

Lindale News & Times

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50¢



LOOK INSIDE!
Check out the 2023 Fall Sports special section in this week's newspaper. It features our area football and volleyball teams, as well as our 2023 cheerleaders!



Smith County continues to be under a burn ban due to extreme dry conditions. That means no burning of trash piles or brush. Outdoor cooking is allowed, but please be careful. Fines for violating the burn ban can start at \$500.

New law targets drunk drivers who kill parents of young children

AUSTIN – As Labor Day approaches, TxDOT is reminding all Texans about the dangers of drunk driving. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has announced an increased enforcement period from Aug. 18 to Sept. 4. Texas law enforcement agencies are among those that will increase their efforts to pull over motorists suspected of drunk driving.

"Too many people are killed on our roads each year—especially during holidays—due to impaired driving. These crashes are inexcusable and 100% preventable," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "If you spend time with friends or family and decide to drink, make the right decision and plan ahead for a sober ride by taking a rideshare, taxi, public transit or designated driver."

The harsh reality is people continue to choose to drive after drinking. Last year, there were 345 DUI-alcohol related traffic crashes over the Labor Day holiday weekend alone, resulting in 20 fatalities and 62 serious injuries. Over the course of the year, a person was killed every 7 hours and 17 minutes in Texas because of a DUI-alcohol-related traffic crash, resulting in 1,203 people losing their lives.



Ready for the new school year

The first grade class of Mrs. Krajewski at College Street Elementary looks eager to learn new things on the first day of school. The Lindale ISD began classes on Aug. 16.

Courtesy photo

Council to set tax rate Sept. 19

A date has been set by Lindale City Council members for a public hearing concerning the city's tax rate for the upcoming year during their regular meeting at city hall on Tuesday, Aug. 15.

Council members, after approving the voter-backed rate of .36 cents per \$100 property valuation during their Aug. 1 meeting, set the tax rate public hearing for 6 p.m. Sept. 19 at city hall.

The council also approved the city's budget for the coming year, including a three percent cost of living adjustment for city employees.

Members then set a public hearing for Sept. 5 on the city's budget, which will be added to the Sept. 19 meeting.

Lindale City Manager Carolyn Caldwell said the proposed tax rate is the lowest in the city's history.

Also on the agenda Tuesday was a public hearing on the amended financing plan for the Tax Reinvestment Zone No. 3. After the hearing, council members voted to approve the amended plan.

The amendment was approved unanimously after a motion from Place 1 council member Bob Tardiff.

Other agenda items included:

- A presentation of an all-inclusive park design for the Pool Park playground which would require the city to approve a design, the area where the playground would be located and developing an agreement with the non-profit Cal's Pals, which is funding the project. Cal's Pal's officials say they should be able to qualify for an initial \$700,000 grant to help with the cost. The group presented a preliminary design showing the details of the playground to council members. The project would be built in three phases, officials said, adding early cost projections are estimated to be between \$1 and \$2 million. Fundraising hasn't begun, officials said, but it will begin soon.

Council member Bryan Summerville spoke for the majority of the council that some specific dollar figures and plans need to be presented to the city before any final commitment can be made.

Cal's Pal's officials said they hope to have some itemized details in early fall.

- Approved a resolution for the use of eminent domain to acquire certain property from Thedford Crossing to extend East Centennial Blvd.

Lawsuit claims Tyler Pipe Co. violated federal whistleblower protections

The U.S. Department of Labor has filed a lawsuit against Tyler Pipe Company alleging violations of federal whistleblower protections after the company fired an employee because they requested to use a respirator to protect them from smoke and fumes in the work area.

According to the Department of Labor, the department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration opened an investigation at Tyler Pipe Company after learning of the alleged October 2022 retaliation. The agency's Whistleblower Protection Program investigators in Dallas determined the company violated federal whistleblower protections by terminating an employee who exercised their protected rights to request personal protective equipment.

"Every worker is empowered with the right to speak up if they are concerned about their safety or that of others," explained OSHA Regional Administrator Eric S. Harbin in Dallas. "Rather than fulfilling their responsibility to provide a safe and healthy workplace, Tyler Pipe Company terminated an employee who raised safety concerns and that is unacceptable."

Filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, the department's complaint asks the court to order Tyler Pipe to make the employee whole for the illegal retaliation.

"The U.S. Department of Labor will enforce all laws to the extent of our power to ensure all protections afforded to employees are fully exercised," said Regional Solicitor of Labor John Rainwater in Dallas.

Hot time in the old town Friday: Lindale hosts Kaufman in season opener

By Terry Cannon
Editor

With the football season opener just hours away, the Lindale High School Eagles will be battling two opponents Friday night at Eagle Stadium: the always talented Kaufman Lions and the searing, record setting heat.

The forecast calls for temperatures to reach well over 100 degrees by kickoff and LHS Head Coach Chris Cochran has prepared his club as well as possible to deal with the elements.

Lindale has played two scrimmages this month – Aug. 11 with Sulphur Springs at home and Aug. 17 on the road in Whitehouse and while those were also played in the heat, a regular season opener will be a different thing entirely.

While other school districts have pushed this Friday's kickoff times back 30 minutes, Cochran said his club's home opener will begin at its usual 7:30 time.

"We've talked about hydration all day, every day with our kids and they've done a great job of taking care of themselves," the coach said, noting his staff weighs players before and after practices to make sure



Kaufman vs. Lindale
7:30 p.m. Friday
Eagle Stadium
Senior Night

they aren't losing too many fluids. "There are ice baths for them after practice to cool down."

He added the training staff, led by head trainer Ryan Wilhelm, is laser-focused on making sure the players are safe.

"He takes care of these guys like they are his own kids," Cochran said. "He cares a lot about their wellbeing."

Despite the heat, the Eagles showed improvement in both scrimmages.

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Public hearings held on FY 2024 county budget

Two public hearings on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and Tax Rate were held this past Tuesday at the Smith County Courthouse after commissioners filed the budget on Tuesday, Aug. 15, said Public Information Officer Casey Murphy.

The new budget includes a proposed tax rate of .347264 cents per \$100 valuation, an increase from the current tax rate of 33 cents.

The tax increase is caused by the Courthouse and Parking Garage Bond approved by voters in November 2022, Smith County Judge Neal Franklin said.

The proposed budget can be found here: www.smith-county.com/government/departments/auditor/financials/adopted-budgets

Franklin said the theme for the proposed, balanced budget is "Together, We Can!" "Working together as a community has never been more important as we move forward with construction of a new courthouse and parking facility," he said. "Armed with community support and the knowledge that we are facing increased debt service in our budget, I asked the elected officials and department leaders to sharpen their pencils on their budget requests. They did exactly as I requested and we carefully worked through the budget together."

The Commissioners Court is scheduled to vote on the proposed budget and tax rate

Continued on Page 2



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OPINION/COMMENTARY

What a privilege... What a responsibility

The first day of school is magical, mysterious, frightening and the open door through which children discover themselves, the world, and the satisfaction of learning.

We hope.

On the first day of school I always try to capture the moments of a life changing event. The first day of kindergarten.

A couple of years ago my 'first day' experience was a joy and a revelation about what is necessary to educate children in our schools today. Two darling girls were walking down the hall by themselves. I asked them if they were new friends or old friends. "New" they squealed. Then one solemnly informed me that at lunch she was going to share her hand sanitizer with her new friend.

I just as solemnly replied that I thought that was a very good thing to do.

One darling little boy ran up to me and asked if I liked his new haircut. I told the handsome young man that I thought he looked "very cool". He jumped in the air and high-fived me before skipping on to class.

I laughed my way down the hall until I saw two very small Hispanic boys get off what must have seemed to them an absolutely huge bus, only to go in the wrong door. They gently received kind directions from a hall monitor that they didn't quite seem to understand. Eventually I ran into them at the other end of the building looking lost. A lovely mom who had just dropped her child off in his new kindergarten class dropped to her knees in the hall and began to speak to them in their native language. I saw their shoulders drop in relief.

I wanted to cry.

Every child should come to school with food in their tummies, and the knowledge of numbers, colors, letters and...English. The children should be excited to enter a world of bright colors, inter-

STAAR scores show problems with math and reading

Texas public student scores in standardized testing continue to improve since the pandemic, but more than half of those taking the test still struggle with math and just under half read below grade-level, the Texas Tribune reported.

Students in grades three through eight took the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness tests in math and reading last spring. The results were released last week by the Texas Education Agency.

Math scores have improved since the pandemic low of just 35% meeting grade level or above in math in 2021, up to 43% in the latest STAAR scores. The percentage of students reading at grade level or above was essentially flat at 52%, but still above pre-pandemic levels, which were 47% in 2019.

