him apologize to me, too. How do you like that?"

I finally stopped talking. Mr. Mitchum," she sighed. "I do not want to survey your land. I want to conduct a survey. In other words, I want to ask you some questions."

"Well, why didn't you say so?" I asked. "Ask all the questions you want. I ain't got nothin' to hide."

"Thank you," she said, trying to get that sweetness back into her voice. "Your name is Rusty Mitchum. Is that correct?"

"Last time I looked," I chuckled.

"Now, let's see. It says here you live between the New Harmony and Mt. Sylvan communities. Is that correct?"

"Yes ma'am," I said. "And your length of residence?"

"Oh," I thought. "I'd say about 65 feet."

"I beg your pardon?" she said.

"My house," I said. "It's about 65 feet long."

"No," she said. "What I meant was, how long have you lived there?"

"Heck, I don't remember."

"Have you lived there all of your life?"

"Not yet."

"I mean, were you born there?" She was beginning to sound exasperated.

"Heck no. I was born in a horsepital. Well, it weren't no real horsepital. Oh they had doctors and all, but what it really was, was just a big ol' house. They delivered babies downstairs and they kept crazy people upstairs. You know, to this day if'n it gits real quiet, I sometimes can hear what sounds like crazy people laughing. Do you ever hear stuff like that?"

"Uh.... no sir. Mr. Mitchum, I'd really like to get on with this survey if I could."

"There ain't nobody stoppin' you," I said.

"Now let's see," she said as if she was talkin' to herself. "Sex. Male."

"Victoria's Secret," I said. "I beg your pardon?" she said.

"Victoria's Secret," I repeated. "You asked what sex mail I got, didn't you? Well, I get one of them Victoria's Secret catalogs in the mail ever so often. Of course, I only git to look at it if'n I git to the mail first. If Maw git's to 'em first, well, she tears 'em up into little biddy pieces."

"Uh No, Mr. Mitchum," the creature said.

"Oh yes she sure does, too. Heh heh, I ordered one of them little flimsy see-through thangs out of that catalog once and give it to my wife and told her to go try it on. Well, I walked in on her while she was a puttin' it on, and I took one look at her and made the comment that it needed ironed.

The next thing I knew, I was seein' stars. How was I to know she hadn't put it on yet?" There was silence on the other end of the phone.

"You still there?" I asked. "Huh?" the creature said. "I said, are you still there?"

"Oh. Yes. Yes! I'm still here. Uh... Thank you Mr. Mitchum. You've been so much help. If'n, I mean...If we need anymore information, we'll call." And she hung up. Man, she didn't even get to what she was tryin' to sell me.

Well, as you guessed it. My dearly beloved was standing in the doorway givin' me one of those looks as I hung up the phone.

"What?" I said.

"Oh nothing," she said. "I just wanted to let you know, you are about to see those stars again."

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Weight training tips for beginners

By Claudann Jones
Smith County Extension Agent
Family and Community Health



Years ago, weightlifting was thought to be reserved solely for bodybuilders and athletes. However, there has been significant research on the medical benefits of lifting weights.

Everyone benefits from stronger bones and muscles. Weight training is a type of strength training that uses weights for resistance. This could be weight machines or free weights, like dumbbells or barbells, at home or a gym. It stresses and strengthens your muscles over time.

It doesn't matter if you are 19 or 90, run marathons, or struggle to climb stairs; weight training can benefit everyone. It helps build muscle, strengthens bones, improves balance and prevents injuries. Often, it is helpful for people with many chronic health conditions.

Overall, it helps people feel better physically and mentally. Weight training also has been shown to help improve:

Here are some key points to remember when considering beginning a

new weight training routine:

1. Warm up and Pay Attention to Pain. Cold muscles are more prone to injury, so consider warming up with a brisk walk for five to 10 minutes and dynamic stretching to start each training session. Proper weight training should reduce pain, not cause it.
2. Start light and Increase Weight Slowly. Start with light to moderate weights in the first few sessions. Starting light can prevent muscle soreness and lessen the chance of injury then gradually increase the weight amount.
3. Lift slowly. When lifting weights, do not use momentum. Most weight training injuries occur from swinging weights, improper technique or lifting too heavy an amount of weight. Take about two seconds to lift the weight and four or more seconds to lower the weight. Training slower activates more muscle fibers in the targeted muscle, which will increase the benefits of strength training in the end.
4. Seek variety. A good weight training program should include at least eight to 12 different exercises. These



should target the major muscles of the legs, back, chest, abdomen, arms and shoulders.

