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Isela Mendoza of the city of Lindale administered the oath of office Tuesday night to new council members Bob Tardiff, left, and Bryan Summerville.

Photo by Terry Cannon

New city council members take oath, Mayor Pro Tem appointed

Two new, but experienced, Lindale City Council members were sworn in Tuesday night (May 16) during the council's regular meeting at city hall.

Bob Tardiff, Place 1 and Bryan Summerville, Place 3, took the oath of office before the meeting was called to order by Mayor Jeff Daugherty.

Both Tardiff and Summerville served on the council until April of 2022, when they resigned due to the term limits clause in the city charter.

They were unopposed in the May 6 General Election.

After they took their seats, former council members Ginger Sims and Rick Thelen were presented with plaques of appreciation by the council.

The council then voted to appoint Place 2 council member Yvette Aguirri Martin as Mayor Pro Tem, a post previously held by Sims. City Manager Carolyn Caldwell said the council needs a Mayor Pro Tem to handle business in the absence of the mayor.

In other action, the council:

- Appointed Tardiff to serve on the East Texas

Council of Governments. The motion was passed unanimously.

- Approved Gollob Morgan Peddy to serve as the city's official auditor. The Tyler firm has been retained by the city of Lindale for several years. Caldwell recommended the firm remain as the city's auditor.

- Awarded bid for a lift station at the Lindale Business Park. Bids were out for four weeks and the one bid received was from Capps-Capco from Tyler. Money for the lift station will come from Smith County's federal ARPA funds.

- Discussed adding street lights for sidewalks downtown, which would mean adding utility poles using city funds or renting the poles and fixtures from Oncor. After several minutes of discussion council members opted to table the issue until the June 20 council meeting.

- Discussed parking lot lighting at the refurbished Kinzie Community Center.

LISD announces new CTE director, assistant principal at Velma Penny

Officials with the Lindale Independent School District have announced two hirings for the district recently, said LISD Director of Communications Courtney Sanguinetti.

Teri Hodges has been hired as the new Career and Technical Education Director and Taylor Jarman as the new principal at Velma Penny Elementary.

TERI HODGES

She is currently serving as the Business Office Supervisor at Lindale ISD. Previously, Hodges worked in school finance at Denton and Stephenville ISD, as well as school operations, counseling, accountability, and assessment. Hodges also served as a math teacher and as a counselor at Lindale High School.

"Accepting the CTE Director position not only brings all areas of my educational experience together, but also allows me to continue to foster my passion for serving students and staff," said Hodges. "Our CTE program has a great foundation and this staff is, hands down, some of the best instructors in the state. I am blessed to have the opportunity to come alongside them as we continue to educate and motivate our youth. They are our future and it is bright."

Hodges earned a Bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University. She earned her Master's and other certifications from Dallas Baptist University, Stephen F. Austin State University, and the University of Texas at Tyler.

"Mrs. Teri Hodges is a wonderful administrator," said Superintendent Stan Surratt. "She has great experience

as a teacher, a counselor, and as a business manager which has prepared her for this new role. Mrs. Hodges has a vision and a desire to grow Lindale High School's CATE program where our students have vast opportunities to help prepare for their future."

TAYLOR JARMAN

Jarman has been hired as the new assistant principal of Velma Penny Elementary.

"It is a privilege to be able to join the incredible staff and administration team at Velma Penny Elementary," said Jarman. "I look forward to serving our students alongside such distinguished educators."

Jarman is about to complete his tenth year of teaching with Lindale ISD. He has taught 5th grade science and social studies at E.J. Moss Intermediate School and he has served as the Lindale High School theater director.

"Mr. Jarman has been an excellent employee of Lindale ISD for many years," said Surratt. "His love to help young children set him apart from other candidates for this position. The students, parents, teachers, and staff members are going to love Mr. Jarman as their new assistant principal at Velma Penny Elementary."

Jarman earned his Bachelor of Arts from Stephen F. Austin State University and a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Texas at Tyler.



MADELEINE MORTON
2023 Valedictorian



KYLIE KLEAM
2023 Salutatorian

Morton, Kleam lead 2023 LHS graduating class

The 2023 graduating class of Lindale High School will receive their diplomas beginning at 8 p.m., Friday, May 26 at Eagle Stadium with more than 300 seniors crossing the stage.

Valedictorian for this year's class is Madeleine Morton, daughter of Michael and Jackie Morton. She is planning to attend Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. and has a 108.417 grade point average at LHS.

Salutatorian for the 2023 class is Kylie Kleam, daughter of Justin and Lee Anne Kleam. She had a 106.633 GPA and is planning to attend Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, La.

On the night of the ceremony, graduates are to report to the Early Childhood Center by 7 p.m., entering at the side door of the school facing the stadium. Gates to Eagle Stadium will be open at 6:30 p.m.

Seniors must report for graduation practice at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 26 at the stadium. Caps and gowns are not required and shorts can be worn. Boys will be clean shaven and in compliance with the LISD hair code.

The dress code for graduation for boys will be dark dress shoes and socks or dress boots, dark dress pants, light colored shirt and tie and no jeans. No khakis or light colored pants.

For girls, a dress or skirt and shirt with dress shoes or dress sandals. Shoes will be a neutral color – tan, brown, black, white, pewter or silver. Dresses or skirts should not be too long and not too short. The school dress code for hair and earrings, rings and/or studs will be enforced.

In addition, there will be no flip flops or western boots, no strapless dresses, no rompers and no decorations on the graduation cap.

In the event of rain on Friday, May 26 the ceremony will be moved to 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 27 at Eagle Stadium.

As has been the case in recent years, the ceremony will be available on live stream. The link to that live stream will be available on the LISD's web site, www.lindaleeagles.org.

'Click it or Ticket' begins

AUSTIN – It has been nearly seven years since Eden Ganzerla lost control of her car while driving to work and crashed into a retaining wall, breaking nearly every bone in her body. Since then, she has endured thousands of hours of physical, occupational and speech therapy, the result of one fateful decision to not wear her seat belt.

Ganzerla now struggles with a traumatic brain injury, speaks with the aid of a computer, and is slowly learning how to walk and talk again.

"Before the crash, Eden was very outgoing and talkative, living life to the fullest with her animals and friends," said John Ganzerla, Eden's father. "Now, she lives with us in Dripping Springs and



Continued on Page 8

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

Life 101 for graduates ...

When I was in college I ended up in a psychology class with a professor that was greatly feared and often intensely disliked. I didn't know that fact when I sat in that first class on the edge of my seat and focused with laser-like attention because it was one of my first UNIVERSITY classes. It was the big-time to little old country girl, me.

Dr. G. was drawn to me because I LISTENED. I wasn't the brightest kid in the room, the most analytical or most creative; BUT I was committed to learning. I took joy from intellectual growth and I didn't bellyache or look for a way out.