Teachers across Texas continue to work with passion and skill to help students learn," said Mike Morath, Texas Education Commissioner. "This year's results show the efforts of our educators continue to deliver improved results for students."

Lawyers: Paxton used burner phones, fake Uber account

A series of documents filed by House impeachment managers claim suspended Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton gave indicted real estate developer Nate Paul "unfettered access" to the AG's office in order to "harass his enemies," The Dallas Morning News reported.

Paxton used burner phones, a secret personal email account and a fake Uber account in order to visit a woman with whom he was having an extramarital affair, the documents indicate.

"Uber records reflect drivers picked up Paxton under the alias of 'Dave P' a block from his home and ferried him to his lover's or Paul's properties more than a dozen times from August 6, 2020, until October 2, 2020," the House managers wrote.

Paul allegedly bribed Paxton by paying for a house remodeling and giving Paxton's lover a job, the documents indicate.

Paul was indicted in June for federal financial crimes. A

Man dies in boating accident

DOGWOOD CITY - Texas Game wardens have released the name of a man who died after a boat crashed into the pillar of a highway bridge on Sunday.

Robbie Conrad Bristol, 44, of Lindale, was ejected from a boat that crashed in Lake Palestine, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife.

He reportedly struck a concrete pillar under the Highway 155 bridge just north of the Henderson County line. His body was recovered hours later after authorities found the boat and searched the lake.

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



esting lessons and nurturing support.

And many do.

But some are confused. Or battered. Or neglected. Or lost.

Some have never opened a book until they get to school. Nor have they seen an adult read a book.

And then we expect teachers to work miracles bringing them all up to state mandated standards immediately.

I will tell you this, our communities' children need our support and encouragement. So do our teachers.

So, to the eager young minds out there...godspeed! Enjoy the journey, be a sponge and learn as much as possible; for your future depends on your ability, adaptability and dependability. All skills that can be learned at school.

Teachers you are the shoulders upon which these children will stand. You mold the future. There is no more noble career than teaching.

None.

You, my friends, challenge minds, touch hearts and write the future. So to all the little Bear and Lion cubs and little Roughnecks out there starting on this adventure, I pray that your days are filled with laughter and learning. And for their teachers, I pray for strength, wisdom, patience and insight.

You will need it all and more.

After all, you are holding the door to success open for these precious children.

What a privilege. What a responsibility.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



federal grand jury is reportedly looking into Paxton's connection with Paul. Paxton was impeached by the Texas House in late May and faces trial in the Senate on Sept. 5. He was immediately suspended without pay upon being impeached.

Paxton also faces a criminal trial next year on a 2015 indictment for securities fraud.

New strain of COVID-19 being monitored

The World Health Organization is monitoring a new strain of COVID-19 it says is accounting for a growing share of cases in several countries, including the United States, according to the Texas Standard. EG.5, or "Eris," is being monitored to see how it might mutate.

Dr. Catherine Trosi, an infectious diseases epidemiologist at UTHealth Houston School of Public Health, said it's hard to know the exact cause of the recent uptick in COVID cases.

"When the public health emergency ended, a lot of tracking went away," she told the Texas Standard. "The latest data shows 17% of cases are due to this variant. But we're not tracking cases really well because people have stopped testing. Even if you test positive, it doesn't get reported to health departments. So really the markers we have are hospitalizations, which we have seen go up quite significantly - although it's important to remember we are still at historic lows in terms of hospitalizations due to COVID."

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported a rolling seven-day average of 929 hospitalized COVID-19 patients, up 132 from the previous week, with 21 fatalities.

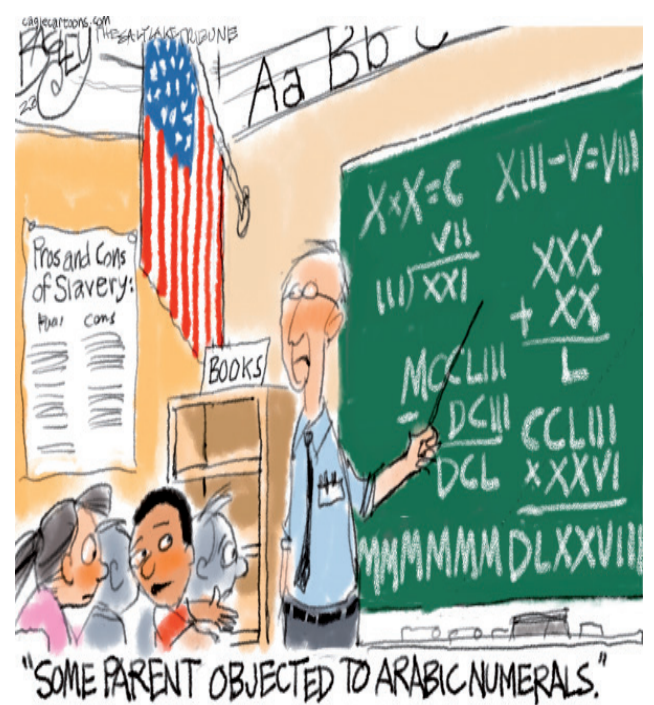
Employment records set in the state

Texas has more jobs and more people employed than ever before, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The state has recorded 29 consecutive months of growth and again leads the nation in the number of jobs added over the past year - 441,700 new positions since July 2022.

"Texas leads the nation in sustainable job growth with more than 2.7 million positions added in the past decade," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "The Texas economy remains strong, and TWC will continue to provide support through tools and resources for job seekers and employers alike."

The leisure and hospitality sector led job growth with 9,800 jobs, while manufacturing added 6,600 positions, closely followed by private education and health service with 6,400 jobs. Of the 26,300 new jobs added in July, all but 400 were in the private sector.

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THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Jobs By the Numbers

Texas continues to shatter records for new jobs. The expansion has been broad based, both in terms of industries and geographic areas. Our latest projections call for notable employment gains over the next five years, though the pace will vary along with external conditions.

By 2027, the level of employment in Texas is forecast to rise from 13.9 million in 2022 to 15.2 million. That's a gain

of some 1.3 million net new jobs and a total increase over the five-year period of 9.5%. (Note that we use the wage and salary measure of employment, which does not include proprietors.) Let's briefly examine our latest projections by industry group.

Almost one in five net new positions over the next five years is likely to be in the professional and business services industries. These firms provide specialized services such as legal advice and representation, accounting, architectural work, engineering, design, computer services, and consulting. The segment also involves businesses that manage other companies or support day-to-day operations of other organizations.

Health care and social services industries are expected to generate about 18% of new jobs over the next five years, while accommodation and food services accounts for about 13%. Retail trade is forecast to create over 9% of overall gains, while the public sector and other services segment each contribute about 6%. Notable increases are also projected for transportation and logistics as well as wholesale trade, each of which adds almost 5% to overall growth.

Regarding industry groups that are increasing at the fastest pace (as opposed to generating the most net new positions), health care and social services tops the list, with a total employment gain over the next five years of almost 15%. Strong rates of increase are also expected in the mining industry group (mostly oil and gas in Texas) and educational services (among others).

Several industries are less likely to be the source of large overall increases (though some are relatively small). The utilities, agriculture, information (which is largely publishing and media), real estate and rentals, and arts and entertainment segments are all projected to see increases of fewer than 18,000 jobs over the next five years (with some much lower).

As with other highly developed economies, Texas employment growth is concentrated in services-oriented industries, but manufacturing is also expanding at a healthy pace. Our projections indicate an increase in the number of manufacturing jobs of almost 7% over the next five years. One aspect of this expansion is the emerging importance of life sciences products.

The diverse and dynamic Texas economy is certainly not immune to national and global challenges, but the state is well positioned to generate opportunities across a broad spectrum of industries. Stay safe!

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perryman.com), which has served the needs of over 3,000 clients over the past four decades.

Public hearings held on FY 2024 county budget

Continued from Page 1

on Sept. 5. Once approved, they will go into effect on Oct. 1, 2023, which starts the County's new fiscal year.

In addition to addressing the new bond debt from the Courthouse and Parking Garage Bond, Franklin said the budget includes two other major areas of focus -- a cost of living raise for all employees and addressing the continual issue of detention officer vacancies within the jail.

"These are financially challenging times for everyone due to the inflation we currently face and have experienced over the last year," Franklin stated in his

budget cover letter. "I am so very proud of everyone that gives their all daily for this County and that have stayed with us through some challenging times. Our goal with a 5 percent COLA is to reward and retain our dedicated team members."

Detention Officer vacancies in the jail have been an issue for several years.