5. Breathe. Remember always to maintain your breathing while you lift. Breathe out through the hardest part of the exercise.

If you're new to weight training, talk with a personal trainer about the best weight training exercises for you and learn about proper form and technique to avoid injury.

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

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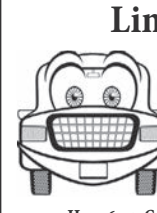
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Lindale Police Department call log for April 10-April 17:

MONDAY, APRIL 10: 7:04:24 AM, Alarm Business, 50 block Miranda Lambert Way; 12:51:01 PM, Accident, 3400 block S. Main Street; 1:20:05 PM, Hit and Run, 100 block E Centennial Blvd; 3:38:49 PM, Accident, 3300 block S Main Street; 3:45:01 PM, Accident, 100 block E Hubbard Street; 4:46:45 PM, Traffic Hazard, 100 block N Main Street; 5:51:41 PM, Animal Complaint, 21000 block Hwy 69 N; 7:15:13 PM, Accident, S Main St/Centennial Blvd; 8:40:37 PM Scam. 3500 block S. Main Street.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11: 8:21:55 AM, Suspicious Person, 200 block W Centennial Blvd; 8:38:11 AM, Assist SCSO, 15000 block CR 463; 10:27:29 AM, Damaged Property, 900 block S. Main Street; 12:31:12 PM, Accident, 3500 block S Main Street; 1:20:20 PM, Accident, 3500 block S Main Street; 1:27:35 PM, Accident, CR 474/S Main Street; 2:38:17 PM, Harassment, 300 block Helen Drive; 5:20:51 PM, Suspicious Person, 3400 block S Main Street; 6:48:48 PM, Open Container, 13000 block Hwy 69 N; 7:23:28 PM, Hit and Run, 21000 block Hwy 69 N; 9:22:33 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 13000 block I-20 W; 10:06:53 PM, Criminal Trespass, 13000 block Hwy 69 N; 10:57:45 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 3200 block S Main Street.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12: 1:55:04 AM, Accident, 16000 block I-20 W; 2:44:58 AM, 911 Hang Up Call, 15000 block Brittain Court; 7:47:03 AM, Public Service, 2400 block S Main Street; 10:13:55 AM, Suspicious Circumstance, 900 block Mount Sylvan Street; 10:57:46 AM, Assist LISD PD, 15000 block CR 463; 11:21:17 AM, Motorist Assist, 300 block S. Main Street; 11:55:01 AM, Alarm Business, 400 block S. Main Street; 2:22:00 PM, Stolen Vehicle, S Main St/Centennial Blvd; 3:55:45 PM, Assist EMS, 3500 block S. Main Street; 11:20:19 PM, Public Service, 100 block E Centennial Blvd.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13: 12:30:21 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 200 block W Centennial Blvd; 1:24:43 AM, Suspicious Person, 500 block S Main Street; 5:47:45 AM, Suspicious Circumstance, 13000 block CR 472; 9:37:37 AM, Accident,



