

# Lindale News & Times

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50¢

## Celebrations illuminate downtown Lindale

Downtown Lindale will shine, literally, this weekend as the annual Lindale Rotary Club Christmas Parade steps off beginning at 5:30 p.m. at E.J. Moss Intermediate School and make its way down Highway 69.

Floats, bands and dignitaries will be in the parade which will conclude at Lindale's First Baptist Church.

Once the parade has concluded, those in attendance can make their way to Picker's Pavilion which has been decorated in holiday themes.

This is a free event.

In addition to this two things, the annual Christmas Bake Sale at Lillie Russell Library will take place again.

Cookies are \$10 per dozen and patrons can choose their own cookies.

In addition to the bake sale, Reindeer Games are scheduled, featuring carnival games for youngsters.

Arm bands are \$5 each and the games will conclude at 5 p.m.

Walk-in pictures with Santa will be available from 10 a.m.-12 noon and 2 p.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday as well.

The Friends of the LRML are also holding their annual Holiday Basket Sale, which will conclude on Dec. 23.

Each basket is uniquely hand crafted and individually priced. Baskets can be purchased during regular library hours, which are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The Pride of Lindale Marching Band from Lindale High School will lead the parade and the Jolly Old Elf himself, Santa Claus, will also make an appearance.

Rotary officials said this will be a spectator only parade and no candy will be handed out.

The club will award cash prizes for first, second and third place for the best decorated floats, officials said.



## Resilience resulted in sixth playoff berth in a row for 2023 Lindale Eagles

By Terry Cannon  
Editor

While it may seem that the failure to advance further in the state football playoffs would be a disappointment to Lindale Head Coach Chris Cochran, the eight-year mentor was pleased with the overall year, despite a loss in the Area Round two Fridays ago.

After a 1-3 start to the season, after an opening night win over Kaufman, Cochran felt his players and staff could have wallowed in the misery of a three-game losing streak with the district opener on the horizon on Sept. 22.

"But our kids and coaches showed a lot of resiliency during that time," he said. "I was really proud of how they responded after going 1-3 and not getting caught in the negative trap."

Along with his players, Cochran knows his coaching staff is also responsible for creating an atmosphere for success.

"This staff is awesome," he said. "They are really good at what they do and they just love these kids and are focused on making them better young men."

Against Iowa Colony, it was the turnover bug that bit the Eagles, four of them in fact.

"(Turnovers) are what killed us," Cochran said. "If your team turns it over four times your chances of winning aren't very high. But I thought I defense played well, they were just on the field too much."

Lindale has now made it to the playoffs in six of the seven years Cochran has been at the helm of the Eagles' program.

"I want expectations of our program to be high every year," he said. "And I want our players to get to the point where big wins—such as the one against Chapel Hill—are not a surprise."

The Eagles finished 7-5 on the season and were the second place team in District 9-4A with a 5-1 record. The only league loss was at the hands of district champion Kilgore.

The biggest win of the regular season was a 35-22 upset of the previously undefeated Chapel Hill in Lindale.

### THREE BIG WINS IN 2023

There's should be little debate that Lindale's 35-23 victory over the previously unbeaten Chapel Hill Bulldogs on Friday, Oct. 13 in Eagle Stadium was the most important—if not satisfying—win of the season.

But the 49-28 win over Vidor on a rainy night in Nacogdoches on Nov. 9 in the bi-district round provided another good ball for the LHS trophy case.

And although the final playoff seedings wouldn't be decided until the next two weeks, Lindale's 57-49 victory over Palestine on the road on Oct. 20 put the Eagles in a position to help determine their playoff destiny.

### LINDALE 35, CHAPEL HILL 23

There were plenty of coaches and players on the LHS squad that remembered the 2022 disaster in Chapel Hill when the Bulldogs mashed the Eagles, 79-45.

But Lindale returned the favor this year and the revenge was sweet, indeed.

Chapel Hill entered the game undefeated and ranked in

some polls as the No. 1 Class 4A team in the state.

Yet it didn't take long for Lindale to assert itself, on both side of the ball.

The game plan was devised to keep the high octane Bulldog offense on the sideline and the Eagles did just that on the opening drive, consuming nearly nine minutes of the first period in taking a 7-0 lead.

The Eagles ran 77 plays to just 29 for Chapel Hill and the time of possession was tilted severely in Lindale's favor (39:25 to 8:27), and on their first scoring drive the Eagles held the ball more than 9 minutes.

Quarterback Clint Thurman was a wrecking ball, rushing 46 times for 310 yards and four touchdowns.

Lindale's defense proved to be a big nuisance to Chapel Hill's Demetrius Brisbon, sacking him twice and knocking him down four times.

The Bulldogs gained just 311 yards of total offense—with 155 of those yards on two long runs from Rickey Stewart—and weren't close to their points-per-game average of 53.

### LINDALE 49, VIDOR 28

On a damp Nov. 9 night in Nacogdoches, the Eagles jumped out to a 21-7 lead in the first period of their bi-district showdown with Vidor on two touchdown passes from Thurman and a third when he ran it over from eight yards out.

Thurman's first score went to wide out Aiden Wamell from 38-yards out and the second was a 63-yard bomb to Chad Ward. This one came after Vidor drove 58 yards with the touchdown coming on a Caden Strother 32-yard run.

Lindale's third score of the quarter came after a fumble recovery on the ensuing kickoff.

Four rushing plays later, Thurman ran it in from nine yards out to build the Eagles' advantage to 21-7.

The Eagles continued to add to their lead in the second quarter, scoring 21 more points to own a 42-14 lead at intermission. The final play of the half, a Hail Mary toss from Thurman to Cameron Hicks, covered 25 yards with just under a minute left.

### LINDALE 57, PALESTINE 49

Even though the Eagles had one district game left after they visited Palestine on Oct. 20, a win against the pesky Wildcats would cement a playoff spot for Cochran's club.

Thurman rushed for four touchdowns and had four passing touchdowns and was once again the big gun on offense, but he had considerable help from running back Caleb Hart and lanky wide receiver Chad Ward.

Ward had six receptions for 156 yards and four scores while Hart rushed 13 times for 88 yards.

Lindale grabbed a 36-27 lead at the half and tacked on two more touchdowns in the third period.

Palestine made it interesting in the fourth period with 15 points, but Lindale had too much momentum.



Making season merry and bright

Now that Thanksgiving has come and gone for another year, the nights around East Texas are going to be brighter with Christmas decorations, such as these seen at Santa Land, located east of Lindale off Interstate 20.

Photos by Terry Cannon



## Council backs away from plan for Pool Park renovations

Lindale City Council members worked through a brief agenda this past week at city hall prior to the Thanksgiving Holiday and made a decision on a plan for renovations at Pool Park.

On the recommendation of the Lindale Parks Board, city council members moved away from a plan for an all-inclusive playground for those with special needs which was presented in an August council meeting by representatives from Cal's Pals.

During the August meeting, Cal's Pals representatives said they were also trying to work with the Lindale ISD on the project, but council members learned at the Nov. 21 meeting the school district isn't in on the project.

After hearing the presentation in August, council members learned there

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# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## Find your Gilda...

It is the end of deadline day. I am at the end of my energy rope. My neck hurts. You could bounce quarters off my tense shoulders. And tomorrow is another jam-packed day. I know what I need to do. It was how I started my day. I just forgot along the way. I need to count my blessings.

I began the day that way after starting with complaints I shared with my buddy Karen, who reminded me that my glass at least was half full.

My soul sister buddy looks exactly, and I mean exactly like Gilda Radner. Remember Gilda from the glory days of NBC's Saturday Night Live comedy television show with Jim Belushi and Chevy Chase? That was back when SNL was funny. Really, really funny. My friend Karen is Gilda made over, or Tigger from Winnie the Pooh. Either comparison works. Either is accurate.

Karen and I talk on my way to, and often from work. We laugh, occasionally cry and often lay out our concerns and shared prayer requests. Sometimes those concerns are embarrassingly selfish. Sometimes they are selfless. Sometimes they are mundane. Whatever they are I can share them with my buddy and prayer partner. "Whatever those concerns are", being the most important part of that sentence.