As a result, she invited me to work for her in a major, nationally funded research project. From there I ended up in the honors program, published twice and presented academic research papers to the Texas Academy of Sciences. I am listed on several of Dr. G's research papers as a contributor because I wasn't afraid to work hard or afraid of her. It turned out that besides being an internationally renowned researcher, and a 'heavy hitter' as a professor, she was lonely. She was simply drawn to the fact I cared.

NEVER underestimate the gifts of humanity that you possess. The ability to work hard, be encouraging, supportive, giving and KIND. I promise you the return will be greater than if you were a genius.

Dr. G. gave me a paperweight that has sat on my desk for 35 years and reminds me of the best life lessons I want to leave with you, the Class of 2015.

1. HARD WORK trumps brains (most of the time!)
2. KINDNESS AND WARMTH outweigh talent.
3. INTEGRITY is your calling card. If you say you are

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



going to do something DO IT. If you break something, make a mistake, lose something, TELL THE TRUTH. Excuses are for the lesser among us.

4. Be JOYFUL! It is like catnip to the world and 'much' of the world will be drawn to you.

5. Be HUMBLE! People won't want to shoot you down. They will be charmed by your successes and others will proclaim your greatness to the world.

6. Have INSATIABLE INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY! Don't stop learning until you are comatose or six feet under (and frankly, because I believe in 'Ever-after' I think we keep on learning.)

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

8. I hope that you encounter and embrace the Creator of the Universe. If you do, your life will have a foundation built on rock that will weather any storm.

9. Finally, BE YOUR BEST SELF...by the way, THAT is a lifelong process.

That's it graduates...the most important lessons I have learned in Life 101. There is only one thing left for you to do: ARISE, GO FORTH & CONQUER!

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

Rural Texas ...

The very mention of "Texas" conjures vivid images of wide-open spaces, gushers, cattle drives, cotton fields, and other stuff of legends.



Despite this enduring legacy, a growing majority of population and economic activity is concentrated in metropolitan areas. Nonetheless, the rural parts of the state are generating a notable component of overall growth and, in the process, providing much of the fuel, food, and fiber that sustains us. Let's focus on my roots and this key segment of Texas.

A Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is a county or group of counties with at least one urban center with a population of 50,000 or more. Adjacent counties with economic ties to the central area are also included. In Texas, 80 of 254 counties are in MSAs. They represent less than 20% of the land area, but about 88% of output, 92% of employment, and 90% of population.

Rural counties are expanding, but not at the torrid pace of the state as a whole. Over the past 20 years, rural population increased by 9.4%, compared to 38.3% across all of Texas. Rural employment rose by 18.8%, much slower than the 44.4% overall.

We are projecting that the growth gap will persist but narrow substantially over the coming two decades. Our forecast calls for population gains of 18.1% in rural counties through 2043, no-

tably slower than the Texas increase of 30.1%, but not as dramatically lower as recently observed. For employment, we anticipate an increase of 25.6% for rural jobs, compared to 33.4% for the state. (Of course, some counties may be reclassified as sprawl persists.)

Although agriculture immediately comes to mind, this sector accounts for relatively few jobs. Most people are working in health care, education, retail, food services, public administration, manufacturing, construction, and other segments. The crops and livestock they produce, however, are an important part of our export base and vital to economic wellbeing.

Of particular note is the concentration of jobs in oil and gas extraction, which isn't surprising given that most of the Permian Basin, Eagle Ford, and other plays are in rural areas. In fact, labor productivity in rural areas is significantly higher than elsewhere. Between oil and gas (where enormous value is created with a few people) and agriculture (where one farmer and a sophisticated tractor can work wonders), that pattern will persist. Rural regions also boast major concentrations of renewable energy and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Population and employment expansion has been and will continue to be concentrated in metropolitan areas. While rural counties face many notable challenges going forward, they will continue to expand and support key elements of Texas production and exports – not to mention defining much of our heritage and identity. Stay safe!

House lawmakers defy Abbott on vouchers

A key House education committee adjourned last week without voting on a school voucher bill that is Gov. Greg Abbott's top priority this session, the Houston Chronicle reported. Barring some unforeseen maneuver in the last week of the regular legislative session, the bill is effectively dead for now.

The Senate had approved a bill that would provide Texas families \$8,000 in taxpayer money to fund private or charter school tuition. The House narrowed the scope so that it would only apply to students with disabilities or those attending schools with a failing grade issued by the Texas Education Agency – an estimated 800,000 students. The Senate bill would make vouchers available to 5.5 million Texas students.

State Rep. Brad Buckley, R-Killeen, chair of the House Public Education Committee, said he doesn't plan to call a vote on the measure. Abbott has threatened to veto the House version or call a special session if the House does not approve the Senate version.

Opponents of the voucher system say it would take money away from public education.

"These voucher proposals have been brought before — in 1957. A tuition grant bill was passed through the House. It failed ultimately, but it was to allow kids to leave integrated schools and join white-only schools," state Rep. James Tarlrico, D-Round Rock, said.

Bills on natural gas power plants advance

A Texas House committee voted Thursday to send to the House floor a Senate bill providing \$10 billion in taxpayer money for low-interest loans to build natural gas-powered electrical generating plants. The plan is still subject to change in the waning days of the legislative session, however.

The Dallas Morning News reported the call for plant expansions stem from the near collapse of the power grid during the devastating winter storm in 2021. Hundreds of Texans died during that blackout.

State Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi, and chair of the House State Affairs Committee that is considering the bills, said the \$10 billion loan fund and other power generation measures remain "works in progress." The legislative session ends May 29.

House, Senate closer on tax relief plan

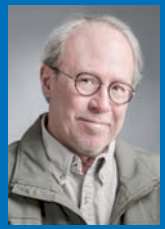
The Texas House and Senate appear to be nearing a deal that would deliver billions of dollars in property tax relief, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The proposal combines House Speaker Dade Phelan's preference for cutting appraisal caps by half with Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's preference for increasing homestead exemptions.

The Legislature was under a mandate from Abbott and Patrick to return nearly half of the state's \$33 billion budget surplus to taxpayers. The latest measure would lower the appraised value cap from 10% to 5% for all properties. The House version would also raise the state's homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000, with an added \$10,000 exemption for seniors and disabled homeowners. Patrick's original proposal was to raise the exemption to \$70,000.

Draft budget bars tax dollars for Paxton settlement

House and Senate budget negotiators plan to bar using state funds to pay the \$3.3 million whistleblower settlement

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



negotiated by Attorney General Ken Paxton and his former aides, the Statesman reported.

The settlement was reached in February after four former employees of the AG's office sued Paxton, accusing him of bribery and abusing his office. Since that time the four aides were fired or have resigned. Paxton denied their allegations, but as part of the settlement apologized for calling them "rogue employees."