3500 block S Main Street; 10:17:45 AM, Disturbance, 2500 block S Main Street; 10:47:09 AM, Assist LISD PD, 900 block E. Hubbard Street; 10:50:31 AM, Threats, 70 block Miranda Lambert Way; 4:01 PM, Assist LISD PD, 900 block E Hubbard Street; 1:01:01 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 13000 block Harvey Road; 1:42:18 PM, Shoplifting, 100 block E Centennial Blvd; 4:22:26 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 17000 block CR 4112; 4:38:08 PM, Attempt To Serve, 100 block Hudson Street; 5:36:24 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 17000 block Interstate 20 W; 6:19:25 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 2100 block S. Main Street; 6:21:02 PM, Welfare Concern, 2200 block S Main Street; 9:10:24 PM, Found Property, Mt Sylvan Street/W Hubbard Street; 9:35:14 PM, Public Service, 15000 block FM 16 W; 11:45:24 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 100 block Hudson Street.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14: 8:51:46 AM, escort, 200 block W South Street; 10:36:44 AM, Motorist Assist, 15000 block Interstate 20 W; 12:00:48 PM, Motorist Assist, 13000 block Interstate 20 E; 2:27:49 PM, Criminal Mischief, 900 block S. Main Street; 3:02:43 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 3500 block S. Main Street; 5:56:14 PM, City Ordinance Violation, 300 block W South Street; 6:10:17 PM, Motorist Assist, 500 block S. Main Street; 6:48:11 PM, Welfare Concern, 100 block E Centennial; 7:09:24 PM, Motorist Assist, 14000 block Interstate 20 E; 7:18:23 PM, Animal Complaint, 21000 block Hwy 69 N; 8:41:10 PM, Traffic Complaint, 3500 block S. Main Street; 9:06:08 PM, Warrant Service, 700 block Half Street; 9:58:26 PM, Disturbance, 700 block Half Street.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15: 12:19:04 AM, Alarm Business, 2800 block S Main Street; 4:00:16 AM, Public Service, 500 block N Main Street; 5:51:16 AM, Traffic Hazard, CR 472/Liberty Crossing; 6:28:15 AM, Alarm Business, 16000 block Village Lake Drive; 12:17:24 PM, Drug Paraphernalia, 3500 block S. Main Street; 12:35:40 PM, Warrant Service, 3500 block S. Main Street; 1:16:52 PM, Missing Person, 21000 block Highway 69 North; 1:18:15 PM, Found Property, 3500 block S. Main Street; 1:39:26 PM, Assault-Simple, 1500 block Woodsprings Road; 4:00:41 PM, Warrant Service, 14000 block CR 474; 4:07:20 PM, Family Violence, 100 block Legends Court; 7:41:17 PM, Welfare Concern, 800 block E South Street; 9:05:03 PM, Family Violence, 3500 block S. Main Street; 10:56:36 PM, Reckless Driving, E South Street/Pierce Street; 11:10:51 PM, Public Intoxication 13000 block Interstate 20 W.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16: 12:55:05 AM, Loud Noise Complaint, 15000 block CR 467; 7:26:49 AM, Assist SCSO, 3500 block S. Main Street; 10:59:16 AM, Alarm Business, 800 block Lindale Industrial; 6:02:30 PM, Motorist Assist, 3200 block S. Main Street; 6:42:16 PM, Welfare Concern, 500 block S. Main Street; 8:06:50 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 15000 block Brittain Court; 8:17:46 PM, Public Service, 100 block E. Centennial; 9:32:41 PM, Loud Noise Complaint, 500 block Ferguson Street; 10:41:51 PM, Accident, Cooper Street/S Main Street.

MONDAY, APRIL 17: 12:07:41 AM, Assist Another Agency, 13000 block Highway 69 North; 4:17:58 AM, Alarm Residence, 1200 block Brad Circle; 9:17:34 AM, Public Service, 100 block E Hubbard Street; 11:15:26 AM, Warrant Service, 14000 block Interstate 20 West; 1:07:15 PM, Public Service, 15000 block FM 16 West; 1:30:20 PM, Fraud, 13000 block CR 472; 1:32:23 PM, Public Service, 800 block Lindale Industrial; 1:33:53 PM, Welfare Concern, 900 block S. Main Street; 1:35:42 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 16000 block CR 4191; 2:01:06 PM, Welfare Concern, 1600 block S. Main Street; 2:46:06 PM, Motorist Assist, S. Main Street/Centennial Blvd; 3:56:47 PM, Welfare Concern, 13000 block I-20 East; 4:27:08 PM, Assist Another Agency, 15100 block FM 849; 5:45:21 PM, Assist Another Agency, 100 block S. Main Street; 8:16:27 PM, 911 Abuse, 400 block Hill Street.

Tyler man sentenced to 30 years for aggravated peace officer assault

Jonathan Lizarraga-Romero of Tyler was sentenced this past week to 30 years in prison for two counts of aggravated assault of a public servant, officials announced.