We advise each other, we slow each other down, we remind each other of what is light in the middle of our own, often created darkness. We spend a lot of time laughing. And I need that. When I was teaching I laughed all day long with my students and colleagues. Teaching is not as singular a profession as what I do now. It was kind of a team event. Not just me and a computer screen or camera from a distance.

Karen reminds me of my lighter, more buoyant self. She makes me laugh, a lot.

My old rancher Daddy used to say, and he said it often, "you have to laugh to keep from crying". And you know, that is so, so true.

Laughter shared, whether through exuberant joy or tears

## Abbott: Battle continues over vouchers

As time runs out next week on the fourth special session, Gov. Greg Abbott said he will continue to fight for school choice, despite the Texas House once again decisively rejecting it when 21 Republicans largely from rural districts joined Democrats in stripping it from a \$7.6 billion education bill. The Austin American-Statesman reported it is unclear what Abbott's next move will be.

"I will continue advancing school choice in the Texas Legislature and at the ballot box and will maintain the fight for parent empowerment until all parents can choose the best education path for their child," Abbott said. "I am in it to win it."

However, Abbott has not said whether he will call a fifth special session. He has previously said that he would back primary opponents to those who rejected the voucher plan.

"I don't know whether the Governor will call us back for a 5th special session or not," state Rep. Cody Harris, R-Palestine, said in a Facebook post Sunday. "Either way, I look forward to the next time I have the opportunity to provide much needed teacher pay raises, increased funding for our local schools, and parents with the opportunity to choose the system of education they believe is best for their child."

The filing period for the March primary is underway and ends Dec. 11.

## Widespread power outages possible

The agency in charge of the state's power grid is warning that Texas could face widespread power outages this winter if temperatures plunge below freezing for several days in a row, as occurred last year. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas raised the alarm after canceling a plan to ask power plant operators to reactivate some closed natural gas and coal plants. It received few offers to do so, The Dallas Morning News reported.

ERCOT is predicting a 14.4% chance of rolling blackouts if the state experiences a severe cold snap such as occurred just before last Christmas. Those chances grow to 16.8% in January, according to the report.

Population and business growth are the main drivers of energy shortages on the ERCOT grid, The News reported.

## Texas State to host first presidential debate

The first presidential debate for the 2024 general election will be held at Texas State University in San Marcos, the Statesman reported. The Sept. 16 debate will be the first of four to take place next year.

Kelly Dampousse, president of Texas State since July 2022, said he believes the university, with nearly 39,000 students,

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



is a great gift. My friend reminds me to laugh and for that I am very, very grateful.

So, as I start counting my blessings I have Karen at the top of the list today.

I hope that you, dear readers, have a 'Gilda' in your life that lightens your load and brightens your day. If you don't, grab a cup of coffee or tea and share a few laughs and concerns with someone who makes you smile. I promise your glass will begin to fill itself and you will lighten your load.

Find your Gilda and let them know how important they are in your life.

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



was chosen because of its legacy with former President Lyndon Johnson, who graduated from there, and its facilities.

"Texas State looks a lot like the state of Texas demographically. We are almost all Texas students here, more than 95%," he told the Statesman. "And so I think in many ways we look like a great opportunity for them. Not just our facilities, not just our campus, but just the entire story must have looked attractive to them."

## 800,000+ Texas children lose health care

Of the 1.4 million Texans who have lost health coverage through either Medicaid of the Children's Health Insurance Program, 58% — or 812,000 — are children, The News reported. This follows the end of pandemic-era continuous Medicaid renewals.

"We knew we were going to have problems, to be candid. I'm sorry we're seeing the kind of numbers that we're seeing," said Steve Love, president and CEO of the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council. "This is going to really exacerbate the problems we already have with the uninsured in Texas."

Nearly 70% of people who lost Medicaid coverage in Texas were booted off for procedural reasons, such as failing to return renewal packet requests. The state has the highest rate of uninsured people in the country.

## Texas leads nation in annual job growth again

The state again reached a record high nationally with 14.536 million Texans at work, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The state's seasonally adjusted jobless rate held steady at 4.1%.

"The Texas economy continues to grow, and there are nearly 480,000 job listings for individuals with the right skills, which TWC can help provide," TWC chairman Bryan Daniel said.

The latest report marks the 10th consecutive monthly increase in jobs, with the addition of 21,000 more Texans on payroll, TWC reported.

## We're number one! In feral hogs.

It likely comes as no surprise to rural residents, but even city dwellers are having their yards and gardens ravaged by feral hogs, which have been reported in 99.6% of Texas counties. The only exception thus far is El Paso County, according to new data from the University of Georgia.

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## THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

### Family Fortunes ...

Every three years, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System releases results of the Survey of Consumer Finances. The Survey looks at family income, net worth, debt, and other indicators of the financial health of US families. The most recent report covers the interesting time period from 2019 (just before the COVID-19 pandemic) to 2022.

Let's explore a few interesting findings.

Although the pandemic has been devastating in many ways and the shutdowns and other disruptions to business activity caused massive dislocations, the Survey indicates that US families were actually better off financially due to the historic infusion of funds.

Income was up whether measured by the mean (average) or median (where half are above and half are below). The

2022 household income number reflects earnings in 2021, and many families were benefitting from pandemic-related federal relief packages. While the resulting enhanced unemployment and other benefits would be reflected, information on many stimulus payments was not included. Income increases were measured for most age groups and races/ethnicities. The highest median income group was Asian, with a median income of \$122,600, followed by White non-Hispanic (\$81,100), Hispanic/Latino (\$46,700), and Black (\$46,000) families. Not surprisingly, income remained highly correlated with education.

Looking at net worth (the difference between assets and liabilities), housing and equities both rose at rates outpacing general prices, leading to significant gains. Real median net worth was up 37% to \$192,900, and real mean net worth increased by 23% to reach almost \$1.1 million (obviously, wealthy households bring up the average). Net worth rose for all age ranges and education levels. Particularly notable percentage gains occurred in younger and less educated families.

The reasons for the improvement in financial wellbeing are varied. For many families, massive stimulus payments were used to pay down debt and increase wealth. Housing-related debt was fairly stable, but credit card balances dropped noticeably.

Homeowners' net worth was positively affected by soaring home prices. In fact, the Survey found that, for families that owned their home, the median net housing value (the value of a home minus the mortgage) rose from \$139,100 in 2019 to \$201,000 in 2022. The flip side of the surging housing market is that affordability fell to historic lows, with the median home value more than 4.6 times the median family income.

Despite the immeasurable human cost and dislocations accompanying the pandemic, it is interesting that from a purely financial perspective, most families were better situated in 2021 than they were in 2019. Nonetheless, it remains to be seen how future surveys will look given high inflation, a lagging housing market, the expiration of various stimulus initiatives, increasing consumer debt, and other issues surfacing since that time. Stay safe!

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# Some anniversaries more memorable than others

It would be an understatement to say that during the past five years, this old body has been poked, prodded, scanned and operated on more than the average person.

In November 2018, my battle with that dastardly disease cancer began with a harrowing trip to the Baylor Hospital emergency room in Dallas and hopefully, has concluded with more “all clear” declarations from my oncologist and surgeon.

(An aside: These two men, Dr. Donald Richards with Texas Oncology and Dr. Scott Celinski, also of Texas Oncology, saved my life. They are my heroes and as far as I’m concerned, the best physicians on planet Earth.)

Actually, cancer had afflicted my body several months prior to November 2018. For the better part of 2017, my stomach felt as though some little gremlin was inside, poking me with a knife. I dutifully saw my physician, who scheduled procedures with doctors who run camera tubes down your throat to see what they can see.

Following the first two, they couldn’t find anything. But the third one revealed the source of my gastric pain: a problem with my duodenum.

I was referred to Dr. Celinski at Baylor Hospital



in Dallas. But if there is a problem with being a great surgeon it is their schedule is always full. It took several more weeks of waiting and the aforementioned awful trip to the emergency room in Dallas to get on his schedule.

(Another aside: Great doctors aren’t just skilled with their hands. They must have empathy and exude confidence to and for their patients. This was apparent from the first time my wife and I met Dr. Celinski.)