Paxton said when the settlement was reached that it would save taxpayer money in the long run by avoiding an expensive court battle. "I have chosen this path to save taxpayer dollars and ensure my third term as Attorney General is unburdened by unnecessary distractions," Paxton said in a statement at the time.

"This settlement achieves these goals."

Suspected fungal infections linked to Matamoros surgeries

The Texas Department of State Health Services is sounding the alarm to the public and doctors about suspected cases of fungal meningitis among Texas residents receiving surgery in Matamoros, Mexico – across the border from Brownsville. So far, the investigation has found at least five affected patients, four of whom are now hospitalized and one who died.

The patients traveled from Texas to Matamoros for surgical procedures that involved an epidural anesthetic, which is injected around the spinal column. One of the possible elective procedures conducted under an epidural is liposuction.

"It is very important that people who have recently had medical procedures in Mexico monitor themselves for symptoms of meningitis," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer Shuford. "Meningitis, especially when caused by bacteria or fungus, can be a life-threatening illness unless treated promptly."

Anyone who had surgery involving an epidural in Matamoros this year is advised to contact a doctor, DSHS said in its news release.

More than \$9 million in EMS student scholarships

The state is funding more than \$9 million for 1,500 emergency medical services scholarships. The goal is to expand the state's EMS workforce, especially in underserved and rural areas. The funding comes from legislation passed during the 2021 legislative session.

"This funding to support EMS education opportunities and to increase the workforce will ensure a strong EMS system in Texas," said Joe Schmider of DSHS. "These scholarships are impacting the current and future emergency care throughout all of Texas."

Potential EMS students can learn more by going here: dshs.texas.gov/emstexas.

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—Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"

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Education doesn't stop after graduation

Mark Twain was definitely one of our country's true treasures and his quote book is full of gems that are worth repeating.

To wit: "When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

Which brings us to today's topic of high school graduation and all the 18-year-olds who, after tossing their mortar boards in the air, will march into the world full of attitude and vinegar.

A good portion will grasp at the notion that their parents still have a lot to learn when it comes to knowing what is important in life.

In other words, like the brilliant Mr. Twain related, our parents seem dumb until we've grown up a bit and their "transformation" has been remarkable.

Our two boys were typical, meaning, they were sure the Lovely Bride and I simply didn't have a clue about the world around us.

And while they won't readily admit it, this all changed when they became full-fledged adults with all those pesky responsibilities

Terry Cannon
Editor



that go with being grown up. When life comes at you in waves, such as a new job, an expanding family and so on, the former teenager that gave a side-eye to his or her parent suddenly had an epiphany.

"Man, they were pretty smart after all," they might say, (but not out loud of course).

Once upon a time, a half century ago as a matter of fact, yours truly sat among more than 1,000 graduates from Bryan Adams High School in Memorial Auditorium in downtown Dallas.

It's not only the 50 years that have passed which has dimmed my memories of what the speakers said that night to us. It's also the fact that I was preoccupied with the short term of my life, not where I'd be in 50 years.

Undoubtedly, we were encouraged to jump into adulthood with both feet, be dedicated to making the planet a better place.

In 1972, the world we knew was chaotic, just as it is today. The war in Vietnam still raged and to 18-year-old males, the thought of being drafted and sent overseas was firmly planted in our minds.

Racial tensions simmered and, at times, exploded. Bigotry and hate, as evil then as it is today, gouged out huge divisions in our national psyche.

Politicians, as they will always do, made absurd promises simply to draw voters to their side so they could take root in arenas of power. Some politicians then, like now, were capable of inconceivable dishonesty to hold onto power.

Yeah, the world was a pretty messed up place.

Yet, those 1972 graduates streamed out into the world and some even made the type of difference that did indeed make the world a better place.

Some of us got an advanced education, earned an honest living and raised our children to be responsible, sensible adults who are passing those values onto their own kids.

This week, the Lindale High School 2023 seniors will dress up in their caps and gowns, file into Eagle Stadium and take their seats. As the ceremony begins, the Valedictorian and Salutatorian and other dignitaries will speak, offering words of wisdom to the grads.

More than likely, these inspiring words will float past their ears. Mainly, because for practically each one of these seniors, the night will represent the culmination of 12 long years of hard work, late study nights and a good portion of their lives spent in school hallways and classrooms.

Graduation will be the first step towards adulthood, a time when these youngsters will face hard choices, make boneheaded mistakes and eventually learn that what their folks preached to them all their lives will eventually come into focus.

Yep, it's funny how those old fogeys really knew what they were talking about.



Pratt's 50th wedding anniversary

Chuck and Ginger (Stone) Pratt of Lindale will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, May 26 with a barbecue supper hosted by their children Leslie Bain and Charles and Kristine Pratt and grandchildren Cason and Cayla Bain and Grace and Addison Pratt. The couple was married on May 26, 1973 in El Paso. Chuck is a retired supervisor for Phelps Dodge Copper Refinery and a retired pro fisherman. Ginger is retired from the Tyler Independent School District after 40 years. The couple will also celebrate their anniversary with an Alaskan cruise.

Times of Lindale



EDITOR'S NOTE: This column comes from the archives of the Lindale News and Times, which is available online for \$2.99 per month. Call 903-882-8880 to set up your online subscription.

ONE YEAR AGO, May 26, 2022

The Smith County Commissioners Court agreed to use a portion of the county's American Rescue Plan Act funding to purchase police pursuit, emergency and public safety vehicles for several county departments.

ARPA funding was given to Smith County by the U.S. Department of Treasury as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic downturn.

The purchases will include one grapple truck and four dump trucks for the Smith County Road and Bridge Department, one truck for the Fire Marshal's Office, and 38 law enforcement Chevrolet Tahoes for the Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office and several Constable's Offices.

The order includes four-wheel drive vehicles for the Constable Offices to be used in inclement weather.

Smith County Purchasing Director Jaye Latch said using the ARPA funding for the public safety vehicles will allow the County to place its orders this month, instead of waiting when most counties order at the beginning of the next fiscal year, which begins October 1.

FIVE YEARS AGO, May 24, 2018

Three Lindal City Council members and three Lindale ISD Board of Trustees members were sworn in to their new terms on their respective boards.

Mayor Jeff Daugherty, Place 2 Councilman Clyde Harper and Place 3 Councilwoman Ginger Sims were sworn in at city hall by City Secretary Michelle Phillips.

Precinct 5 Justice of the Peace James Cowart issued oaths of office to new LISD Board President Mike Combs as well as returning board members Brooks Beeler and Donny Williams.

10 YEARS AGO, May 23, 2013

The Lindale Garden Club named its new officers for the coming year and awarded two scholarships to Lindale High School seniors during its regular monthly meeting.

The new officers include President Billie Jean Harper, Vice President Peggy Wilmeth, Secretary Lindae Thelan, Reporter Mary Ellis, Historian Diana Stegal, Parliamentarian Suellyn Phillips and Treasurer Mary Ann Nielson.