"Hiring new officers is not the problem. Retention is the issue," Franklin said. "We believe that offering overtime pay rather than accrued compensatory time will be a positive step towards retaining these employees."

The County's overall financial position remains

strong, despite the challenges of inflation. Recently, the County received an AA+ bond rating, even with us taking on the new voter-approved debt, he said.

"I am sincerely thankful to all our elected officials, department heads, and the County Auditor and staff for each of your contribution to this proposed budget," Franklin said. "I am pleased to present this balanced Proposed Budget for FY2024."

"I am proud to serve each of you as your County Judge. It is an honor to work alongside of you as we strive to provide the citizens of Smith County the best quality at the best price.

"Together we can!"

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School daze: rites of passage from grade to grade

Grandparents have the best job in the world.

All we have to do is squeeze our little ones – at least while they are still little – and pass them back to their parents. We visited three of our four the other day and learned of the back-to-school plans from both mom and dad and Cooper and Maddie.

Wyatt, our nine-year-old fourth grader, has this back to school thing down pat. He's in his fifth year at his current elementary school. He loves school, which of course thrills Gdaddy and Mimi, and always excels in the classroom.

It seems like just yesterday he was graduating from kindergarten. (See photo.)

This year, Cooper begins kindergarten and Maddie is in pre-K and both were filled with the excitement and wonder of a new adventure in their young lives.

Backpacks, notebooks, pencils and other paraphernalia associated with a new school year have been flying off the shelves of retailers for the past several weeks and it never ceases to amaze me – much like Christmas – how stores will start peddling the back to school necessities so far ahead of time.

Admittedly my memory has faded with the years, but I just don't think when I was getting ready for another school year the supplies were stocked in stores until about a week ahead of the starting date.

Our mom, having to outfit five school bound kids in her time had to be a smart shopper, which meant we never got the "neat" things all the other kids might get, which also translated into our clothes.

Montgomery Wards, or Monkey Wards as we referred to it, was the stop for back to school clothes, when we didn't wear hand-me-downs. I had three brothers, so I had several shirts and pairs of jeans that were given a second and third life. At least we were in comfortable clothes even if they weren't fashionable.

School supplies were another thing entirely because there was a list of things that each grade required so she had to search to find bargains.

One thing all of us neighborhood kids looked forward to each year was the coupon for a free malt or shake you got from Skillern's Drug Store if you bought a certain dollars-worth of school supplies.

As we wandered the Skillern's aisles loading up my sup-



plies for elementary school, I would try to mentally tabulate the money we would spend to make sure I got the free malt coupon. Sometimes, I would sneak in a drawing tablet that was a few cents more than another to push our total over the top. The other drug store in our Casa View neighborhood of

Dallas that got our business was Rexall. It was across the shopping center from Skillern's and was a little more expensive. We wouldn't buy anything from there unless Skillern's was out or just didn't carry what we needed.

Shoes were another item that were on the must-be-frugal list. Most of the time in elementary school, I wore sneakers because they were perfect for the playground or gym class.

On the rare occasion when I needed dress shoes, my mom would take me to a store that sold the Red Goose brand and the only reason I remember that is when you bought a pair you got a big, gold plastic egg with some sort of "treasure" inside. Usually a cheap whistle or some other 10-cent toy. But the gold egg was the thing to show off at school.

After finally getting clothed and shod, we packed our stuff and headed to school, which normally started after Labor Day. The buildings were not air conditioned but for some reason we didn't notice it as much as we would today. In fact, the first time I experienced air conditioning in school was when I got to 10th grade.

First and second grades we spent in the same classroom which were equipped with a bathroom for everyone to use. Looking back on that, I'm amazed our teachers didn't bolt out into the hallway after some of us got through in there.

When we reached third grade, we changed classes which meant the whole school was opened up to us. My favorite room, aside from the gym, was the library which we were able to visit once a week.

It seemed to be a gigantic room (probably much smaller in reality) with books lining all four walls. A sourpuss of a librarian watched over us, making sure we didn't talk or make trouble.

Back then, elementary school consisted of grades 1 through 7 with no kindergarten. Those were my favorite school years and when it came time to attend junior high, the world became a bit more frightening. Bigger kids and bigger schools caused an uneasy feeling, especially in that first year.

But all of these experiences tempered me for the "grown up" years spent in high school. Friendships there were longer lasting and some remain until this day.

It's exciting to think our grandkids have started on that journey. We can't wait to hear the first week of school stories they'll share.

How to use the proper lure while shopping

By Janet Mitchum

I know it's been a long time since I've written, but I don't derive as much joy from writing as does Rusty. It's therapy for him. For me, it's a chore. Oh, I have plenty to write about; after all I'm married to Rusty.

Believe me, I could write a book, and who knows, someday I might. If I did, I think the title might be "Take My Husband, Please."

Living with Rusty reminds me of that old Army advertisement. The one that said, "It's not a job. It's an adventure," only being married to him is more like a job. Just keeping up with him is taxing.

Not keeping up with him physically, but mentally. He does not think like most people. His brain does not work like anyone else's. In fact, I'm not sure that sometimes it works at all. Oh, he's not dangerous or anything like that, he's just, well, he's just Rusty.

I like to shop. I admit it. It doesn't mean I will buy anything, I just like to shop. Rusty, on the other hand, would rather walk death row than go shopping. But on that rare occasion that I either talk, or shame him into going with me, I have to watch him every minute.

You would not believe how much trouble he can get himself into. Take for example, a trip we made a few weeks ago.

There was a sale at a large department store in the mall, and there were a few things I wanted to look at. There were also some men's shirts on sale, and I wanted to get Rusty a couple.

Normally, I would just buy them, put them in his closet, and he would wear them, not even knowing that they were new. He's not really observant about his clothing. But on this occasion, I wanted him to come along. Why, I don't recall.

After listening to all his excuses of why he could not go shopping with me, I coerced him to go.

Actually, I lied. I told him there was a tool sale going on. Tools are to Rusty, like cocaine is to a junky. The mere mentioning of tools, and his eyes glaze over and he gets a dumb look on his



face; an even dumber look than usual.

"Tools," he says, which sounds like Homer Simpson saying, "Donuts."

After we got to the mall, we went into the store. We walked in and Rusty took a deep breath.

"Smell that?" he asked.

"What?" I replied.

"Tools."

When he found no tool sale going on, I thought he was going to cry.

"I'm sorry," I said. "I must have read the ad wrong. Oh, well. As long as we are at the mall, let's go down to Dillard's."

Rusty's eyes narrowed and I could tell the little wheels in his head were starting to turn. I had to distract him quickly before he figured out my ruse.

"I hope the swimsuit modeling is over with down there," I said. His eyes narrowed, and then enlarged.

"Swimsuit models?" he said.

"Yeah," I started to say, but I didn't have to finish the lie, because he was dragging me down the mall. When we entered Dillard's, Rusty's head looked as if it was on a swivel.

"Where do you think they are?" he asked.

"Well, the last I heard they were in the men's department."

"Where is that?"

"Follow me," I said.

We made it to the men's department, and low and behold, there was not a swimsuit model in sight.

"Hmmm," I said. "I guess we are too late."

"Just my luck," growled Rusty.

"As long as we are here," I said, "let's look at some shirts."

"Awwwww, do we have to?"

"It won't take a minute. Just stay close, OK?"

"OK," he sighed. Remember I said that you had to watch him every minute? Well, I was concentrating on looking at some shirts and before I knew it, he had

disappeared.

Normally, this would not be a bad thing, but Dillard's have lady salespeople. If a lady salesperson gets a hold of Rusty, well, we wouldn't have enough room in the vehicle to carry everything home.

He can't say no to women. All they have to do is smile at him, and they can lead him around like a dog.

Panicking, I started looking around. Sure enough, one had him. I walked quickly over to where they were standing. She was showing Rusty a shirt.

"Hmmm," I thought. Maybe this might work out to my advantage. I slowed my walk and got close so I could hear their conversation.

"How do you like this color?" the lady asked Rusty. Since he's colorblind, I couldn't wait to hear his answer.

"Uh," he said. "What color is it?"

She looked at him sort of funny like, and replied, "Well, it's turquoise."

"It is?"

"Yes," she smiled. "It matches your eyes."

"Really?" he grinned. "I'll take it."

"And how about this one?" she asked as she held up another shirt.

"I'll take it, too," he said, never once looking at the shirt.

"Good choice. You have a good eye for clothing," she said.

"I do?"

I thought I was going to throw up.

"Yes," she replied. "You're not going to believe this, but a lot of men don't even know how to pick out clothes."

"No?" he said incredulously.