A couple of days later, the good doctor took out the cancer in my duodenum and, as he informed me later in the recovery room, my gall bladder as well.

“Why,” I asked.  
“Because you don’t really need it,” he casually replied.

Oh. OK.  
But he also said something else I’ll never forget: “We’ll make sure you are a healthy boy very soon.”

So far, so good.  
After a month in the hospital, it was time to come home to a devoted wife and two happy dachshunds. Up

next, my first meeting with my oncologist, Dr. Richards.

He, too, was reassuring as to my prognosis. I had a Stage 3 cancer and even though it was rare and something he wasn’t fully familiar with, he told me there were many specialists whose expertise would help guide us through the bramble strewn path ahead.

One of the first things he mentioned, which we were both extremely grateful, was my type of cancer wasn’t necessarily genetic, meaning my kids and grandkids probably wouldn’t be victimized.

He then scheduled my chemo treatments, with eight being spaced about three weeks apart. Pills were also a part of the treatment, nine a day.

Cancer patients are familiar with the phrase “if the cancer doesn’t kill you, the chemo treatments will.” There are some that don’t experience the dangerous effects of what is essentially poison invading your body to combat the cancer, but others, such as myself, are tortured.

Symptoms ranged from extreme fatigue to intestinal torment and finally, my mind becoming essentially a blob of jelly.

Simple things, such as recognizing my wife, my kids, grandkids and even my dogs, wouldn’t register. It was, to say the least, the strangest sensation I’ve ever had.

After one harrowing weekend in late July 2019, I was hospitalized again. The following Monday, we visited with my oncologist who sensibly halted the chemo treatments.

By Thanksgiving of that year, I was almost back to normal and by Christmas I was able to enjoy my family and the holidays.

Slowly, steadily, my condition improved. Each subsequent CT scan revealed no traces of cancer. Now all that was left to do was wait.

The five-year milestone cancer patients look forward to has arrived.

My doctors – my heroes – were just as dedicated to “making me a healthy boy” now as they were from the start.

To have my wife, my kids and my doctors resolutely standing guard over me the past five years has been the most humbling experience of my life.

Not a day goes by that I don’t thank our Creator for placing these people in my life.

# How to scare the you-know-what out of egrets

For those of you who have been readin’ this junk for any length of time, you’ll know what a fit I’ve had with skunks over the years.

Although this story is not about skunks, it happened down at Skunk Hollow back in the summer. For you who don’t know, Skunk Hollow is a cabin and little lake located down behind my house.

I gave it this name because of all the skunks that I’ve had livin’ under the cabin and around the area. The cabin is one my dad had built a long time ago and has been the home to quite a few renters over the years.

Most of them were new-lweds and it is a neat little place. The front porch overlooks the lake which has a foot bridge across it. It is now the home of my office where I sit and write this junk.

For some reason, skunks love this place, and I’ve had a time gettin’ rid of ‘em. Just when I think I have the problem solved; back they come. Well, now I have a new problem; birds.

No, I don’t mean tweety birds, I mean cow birds. You know, egrets. I call ‘em tick birds.

Egrets are beautiful white birds that follow cows around, sometimes sittin’ on their backs. They supposedly pick ticks off of them, but I have my doubts. I think they eat the grasshoppers that the cows stir up when they are grazin’, but who knows?

The problem I have with them is that they have decided to take up residence in the oak trees in front of the cabin. This in itself doesn’t bother me; it’s what they leave behind that does.

They have just about covered the bridge, divin’ board, and concrete picnic tables in the front yard with droppin’s. Pure white droppin’s.

Now, I know when you’ve got to go, you’ve got to go, but you don’t have to go on my bridge, so I decided to do somethin’ about it.

“I think I’ve figured a way to get rid of those blasted tick birds,” I said to my wife Janet, as I got my shotgun.

“You are not going to shoot them,” she stated firmly.

“Heck no,” I said. “Anyway, I think it’s against the law. Instead, I’m gonna use my brain.”

“Well,” she said. “There’s a first time for everything.”  
“You’re real funny,” I said. “I figure if I can scare them bad enough, they’ll leave and never return.”

“And how do you plan on doing that?” she asked.

“By becomin’ a tree,” I answered.

“Do what?”

“I’m gonna pretend I’m a tree.”

“Well, the dogs should enjoy this.”

“Har, har. You are so funny,” I said sarcastically.

“No, I figure that if I camo up real good, put some limbs and leaves in my hat, and sit under the trees at the cabin, the birds won’t notice me. Then, when they land, I will shoot up in the air and scare them off.”

“And what makes you think that will work?”

“You got any better ideas?” I asked.

“No, not really.”

“OK, then leave it to the expert.”

“Do you know what the definition of ‘expert’ is?” Janet asked, and then continued to tell me without waitin’ for an answer. “If you break

the word ‘expert’ down, you have ‘ex’ and ‘spurt’. ‘Ex’ is a has-been, and ‘spurt’ is a drip under pressure. So that makes you a drip under pressure.”

“Don’t you have somethin’ to do, like change the spark plugs in your broom, or somethin’?” I asked.

She didn’t reply. She just gave me one of those looks.

Well, I camoed up. I painted my face and hands and put on my camo coveralls.

“Aren’t you going to burn up?” asked Janet. “I mean, you may have to stand down there all day.”

“Ha,” I laughed. “A lot you know. I have been watchin’ those birds for several days and they always land in those trees at the same time every day – 11 o’clock. I’m gonna go down there at 10:30 and be waitin’ for ‘em.”

At 10:30 there I was, standin’ as still as any tree. I was lookin’ up through the branches that I had attached to my hat. At 10:35, I was jumpin’ up and down, stompin’, tryin’ to get the fire ants off of my legs. At 10:40, I was back to bein’ a tree, six feet from the fire ant mound. At 10:50, I was sweatin’ profusely, tryin’ to blink the sweat and face paint out of my eyes. At 10:55 I was swayin’ in the breeze like a tree. This was not part of my plan of bein’ like a tree but was from the toll the heat was playin’ on my body. Then the first bird arrived.

By 11 o’clock the tree was covered with egrets. I had fooled them. I was just

hopin’ Janet was watchin’ from up at the house. Slowly, I pointed my shotgun up into the air. I pulled the trigger.

“BOOM!” the shotgun said.

The air exploded with birds takin’ off. I was lookin’ up at the time. That was a big mistake. It seems that when egrets take off that fast, they feel the necessity to drop some ballast, so they can become airborne more quickly. Everything turned white. I thought at first I had either shot myself, or I had gone blind. But then I figured out that my glasses were covered with droppin’s. So were my mustache, my gun, my coveralls, and everything else I had on.

Fortunately, for once in my life, my mouth had been closed. Although I couldn’t see her, I could tell by the laughter comin’ from up at the house, Janet had indeed been watchin’.

I laid my gun down and walked over to the edge of the lake. After lookin’ up at the house and seein’ the blurred image of Janet bent over cacklin’, I jumped into the water.

When I crawled out of the water, I was somewhat cleaned off. I gathered my gun and made my way back up to the house. I stripped off in the garage and tried to sneak in unnoticed, but, as usual, luck was not with me.

“Boy,” said Janet. “You really did scare those birds, didn’t you?”

“Well,” I said indignantly. “It worked, didn’t it?”

“Uh, I hate to burst your bubble,” she said, “but look down at the cabin.” I went over to the window and looked. Sure enough, they were back. Heck.

If you happened to know any good way to get rid of egrets.....HELP!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Are we still the United States?

Dear Editor,

While Sept. 11 was horrific, I had never seen Americans more united. Every house had a flag flying proudly, flag bumper stickers, clothing with flags, we shared in the hurt and anger of those attacks and we were bound and determined to fight back in whatever that would mean.

Now? We have Biden in office, kneelers, 20 possible sexes to choose from, skyrocketing inflation, a government forced jab, BLM, antifa and defund the police movements, killing 3,000-plus unborn babies every day, the government giving millions and millions of dollars of equipment to terrorist and calling them a government...I mean the list can go on but why bother. I still fly my flag but now it’s in hopes of a better America to return and a thankful heart to those that have fought for our country.