Bailey Hukill and Konner Hicks were awarded scholarships by the club.

Hukill is the son of Tony and Michelle Hukill of Lindale. He was named the Student of the Year at the 2013 Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce banquet held at Hideaway Lake.

Hicks is the son of Wayland and Wendi Hicks. He was a representative of the 2013 Student Council state convention in Dallas and a member of the Lindale State Bank Student Board of Directors.

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Out of this world experience with a Creature

This Caller ID is the greatest thing since sliced bread. I can get into whatever character I want before I answer the phone. It's like havin' ESP or somethin'. I'm tellin' you this because I got a call from a phone creature this week.

The phone rang, and the ID said, "Unknown Caller." I thought about it for a second before I picked up the receiver. I cleared my voice and picked up.

"It's me," I said in a low, mysterious voice. I didn't hear anything. I repeated, "It's me," then I heard that little click, and I knew for sure it was a phone creature. "It's me," I said again.

"Mr. Mitchum?" the voice on the other end said.

"It's me. The crow flies south." I said.

"Uh, I beg your pardon."

"The crow flies south," I said. "I repeat; the crow flies south."

"I'm sorry," said the creature. "I don't understand."

"Give me the counter sign," I said.

"Sir?"

"The counter sign. Don't you know the counter sign?"

"Uh, no Sir. I'm afraid you have me mixed up with someone else."

"Oh," I said, changin' to a cheerier voice. "Never mind. Forget what I said."

"Uh, okay....This is Mr. Mitchum, isn't it?"

"Uh, sure. Yeah, that's it. I mean, yeah, that's my name. Mr. Mitchum. That's me."

"OK...uh... Mr. Mitchum, we have a wonderful deal going, where we can set you up with a satellite dish and three receivers at no charge...."

"Nope, don't want 'em," I said.

"But let me tell you about the ..."

"No," I said. "They use those things to read your mind. I don't want nobody

Rusty Mitchum
Life & Times



else readin' my mind."

"No sir," the creature chuckled. "These are for your TV."

"Ha! That's what they want you to think. I know. Do you know how I know?"

"I'm afraid you've been misinformed," the creature said.

"No, you've been misinformed. I know; I've been there."

"Been where?"

"There," I said. "You know, up there."

"Up there?"

"Yeah, up there. Oh, it was horrible. You see, it all started when I was out in the desert one night lookin' for an Elvis cactus."

"An Elvis cactus?"

"Yeah," I said. "That's a cactus that looks like Elvis. They're really rare, you know."

"Sounds like it," he said sarcastically.

"Yeah, anywho, I had found one that looked like Michael Jackson, but those are a dime a dozen, so I continued my search. I didn't realize it, but I had crossed over into a secret government experimental provin' ground."

"Area 51?" the creature asked.

"SHHHHH!" I said. "Don't say that over the phone. Like I was sayin', I crossed over into their provin' ground, and that's when I heard the noise." I waited for the creature to take the bait.

"What noise?"

"A sort of whirlin' sound. I ducked down behind a cactus, and the next thing I knew there was a blindin' light up above me. I looked up and

there was a giant round flyin' machine."

"A flying saucer?"

"No, it looked more like a commode lid. But it had lights all around the bottom. Then a light slowly descended, grabbed me, and pulled me up. And the next thing I knew, I was on this here table, nekkid as a Jaybird, and surrounded by these little bitty creatures with great big heads and bugged out eyes."

"Are you for real?" the phone creature asked.

"Wow," I said. "That's the same question they asked me."

"You could understand them?"

"Well, it was kind of weird. They didn't talk like normal folks. They clicked."

"Clicked?"

"Yeah, sort of like when you turn the light switch on and off. Well, at least the old light switches. These new one don't click no more. I like the old ones that clicked, don't you?"

"Uh, I never really thought about it. But what happened on the space ship?"

"Well," I said in a conspiratorial tone, "even though they clicked when they talked, I could understand what they were sayin'. Don't ask me how, but I could. I didn't answer his question about if I was real or not, I just turned my head and looked out a window. I could see the earth disappearin' in the distance. Then I saw one of the little creatures comin' at me with a long needle lookin' thing about the size of a knittin' needle. Then he stuck it in my belly button. I flopped around on that table

like a guinea pig on a gas grill. When I settled down, he looked into my face and started clickin'."

"What did he say?" asked the phone creature.

"He said, "Turn your head and cough.'"

"Do what?"

"Yeah, then they pushed somethin' up my nose and into my brain. I think it was some kind of computer chip or somethin'. Then they flew me back down and threw me back out where I had been hidin' behind that cactus. I stayed there for a couple of days and finally got up enough strength to crawl back to my car."

"Did you tell anyone, besides me, about this?"

"Heck yeah, but they thought I was nuts."

"Really," the creatures said in a patronizin' tone.

"Yeah, and the side effects of this chip they pushed up my nose is about to wreck my marriage."

"How so?"

"Well, for one thing, every time I poot, the garage door goes up." It got really quite on the other end.

"You need help," the creature finally said, and hung up.

I started laughin', as I hung up the phone. Sometimes I crack myself up. I was wipin' the tears out of my eyes when I looked up, and there was my wife Janet, givin' me one of "those" looks.

"What?" I said.

"You need help," she said. I started laughin' again.

"That's what he said," I chuckled.

"Do you think we can get that chip in your brain adjusted?" she said.

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"Well, instead of the garage door going up, it would be better if it raised the windows."

She thinks she's so funny.

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Rotary Club road trip

Members of the Lindale Rotary Club took a local road trip this past week and visited Colonial Nursing and Rehab Center in Lindale in recognition of National Skilled Nursing Care Week. Members presented residents with tissue paper butterflies created by the youngsters at Christ Point Methodist Church in Lindale in addition to personally signed cards. Smiles and warm hearts were also offered to the residents. Members Alice Ann Brown and Shannon Reid presented a book to resident Dolores Goodman, who used to work at the Lillie Russell Memorial Library in Lindale. (Courtesy photo)

Blood drive scheduled June 12 at Mercy Ships

A blood drive benefiting CarterBlood Care is scheduled for 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday, June 12 at Mercy Ships, 15862 State Highway 110 North, officials said.

CarterBlood Care officials noted that summer is traditionally a time for a slowdown in blood donations which is reflected in the drop in the community blood supply.

High school students contribute 25 percent of the state's blood donations and officials are counting on their continued contributions to the blood supply.

It takes less than an hour to give blood that saves lives, officials pointed out. Donated blood is used to help people with life-threatening injuries due to serious vehicle accidents and severe trauma, those undergoing surgeries and transplants, patients receiving cancer treatments, mothers going through difficult deliveries, children with anemia, and older adults with age-related health issues.