The sentencing took place in 114th District Judge Austin Reeve Jackson.

In April 2022, Lizarraga-Romero led multiple law enforcement

agencies of Smith County on a high-speed chase across both Smith and Cherokee Counties.

After officers were able to corner Lizarraga-Romero in a Tyler

apartment complex, the defendant shot at officers as they attempted to detain him.

Lizarraga-Romero, who was facing a potential life sentence,

pleaded guilty to these offenses and asked that a jury determine the appropriate punishment. After a two-day trial, the jury returned the 30-year sentence.



Lindale Rotary Club speaker

Jack Wilson, CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Smith County was the guest speaker this past week at the regular meeting of the Lindale Rotary Club. Habitat for Humanity has helped build homes for many families in the East Texas area over the years. Shown with Wilson were Rotarian and Lillie Russell Librarian Shannon Reid, left, and Habitat board members Mary Alice Guidry and Kaitlyn Shultz. (Courtesy photo)

Lindale man among 188 indictments

Smith County Grand Juries returned 188 indictments from Feb. 23 to March 23 including one man from Lindale, according to county grand jury coordinator Marieliza

Martinez. Charles Hendon, 52, was indicted for possession of a controlled substance on Jan. 13, 2023.

California man sentenced to fed sentence for ET drug violations

A Bakersfield, Calif. man has been sentenced to federal prison for drug trafficking violations in the Eastern District of Texas, said Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Brit Featherston.

Pablo Antonio Sandoval, 24, pleaded guilty on August 8, 2022, to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and was sentenced to 170 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Jeremy D. Kernodle on April 18, 2023.

According to information presented in court, in October 2021, Sandoval supplied more than 500 grams of methamphetamine to drug dealers in Cherokee County, which he sourced from suppliers in California.

Sandoval was indicted by a federal grand jury in the Eastern District of Texas in April 2022.

This case was investigated by the Homeland Security Investigations, Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Jacksonville Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lucas Machicek.

Mount Vernon man indicted on child exploitation charges

A Mount Vernon man has been indicted on federal child exploitation charges in the Eastern District of Texas, Walston said.

Zachary Arzola, also known as Zachary Castenada, 26, was named in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 19, 2023 charging him with coercion and

enticement of a minor; traveling with intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct; and transportation of a minor with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity.

According to the indictment, from December 2022 until January 9, 2023, Arzola allegedly used the internet and social media and messaging applications to coerce a minor to engage in illegal sexual conduct.

In December 2022, Arzola is alleged to have traveled from Texas to Ohio for the purpose of engaging in illicit sexual conduct with a minor and in January 2023, transported a minor across state lines to engage in criminal sexual activity.

If convicted, Arzola faces up to life in federal prison.

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

Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims.

This case is being investigated by the Texas Department of Public Safety – CID, Mount Vernon Police Department and the Clermont County Sheriff's Office. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jonathan R. Hornok.



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Poe narrows college list to eight

Lindale High School's Casey Poe, one of the most heavily recruited high school players in the country, revealed his top eight choices of where to play football following his 2024 graduation.

Poe has narrowed his choices to national champion Georgia, Alabama, Auburn and LSU of the Southeastern Conference, Baylor, Oklahoma and Texas Tech of the Big 12 and Clemson from the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Some national ranking services have



Poe ranked as the No. 1 and No. 10 inside offensive lineman in the country as well as being a four-star recruit. Others have him listed as the No. 34 overall recruit in the nation.

His recent visits have included the ones mentioned as well as Texas A&M and Georgia Tech, both which didn't make the cut.

A three-year starter with the Eagles, Poe has been a unanimous first team All-District selection each year and is the defending Class 4A shot put champion.