Certainly not because I’m proud of what we’ve become. We are trending toward a country that has turned its back on God. Let’s all pray for a United Revival, not God is my Copilot, but God is my PILOT!

Edmund Kaup  
Lindale

## 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.

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### ONE YEAR AGO, Nov. 30, 2022

The Lindale Eagles disposed of the Brazosport Exporters 42-28 in the Area round of the Class 4A state football playoffs, and qualified for the Regional Semifinals against Kilgore at Trinity Mother Frances Rose Stadium in Tyler.

Junior Wyatt Parker rushed five times for 116 yards, including a run from punt formation to keep an Eagle drive alive. Patrick Daniels scored from 11 yards on the Eagles’ first drive of the second half to tie the game. Parker’s 17-yard run in the fourth period helped seal the win for the Eagles.

### FIVE YEARS AGO, Nov. 29, 2018

With a 61-45 win over Jacksonville, the Lindale High School Eagles boys basketball team ran its record to 3-0 on the season. Cody Collinworth led Lindale with 21 points, while Jacob Koeshall scored 16, Holton Knox had 9, Connery Churchill scored 7, Teigan Edwards put in 6 and Kobe Scott scored two.

### 10 YEARS AGO, Nov. 28, 2013

Lindale City Council members put the brakes on a proposal to changing the speed limits in the city’s downtown area from 30 miles per hour to 40 mph during their regular meeting held at city hall.

Jeffrey Harmon, an engineer with the Texas Department of Transportation, made a presentation to the council but the council was unified in its opposition to the plan.

Council man Clyde Harper felt the change was just too radical, given the amount of foot and vehicle traffic that has increased.

“If people are allowed to go 40, that means they will probably wind up going 45,” he said. “It just wouldn’t be safe for people coming in and out of businesses and getting into their cars.”

Other council members expressed their agreement with Harper as did Lindale Police Chief Dan Somes.

“My feeling on it is that it would be safer to have it stay the same,” Somes said.

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# Easy to grow persimmons tasty, decorative

By Greg Grant  
Smith County Horticulturist

Asian persimmons (*Diospyros kaki*) are eye-popping small ornamental trees. They have wonderful yellow and orange fall colors and produce copious quantities of large orange fruit that hang on the tree until winter.

Many nongardeners refer to them as "tomato trees." Though not common here, they have been cultivated in Texas for over a 100 years and in Asia for thousands of years.

They can be eaten fresh or dried, or made into breads, cakes, and puddings. Luckily, they are very easy to grow and can be produced completely organically having almost no insect or disease problems.

Though many astringent types will pucker your mouth before they are completely soft and ripe, the non-astringent types can be eaten when they are crisp and firm, like an apple.

Asian persimmons are generally planted during the winter or early spring. They are available as both bare-root and containerized plants. When planting bare-root persimmons, it is absolutely a must that you plant them when they are dormant (leafless) during the winter.

Containerized plants can be planted



Asian persimmons are both edible and ornamental.

year-round, if moisture is available, with fall being the best time, winter second, spring third, and summer the worst. Asian persimmons should be spaced 10 to 20 feet apart.

Asian persimmons require full sun of at least eight hours a day to produce well. They can be grown in most any soils but prefer those that are well drained and can grow in acid or moderately alkaline soils.

Dig a hole twice as wide as the tree's root ball and as deep as the roots or pot it was in. Water the root ball in the hole and then backfill the hole with the native soil.

Be careful not to plant the tree too deep or it will die. Create a circular berm around the tree that acts as a catch basin

for water, and water the tree once a week (during June, July, and August) until it's established. Put 1 to 2 inches of mulch (compost, pine straw, etc.) in a 3- to 4-foot circle around the plant to prevent weeds, moderate soil temperatures, and conserve moisture.

Asian persimmons require relatively little care, pruning, spraying, or fertilizing.

They can be grown organically in Texas. Provide 1 to 2 inches of water per week when they are in fruit to prevent fruit drop.

Although they will ripen off the tree, persimmons should be left on the tree until they are full-sized, soft, and fully colored, generally around the first frost. If they are not ripe, they will be very astringent and pucker your mouth. Fuyu can be harvested when it is firm and crisp, as it is a non-astringent variety. Persimmons generally stay edible and hang on the tree until midwinter.

Persimmons are self-fruitful; however, fruit set and retention are often better when cross-pollinated by another cultivar.

Seedless fruit can only occur without cross-pollination or by only having a single cultivar. Recommended cultivars for Texas include 'Eureka', 'Fuyu' (seedless, non-astringent), 'Hachiya' (seedless), 'Tamopan', and 'Tane-nashi' (seedless).

## OBITUARY

### TROY PHELPS



Troy Phelps, age 60, passed away Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023 in Tyler. He was born Nov. 20, 1962 at the 608 th tactical hospital at Toul Rosieres Air Force Base in Strasbourg, France.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023 at Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty

Funeral Home in Lindale. Officiating the service was David Attebury.

The burial was at Garden Valley Cemetery.

Troy was a lifelong resident of Lindale where he was a church member at the First Baptist church, he enjoyed photography, and loved collecting Coca-Cola memorabilia.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Jerrell Lindsey and Jeanette (Downing) Phelps; sister, Charlene Collier; along with a niece and nephew.

He is survived by, sister Donna and husband, Toribio Charles of Winona; niece, Daniela and husband, Cody Kelm of Tyler; Nephews, Javier and wife, Jasmine Charles of Tyler, Benjamin Charles of Winona, Jake Sanders of Lindale, Carriand Sam Jiridly with their three children of Virginia; along with numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Pallbearers were Javier Charles, Benjamin Charles, Cody Kelm, Jake Sanders, Alex Charles, and Gil Charles.

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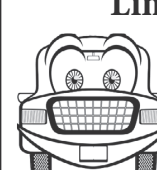
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Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.



### Lindale Police Department call logs for Nov. 17-24

**FRIDAY, NOV. 17:** Assist LISD PD 1000 block Mount Sylvan Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 15700 block CR 431, Settled at Scene; Theft, 500 block South Main Street, Report; Assist DPS, 13800 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 200 block Cannery Row, Settled at Scene; Traffic Hazard, 18200 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled at Scene; Traffic Complaint, 100 block E. Centennial, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 300 block South Main Street, Arrest.

**SATURDAY, NOV. 18:** Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, 100 block E. Centennial, Citation Issued; Suspicious Vehicle, 13400 block IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Harassment, 100 block E. Centennial, Settled at Scene; Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive, Settled at Scene; Escort, 200 block West Hubbard, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 700 block North College, Street, Settled at Scene; Stolen License Plate, 3300 block South Main Street, Report; Motorist Assist, 1800 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Theft 15900 block Brittain Court, Report; Suspicious Circumstance, 13900 block FM 2710, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 15000 block CR 463, Settled at Scene; Traffic Complaint, 556 IH-20 West, Unable to Locate; Criminal Trespass, 100 block E. Centennial, Warning Issued; Assist Another Agency, 500 block North Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 556 IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Residential Alarm, 200 block Patience Ave., Settled at Scene.

**SUNDAY, NOV. 19:** Assist Smith Co SO, 18900 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled at Scene; Assist EMS, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motorist Assist, 1800 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Traffic Complaint, 2700 block South Main Street, Unable to Locate; Motorist Assist 552 IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Traffic Complaint, 3500 block South Main Street, Unable



to Locate; Motor Vehicle Crash, 556 IH-20 West, Report; Business Alarm, 3200 block South Main Street, False Alarm.

**MONDAY, NOV. 20:** Motor Vehicle Crash, 554 IH-20 West, Report; Found Property, 200 block Miranda Lambert Way, Report; Found Property, 13300 Blk IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Burglary Motor Vehicle, 300 block South Main Street, Report; Traffic Hazard, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Vehicle, 2100 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 2700 block South Main Street, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 2800 block South Main Street, Report; Welfare Concern, 17000 block IH-20 West, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 14100 block FM 849, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 552 IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Disturbance, 17400 block Stacy Street, Settled at Scene.