"Brother," I said, not meaning to say it out loud. The lady turned and looked at me.

"I beg your pardon," she said.

Rusty turned around and looked at me. He smiled. "I got some shirts," he said like

an idiot, as he held them up. "This one matches my eyes." I rolled mine.

"I'm sorry," said the lady. "Are you with him?"

"Unfortunately," I replied.

"He's funny," she said.

"Tell me about it."

"Do you think he needs anymore help?" she asked.

"Not unless you're a psychiatrist."

"OK then," she said.

"Bye."

"Bye," Rusty said, and then he looked at me. "Nice lady."

"Put the shirts back," I said.

"But this one matches my eyes."

"Put them back."

"But..."

"Rusty, look at the price tags."

"What?"

"Look how much the shirts cost."

He looked. His eyes got big as saucers.

"Are you kiddin' me?" he said. "Do you know how much ammunition I could buy with that much money?"

"No," I replied. "How much?"

"A lot."

"Come on," I said. "Let's go. I'll pick you up some shirts later."

"You don't have to tell me twice," he said. "Lead the way."

As I entered the hallway in the mall, I stopped and turned to Rusty. He was not there.

"Brother," I said again and retraced my steps. I found him at the men's cologne counter. Yes, he was with another saleslady. The only kind of cologne Rusty will put on is either Aqua Velva, or Old Spice and getting him to put either one of those on is like pulling teeth.

The saleslady was spraying something on his neck. Then she waved her hand in front of it for a minute and then moved her face in and smelled.

"Yum," she said and smiled at him.

"I'll take it," he replied.

"Rusty," I said. "It's time to go."

"But she said yum."

"I know. Come on. I hear Tractor Supply is having a sale."

"Tractor Supply?" he smiled.

I know, he's an idiot. But he's my idiot.

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, Aug. 25, 2022

The new tax rate for fiscal year 2023 and a proposed budget were approved Lindale City Council members during their regular meeting at city hall.

A tax rate of .422 cents per \$100 valuation was unanimously approved by members, who set Sept. 20 as the date for a public hearing on the rate.

Council members also set Sept. 6 as the date for a public hearing on the proposed city budget for FY 2023.

City Manager Carolyn Caldwell said the tax rate is approximately three cents lower than the previous rate and was the rate voters approved.

FIVE YEARS AGO, Aug. 23, 2018

The Texas Education Agency handed out report cards for school districts across the state and the Lindale ISD received another "A" grade. The LISD was one of 153 out of more than 1,200 across the state to receive such a high ranking.

"There's still a lot of confusion in how the grades are determined and it's impossible to describe what a campus or district does with word or letter grade," said LISD Superintendent Stan Surratt.

The district, Surratt said, would fare well in any evaluation the state chooses.

"We are confident in whatever rating the state uses we are going to do well because we have quality students and staff, supportive parents and a supportive community," he said.

10 YEARS AGO, Aug. 22, 2013

Lindale City Council members approved a 17 cent per month increase – a 1.7 percent hike -- in garbage pickup fees for city residents and commercial users during their regular meeting Tuesday night at city hall.

In accordance with its contract with the city, Allied Waste can request an annual percentage increase in line with the National Consumer Price Index of 1.7 percent.

"In the time we've had a contract with Allied, to my knowledge there haven't been any complaints," said City Manager Owen Scott. "They are very community oriented and they provide lots of things for the city."

The motion was passed unanimously.

In other action, council members named Johnny Sherrill to the board of directors for the Lindale Economic Development Corporation. Barham Fulmer resigned from the board last month, prompting the city to fill his spot on the board.

Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Daugherty made the motion to appoint Sherrill to the LEDC board.

"After checking on Mr. Sherrill, I was very impressed with the things he's been involved with," Daugherty said.

The council unanimously approved his appointment.

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OBITUARIES

Bob, Priscilla Evans

After 57 blissful years of marriage, Robert Hopkins Evans (Bob) and Priscilla Barnard Evans passed away within just a few days of each other. Bob was called home to be with his Lord and Savior unexpectedly on Monday, July 17 and Priscilla on Friday, July 28.

Bob Evans was born May 8, 1939, in Baltimore, Md., and was raised in Summit, N.J. He completed his college studies and played soccer for Dartmouth College. After graduating in 1961, he volunteered to serve as a 1st Lieutenant in Intelligence for the Armed Service Division of the U.S Army, stationed in Fort Hood. He took his first job with Proctor & Gamble in 1965.

Priscilla was born Nov. 9, 1942 in Mount Pleasant. She was blessed to grow up surrounded by her extended family and childhood friends. Priscilla pursued her business degree and was a leader in the Chi Omega sorority at East Texas State University.

In 1964, she graduated a year early and was hired as personal secretary to oil tycoon H.L. Hunt.

Bob and Priscilla were both working in Dallas when they met on a blind date. After a short courtship, "Bobby" and his "yellow rose of Texas" were married in May 1966.

They relocated to El Paso and Oklahoma City before settling down in Dallas for almost 30 years to raise their children. Bob spent most of his career working as credit manager for Ericsson Telecommunications in Dallas and Priscilla made a positive impact teaching middle schoolers for years at Richardson Junior High. After the children were grown, Bob and Priscilla retired and moved to Hideaway Lake enjoying the special community with great friends, family, and grandchildren for almost 20 years.



Bob was the most loving, sweet, and compassionate husband, father, and "poppy" his family could ever hope for. His passions included his faith, music, reading, running, soccer, and painting. Priscilla was the most fun-loving, energetic, wife and mom, who went above and beyond for her family. Her passions included her faith, her family, volunteering, traveling, and being actively involved with her ladies' Bridge group.

While living in Hideaway, Bob and Priscilla hosted their five grandchildren frequently, especially for memorable, summer stays. They were dedicated members of Bible

Study Fellowship, belonged to the Hideaway Dinner and Dance club, served with Kiwanis, and participated in park parties. Bob also served on the Board of Directors. They were members of Hideaway Lake Community Church. Recently, their favorite evening date night was enjoying a good British mystery and an ice cream together. They also treasured birthday lunches with their longtime friends in the bridge group, which they called "Bob, Burgers and Babes".

Bob was preceded in death by his parents Benjamin Davison Evans and Virginia (Hobbs) Evans; sister Virginia Evans Lansinger and her husband Larry Lansinger, as well as their son David Lansinger.

Priscilla was preceded in death by her parents Marion Jagers Barnard and Med (Cody) Barnard.

Both are survived by daughters Paige Evans Barriga and her husband Raul Barriga of Missouri City and Leslie Virginia Hemby and her husband Shane Hemby of Plano; her five grandchildren from oldest to youngest Abigail Barriga, Avery Barriga, Ethan Hemby, Elise Hemby, and Addison Barriga. Bob leaves behind his niece Robin Lansinger of Providence, R.I. along with many cousins and family. Priscilla leaves behind her sister Marianne Havron and husband Dana Havron of Marshall; and her brother William Barnard and husband Jeff Ellis of Sonoma, Calif.; two nieces Stephanie Trietsch and her husband Ed Trietsch of Fayetteville, Ga. and Shannon Jordan and her husband Brandon Jordan of Springtown along with their families and many cousins and other family members.

A combined memorial service will be held at Hideaway Lake Community Church in Hideaway, Texas on Sept. 16 at 10:00am. Please send floral arrangements to Hideaway Lake Community Church in Hideaway.