LHS tennis team at state

Six Lindale High School tennis standouts earned a berth in the state UIL Tennis Tournament recently and were scheduled to begin competition on Tuesday, April 25 at the Annemarie Tennis Center in San Antonio. They are, from left, Taegan Michel, Breanna Taylor, Bailee Lane, Emilio Rodriguez, Soren Peterson and Hayden Harry. (Courtesy photo)



The Lindale High School Lady Eagles recently won the Class 4A Region II golf tournament at the Van Zandt Country Club to qualify for the state tournament. Team members include, from left, Preslee Pullin, Julie King, coach Lindsay Kelly, Lauren Van Andel, Kenzie McClenny and Kennedy Weesner. (Courtesy photo)

Lady Eagles ready for state golf tournament

Lindale High School's Lady Eagles golf team has qualified for the state UIL Girls Golf Tournament in Kingsland May 15-16 after securing the Class 4A Region II Tournament recently at the Van Zandt Country Club.

The Lady Eagles finished with a two

round score of 324-347 – 671.

Kenzie McClenny, who finished third in the overall standings, led the way for the Lady Eagles with a 73-77 – 150, followed by Kennedy Weesner, 80-87 – 167; Julee King, 86-91 – 177; Preslee Pullin, 85-93 – 178 and Lauren Van Andel, 90-92 – 182.

A&M Extension Service plans webinar concerning wild pigs

By Susan Himes

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will present the webinar "Wild Pigs in Texas" on May 4 from noon to 1 p.m. The webinar is part of an ongoing Department of Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management, RWFM, Stewardship Series.

The webinar will discuss how landowners can deter wild pigs and methods to reduce their numbers.

The cost is \$35, and advance registration is required at <https://tx.ag/RWFMStewardshipWebinars>.

After payment is received, a follow-up email will be sent from the event organizer with instructions on how to access the webinar.

"Given that wild pigs number in the millions across Texas, it will take a concerted effort from all Texans to help reduce their numbers and the millions of dollars in damages they cause every year across the state," said James Long, project coordinator with the Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute, Bryan-College Station.



Long, the featured speaker, said the damage that wild pigs do to production agriculture, wildlife and their habitat, and the water-

ways in Texas has made wild pigs the No. 1 exotic species that needs to be removed from the state.

Webinar topics

Over the course of the webinar on wild pigs Long will:

Introduce landowners to the spread of these invaders across both the U.S. and Texas.

Explain some of the biological and environmental factors that have led to their rapid population growth.

Discuss damage that wild pigs cause across the landscape to include agricultural, natural re-

sources and private property.

Address the disease risks that wild pigs pose to both livestock and humans.

Assess the laws that apply to wild pigs in Texas.

Discuss methods to deter wild pigs and reduction methods that can be used to bring population numbers down.

For questions, contact series co-creator Brittany Chesser, AgriLife Extension aquatic vegetation program specialist, Bryan-College Station, at brittany.chesser@ag.tamu.edu.

Save on water bills by harvesting rainwater

From Smith County Master Gardeners

Looking for a way to water your landscape plants and gardens without an exorbitant water bill? Join the growing number of people who are capturing rainwater.

Captured rainwater brings nutrients to plants that are not found in city water. Rainwater is good for plants because it is free of salts and other minerals that harm root growth.

As rainwater percolates into the soil,

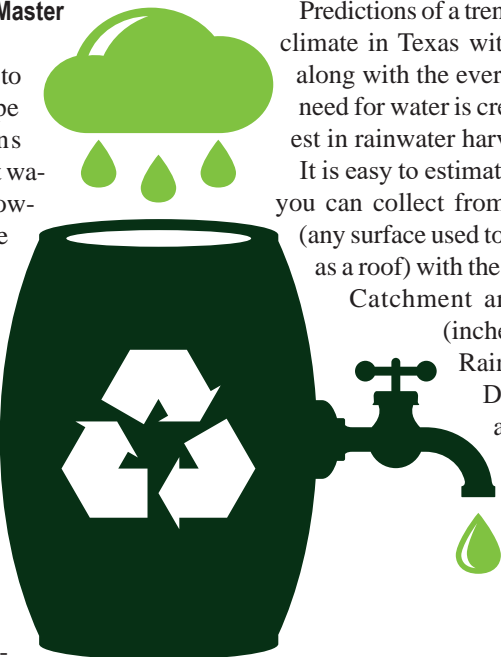
it forces salts down and away from root zones, allowing roots to grow better and making plants more drought tolerant. Efficient water use is increasingly important throughout Texas.