As a special thank-you through June 30, each Carter BloodCare donor will receive an insulated cooler lunch bag. It's a handy way to keep your cool when the heat is on this summer.

To sign up, log on to https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/137564 or call 903-939-7084.

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903-881-9490

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903-882-7671

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903-882-4726

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903-882-5381



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Mt. Sylvan Baptist Church

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903-882-3890
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903-882-8066

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903-882-8501

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903-535-9155

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Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7597

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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

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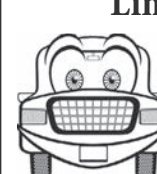
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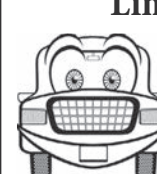
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Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Lindale Police Department call log for May 5-May 12:

FRIDAY, MAY 5: 7:37:20 AM, Traffic Complaint, FM 1804/Highway 69 North; 7:40:55 AM, Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive; 9:33:03 AM, Traffic Hazard, 1600 block South Main Street; 12:16:43 PM, Public Service, 100 block East Hubbard Street; 2:32:53 PM, Accident, 300 block South Main Street; 3:58:10 PM, Accident, 15000 block Interstate 20 East; 4:32:49 PM, Motorist Assist, 14000 block Interstate 20 West; 5:08:07 PM, Public Service, 3500 block South Main Street; 5:24:57 PM, Alarm Residence, 1400 block Allison Lane; 6:25:15 PM, Motorist Assist, 14000 block Interstate 20 East; 7:24:29 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 800 block North Main Street; 7:35:49 PM, Verbal Disturbance, Circle Drive; 8:02:30 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 600 block South Main Street; 8:49:21 PM, Traffic Complaint, 3200 block South Main Street; 9:15:19 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, Helen Drive; 10:14:00 PM, Accident, 13000 block Interstate 20 West; 11:21:10 PM, Reckless Driving, 17000 block Interstate 20 West.

SATURDAY, MAY 6: 12:11:22 AM, Reckless Driving, 16000 block Interstate 20 East; 12:58:16 AM, Assist SCSO, 900 block Stewart Street; 3:57:48 AM, Reckless Driving, 14000 block Highway 110 North; 6:36:28 AM, Disturbance, 13000 block CR 472; 9:44:36 AM, Burglary, 200 block North College Street; 10:16:18 AM, 911 Hang Up Call, 1100 block Woodlands Park Drive; 10:44:47 AM, Welfare Concern, 900 block South Main Street; 11:44:42 AM, Disturbance, 13000 block CR 472; 1:04:15 PM, Theft, 800 block Braewood Circle; 3:27:30 PM, Welfare Concern, 500 block Pierce Street; 4:09:12 PM, Welfare Concern, 200 block West Centennial Blvd; 5:49:57 PM, Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive; 6:16:30 PM, 911 Hang Up Call, 800 block Pineland Lane; 7:54:39 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 13000 block Interstate 20; 8:07:23 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 3500 block South Main Street; 8:18:26 PM, 911 Hang Up Call, 100 Block Mission Crest Circle; 10:25:29 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 15300 block Country Acres Drive; 11:15:30 PM, Discharge Firearm, 14000 block CR 433; 11:46:12 PM, Suspicious Vehicle, 14000 block CR 474; 11:49:50 PM, Alarm Business, 800 block Lindale Industrial Parkway.

SUNDAY, MAY 7: 12:14:21 AM, Motorist Assist, 2500



block South Main Street; 11:04:45 AM, Assist Another Agency, 100 block East Centennial Blvd; 12:38:44 PM, Assist EMS, 13000 block Interstate 20; 12:54:50 PM, Soliciting, 100 block East Centennial Blvd; 1:56:03 PM, Theft, 13000 block Interstate 20; 2:33:12 PM, Alarm Business, 13000 block Interstate 20 West; 4:15:38 PM, Welfare Concern, 13000 block FM 849; 6:30:30 PM, Assist SCSO, 18000 block CR 4184; 7:26:40 PM, Animal Complaint, 700 block Jack Drive; 8:05:35 PM, Assist Another Agency, 100 block Williams Drive; 8:39:37 PM, Verbal Disturbance, 17000 block CR 4112; 9:05:23 PM, Welfare Concern, 500 block Sunset Drive; 10:56:18 PM, Suspicious Person, 17000 block Interstate 20 West.

MONDAY, MAY 8: 12:57:39 AM, Disturbance, 17000 block CR 4112; 1:20:13 AM, Assist SCSO, 19000 block CR 4116; 4:06:39 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 3500 block South Main Street; 1:13:42 PM, Suspicious Person, 600 block East Hubbard Street; 2:52:30 PM, Assist Another Agency, CR 472/S Main Street; 3:00:36 PM, Criminal Trespass, 100 block Hudson Street; 4:02:17 PM, Alarm Business, 3300 block South Main Street; 7:05:44 PM, Suspicious Person, 300 block South Street; 8:22:24 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 15000 block Brittain Court; 9:01:49 PM, Accident, 600 block South Main Street; 9:05:15 PM, Assist SCSO, 17000 block Interstate 20 West; 10:35:33 PM, Possession of Marijuana, 200 block Cannery Row.

TUESDAY, MAY 9: 7:31:34 AM, Accident, Mount Sylvan/West South Street; 8:13:40 AM, Public Service, 500 block Sunset Drive; 9:09:12 AM, Disturbance, Sunset

Drive/Legacy Drive; 11:55:11 AM, Escort, 200 block West South Street; 4:55:17 PM, Welfare Concern, 100 block East Centennial Blvd.; 6:16:21 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 300 block East Hubbard Street; 6:41:42 PM, Accident, 14000 block Interstate 20 East; 8:22:56 PM, Public Service, 13000 block Interstate 20 West; 8:31:14 PM, Motorist Assist, 13000 block Highway 69 North; 10:27:21 PM, Welfare Concern, 13000 block FM 2710.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10: 5:21:03 AM, Stolen Vehicle, 3500 block South Main Street; 7:28:45 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 1100 block South Main Street; 8:42:07 AM, Parking Violation, Freedom Street; 3:21:50 PM, Accident, 16000 block Interstate 20 West; 3:44:12 PM, Accident, 16000 block Interstate 20 West; 5:20:17 PM, Alarm Business, 1400 block South Main Street; 6:47:50 PM, Assist Another Agency, 3200 block South Main Street; 8:38:34 PM, Accident, 14000 block Interstate 20 West; 9:25:42 PM, Stolen Vehicle, 100 block East Centennial Blvd.