Celebrations of Faith

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903-597-6131
Pastor Stephen Nipp

Bethel Baptist Church
FM 16 West, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8275

Bible Baptist Church
16173 CR 431, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-1454

Carmel Baptist Church
10969 CR 481, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3852
James Cheatham

Central Baptist Church
13745 FM 16 East, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3179
Byron Howard

Damascus Baptist Church
17052 CR 4105 Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3392
Bennie Portwood

Dover Baptist Church
21166 FM Road 1995, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-5106

Duck Creek Baptist Church
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-9558

East Foothills Missionary Baptist Church
810 E South St, Lindale, TX 75771
903-574-2672
Gary Dinger

Fairview Baptist Church
Van Highway, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-9500

First Baptist Church
Hwy 69 (in Swan) Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-6432

First Baptist Church of Lindale
110E Hubbard St. Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3396
Tom Buck

Foundation Baptist Church
715 S Main St. Lindale 75771
903-881-9490

Garden Valley Baptist Church
17816 CR 442, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7671

Greater Hopewell Baptist Church
10480 CR 492 • Tyler, TX 75706
903-882-4726

Hopewell Baptist Church
11804 CR 494, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-5381



Hopewell Valley Baptist, Church No 1
CR 429 • Van, TX
903-882-5136

Mt. Sylvan Baptist Church
13073 Hwy 110 N • Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3890
Bruce Rudd

New Harmony Baptist Church
10251 FM 724, Tyler, TX 75704
903-593-5811

Red Springs Baptist Church
Red Springs, TX
903-858-2365

St Mary Baptist Church
12050 CR 452., Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8066

Thompson Hill Baptist Church
14657 CR, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-0849

Walnut Springs Baptist Church
211 Walnut Springs., Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7858

Wood Trails Baptist Church
11804 CR 494,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-5381

CATHOLIC

Holy Family Catholic Church
16314 FM 849,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-4079
Rev. David Bailey, Pastor

St. Joseph the Worker Tridentine Latin Mass
5075 FM 14, Tyler, 75712
903-593-5055
Rev. Joseph Valentine, FSSP

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Church of Christ – Lindale
211 W. Hubbard, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-6455

Church of Christ – South Main
2425 S Main St,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8933

Church of Christ – Swan County
Road 471, Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8009

EPISCOPAL

St Luke's Episcopal Church
16292 FM 849
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8118
Rev. John Carr

LUTHERAN

First Century Christian Fellowship
10119 Gina Rd., Lindale, TX 75771
Dr. Lawrence Zillmer

METHODIST

ChristPoint Methodist Church
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903-882-8506
Michael Peschke

Harris Chapel Southern Methodist Church
17069 CR 452 Lindale TX
903.253.3175
John Roach, Pastor

Mt Sylvan United Methodist Church
Mt. Sylvan • 903-882-5479
Swan-Wood Springs Methodist Church
Hwy 69, Tyler, TX 75706
903-882-6382

NON DENOMINATIONAL

Clearview Church
13933 Hwy 110 N
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8949

Community Christian Fellowship
15704 Hwy 110 N Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-8501
David Hickey

Cross Brand Cowboy Church
11915 FM 2015, Tyler, Texas 75708
903-535-9155

Crossroads Community Church
20465 US Highway 69 North
Lindale TX 75771-4206
903-881-9844
Tim Letsch

Bethesda Church
2401 S Main St
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7597
Steven & Camilla Charles

Friendship CME Church
20428 CR 482
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7269

Garden Valley Bible Church
17117 FM 1253
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-9665

Grace Community Church
15567 Wood Springs Rd
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3323

Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church
1115 Lake Cross Rd
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-6966

Life of Glory Church
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Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-7997
Ed & Becky Colville

Life Source Community Church
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Pastor John Offutt

Lone Star Cowboy Church
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Lindale TX 75771
615-480-0289
Jayc Harold

River's Edge Church
18492 Hwy 69 North,
Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-0555 • Phil Brown

Trinity Fellowship Church
Shady Lane Lindale, TX 75771
903-882-3885 • Ben Steen

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903-882-3861 • Dr. Everitt Nix

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903-881-5260

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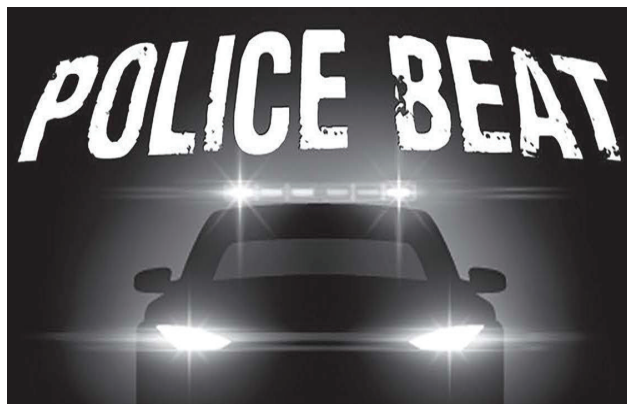
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Lindale Police Department call log for Aug. 11-18

FRIDAY, Aug. 11: Criminal Mischief, 600 block East South Street, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3300 block South Main Street, Report; Warrant Service, 13300 block I-20 West, Arrest; Motorist Assist, 554 I-20 West, Settled At Scene; 911 Hang Up, 500 block South Main Street, Settled At Scene; Welfare Concern, 100 block South Main Street, Settled At Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 100 block North Main Street, Settled At Scene; Assist Other Agency, 548 I-20 East, Settled At Scene; Disturbance, 900 block East Hubbard Street, Settled At Scene.

SATURDAY, Aug. 12: Abandoned Vehicle, 14000 block FM 849, Settled At Scene; Warrant Service, 137800 block I-20 West, Arrest; Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive, Settled At Scene; Motorist Assist, 100 block North Main Street, Settled At Scene; Public Service, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled At Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3200 block South Main Street, Report; Assist Other Agency, 18000 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled At Scene; Harassment, 400 block Hill Street, Settled At Scene; Civil Matter, 200 block Patience Ave., Settled At Scene; Assist Smith County SO, 556 I-20 West, Settled At Scene; Damaged Property, 500 block East South Street, Settled At Scene; Harassment, 500 block East South Street, Settled At Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 300 block Cooper Street, Unfounded.

SUNDAY, Aug. 13: Assist Smith County SO, 400 block Hideaway Lane, Settled At Scene; Peace Officer Warrant, 200 block Hillside Circle, Settled At Scene; Assist Smith County SO, 16100 block FM 849, Settled At Scene; Attempt to Serve, 500 block Circle Drive, Settled At Scene; Assist



Smith County SO, 3400 block South Main Street, Settled At Scene; Theft, 500 block South Main Street, Report; Assist EMS, 500 block South Main Street, Settled At Scene; Public Service, 13800 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled At Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 500 block North Main Street, Settled At Scene; Welfare Concern, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled At Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 3300 block South Main Street, Settled At Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3400 block South Main Street, Report; Theft, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled At Scene.

MONDAY, Aug. 14: Traffic Hazard, 100 block North Main Street, Settled At Scene; Dog Bite, 21200 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Report; Fraud, 400 South Main Street, Report; Parking Violation, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled At Scene; Public Service, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled At Scene; Welfare Concern, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled At Scene.

TUESDAY, AUG. 15: Parking Violation, 900 block East Hubbard Street, Citation Issued; Assist Smith County SO,

220 Treetop Lane, Settled At Scene; Suspicious Vehicle, 14000 block FM 849, Settled At Scene; Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive, Settled At Scene; Assist Smith County SO, 18000 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled At Scene; Assist Smith County SO, 500 block Circle Drive, Settled At Scene; Public Service, 600 block Jack Drive, Settled At Scene; Motorist Assist, 556 I-20 West, Settled At Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 500 block Circle Drive, Settled At Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 554 I-20 West, Report.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 16: Parking Violation, 100 block Freedom Drive, Citation Issued; Assist EMS, 13300 block I-20 West, Settled At Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 1500 block Wood Springs Road, Settled At Scene; Public Service, 200 block Summer Tree Circle, Settled At Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 800 block Industrial Parkway, Report; Traffic Hazard, 554 I-20 West, Settled At Scene; Welfare Concern, 17000 block I-20 West, Settled At Scene; Assist EMS, 200 block East Hubbard Street, Settled At Scene.

THURSDAY, AUG. 17: Business Alarm, 3400 block South Main Street, False Alarm; Motor Vehicle Crash, 100 block East Van Street, Report; Theft, 17200 block Crossing Circle, Report; Assist EMS, 15200 block CR 467, Settled At Scene; Welfare Concern, 700 block North Boyd Street, Settled At Scene; Public Service, 500 block South Main Street, Settled At Scene; Suspicious Vehicle, 14000 block FM 849, Settled At Scene; Assist Smith County SO, 13600 block FM 2710, Settled At Scene; Business Alarm, 16900 block Village Lake Drive, False Alarm; Loud Noise Complaint, 400 block North College Street, Settled At Scene.

FRIDAY, AUG. 18: Business Alarm, 15500 block CR 463, False Alarm; Assist Smith County SO, 19200 block CR 4108, Settled At Scene.



Tara Odell, a Burnout Coach, was the guest speaker this past week at the regular meeting of the Lindale Rotary Club. While working as a bank executive, Odell experienced her own burnout and now shares insights and helpful ideas how to balance work, life and self-care. (Courtesy photo)

TxDOT reminds of drunk driving dangers

As Labor Day approaches, officials with the Texas Department of Transportation are reminding all Texans about the dangers of drunk driving. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has announced an increased enforcement period through Sept. 4. Texas law enforcement agencies are among those that will increase their efforts to pull over motorists suspected of drunk driving.

“Too many people are killed on our roads each year—especially during holidays—due to impaired driving. These crashes are inexcusable and 100% preventable,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “If you spend time with friends or family and decide to drink, make the right decision

and plan ahead for a sober ride by taking a rideshare, taxi, public transit or designated driver.”