With the growing population and limited supply of both groundwater and surface water, homeowners must use water wisely.

Rainwater harvesting is an innovative Earth-Kind approach to this important environmental issue. Harvesting rainwater for home landscape use saves money by reducing your water bill, reduces demand on municipal water supplies, makes efficient use of valuable natural resource, reduces flooding, erosion and the contamination of surface water with sediments, fertilizers and pesticides in rainfall run-off

Rising costs of providing water by centralized water systems or by well drilling is also directing more people to consider the option of rainwater harvesting. Usually some part of Texas is under drought conditions causing municipal water restrictions, preventing outdoor watering of any kind in the most severe situations.

Our ancestors knew the value of rainwater as they settled in this state and most had cisterns to collect the rain for use in the home.



Predictions of a trend toward a drier, hotter climate in Texas within the next 15 years along with the ever growing population's need for water is creating a renewed interest in rainwater harvesting.

It is easy to estimate how much rainwater you can collect from a catchment surface (any surface used to collect rainwater such as a roof) with the following calculation:

Catchment area (sq ft) x rainfall (inches) x 0.6 = Harvested Rainwater (gallon)

Directions for building a rainwater catchment container out of a 35 gallon barrel are available through Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Smith County office located at 1517 W. Front St, Ste 116,

Tyler.

It is easy to assemble and would make a great family project on a weekend morning. Additional rainwater harvesting information can be found at rainwaterharvesting.tamu.edu. For people interested in a more complex rainwater collection system, the Texas Water Development Board's web site, <http://www.twdb.texas.gov> provides a list of installers and sources of materials.

How much in-house water do you use? Check your water bill to see how much water you consume each month.

Many homes use about 100 gallons a day. Some interesting percentages of how water is consumed within a home: Toilet, 26%, Kitchen, 5%, Laundry 9%, Cleaning 2% and Lawn, 35%. Grassy lawns create the greatest water demand for homeowners.

Many landscape designers now encourage people to design their landscapes with beds using native perennials adapted to the area and eliminating much of the grass lawns, thus decreasing the need for extensive irrigation.

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

Longer growing season means time for cucumbers

By Greg Grant

Smith County Horticulturist

We have had a somewhat cool spring up to this point which has extended our vegetable planting season just a bit.

My family loves pickles, so I always try to produce a crop of cukes both for slicing and pickling.

Cucumbers can be planted from seed or transplants which are often available from garden centers and feed stores. Once the seedlings are established and have their true leaves, they should be thinned to 2 to 3 feet apart.

Cucumbers perform best with at least eight hours of direct sun each day. The plants aren't picky about soil types as long as they drain well. Ideally, till in several inches of compost or organic matter and incorporate 2 pounds of a complete lawn fertilizer (15-5-10, 18-6-12, etc.) per 100 square feet of bed or every 35 feet of row before planting. For smaller plots, use 2 teaspoons per square foot or foot of row.

The ideal soil pH for growing cucumbers is 5.5 to 7.0

Cucumbers are generally direct-seeded into the garden and do better in the ground than containers. Create a raised row about 6 inches high and 12 inches wide.

Multiple rows should be around thirty-six inches apart. Cucumber seeds should be planted in groups of seed every 5 to 8 feet. This is known as planting in hills. Open a shallow depression about 1 to 2 inches deep and 4 inches wide with a hoe.

Drop 4-6 seeds evenly spaced apart in the hole and cover lightly with loose soil using a hoe or garden rake. Gently tamp the soil down with the back of the hoe. Make sure the seed isn't too deep or it won't germinate.

Transplants should be immediately watered in with a water-soluble fertilizer such as Miracle-Gro at half the labeled rate.

I prefer to grow my cucumbers on wire fence trellises for cleaner and straighter fruit.

As soon as the vines on the cucumbers start to run or climb, you need to apply an additional application of fertilizer. This is known as side-dressing.

Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of a high-nitrogen fertilizer, such as ammonium sulfate (21-0-



A popular vegetable for home gardens is the tasty cucumber. (Courtesy photo)

0), around each hill, being careful to keep it off the plants. Work the fertilizer into the soil lightly with a hoe or rake, and water. After side-dressing, applying a layer of organic mulch (pine straw, grass clippings, compost, etc.) to conserve water and prevent weeds is ideal. Insects and diseases aren't generally a major problem, but be on the lookout for cucumber beetles, leaf miners, and leaf-footed plant bugs ("stink bugs").