**TUESDAY, NOV. 21:** Business Alarm, 200 block South Henry Street, False Alarm; Parking Violation, 100 block Freedom Drive, Citation Issued; Suspicious Vehicle, 14300 block CR 474, Settled at Scene; Assist EMS, 400 block Roseland Drive, Settled at Scene; Cruelty to Animals, 100 block East Centennial, Settled at Scene; Motorist Assist, 100 block North Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 13800 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Report; Found Property, 15300 block FM 16 West, Unfounded; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3200 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 17200 block Countrywood, Settled

at Scene; Hit and Run Crash, 100 block East Centennial, Report; Suspicious Person, 13800 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Unable to Locate; City Ordinance Violation, 100 block Hamrick Street, Unfounded.

**WEDNESDAY, Nov. 22:** Civil Matter, 200 block Charles Drive, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 300 block East South Street, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 15500 block CR 463, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 100 block East Centennial, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3400 block South Main Street, Report; Traffic Hazard, 13800 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled at Scene; Fraud, 3200 block South Main Street, Report; Verbal Disturbance, 1100 East Park Drive, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 100 block E. Centennial, Warning Issued; Public Service, 1100 block East Park Drive, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial, Warning Issued; Welfare Concern, 1400 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 500 block North Main Street, Report; Mental Health, 200 block West Centennial, Settled at Scene.

**THURSDAY, Nov. 23:** Criminal Trespass, 500 block North Main Street, Warning Issued; Suspicious Vehicle, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Other Agency, 17000 block IH-20 West, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 800 block Industrial Parkway, Settled at Scene; Accident, 13900 block FM 849 Report; Assist Other Agency, 500 block North Henry Street, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 400 block West Hubbard, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 13300 block CR 472, Settled at Scene; Reckless Driving, 2300 block South Main Street, Warning Issued; Criminal Trespass, 13700 block Harvey Road, Warning Issued; Disturbance 17700 block CR 4112, Settled at Scene.

**FRIDAY, Nov. 24:** Loud Noise Complaint, 400 block Mission Crest, Settled at Scene; Disturbance, 500 block Sunset Drive, Settled at Scene; Welfare Concern 3500 block South Main Street, Unfounded.

## New fisheries director named for TPWD

Tim Birdsong has been selected as Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's next Inland Fisheries Division director, publicity officials announced.

Birdsong has served as interim division director since July, following the promotion of Craig Bonds to chief operating officer.

"Tim has a passion for fishing, aquatic resources stewardship, building collaborative partnerships and for TPWD," said David Yoskowitz, Ph.D., TPWD executive director. "He has a knack for bringing teams together, identifying creative solutions and leveraging funding and other resources to put a vision into action. Tim consistently exhibits integrity and demonstrates the talent, experience and competency to lead the Inland Fisheries Division to an even brighter future."

Birdsong is a 17-year veteran of TPWD, having served within the Inland Fisheries Division as deputy division director and habitat conservation branch chief. Prior to joining TPWD, Birdsong was a fisheries biologist and data program leader with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"TPWD is an inspiring and impactful organization, and daily I'm struck with feelings of purpose and gratitude for the opportunity to contribute to this great mission," said Birdsong. "It's an honor and privilege to be selected as the next Inland Fisheries Division director. The division is recognized nationally as a progressive leader among state fisheries programs, routinely taking risks to develop new and innovative solutions to challenges facing freshwater fisheries resources that are science-based, cost-effective, scalable and transferable."

The Inland Fisheries Division provides quality fishing opportunities for 3.1 million freshwater anglers on Texas' 1,100 public lakes and 191,228 miles of streams, creeks and rivers.

"Whether it's preserving Texas native species and freshwater biodiversity promoting sportfishing or serving up a wild-caught, healthy source of protein to feed Texas families, the Inland Fisheries Division plays essential roles in managing and conserving

public freshwater fisheries resources to meet the needs of all Texans," said Birdsong. "We exist to sustain thriving populations of fish and other aquatic species, and to sustain recreationally, commercially and economically important fisheries. Simply put, people need fish and fish need the Inland Fisheries Division."

In 2022, anglers spent an estimated \$11.1 billion on food, lodging, transportation and equipment while fishing Texas freshwater and coastal waters, and fishing supported an estimated 51,380 jobs in the state.

Birdsong's contributions to the management and conservation of the state's public freshwater fisheries resources have been recognized at state, national and international levels. He has garnered multiple honors, including the Conservation Award from Fly Fishers International (2021), National Fish Habitat Award (2014), Texas Parks and Wildlife Conservation Award (2015), James A. Henshall Warmwater Fisheries Award (2016), Sport Fish Restoration Outstanding Project Award (2016, 2020) and Texas Parks and Wildlife Outstanding Team Award (2020). Birdsong was also named Outstanding Texas Fisheries Worker of the Year by the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society two different times during his TPWD career (2013, 2020).

Birdsong earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Southeastern Oklahoma State University and a master's degree in fisheries science from Louisiana State University. He is also a graduate of the National Conservation Leadership Institute (2022), Governor's Center for Management Development – Senior Management Program (2020) and TPWD's Natural Leaders Program (2010). Birdsong was born in Denison and graduated from Rock Creek High School in Bokchito, Okla.

He grew up fishing, boating, swimming and camping on Lake Texoma and other rivers and reservoirs in the region. Birdsong resides with his wife and two high school-age sons in Wimberley and considers the Blanco River, Canyon Lake and Guadalupe River to be his home waters.

## Holidays can be hazardous for pets

Holidays bring families and friends together but can also mean potential hazards for pets.

Table foods, ornaments, and other holiday items can be harmful to cats and dogs. Every year veterinarians at the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital see an increase in a variety of digestive diseases during the holiday season.

The holidays are a great time to cook with and enjoy chocolate; however, chocolate is very toxic to pets and can cause gastrointestinal, cardiovascular and neurologic disease including vomiting, rapid heart rate, high blood pressure, overexcitation, and seizures.

If you think your dog may have ingested chocolate, signs to watch for include vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, agitation, increased thirst, an elevated heart rate and in severe cases, seizures

Table food can cause dogs to suffer from acute gastroenteritis (an inflammation of the stomach and intestines) or pancreatitis. In both diseases, dogs experience severe vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and listlessness. Bones may lead to obstructions in the esophagus, the stomach, or the intestine and lead to severe digestive signs.

Furthermore, grapes, raisins and onions are foods that dogs and cats should not receive. They are toxic to pets and can cause potentially fatal diseases, such as acute kidney failure, anemia, or seizures.

Most ornamental plants (e.g., poinsettias, mistletoes, holly, etc.) can cause stomach upset.

Decorating your home is a lot of fun, but not if your pets consume any of it. Many decorations usually involve electrical cords, so please check to make sure that your pets are not chewing on them, as electric shock may have devastating consequences.

Also, some pets may try to eat batteries, so please make sure that they are put away safely.

The weather in December and January can be quite chilly so please remember to bring your outside pets inside overnight if a hard freeze is forecast.

If your pet becomes sick or if you think that it may have ingested something harmful, contact your veterinarian immediately. Delays in seeking veterinary help may seriously complicate the problem.

Other good resources are the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control at <http://www.aspcapet-care/animal-poison-control> or the Pet Poison Helpline <http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/>. Help is available through these websites and their respective phone numbers 24 hours a day.

Consider gifting your pet with pet insurance this holiday season. There are a variety of options that suit many different family situations: <https://www.petinsurancequotes.com/pet-insurance/american-animal-hospital-association.html>. Please help make this a safe and happy holiday season for all of the members of your family.

## Seven from Lindale indicted by Grand Jury

A Smith County Grand Jury returned 210 indictments from October, including seven from Lindale, said County Grand Jury Coordinator Marieliza Martinez.

Indicted from Lindale include:

-- Terrie West, 33, theft of a firearm on Aug. 11, 2023;

-- John Denney, 54, assault/family violence with previous conviction, Aug. 19, 2023;

-- Alquitarius Jordan, 35, terroristic threat against a peace officer, March 19, 2023;

-- Jaxon Madoux, 18, robbery, Aug. 8, 2023;

-- Tori Sanders, 42, un-

authorized use of motor vehicle, Jan. 1, 2023; Possession of a controlled substance, Jan. 27, 2023;

-- John Balderrama, 50, driving while intoxicated, third or more offense, April 11, 2022;

-- Justin Richards, 48, possession of a controlled substance, Aug. 8, 2023;

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# Kilgore, Chapel Hill advance in football playoffs

The Class 4A, Division I state football quarterfinals will feature – once again – two teams from District 9-4A as the Chapel Hill Bulldogs and Kilgore Bulldogs will meet Friday in Longview after securing victories this past weekend in the regional round.