THURSDAY, MAY 11: 2:15:28 AM, Check In Passing, 13000 block CR 472; 6:19:07 AM, Suspicious Vehicle, 13000 block Interstate 20 West; 12:08:24 PM, Motorist Assist, 2000 block South Main Street; 5:07:50 PM, Assist Another Agency, 400 block Eagle Spirit Drive; 5:26:17 PM, Public Service, 200 block Cannery Row; 6:37:22 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 100 block Ballard Drive; 6:40:58 PM, Traffic Hazard, 400 block South Main Street; 6:46:56 PM, Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive; 6:53:59 PM, Suspicious Circumstance, 400 block East Hubbard Street; 6:58:25 PM, Animal Complaint, 600 block South Main Street; 7:10:13 PM, Welfare Concern, 15000 block Interstate 20 East; 7:45:08 PM, Traffic Hazard, Ballard Drive/South Main Street; 10:24:34 PM, Traffic, CR 472/South Main Street; 11:27:54 PM, Traffic, 13400 block Highway 69 North.

FRIDAY, MAY 12: 12:41:42 AM, Motorist Assist, 13000 block Interstate 20 East; 12:57:19 AM, Suspicious Person, 2900 block South Main Street; 1:02:35 AM, Assist Another Agency, 70 block Miranda Lambert Way; 2:42:08 AM, Suspicious Person, 200 block Stadium Street; 3:52:02 AM, Fight In Progress, 100 block Stadium Street; 4:45:35 AM, Alarm Residence, 600 block Yesterday Drive; 5:53:29 AM, Suspicious Circumstance, 200 block Bonnie Street.

Sherman man convicted of several federal charges

A Sherman man has been convicted of federal violations in the Eastern District of Texas, said Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Damien M. Diggs.

Brian Deboris Black, 32, was convicted of conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery; robbery; conspiracy to kidnap; and two counts of carrying and brandishing a firearm during a crime of violence. Black was found guilty of all counts by a jury following a week-long trial before U.S. District Judge Jeremy D. Kernodle.

According to information presented in court, on Oct. 3, 2020, Black, along with two others, robbed a Dollar General store in Tom Bean, Texas. During the robbery, Black brandished a firearm and threatened to kill the three employees in the store if they did not comply with his demands.

On Oct. 13, 2020, Black and several others committed a home invasion robbery in Mansfield.

They entered the home at gunpoint, kidnapped three family members and restrained them with zip ties, and demanded money while threatening to kill them if they did not comply.

Black shot the homeowners' son when he was able to free himself from the zip ties. The victim survived the shooting, but with permanent injuries. Co-defendant

testimony, DNA, and cell phone analysis were instrumental in establishing that Black brandished the firearm while committing both offenses.

"The Department of Justice will continue to use every resource at its disposal to address violent crimes occurring in our communities," said Diggs. "This outcome should serve as a message that individuals who use firearms to harm or injure others will be prosecuted and held accountable in federal court."

"The FBI remains laser focused on working with our law enforcement partners to counter violent crime wherever it occurs. In this case, our agents and task force officers combined the use of cutting-edge technologies and traditional investigative methods to achieve a significant verdict against a violent offender. I'm grateful that our community has been made safer by their work," said FBI Dallas Special Agent in Charge Chad Yarbrough.

Black faces up to life in federal prison at sentencing. The maximum statutory sentence prescribed by Congress is provided here for information purposes, as the sentencing will be determined by the court based on the advisory sentencing guidelines and other statutory factors. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion

of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

This case was prosecuted as part of the joint federal, state, and local Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Program, the centerpiece of the Department of Justice's violent crime reduction efforts. PSN is an evidence-based program proven to be effective at reducing violent crime. Through PSN, a broad spectrum of stakeholders work together to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in the community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them. As part of this strategy, PSN

focuses enforcement efforts on the most violent offenders and partners with locally based prevention and reentry programs for lasting reductions in crime.

This case was investigated by the FBI's Sherman Resident Agency, Tom Bean Police Department, Whitewright Police Department, Sherman Police Department, Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office, and the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Lab. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Ernest Gonzalez and Tracey Batson.

East Texas unemployment numbers show improvement

Texas achieved 26 consecutive months of growth in total nonfarm employment in April 2023, with the state again eclipsing records for the largest civilian labor force and greatest number of people employed in state history, officials with the Texas Workforce Commission announced.

In East Texas, the unemployment rate was 3.8 percent based on a combined labor force of 113,800 with 109,000 of those being employed.

These numbers reflected an improvement from March, when the CLF was 114,000 and those with jobs numbered just over 110,000.

Across the state, the seasonally adjusted civilian labor force increased by 62,184 to reach a series-high 14,960,308 people, while the unemployment rate held steady at 4.0 percent.

Texas added 33,300 positions to reach another series-high job count at 13,871,100 total nonfarm jobs. Annually, the Texas job count increased more than any other state, with 534,600 positions added since April 2022.

"Texas continues its strong job creation trend with more than one million jobs added since April 2019," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "TWC continues to work to meet the growth across the state and support workforce needs with training solutions that start as early as high school."

Every one of the 11 major industries had positive annual growth in Texas, with all but one industry, Construction, achieving positive over-the-month growth. In April, Professional and Business Services had the

largest monthly gain with 8,700 jobs added, followed by Trade, Transportation and Utilities with 6,400 positions, and Leisure and Hospitality following closely with 6,200 positions.

"The fact that every single industry in Texas has sustained positive growth over the year is a testament to the strength of Texas employers, large and small, and the health of our economy," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson. "Texas is leading the way and on the forefront of technology and many other high-demand sectors, and TWC is here to provide resources for training to employers so they can ensure their workforce meets their business needs."

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) reached the lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 2.3 percent in April, followed by Amarillo at 2.8 percent, then College Station-Bryan at 2.9 percent. Nationally, over the year, the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA ranked second for number of jobs added, while the Midland MSA ranked first in America for percentage of jobs added.

"We belong to a diverse and skilled workforce which requires a multitude of resources to sustain this job growth and keep Texans working," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III. "From adult education and literacy to second chance reentry programs, Texas Workforce Solutions is dedicated to providing career pathways to success for every Texan."

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Lindale Garden Club awards scholarship

Lindale High School senior Tex Minter was presented with a college scholarship by the Lindale Garden Club recently. He is the son of Charley and Sunshine Minter and grandson of Bill and Nancy Pike all of Lindale. He plans to study biology at Tyler Junior College. (Courtesy photo)



Rodeo themed story time at library

It was rodeo time for youngsters this past Friday during the weekly story time at Lillie Russell Memorial Library as cowboys from the Patterson Ram Lindale Championship Rodeo presented by the Edwards Team at Century 21 First Group displayed their roping skills. (Courtesy photo)

Grilling safety tips for a safe Memorial Day

By Claudann Jones
Smith County Extension
Agent Family and
Community Health

For many of us, Memorial Day weekend represents the unofficial kick-off to summer, often including lots of outdoor celebrations, cook-outs, and grilling.