The harsh reality is people continue to choose to drive after drinking. Last year, there were 345 DUI-alcohol related traffic crashes over the Labor Day holiday weekend alone, resulting in 20 fatalities and 62 serious injuries. Over the course of the year, a person was killed every 7 hours and 17 minutes in Texas because of a DUI-alcohol-related traffic crash, resulting in 1,203 people losing their lives.

The increased enforcement period comes as a new law is set to take effect on Sept. 1 that will require someone convicted of intoxication manslaughter to pay child support if they kill a parent

with young children.

Erin Crawford Bowers was six-months old when her parents were killed by a drunk driver. She is now a married mother of two living in New Braunfels. She is sharing her story across Texas to prevent other families from experiencing the same tragedy.

“I just wanted my father to walk me down the aisle or my mom to be there when I had babies,” said Bowers.

Drive Sober. No Regrets. is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

State funds to help Smith County road projects

Smith County will benefit from the recent adoption of a record \$142 billion in the state’s transportation infrastructure program, said Texas Department of Public Transportation spokesman Jeff Williford.

The record investment includes the unanimous adoption of the \$100 billion 10-year statewide roadway construction plan with the TxDOT transportation projects to enhance safety, improve congestion and connectivity, and preserve Texas roadways. This is a \$25 billion increase in total investment from the previous year.

The 2024 Unified Transportation Program includes \$2.7 billion in funding in the Tyler District (Anderson, Cherokee, Gregg, Henderson, Rusk, Smith, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties), which includes

money for the following projects:

-- \$408 million for widening on I-20 from the Smith County line to SH 31.

-- \$268 million to improve mobility, enhance access, and safety at the I-20 and -- SH 31 Interchange in Gregg County.

-- \$194 million for the widening and safety improvements on US 175 from CR -- 3509, east to FM 347 in Cherokee County.

-- \$190 million for the widening and safety improvements on FM 2493 (Old Jacksonville Hwy) in Smith County.

“Thanks to our booming economy, Texas has achieved a major milestone in our transportation infrastructure with this record \$142 billion investment that will strengthen our roadways and build

a next-generation transportation network,” said Gov. Greg Abbott. “Through this record transportation investment project, the State of Texas will further improve roadway congestion and safety to meet the growing needs of Texans in our large metros, rural communities, and everywhere in between. This plan will not only connect Texans from every corner of our state, it will also bolster our economic growth and ensure Texans and businesses continue to thrive for generations to come.”

“This historic investment in our transportation system is critically important to help meet the needs of our fast-growing state,” said Texas Transportation Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Jr. “Thanks to the leadership of Governor

Abbott and our Texas Legislature, Texas continues to see growth in the transportation investments needed to support a world-class transportation system focused on safety and congestion relief.”

“This plan will help the lives of all Texans for years to come as we work to move people and goods safely and efficiently in our rural, urban, and metropolitan areas,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “TxDOT is already putting these resources to work with a record number of projects aimed at improving safety and saving lives on our roadways.”

Many of the projects in this plan are roadway segments identified on Texas’ [100 Most Congested Roadways](#) list. Texas Clear Lanes congestion-relief projects will see

an increase in funding, supporting \$66.7 billion total investment for completed, under-construction, and planned non-tolled projects since 2015. Funding for rural projects also increased to \$19.2 billion, a major jump from \$2.2 billion in the 2016 UTP.

The Unified Transportation Plan is a document that guides the development of transportation projects across the state. Additionally, the UTP identifies public transportation, maritime, aviation, and rail investments. Projects are selected by TxDOT, and local transportation leaders based on effectiveness in addressing criteria such as safety, pavement condition, capacity, and rural connectivity, with opportunities for public input at the both the state and local levels.

Houston-area men plead guilty to fed drug trafficking charges

Three Texas men have pleaded guilty to federal drug trafficking violations in the Eastern District of Texas, said Davilyn Walston, publicity spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Damien M. Diggs today.

Nekia Euron Byrd, 48, of Houston; Rodney Ignacio Castro, 41, of Houston; and Terance Babe Green, 43, of Beaumont each pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Christine L. Stetson.

According to information presented in court, Byrd, Castro and Green were responsible for trafficking cocaine throughout the Houston-area, and into various locations throughout eastern Texas, including Texarkana, Lufkin and Port Arthur.

Specifically, Green controlled a cocaine distribution network in Port Arthur, responsible for importing several kilograms of cocaine each month, for distribution and conversion to cocaine-base.

Byrd was responsible for owning two residences in Houston, where narcotics distribution in methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana and promethazine occurred.

These residences were responsible for providing wholesale distribution of narcotics to mid-level dealers throughout the Houston-area and eastern Texas. Castro served as a source-of-supply for cocaine for Byrd’s operation, and several other mid-level dealers servicing Houston and eastern Texas.

On Sep. 28, 2021, a search warrant was served at Castro’s residence resulting in

the seizure of \$1,050,860.00 in U.S. Currency, and assorted jewelry worth roughly \$250,000.00. Estimates based upon seizures and wiretaps indicate Castro was responsible for trafficking over 100 kilograms of cocaine in the course of this conspiracy.

The defendants each face from 10 years 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 effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces operation which identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach.

Additional information about the OC-DETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

This case is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael A. Anderson.

Grand Prairie man sentenced for home invasion robberies

A second man has been sentenced to

federal prison in connection with a string of violent home invasion type robberies in the Eastern District of Texas, Walston said.

Kendrick Donnell Jones, Jr., 24, of Grand Prairie, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery; aiding and abetting; conspiracy to kidnap; using, carrying, and brandishing a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence.

Jones was sentenced to 262 months in federal prison today by U.S. District Judge Amos Mazzant. In July, [Tony Sullivan](#) was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison for his role in the robberies.

According to information presented in court, the FBI began an investigation into a series of home invasion type robbery incidents between April 2019 and December 2019 that targeted owners and operators of donut stores in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex area.

The robberies occurred late in the evening or very early in the morning before the shopkeepers departed for work. The assailants would force their way into the home and assault the home’s occupants.

Victims were often beat with baseball bats and bound with duct tape while being held at gunpoint. At least nine robberies have been attributed to this crime spree.

Due to the times of the robberies coinciding with the times the victims would have been leaving their residences to open their businesses, agents concluded the suspects had to have conducted physical surveillance to determine where the victims lived and

when the victims would have been leaving their residences.

On the evening of July 8, 2019, officers in Euless received a call from a witness reporting an individual stumbling down his street with his hands bound by tape. The victim had a bleeding head wound and was transported to a hospital. The victim advised he returned home from his donut shop in Dallas to find two suspects in his residence.

He was bound and beat with a baseball bat and ordered to open a safe. The assailants left with the victim’s car keys, cellular phone, approximately \$9,500 from the safe, and approximately \$900 from his wallet. Law enforcement agents utilized footage from surveillance videos, cell phone site data, and data extracted from cellular phones to determine if Jones participated in the attack.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Dallas Violent Crimes Task Force, which includes the Dallas Police Department, the Garland Police Department, the Grand Prairie Police Department, the Richardson Police Department, and the Texas Department of Public Safety. Other investigating agencies who assisted in the investigation are the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the Carrollton Police Department, the Coppell Police Department, the Dallas Police Department, the Dalworthington Gardens Police Department, the Euless Police Department, and the Flower Mound Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Ernest Gonzalez.

Back to school: Tips to help students adjust

By Claudann Jones
Smith County Extension Agent
Family and Community Health

With fall just around the corner, back-to-school season is here. This can be an exciting time as it's one step closer to graduation, college or joining the workforce.

It's also a time for new beginnings: new friends, reconnecting with previous friends, meeting different teachers and picking up new school supplies.

Going back to school also can be a scary, trying time for some students. Their worries may be related to adjusting to attending a new school, fear of what this school year will be like, being accepted by classmates or teachers and feeling pressure to get good grades.

While these often are normal emotional thought responses to starting school, these tips can help your student adjust:

-- For students attending a new school, visit the school campus prior to the year starting if possible. Many schools will offer student, parent and teacher conferences before school starts, so everyone can meet.

-- Review homework expectations.

-- Identify where at home your children will sit to do homework each day, such as at their desk or the kitchen table. When are they expected to start their homework? Right after they get home or after having a snack and a 30-minute break? Setting expectations prior to school starting will help both children and parents.

-- Develop a good sleep routine. On average, children ages 6-13 require nine to 11 hours of sleep each night. Children ages 13-17 require an estimated eight to 10 hours of sleep per night. Develop consistent sleep routines so your student is able to prepare for

bedtime mentally and emotionally.