Kilgore downed Needville, 35-14 and Chapel Hill defeated Iowa Colony, 42-21.

The winner of this contest will advance to the state semifinals

Dec. 8 at a site to be determined.

## KILGORE 35, NEEDVILLE 14

The Needville Blue Jays, which finished third in District 12-4A this season and had defeated Lumberton and Houston Yates to advance to the regionals, jumped ahead of the District 9-4A champion Kilgore, 7-0 after one period.

Kilgore then posted two touchdowns in the second quarter to

go into intermission tied, 14-14.

In the third period, the Bulldogs' defense set up the team's third score with an interception. On its next two series, Kilgore scored two more touchdowns to basically put the game out of reach.

With just under five minutes left, the Bulldogs swiped another Blue Jays' pass to seal the deal.

## CHAPEL HILL 42, IOWA COLONY 21

The Chapel Hill Bulldogs, third place finishers in District 9-4A, sent the Iowa Colony Pioneers to their first defeat of the season, 42-21.

Quarterback Demetrius Brisbon tossed a pair of touchdowns for the Bulldogs and running back Rickey Stewart had two scoring runs – including a 40-yarder – to help Chapel Hill advance.

After falling behind 14-0 in the first period, the Pioneers trimmed the lead to 14-7 on a 60-yard scor-

ing pass.

Stewart then took off for a 40-yard touchdown to build the Bulldogs' lead to 21-7 at the 10 minute mark of the second period.

With just under five minutes left the half, Iowa Colony hit on another scoring pass to pull within 21-14 at the half.

But after holding the Pioneers on downs in the early portion of the third period, Chapel Hill scored again on a one-yard plunge from Stewart.

## Lady Eagles down Edgewood, Palestine

The Lindale High School Lady Eagles basketball team defeated Edgewood (Nov. 20) and Palestine (Nov. 21) to improve its record to 6-3 on the season.

### LINDALE 42, EDGEWOOD 32

Led by Elise Pierce's 12 points and Marley Keith's nine points, the Lady Eagles disposed of the Edgewood Lady Bulldogs 42-32, in Lindale on Nov. 20.

Head coach Daniel Devisscher had high praise for his team's defense against Edgewood.

"We made a great halftime adjustment and (Edgewood) didn't score a basket in the second half," he said.

Lindale took an 11-10 lead after one period as Allie Davenport sank a three-pointer and tossed in four points. In the second period, Lindale found itself down, 29-20, going into intermission.

But the Lady Eagles clamped down in the third and fourth periods, allowing just three total points to the Lady Bulldogs the rest of the way.

Pierce tossed in two, three point baskets and added a free throw in the third to boost the Lady Eagles' offense. Keith and Abigail Lee each contributed two points to help Lindale take a 34-30 lead entering the fourth period.

Pierce then scored five more in the fourth, including another three-pointer, to go along with two free throws from Allie Davenport and one from Kortlen Pierce.

Also on the scoresheet for the Lady Eagles were Ella Hutchens with eight points, Davenport with five, Lydia Payne with three, Allyson Potts with two and Pierce with one.

### LINDALE 46, PALESTINE 41

On Nov. 21, the Lady Eagles traveled to Palestine and took down the Lady Wildcats, 46-41.

Lindale grabbed a 13-3 lead after the first period and took a 15-11 lead into intermission.

In the third, the two teams remained close with the Lady Eagles scoring 16 points for a 31-24 advantage entering the fourth.

The Lady Eagles then tacked on 15 more points to maintain their advantage and secure their sixth win of the year.

After taking part in the Winnsboro tournament Nov. 30-Dec. 2, the Lady Eagles returned home on Dec. 5 to play Winnsboro again in the LHS Gym.

The varsity tips off at 7:30 p.m., while the junior varsity starts at 6:15 and the freshman team plays at 5 p.m.

## Special events scheduled for state parks

Approximately 100 special seasonal activities are scheduled for state parks across Texas, officials with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announced.

Visitors of all ages can enjoy themed guided walks, crafting events, educational opportunities and more.

TPWD officials encourage anyone planning a trip to a Texas State Park to reserve their day pass in advance since some parks are expected to reach their capacity limit. Reserve day passes online or over the phone by calling (512) 389-8900.

For more information about all holiday activities at Texas State Parks and TPWD sites, visit the [TPWD calendar](#) page on the web.

### December

Join us from 1-3 p.m. Dec. 2 at [Sea Center Texas](#) for an underwater holiday spectacular at the Christmas with the Fishes event. Sandy Claus and his aquatic elves will dive and decorate the Gulf Tank while Mrs. Claus reads a fishy Christmas story. Santa will be available to answer all your aquatic-related questions straight from the tank. Participants can write their letters to Santa, play Christmas games and receive a Christmas craft if they bring a canned good to donate.

Bring your holiday spirit and creative side from 1-3 p.m. Dec. 9 to [Caddo Lake State Park](#) for A Crafty Caddo Christmas. Join park staff as they deck

the halls, sip hot chocolate, snack on cookies and make ornaments. All supplies will be provided.

We may not have Santa's reindeer in our parks, but we have plenty of their relatives. All ages are welcome to join rangers from 2-3 p.m. Dec. 9 at [Ray Roberts Lake State Park](#) to learn about the deer that call our parks home.

Experience the holidays on the coast during Christmas in the Park from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 9 at [Goose Island State Park](#). Visitors are invited to enjoy a free drive through the live oak forest to see campsites decorated in lights and join park staff at Santa's Village for holiday crafts, games, hot chocolate around the campfire and more. Campers who agree to decorate their campsite will have their fees waived from Dec. 8-9.

Whether you just got off a cattle drive or climbed out of a vehicle, you're invited to sit back and relax with us for Cowboy Christmas Music and Poetry. Bring your best singing voice from 6-7 p.m. Dec. 9 to [Copper Breaks State Park](#) to join in the festivities.

Learn how to make a sweet holiday treat from 1-2 p.m. Dec. 16 at the [Lockhart State Park](#) Taffy Pull. Join us as we get our hands messy and learn how to make taffy. You can eat it as soon as it cools down or save it to give away to a loved one. All ages are welcome.

Experience the holiday traditions of the borderlands at our annual Posada from 6-8 p.m. Dec. 16 at [Fort Leaton](#)

[State Historic Site](#). Posada means "inn" or "shelter" in Spanish. This traditional Mexican Christmas tradition tells the story of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem through skits and songs. Following the procession through thousands of luminaries, there will be traditional holiday drinks, snacks, piñatas and mariachi. Participants can wander the halls of the candle-lit fort on their own or take a guided tour.

Come enjoy the 54th Annual Tree Lighting, a tradition started by President and Mrs. Johnson, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dec. 17 at [Lyndon B. Johnson State Park & Historic Site](#). Listen to carolers, view the live nativity, visit Santa Clause, partake in holiday refreshments and take in the spectacular tree. Then journey back in time visit the Sauer-Beckmann Farm at dusk. The ambiance created by the lantern-lit path, the real Christmas Tree in the parlor, and the live music transports you back to what an authentic Texas-German Christmas was like at the turn of the century.

Outdoor explorers and armchair adventurers: get the best of the Texas outdoors dropped into your mailbox 10 times a year. A subscription to [Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine](#) is just \$20 a year and includes full access to our digital app library featuring more than 800 stories spotlighting the best of Texas' wild things and wild places. Visit <https://tpwmagazine.com/specialoffers> to subscribe today.

## Chronic Wasting Disease found in Cherokee County deer facility

AUSTIN — Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) received confirmation of a case of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in Cherokee County, marking the first detection in a deer breeding facility in the county.

A four-year-old buck tested positive using post-mortem testing conducted to meet annual CWD surveillance requirements for the facility.

Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory initially analyzed the samples, and the National

Veterinary Services Laboratory in Iowa confirmed the CWD detection.

CWD has an incubation period that can span years, so the first indication of the disease in a herd is often found through surveillance testing rather than observed clinical signs. Early detection and proactive monitoring improve the state's response time to the detection of CWD and can greatly reduce the risk of further disease spread.

Any person interested in having their harvest tested for CWD should contact a [local biologist](#), found on the

[TPWD website](#).

CWD is a fatal neurological disease found in certain cervids including deer, elk, moose and other members of the deer family. This slow, progressive disease may not produce visible signs in susceptible species for several years after infection. As the disease process continues, animals with CWD may show changes in behavior and appearance. Clinical signs may include progressive weight loss, stumbling or tremors with a lack of coordination, loss of appetite, teeth grinding, abnormal head posture and/or droop-

ing ears, and excessive thirst, salivation or urination.

In Texas, the disease was first discovered in 2012 in free-ranging mule deer along a remote area of the Hueco Mountains near the Texas-New Mexico border. CWD has since been detected in Texas captive and free-ranging cervids, including white-tailed deer, mule deer, red deer and elk.

For more information on previous detections in Texas and CWD best management practices for hunters and landowners, visit [TPWD's CWD page](#) or the [TAHC's CWD page](#).

## Trout stocking returns to Tyler State Park

The annual Texas winter tradition of rainbow trout stocking returns to waterbodies across the state to kick off the holiday season, officials with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announced.

The TPWD began stocking thousands of rainbow trout beginning the week of Thanksgiving to give anglers a chance to catch one of these iconic fish.

The department plans to stock Tyler State Park's lake with 2,000 trout on Dec. 15, 2023 and Jan. 16, 2024.

It doesn't take a lot of sophisticated fishing equipment to reel in a rainbow trout.

They can be caught using simple, light tackle or hand-tied flies on a fly rod. However, anglers should keep an array of baits and lures nearby as well as ice to keep trout fresh. Rainbow trout are an attractive, tasty fish and anglers can easily find recipes online.

TPWD plans to stock 343,331 rainbow trout in Texas through March 1. Because rainbow trout are unable to survive in most areas of Texas after winter, due to the warm water temperatures, anglers are encouraged to keep up to their daily bag limit of five trout.

Exceptions exist within [special trout management zones](#) on the Guadalupe River downstream of Canyon Lake, which often remains cool enough for rainbow trout to survive year-round. This portion of the Guadalupe River is recognized as one of the top 100 trout

streams in the nation and is considered the southernmost trout stream in North America.

Fishing for rainbow trout on Texas rivers and streams is popular among anglers. In addition to stocking the Guadalupe River downstream of Canyon Lake, TPWD also stocks rainbow trout in the Brazos River downstream of Possum Kingdom Lake, portions of the Frio and South Llano rivers, and in the Clear Fork of the Trinity River.

Although trout stockings take place at numerous locations in Texas, TPWD's [Neighborhood Fishin' program](#) provides a unique experience for families and new anglers to reel in a fish in and around major cities. TPWD manages 18 Neighborhood Fishin' lakes statewide in most major urban centers, including Amarillo, Austin, the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, Houston, San Angelo, San Antonio and Wichita Falls.

These lakes -- frequently stocked with rainbow trout during winter -- offer plenty of amenities so family members of all ages can enjoy a fun and relaxing day fishing and connecting in nature. Other stocking locations include dozens of local city and county park ponds.

In addition, anglers can enjoy complementary fishing without a license in a Texas State Park from a bank, dock or pier. TPWD recommends anyone planning a trip to a park reserve a day pass in advance. Day passes can be reserved [online](#) through the TPWD website or over

the phone by calling (512) 389-8900.

"TPWD stocks catchable-sized fish during winter months to create unique winter angling opportunities throughout Texas," said Carl Kittel, TPWD Rainbow Trout Program Director. "Rainbow trout love cold water and can be caught on a variety of baits and lures (worms, commercially available pastes, corn, spinners, spoons, flies and more), and are great to take home and eat. Our winter rainbow trout program has been a favorite of anglers for over forty years."

Texas does not require a fishing license for youth under the age of 17, but adults must have a [fishing license](#) with a freshwater fishing endorsement. Funds from the sale of fishing licenses and freshwater fishing endorsements directly support efforts by TPWD to provide great fishing opportunities for current and future generations.

An angler fishing in a [Community Fishing Lake](#) or from a dock, pier or jetty within a Texas State Park may use no more than two poles. The statewide bag limit is five trout with no minimum length limit, except on parts of the Guadalupe River where [special limits](#) are in effect.

The dates and locations are subject to change due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Be sure to check the [2023-24 Trout Stocking Schedule online](#) before you go fishing to confirm the stocking date, check fishing regulations and to find other winter trout stocking program angling tips.



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# Tips for planting your spring bulbs

Jim S. Powell

Smith County Master Gardener

Gardeners often neglect planting spring bulbs in the fall. After all, spring is several months away and we East Texas gardeners have colorful blooming fall chrysanthemums on our minds.

Tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, crocus, Dutch iris and all the other spring flowering bulbs add a welcome array of colors in spring flower gardens. Blooming success with spring bulbs will largely depend on selecting top-quality healthy bulbs.

You'll discover that second-rate bulbs will produce second-rate flowers and you'll be disappointed with the outcome.

If you haven't purchased pre-cooled tulip bulbs, the un-chilled bulbs need around 10 weeks to "cool down" to produce beautiful flowers. Place them in your refrigerator but not in the same area as fruit. Tulips can start their cooling period by mid-September.

As a "rule of thumb" I like to plant my

tulips between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Your other variety of bulbs should be stored in a cool dry place until planting time, usually in late October or November in our area.

Choose bulbs with an extended blooming season. For instance, different tulip and daffodil varieties bloom in early spring, mid-spring or late spring. Most bulbs prefer a sunny site. The blooms will be more vigorous and the colors will be more intense.

For the most effective tulip display, mass colors together in beds. Contrasting masses of color can also look attractive. Avoid mixed colors; they do not show up as dramatically in the landscape.

Tulips in our area have to be treated as annuals because our winters do not get cold enough to cause them to re-bloom.

---  
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 OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice of Public Sale of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale held online at [StorageTreasures.com](http://StorageTreasures.com). Facility's location: 12447 TX-64, Tyler TX 75704. Bidding opens 11/27/23 at 10AM and concludes 12/6/23 at 10AM. \$100 cash clean-up deposit required PER UNIT. Seller reserves right to withdraw property any time before sale. Unit items sold as-is to highest cash bidder. Units include contents for: MAYA AKERS-BALDWIN: bed frames, desk. SHEKETTA HUGHES: bedding, bags. JASON JONES: furniture, home decor, a/c units. ANDY DAVIDSON: furniture, freezer, bbq grill. THOMAS OCONNELL: furniture, home decor, appliances.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NO. 47890P

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of November, 2023, Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Susan Tandy Scott Brandt, Deceased, were issued to George William Brandt by the Honorable Court of Smith County, Texas, in Cause No. 47890P pending on the Probate Docket of said Court.

All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time prescribed by law to the address being shown below:

Estate of Susan Tandy Scott Brandt c/o Randall J. Cook Hardy Cook & Hardy, P.C. 2080 Three Lakes Parkway Tyler, Texas 75703

## LEGAL NOTICE

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

### TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF RICKY LYNN BARNES, DECEASED:

On the 14th day of November, 2023, TERESA STEWART filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in a proceeding styled IN THE ESTATE OF RICKY LYNN BARNES, DECEASED and bearing the number 47927P in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas.

The Court will hear the aforesaid APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP on the Monday next after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of publication of this citation, in the Courtroom in the County Courthouse Annex of Smith County, in Tyler, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid Estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said Application.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Smith County, Texas in Tyler, Texas.