As the holiday and summer months near, follow grilling information, safety tips, and recommendations from the National Fire Protection Association to help lower the risk of grilling fires and associated hazards.

NFPA data shows that U.S. fire departments responded to an annual average of 10,600 home fires involving grills, hibachis, or barbecues. This includes 4,900 structure fires and 5,700 outside or unclassified fires,

resulting in 10 civilian deaths, 160 civilian injuries, and \$149 million in direct property damage.

The peak months for grilling fires are July (18 percent),

June (15 percent), May (13 percent), and August (12 percent), though grilling fires occur year-round. Leading causes include failing to clean the grill, the heat source being located too close to combustible materials, leaving equipment unattended, and leaks or breaks in the grill or fuel source.

On average, 19,700 patients went to emergency rooms each year because of injuries involving grills. Nearly half (9,500 or 48 per-



cent) of the injuries were thermal burns, including both burns from fire and from contact with hot objects; 5,200 thermal burns were caused by contact or other non-fire

events.

Children under five accounted for an average of 2,000, or 39 percent, of the contact-type burns per year.

These burns typically occurred when someone, often a child, bumped into, touched, or fell on the grill, grill part, or hot coals.

NFPA offers these tips and recommendations for enjoying a fire-safe grilling season:

-- For propane grills, check the gas tank for leaks before use in the months ahead. (Watch NFPA's video on how to check for leaks.)

-- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.

-- Place the grill well away from the home, deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

-- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

-- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grilling area.

-- If you use starter fluid when charcoal grilling, only use charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire. When you have or are finished grilling, let the coals cool completely before disposing in a metal container.

-- Never leave your grill unattended when in use.

For more information about Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Family and Community Health programs, contact the Smith County Extension 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.

Lindale, Hideaway students earn TJC dean's, president's list honors

Tyler Junior College has recognized 1,467 students named to the president's and dean's lists for their academic excellence during the Spring 2023 semester, including several from Lindale and Hideaway, publicity officials announced.

The president's list consists of 538 students who completed a minimum of 12 hours of college-level courses with a 4.0 grade-point average.

The dean's list consists of 929 students who completed a minimum of 12 hours of college-level courses with a minimum 3.3 grade-point average.

Lindale students earning president's list honors include Madison Beaird, Conner Belcher, Lian Boone, Chloe Cagle, Rylen Calverley, Madison Clark, Bailee DeWolfe, Emilee DeWolfe, Dillon Derfelt, Victoria Duford, Kate Durbin, Naomi Estrada, Rachael Gibbs, Ethan Gibson, Cassandra Hartman, Kayleigh Horstkamp, Luke Kallaher, Julee King, River Lee, Codie Lewis, Aimee Maxwell, Ivan Mendez, Maritza Mendez, Kaelyn Miller, Mitchell Morman, Kayla Newton, Cody Peters, Connor Philpot, James Roden, Victoria Rosas Romo, Liviya Simmons, Trevor Smith, Kaden Trigueiro and Gracie Woolverton.

Hideaway president's list honorees include Brady Allen and Noah Sullivan.

Dean's list honorees from Lindale include Afraiem Abdelshahid, Juliee Acosta, Bowen Adams, Belen Alvarez, Homero Aparicio, Eizik Arocha, Tyler Beard, Rachel Beeler, Nicholas Beitel, Aden Bell, Gwendolyn Bouse, Lily Chamberlain, Grayson Cooper, LaQuandriel Cooper, Lucas Cote, Tho Dao, Ryan Darden, Cody Davis, Izzabell Dawson, Taylor Decaney, McKinleigh Evans, Leslie Gallegos, Cinthya Gaona, Caden Goodson, Caroline Graham, Antoinette Hardin, Harlow Holden, Adelaide James, Robert Johnson, Shawn Jones, Ronda Knight, Brooke Laymance, Michael Lazarine, Tesha Marsh, Brianna McHam, Nixon Mize, Reeci Morgan, John Park, Trace Potter, Kali Putnam, Jose Ramirez, Brandon Ratcliff, Caleb Riches, James Roach, Ryan Sheppa, Chloe Smith, Alexa Sundholm, Austin Taylor, Ashley Thrush, Sophie Tignor, Mitchell Tipton, Macy Turner, Kasey Villarreal, Kayla Villarreal, Ashley Westfall, Kelsey White, Christian Widemon, Ashlyn Wright and Rigo Yanez.

Hideaway students earning dean's list honors include Lacey Bonds, Tex Minter and Chloe Nations.

East Texas trees are nature's beautiful gift

By Diane Lestor
Smith County Master Gardener

Poems are made by fools like me, only God can make a tree. Joyce Kilmer, 1913

One of the most appealing qualities of East Texas are our trees. The forests, filled with oaks, pines and cedars make this one of the most beautiful areas in the state. Besides adding beauty to our corner of the world, they provide many much needed qualities.

Currently, they're getting the recognition they deserve as one of the many ways to combat climate change by removing carbon dioxide and replacing it with oxygen. The more trees we have the healthier our air.

Trees also provide shade in the summer, which aids in keeping houses cool and thus reduces air conditioning costs. How cool is that?

Caring for our trees, be they 50 feet or smaller can be a project. Here are a few things to consider: choosing the right tree to fit the right location, what will it look like in 5-10 years, planting it correctly, pruning and monitoring it for diseases and insects. There are innumerable resources for all of these projects and it pays to research before investing money, effort and time. The reward is success in adding trees to enhance your landscape.



For a list of trees that do well in East Texas just search the web for "approved tree list Tyler Texas" and it will take you to cityoftyler.org. The list is very inclusive from large to small trees and gives all of the growing conditions.

You can also consult the Smith County Master Gardener help desk at Smith-MGHelpDesk@gmail.com. And it is also a good idea to consult a certified arborist with any highly technical questions. Helpful lists of many websites and arborists can be forwarded from the help desk.

May you enjoy one of Mother Nature's greatest gifts.

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



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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Kenneth P. Muncy, Deceased, were issued to Evelyn L. Muncy, as Independent Executor on May 15, 2023, in Cause No. 47382P, County Court at Law No. 3, Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate should present them to the Independent Executor, c/o Adams & Coker, P.C., 4540 Kinsey Dr., Tyler, Texas 75703, within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration for the Estate of Verna Craze Efurd, Deceased, were issued on May 15, 2023, in Cause No. 47371P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3, Smith County, Texas, to Paul Camden Efurd. Claims may be presented to the following address:

Paul Camden Efurd
Administrator of the Estate of Verna Craze Efurd
17516 CR 134
Flint, Texas 75762

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.

CAUSE NO. 47307P

THE ESTATE OF § **IN THE COUNTY COURT**
PAUL WILLIAM CURTIN § **AT LAW NO. 3**
DECEASED § **SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PAUL WILLIAM CURTIN, Deceased, were issued on May 15, 2023, in Cause No. 47307P, now pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas. Letters Testamentary were issued to Sarah Jane Curtin.