-- Eat a healthy breakfast each morning. Proper nutrition can help prepare students for learning. If they're hungry, they're more likely to have difficulty focusing.

-- Have a plan for school-related conflicts. School years are a time for students to learn how to navigate relationships outside of their family and prepare them for adulthood.

At times, that may mean working through a conflict or disagreement with a peer or teacher. Discuss the first step to developing conflict solutions with your child while keeping in mind that the goal of parenting is to raise independent adults. It's a natural response for parents to want to solve and protect children from conflict. However, stepping in too often decreases their ability to develop the skills and confidence needed to be an independent adult who can self-advocate.

Developing an approach to help your student process and develop solutions with you will help with their skill development and help you identify serious issues that require parental involvement.

There are times when routines and plans aren't enough. If you suspect your child is not adjusting well to school and anxiety or depression may be a contributing factor, reach out for additional support. Connect with the school social worker or counselor.

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

Stay well and stay safe.

Landscaping for energy conservation

By Greg Grant
Smith County Horticulturist

Folks, it has been hot and miserable. Especially in and around my old farmhouse.

Energy conservation and environmental quality are among the most critically important issues of our time. Global warming and the greenhouse effect are becoming familiar terms used to describe what is considered by many as a significant climatic change largely brought about by fossil fuel emissions. To reverse these trends, it is important to identify practical solutions to this growing challenge.

The use of basic Earth-Kind landscaping principles and practices can significantly modify the micro-climate surrounding homes and communities, making them more energy efficient, while lower utility costs.

Although it is not possible to control temperature, wind, and other weather elements, properly placing trees, shrubs, vines, and structures in the landscape can assist in keeping homes and surrounding areas warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

If the landscape is well planned, installed and maintained, the increased aesthetic value and decreased maintenance costs can result in increased real estate values. A well-planned Earth-Kind landscape is one of the best investments a home or business owner can make.

Protection from the sun

Trees can reduce summer temperatures significantly. Shading the roof of a house from the afternoon sun by large trees can reduce temperatures inside the home by as much as 8 to 10 degrees F.

Deciduous trees (those that lose their leaves in winter) provide summer shade,

then drop their leaves in fall, which allows the warmth of the sun to filter through their bare branches in winter to help warm the home. If a home can be situated to take advantage of shade from existing trees on south and west exposures, energy expended for cooling can be considerably reduced.

To shade the roof or a wall of a one-story home, trees which will reach a medium to large size should be selected and placed 15 to 20 feet from the side or 12 to 15 feet from the corner of the structure.

To be most effective, the canopy of the tree should extend over the roof. Smaller trees such as crapemyrtles, redbuds, and vitex can be planted closer to the house and used for shading walls and window areas. Since they are deciduous, these plants will provide shade during the summer and allow light and sun to penetrate during the winter.

Another way to reduce energy consumption with trees and shrubs is to provide shade for the outside portion of a split system air conditioner. A study by the American Refrigeration Institute shows that this practice can reduce the temperature inside a home by as much as 3 degrees F. However, shrubs planted near the compressor should not obstruct air flow or service access. Screening outdoor air conditioning equipment with plantings not only reduces energy consumption but can also enhance the aesthetic appearance of a home or business. Just remember to wait until fall for cooler temperatures and more moisture before planting any trees and shrubs.

To read the "Landscaping for Energy Conservation" publication in its entirety or for more information on Earth-Kind landscaping, visit the Aggie Horticulture website.

Fishing Hall of Fame seeking nominations for honorees

The [Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame](#) committee is seeking nominations of individuals and organizations who've made important contributions to fishing in Texas for next year's induction into the hall of fame, publicity officials announced.

Nominations are being accepted through Nov. 1.

"The Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame is made up of a growing list of 38 individuals and organizations who have made a significant impact on freshwater fishing in the state," said Dan Kessler, TFF Hall of Fame Committee Chair. "Whether it's an outdoor writer, pro angler, fishing

club or industry leader, we look forward to continuing to honor and recognize everyone helping to make Texas fishing the best it can be."

The nominees will be evaluated by the Hall of Fame committee made up of anglers, industry professionals, fisheries biologists and organizations involved in Texas freshwater fishing. The committee will choose the inductee based on the following criteria: ethics, leadership and commitment, unselfish contributions to the sport, scope of impact on freshwater fishing and fishing/fisheries management expertise and overall impact. The honoree will be

announced in spring 2024 and be officially inducted during a special ceremony and banquet in the fall.

"We are excited to review all of this year's nominations and welcome the newest inductee into this prestigious group of individuals and organizations that have contributed so much to the world class fishing that Texas offers," Kessler added.

"Mr. Crappie" Wally Marshall of Anna – the 2023 inductee – will officially be inducted at the annual Hall of Fame banquet this October at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center. Marshall revolutionized crappie fishing through innovative products, tournaments and promotion of the sport.

Following his induction, a video highlighting Mr. Crappie will be available at TPWD's YouTube Channel on the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame playlist. The video will also air on the Texas Parks and Wildlife PBS television show.

The recently remodeled Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame is housed at the [Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center](#) (TFFC) in Athens. Its mission is to "recognize and honor those who have made a lasting contribu-

tion to freshwater fishing in Texas, and to foster a sense of appreciation, awareness and participation in the sport of fishing."

TFFC will close temporarily for major renovations Aug. 28 until the spring of

2025. This closure will also necessitate the temporary closure of the Hall of Fame exhibit.

Nomination forms and instructions are available [online](#) or by calling (903) 676-2277.



Wesley House origami class

Haven Osteen who works at the Lillie Russell Memorial Library also teaches an origami class each week for the residents of the Wesley House in Lindale. (Courtesy photo)

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Despite unrelenting summer heat, dove season expected to be big

A cool and rainy spring means that despite above-average summer temperatures, Texas hunters could encounter significantly increased dove populations as the 2023 season opens Sept. 1, said officials with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Spring surveys conducted by TPWD staff found an estimated 28.3 million mourning doves in Texas, a 44 percent increase from 2022. White-wing dove populations have increased 20 percent, tying the record high with an estimated 11.7 million this year.

"This spring was about as perfect as it could be, with steady rains and cool weather," said Owen Fitzsimmons, TPWD Dove Program Leader. "Given the population increases this year and the excellent breeding season conditions that persisted through the first half of the summer, hunters should expect to see a lot more birds on the landscape this September."

As daily temperatures top 100 degrees with no relief in sight, hunters will likely find larger concentrations of birds at watering holes, and doves may be feeding earlier and later than normal to avoid the mid-day heat. In areas where agriculture has suffered from the heatwave, look for stands of common sunflower, croton and other

native annual forbs and grasses.

Texas is home to seven species of native doves and pigeons, including the three legal game species- mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves. Texas accounts for 30 percent of the total mourning doves and 85 percent of the total white-winged doves harvested in the U.S. each year, far more than any other state.

TPWD officials remind hunters to prepare for the extreme heat and make sure they are packing all the essentials for a day in the field. They should bring plenty of water to stay hydrated and take measures to stay cool in a shaded area. The same is true for canine hunting partners.

"If this extreme heat persists, think twice about bringing your dog out in the early season," Fitzsimmons said. "Temperatures this high can be dangerous for dogs, particularly when they're excited and running hard after birds. If you do bring them, try to limit the hunts to early mornings or late evenings."

The regular dove seasons:

North Zone: Sept. 1-Nov. 12, resuming Dec. 15-Dec. 31, 2023

Central Zone: Sept. 1-Oct. 29, resuming Dec. 15, 2023-Jan. 14, 2024

South Zone: Sept. 14-Oct. 29, resuming Dec. 15, 2023 -Jan. 21, 2024

For the third straight year, there will be six Special White-Winged Dove Days, Sept. 1-3 and 8-10.

The aggregated bag limit in South Zone's regular season is 15 with no more than two white-tipped doves. During the Special White-winged Dove Days in the South Zone, hunting is allowed only from noon to sunset and the daily bag limit is 15 birds, to include not more than two mourning doves and two white-tipped doves.

All updated hunting regulations for this year's hunting season can be found in the [Texas Outdoor Annual mobile app](#) or online at [OutdoorAnnual.com](#).

In addition to a hunting license, anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971, must successfully complete a hunter education training course to hunt legally in Texas. The TPWD Hunter Education certification is valid for life and is honored in all other states and provinces. Hunters can find more information or print a replacement at no cost [online](#).

A Migratory Game Bird Endorsement (Stamp) and Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification are also required to hunt dove. HIP certification involves a brief survey of previous year's migratory bird hunting success and is conducted at the time licenses are purchased.