In compliance with the law, this citation shall be served by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in this, the County in which such proceeding is pending, not less than ten (10) days before the return date hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after the date of issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of office, the 14th day of November, 2023, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

**KAREN PHILLIPS, COUNTY CLERK**  
Smith County, Texas  
By: Katherine Beard, Deputy Clerk

## LEGAL NOTICE

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS § **Attorney of Record:**  
**RICHARD B. PATTESON**  
COUNTY OF SMITH § **218 NORTH BROADWAY, STE. 304**  
**TYLER, TEXAS 75702**  
**903-592-1121**

### TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF GOLDIE WILLIAMS HUDECK, DECEASED:

On the 13th day of November, 2023, JAMES WARREN HUDECK filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in a proceeding styled IN THE ESTATE OF GOLDIE WILLIAMS HUDECK, DECEASED and bearing the number 47925P in the County Court at Law #3 of Smith County, Texas.

The Court will hear the aforesaid APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP on the Monday next after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of publication of this citation, in the Courtroom in the County Courthouse Annex of Smith County, in Tyler, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid Estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said Application.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Smith County, Texas in Tyler, Texas.

In compliance with the law, this citation shall be served by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in this, the County in which such proceeding is pending, not less than ten (10) days before the return date hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after the date of issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of office, the 13th day of November, 2023, at the office in Tyler, Texas.

**KAREN PHILLIPS, COUNTY CLERK**  
Smith County, Texas  
By: Katherine Beard, Deputy Clerk

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**42nd Annual Oklahoma Select Bull Sale,** Sat. Dec. 2nd - 1 p.m., 800 East B Street, Atoka, OK. Just East of Hwy 69-75. 806-790-2535. [www.lawrencefamilymousin.com](http://www.lawrencefamilymousin.com).

**Farm, Ranch, Construction Equip. Auction,** 9 a.m., Dec. 2, 1036 S. FM 331, Sealy, TX. Onsite and online. Switzer Land & Auction Services, 979-885-2400.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON REZONING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of Lindale Texas will be holding a public hearings to receive comments on a PROPOSED REZONING.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

	Date	Time	Location
CITY COUNCIL	December 19th, 2023	6:00 P.M.	105 BALLARD DR

The property involved in the proposed request involves consideration for a change of zoning for the Eagle Heights Subdivision and adjacent land located at Donovan Dr. Lindale, Smith County TX

Petition for a Zoning District Classification Amendment for property with the legal description being:  
Eagle Heights Subdivision Unit 1, lots 1 through 10; and adjoining Abstract, A-0041 of W. Atway Survey, Tract 13, being 21 acres, Lindale, Smith County, Texas.

The petition is for a zoning classification amendment from 'R-1C Single Family Residential Standard District' to 'R-1D Single Family Residential District'.

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# County update concerning use of ARPA funds

Smith County Commissioners handled several agenda items on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, including an update on current American Rescue Plan Act water and wastewater projects for the county.

The projects were at the top of the list of ARPA-funded items on the county's to-do list and County Judge Neal Franklin said the court was interested in updates on projects.

Chuck Demaree, president of Star Mountain Water Supply Corporation in Winona spoke about his company's use of funds as they pertain to drilling water wells in Winona.

Demaree said Star Mountain received a \$1.2 million ARPA grant which remains in a Winona bank.

"Our goal was to find land and water (before spending any of the funds)," he said, adding the company acquired option agreements on two parcels of land only to discover there was iron bacteria infecting the water found.

"We then moved about 500 feet over from the second well we drilled, hit water at about 480 feet and we are in the process of pumping samples hoping to get good water from that," Demaree said, adding it would be determined at that time if a well could be successfully drilled and wouldn't contain iron bacteria. However, this particular well would be an engineering challenge because it would require more than two miles of pipeline to join the main water line in Winona.

"We are still OK on our deadline, which I set for the end of December," he told commissioners.

"That's one of our main concerns," Franklin said, referring to entities meeting the ARPA deadlines.

Lane Thompson of the East Texas Municipal Utility District said his company was also busy seeking easements and rights-of-way.

"We've also been working with engineers on surveys," Thompson said. "Overall, we are pretty happy where we are. Hopefully by next October we'll have water flowing."

In other action commissioners:

- Approved a commercial crime insurance policy renewal proposal from McGriff Insurance Services. The policy renewal is done annually and this year's premiums are for \$20,700.
- Approved an agreement with CorEMR for electronic medical records software which is mandated for jail inmates. CorEMR has been in business several years and deal only with jail inmates, commissioners were told. The cost is \$2.25 per inmate and will include a \$10,000 set up fee.

# Council backs away from plan for Pool Park renovations

Continued from Page 1

were differences in the plan then and the one now.

In August, Councilman 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 could be made.

Cal's Pal's officials said at that time they hoped to have some itemized details in early fall.

In other action, the council:

- tabled an item dealing with fencing around the downtown water tower. Council members want to seek more options on the fencing;
- Approved the firm of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott to collect uncollected court fines.

**Mobile Santa 2023 Lindale Routes!**

**Santa Stops Here**

**Saturday, December 2**  
Lindale Christmas Parade!  
Cracker Barrel

**Sunday, December 3**  
1. \*Stacy & Wells (in new development)  
2. Eagles Peak: Cory Ray & Choice  
3. \*Lindale Landing N&S, Lake Gilbert/CR 4100  
4. \*Mission Ridge & Meadowview Ln.  
5. \*Country Acres Dr. & Brittain Ct.

**Monday, December 4**  
1. Charles & William  
2. \*Lonestar Apartments, S. Industrial  
3. \*East Foothills Apartments, E South St.  
4. Brad Circle Apartments, by baseball fields  
5. Woodlands Park  
6. Woodlands Dr. & CR 4200  
7. Sauge Meadows Apartments

**Tuesday, December 5**  
1. Toy Town Preschool  
2. Robyn & Jeffries  
3. The Highlands  
4. \*Shelly Ln.  
5. \*Summer Tree Cr./Meadowlark Place  
6. \*Smith Cr. & Woodsprings Rd.

**Wednesday, December 6**  
1. Loring Ln.  
2. Penny Lane  
3. Wendell Place  
4. \*Hideway Lake- Funtier Park  
5. Dove Ridge, Cr 473 TOP VOTED!

**Thursday, December 7**  
1. Country Way & 4118  
2. \*Ponderosa Park CR 4117  
3. \*Stewart Street Park  
4. Mission Crest Cr.  
5. Heritage Court  
6. The Thicket Entrance TOP VOTED!  
7. \*Country Meadow Ln. off 4108

**Please remember:**

- We strive to be at the first stop at 6:15PM.
- We will have updates on Facebook as we move through the routes. Refresh your feed often.
- We CANNOT estimate what time we will be at each following stop. Please watch for FB updates.
- You may come to ANY stop along the way.

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# INVESTMENT QUEST 2023-2024

Outstanding High School Seniors Who Make A Difference!

**BLAIRE GANO** is the daughter of Becky and John Gano. She is a lieutenant on the drill team and a member of the National Honor Society and the student council. Outside of school, Blaire enjoys traveling and serving others. She believes she is impacting the world by expanding the art of dance through performance and competition while striving to be a role model for the younger dance students. She plans to attend Texas A&M University and study dentistry. Blaire's future goals include becoming an orthodontist and starting her own practice.

**CONNER NOAH** is the son of Gina and James Noah. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, and the basketball team. Outside of school, Conner enjoys weightlifting, watersports, and doing construction work and landscaping. He believes he is impacting the world by volunteering and keeping high morals and levels of integrity. Conner plans to attend Texas A&M University and study biology with an emphasis on endangered species. His future goals include having a career that allows him to be present with his family.

**FIONA TURNEY** is the daughter of Shanna and Miles Turney. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, and the varsity tennis team. Outside of school, Fiona enjoys painting, gardening, and cooking. She believes she is impacting the world through her volunteer work and by sharing her faith with her peers. Fiona plans to attend Texas A&M University and study biochemistry and pre-med. Her future goals include becoming a pharmaceutical biochemist.

Texas Bank and Trust celebrates the fourteenth anniversary of the Lindale Student Board of Directors, recognizing outstanding seniors from Lindale High School who have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, and a commitment to community service. We are proud to introduce the following members of the 2023-2024 Student Board. **View more profiles @ [www.facebook.com/texasbankandtrust](http://www.facebook.com/texasbankandtrust)**

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