Depending on the variety, cucumbers are generally ready to harvest fifty-five to sixty days from seeding. Always pick every fruit that is of usable size.

Leaving a single fruit on the plant too long will cause the plant to cease production. Tender smaller-sized cucumbers are the best. There is no such thing as one too small to use. However, exceptionally large, seedy cucumbers are not something to be proud of or gifted to friends. They should be deposited in the compost pile or fed to the nearest horse or flock of chickens.

Cucumbers come in both pickling and slicing varieties but I use them interchangeably. Cucumbers originated in India.

For more information on growing cucumbers in the home garden see the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Easy Gardening publication titled "Cucumbers" on the Aggie Horticulture website.

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS § **Attorney of Record:**
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TYLER TX 75702
903-630-9174

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

On the 14th day of April, 2023, **SANDRA D. ALLEN** 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 **COUNTERAPPLICATION 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 writte11 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 **14th day of April, 2023**, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

KAREN PHILLIPS, COUNTY CLERK
Smith County, Texas
By: Shanae Howell, Deputy Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **EVELYN M. MCCALLUM**, Deceased, were issued on March 27, 2023, in Cause No. 47261P, pending in the County Court at Law 3 of Smith County, Texas, to **SANDRA KAY GARDNER**.

The address for the Independent Executor is:
c/o: **LEIGH HUNT GOODSON**
The Goodson Firm, P.C.
115 W. Ferguson Street
Tyler, Texas 75702

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

Date: April 12, 2023.

THE GOODSON FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys for **SANDRA KAY GARDNER**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **GEORGE HENRY CAMPBELL** Deceased, were issued on March 27, 2023, in Cause No. 47281P, pending in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas, to **DOTTIE M. CAMPBELL**.

The address for the Independent Executor is:
c/o: **LEIGH HUNT GOODSON**
The Goodson Firm, P.C.
115 W. Ferguson Street
Tyler, Texas 75702

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

Date: April 12, 2023.

THE GOODSON FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys for **DOTTIE M. CAMPBELL**

YARD SALE

COMMUNITY YARD SALE
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Friday 28th 8-5
Saturday 29th 8-12

Divide & Conquer Estate Sale for Patty Cooney Emmons
Thurs., April 27 ~ 7:00-5:30 ~ Fri., April 28 ~ 8:00-5:30
Sat., April 29 ~ 8:00-2:00

1919 S. Sneed St. ~ Tyler, TX 75701
Inside Loop 323 and off S. Broadway, turn east into Bergfeld Shopping Center on 8th St. Go 4 blocks; turn left onto Sneed St.

This home is listed by **The Barks Team**. Contents and consignments must go! Antique settees; French Country dining table, hutch, & 6 chairs; sofa table; antq. rocker; antq. dropleaf table; dresser; nightstands; wall shelves; lift chair; rugs; runner; 2 rustic cupboards; vintg. 2-tier pie table; framed "The Butler House" (in Tyler's Historic Dist.) pen & ink; mirrors; Windsor chairs; small desk; side tables; 4 Hitchcock seat side chairs; matching plaid club chairs; plaid rocker; white wicker planter; decorative pillows; Queen's "Imari" dishes; crystal decanters & matching glassware; goldware; Gorham stainless; Impromptu dishes by Iroquois; Fiesta dishes; speckled ware; enamel ware; 2 glass top tables/4 chairs each; pots & pans; "Midas" bone china; black canisters; shoes; scarves; purses; cost. jewelry; many Chico clothes; framed art; bunny collection; holiday selections; linens vintage Pyrex; Corning Ware; teapot / pitcher collections; rooster plates; roosters; lamps; lg. brass tray; stemware; decanters & matching glassware; Mary Engelbreit dishes; sm. appliances; small baker's rack; file cab.; birdhouses; abundance of CD's; patio furniture; 2 refrig.; hand weights; hand tools; **soooo much more!!**

Pictures: DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com



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