The residence of the Independent Executor is in Smith County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate at the following address:

c/o J. SCOTT KILLOUGH, P.C.
Attorney & Counselor at Law
4660 Kinsey Drive
Tyler, Texas 75703

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



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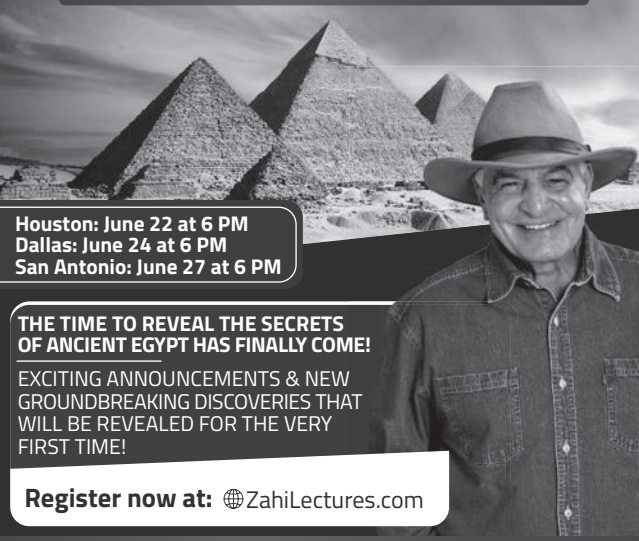
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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RUBY ELAINE MASTEN, Deceased, were issued on May 1, 2023, in Cause No. 47,210P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas, to: JIMMY J. MASTEN. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: H. CHUCK BAUMAN, Attorney at Law at 400 E Fifth St., Tyler, TX 75701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF EMMA MCGEE, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration upon the Estate of Emma McGee, Deceased, were granted to Archie Coleman on May 1, 2023 in Cause No. 46673P, pending in 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 Curtis Clinesmith and Kaitlin Travis c/o Archie Coleman, Independent Administrator of The Estate of Emma McGee, at 325 N. Saint Paul, Floor 29, Dallas, Texas 75201.

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LEGAL NOTICE

CAUSE NO. 45757P

ESTATE OF § **IN THE COUNTY COURT**
PAUL ZACHARY BERRY, § **AT LAW NUMBER THREE, OF**
 § **SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS**
DECEASED § **SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of PAUL ZACHARY BERRY, Deceased, were issued on December 15, 2021, in Cause No. 45757P, pending in the County Court of Smith County, Texas, to: LAURA BERRY.

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.

Laura Berry
c/o: Joe K. Thigpen
Attorney at Law
102 North College, Suite 808
Tyler, Texas 75702

DATED the 19th day of May, 2023.

/s/ Joe K. Thigpen
Attorney for Natalie Jones
State Bar No.: 19837400
102 North College, Suite 808
Tyler, Texas 75702
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Lillie Russell Memorial Library gearing up for a busy summer

Summer has arrived and the folks at the Lillie Russell Memorial Library are getting geared up for weeks of reading enjoyment for the youngsters in the East Texas area.

The "All Together Now" summer reading program begins on Thursday, June 1.

Youngsters are encouraged to read 20 minutes per day for seven days to earn prizes and be eligible for a drawing.

Also on that day will be the Friendship Bracelet making class for youngsters ages 8-12, which will begin at 1 p.m.

At 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Friday, June 2, the first Storytime of the summer is scheduled with Friends with Tumble Time gymnastics.

Also, the East Texas Educators Association presents Paws for Pencils on Friday, June 9. Free popsicles are given for donated school supplies. Therapy pets will be present as well.

Other scheduled events at LRML include:

- Tuesday, June 6, 10 a.m., Adult Game Day.
- Wednesday, June 7, 10:30 a.m., Professor Branius.
- Friday, June 9, 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Storytime All Together Now: Animals.
- Saturday, June 10, 10:30 a.m., Therapet.
- Sunday, June 11, 2 p.m., Friends of the Library meeting;
- Tuesday, June 13, Adult Game Day, 10 a.m.
- Thursday, June 15, Magician John O'Bryant presents "The Reading Magic Show," 10:30 a.m.; Graphite Drawing Class, ages 50 and older, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.; Yarn Club, 4 p.m.
- Friday, June 16, Storytime, "Kindness," 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; Graphite Drawing Class, ages 15-18, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 20, Adult Game Day, 10 a.m.
- Thursday, June 22, "Wildlife on the Move, Unhugables," 10:30 a.m.; Yarn Club, 4 p.m.
- Friday, June 23, Storytime, "Family," 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
- Saturday, June 24, Therapet.
- Tuesday, June 27, Adult Game Day, 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, June 28, Mark Shelton "Strike, Scrape and Shake," 10:30 a.m.; Drum Circle for teens and tweens, 2 p.m.
- Thursday, June 29, Quilting Class, ages 7 and up, 1 p.m.-3 p.m.; Yarn Club, 4 p.m.
- Friday, June 30, Storytime "Music," 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Read Local

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As always, the annual Patterson Ram Lindale Championship Rodeo presented by the Edwards Team at Century 21 First Group this past week was a popular event with young cowboys. These were perched on the gate awaiting the start of the Muttin' Bustin.

Photo by Terry Cannon



The annual Patterson Ram Lindale Championship Rodeo presented by the Edwards Team at Century 21 First Group returned to the Cross Brand Cowboy Church Arena this past Thursday and the first event out of the chute was the always popular Muttin' Bustin where youngsters do their best to hold onto a sheep. The rodeo continued through Saturday.

Photo by Terry Cannon

'Click it or Ticket'

Continued from Page 1

is dependent on her mother and me for even the simplest everyday tasks."

Unfortunately, choosing to not wear a seat belt is an all too common mistake in Texas. In 2022 there were 1,258 people killed who were not wearing their seat belt, a 2.5% increase from the year before.

"It's critical for everyone to take just a few seconds to buckle up, every ride, every time," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "Wearing a seat belt is one of the most important precautions motorists and their passengers can take to protect themselves in a crash. Whatever reason you may have for not buckling up, I promise it's not worth your life."

While more than 90% of Texans make the right choice to wear a seat belt, that still means 10% of Texans make the dangerous choice to stay unprotected on the road. TxDOT's goal is to get 100% of drivers and passengers to wear their seat belt 100% of the time.

From May 22 through June 4, including Memorial Day Weekend, law enforcement from around the state will be working overtime ticketing motorists who are not buckled up. State law requires that every person in a vehicle be secured by a seat belt whether riding in the front or back seat. Fines and court costs for failing to fasten seat belts can add up to \$250 or more.

The Click It or Ticket initiative has saved more than 7,399 lives, prevented more than 120,000 serious injuries, and resulted in \$28.5 billion in economic savings.

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