Smith County ESD No. 1 adopts tax rate

The Board of Commissioners for the Smith County Emergency Services District No. 1 adopted a tax rate of .071364 per \$100 property valuation for maintenance and operations for the tax year 2023 at a public meeting held on Aug. 17. This rate is a 9 decrease of last year's tax rate of .078427.

Grand jury scam surfaces

The Smith County Sheriff's Office has been made aware of yet another telephone scam involving fake grand jury summons, said spokesman Larry Christian. Christian said this particular scam involves a phone call from an individual claiming to be Chief Deputy John Garrison of the Smith County Sheriff's Office. The caller informed the recipient that he

had missed a grand jury subpoena. The proposed victim immediately recognized this as a scam and did not let the suspect get far enough to explain the payment method. Typically, these scammers will demand immediate payment for nonexistent fines and/or warrants for missed jury service. John Garrison, United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Texas, said his

name has been used in several different scams and, on one occasion, he learned that one victim lost \$60,000 in Bitcoin. No law enforcement agency will ever call you on the phone demanding payment for any reason, Christian said. Additionally, you should never provide anyone with identifying personal information such as Social Security numbers, birthdates or driver's license numbers.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In accordance with Texas property code, Chapter 59, Castlerock Storage-Lindale, 19375 US Hwy 69, Lindale, TX 75771, will conduct a public auction to satisfy a landlord's lien. Units will be sold as-is to the highest bidder online at www.storageauctions.com August 29, 2023 thru September 8, 2023 @10:00am. Cash Only. Cleanup deposit and sales tax required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Units include the personal household belongings of the following tenants: Kristina Peacock

CAUSE NO. 47595P

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT

GROVER CAMPBELL §

LOUGHMILLER §

DECEASED §

AT LAW#3 OF §

SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS §

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of GROVER CAMPBELL LOUGHMILLER, Deceased, were issued on July 31, 2023 under Docket No. 47595P, now pending in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas, to: CAROL B. LOUGHMILLER, Independent Executor.

The mailing address of the Independent Executor is:

CAROL B. LOUGHMILLER
13715 CR 2216
Tyler, Texas 75707

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 16th day of August, 2023.

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

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made for BourbonWest, LLC d/b/a BourbonWest for a Mixed Beverage Permit and a Food and Beverage Certificate, to be located at 18714 Hwy 69 North, Lindale, Smith County, Texas 79911. Rudolph Trujillo is the Manager.

LEGAL NOTICE

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) is proposing to remove and replace telecommunications equipment on the side of an existing 33ft utility pole structure (measured to the highest appurtenance) at 100 West Margaret St., Lindale, Smith Co., TX 75771. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Project 6123005757 - MCM c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, mcolonmorales@ebiconsulting.com, or at (787) 461-1028.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ELIZABETH ANN MOORE Deceased, were issued on May 15, 2023, in Cause No. 47405P, pending in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas, to SHERRY JORDAN.

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: August 15, 2023.

THE GOODSON FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys for Sherry Jordan

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LINDA GAYLE GLINSKI, Deceased, were issued on July 17, 2023, in Cause No. 47535P, pending in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas, to JANE CULPEPPER.

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: July 17, 2023.

THE GOODSON FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys for Jane Culpepper

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration with Will Annexed for the Estate of GLENDA SUE WRIGHT Deceased, were issued on July 17, 2023, in Cause No. 47533P, pending in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas, to LISA VANAE WRIGHT HUMPHREY and DANA D'ONNE WRIGHT CLIFTON.

The address for the Independent Administrator 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: July 17, 2023.

THE GOODSON FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys for
Lisa Vanae Wright Humphrey and
Dana D'onne Wright Clifton

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Estate of Marilyn Brown, Incapacitated, were issued on the 22nd of November, 2022, in Cause No. 45,821-G, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 in Smith County, Texas, to: Wayford Darryl Brown, III.

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

c/o: Stephen Hubbard Attorney at Law
100 E. Ferguson St. Suite 714
Tyler, Texas 75702
DATED the 14th day of August, 2023.

Stephen Hubbard/10140515
Attorney for Wayford Darryl Brown, III
100 E. Ferguson St. Suite 714
Tyler, Texas 75702
(903) 533-0018
(903) 597-7702 (F)
hubbard@hubbard-lawfirm.com

Notice to Creditors


Letters of Guardianship for the person and estate of JAY SCOT INGRAM, an incapacitated person, were issued 08/16/23, in Cause No. 47657-G, in the County Court at Law #3, Smith County, Texas to CHRISTOPHER JON INGRAM, Guardian. The residence of Guardian is 9407 Mallard Way, Larue, Tx. 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.

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Notice Budget Public Hearing

In accordance with §102.006 (c) of the Texas Local Government Code, the Lindale City Council will hold a Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget a copy of the Proposed Budget can be found at www.lindaletx.gov any person may attend the hearing.

Public Hearing Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 6:00 pm at City Hall, 105 Ballard Drive, Lindale Texas

This Budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$97,234 or 3%, and of that amount \$166,916 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

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Hot time in the old town Friday:

Lindale hosts Kaufman in season opener

Continued from Page 1

He cited the improved play from a somewhat inexperienced offensive line, especially against Sulphur Springs.

"I thought they handled it very well," he said. "We aren't a finished product by any means, but we showed some good things."

Defensively, the line play was a positive, as were the defensive backs, he said.

"(The defensive backs) made some plays but we still need to get better at tackling," Cochran said.

But he was quick to add that making it through both scrimmages with the players' health intact was a positive.

"The best thing is we didn't have any injuries," he said. "Our kids are really eager to learn and are fired up about Friday."

The Lions are coming off an 8-4 season from 2022, including a season-opening win over the Eagles, 24-17. They earned an Area playoff berth last season.

Kaufman will have five offensive starters and four on defense to bolster their hopes

of a district title.

Quarterback Ty Bureson returns to lead the offense again this year, and can utilize the skills of wide receivers Kylevon Morrow, Aljour Miles and Jeremiah Brown.

Linebacker Pate Bowers "is a force. He makes a bunch of plays," Cochran said.

Bureson, a junior, has a strong arm who passed for more than 1,300 yards last year.

"They are always going to have skilled players," the LHS coach said. "We will have our hands full."

Lindale Lady Eagles volleyball in capable, and experienced hands

By Terry Cannon
Editor

One of consistently excellent athletic programs in the Lindale ISD is the high school volleyball program, which is under the steady guiding hand of Jessica Dimsdle, now in her eighth season with the Lady Eagles.

A veteran of 19 volleyball seasons, 14 of those as head coach, Dimsdle came to the LISD understanding the lofty expectations of the always-playoff bound program.

Last year, the Lady Eagles finished with a 7-5 District 16-4A record and took on Pleasant Grove in the opening round of the playoffs. It took five sets for Pleasant Grove to subdue the Lady Eagles, 16-25, 25-19, 17-25, 25-14 and 15-13.

And even though she's been doing it for nearly two decades, Dimsdle still gets excited when the new volleyball year gets under way.

"My favorite part of coaching is the relationship with these girls," she said. "Each player is so special and brings so much to the team. I love getting to know them and be a part of an exciting memory in their life."

Like all good teachers and mentors, the coach looks beyond the stat sheet and box scores.

"I love seeing the enjoy the same game I've enjoyed for years," she said. "I love watching them grown and mature into beautiful young women. Watching them succeed on the court is so much fun."

This year's version of the Lady Eagles won't be short on experience as eight seniors will lead

the way and combined with the underclassmen, this year's Lady Eagles should get top performances from a variety of players.

"We are a very well rounded team," the coach said. "You will see different players at the top of the stats board on any given night."

Captains for this year's team include Reagan Cates, Kayli Vickery and Addison Ridge.

"We have a lot of leaders but (the captains) will lead the team and hold the others accountable," she said.

Others will also help maintain a winning attitude.

"We also couldn't do what we do without the voices of Ana Russell Johnson and Aspen Ives," the coach said. "Maddox Lay, Tatum Woodard, Megan McGee and Maddie Little all lead by example."

Following the leaders on the team is essential in maintaining a successful program.

"They work hard every day and are very consistent," Dimsdle said. "We have some girls new to varsity that lead in their own way and will move into leadership positions next year."

District 16-4A looks to be as competitive as ever in 2023, with Canton – which advanced to the UIL Regional Semifinals a year ago, and Brownsboro (Area finalist last year) looking to be the fiercest competition.

"This district is always going to be competitive," the coach said. "Van always find a way to be strong and Brownsboro and Canton should be solid competition as well."

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