

ONCE IN A LIFETIME



SOLCAR TOTALITY - “That was one of the strangest things I have ever experienced. Total darkness at 1:45 in the afternoon. It was as if it were 10 p.m.,” one visitor to Lindale commented. Another person reported “owls behind our house were hooting and the birds stopped chirping”.

Photos by Terry Cannon



Early morning clouds vanish as thousands enjoy solar eclipse

On a Monday when great numbers of people were afraid a spectacular “moonday” would be ruined by gathering clouds in the morning, Mother Nature came to the rescue for a large contingent at The Cannery in downtown Lindale.

It was a pleasant Eclipse in the Park day (or night, depending on how you looked at it) for those who tilted their heads to the sky and wearing protective glasses enjoyed one of the rarest events Earthlings can experience.

The forecast had called for heavy cloud cover well into the window of time for the solar eclipse, but just after 12:30 p.m., the moon’s shadow began nibbling away at the sun, eliciting oohs and ahhs from The Cannery crowd. The period of totality lasted from 1:43 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

In Lindale, city tourism officials were busy planning for the rare cosmic event for the past several months and showcased the city in a three-day festival which began on Saturday, April 6 in The Cannery and continued throughout the weekend.

Visitors enjoyed perfect spring weather during the weekend -- temperatures in the mid-70s -- but on Monday ominous clouds began to gather early in the morning which eventually blocked the view of the moon blocking the sun.

Events of the weekend included a concert, movie in the park, live art and science exhibits, vendors and food trucks, kids activities, space-themed recreations for all ages, a costume contest and disc golf.

Chamber celebrates outstanding members



Citizen of the Year Alice Ann Brown

The 40th annual Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce membership Banquet and Auction was celebrated once again at Texas Rose Horse Park Monday night. As is the case each year, the highlight of the evening was the announcement of the Citizen of the Year, with Alice Ann Brown taking home the prestigious award. Prior to that, the Lindale Rotary Club awarded Mike Sublette as as Merchant of the Year. Lindale high School principal Jeremy Chilek also presented the students of the year award to seniors Hadley Scott and Enrique Arantes.

Photos by Terry Cannon

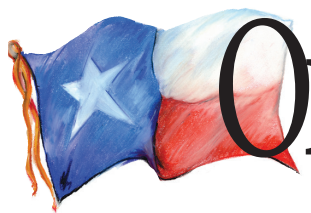


Mike Sublette Merchant of the Year

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

THE FIRST AMENDMENT: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of all the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Gary Borders
Capital Highlights



Agencies blasted over wildfire oversight

State agencies and regulators were heavily criticized at a Texas legislative hearing for failing to communicate during the deadly Panhandle wildfires, the Texas Tribune reported.

The three-day hearing, held in Pampa, investigated the Smokehouse Creek fire and others that burned more than a million acres, destroyed hundreds of homes, killed up to 10,000 cattle and resulted in two deaths.

State Rep. Ben King, R-Canadian, chaired the committee and said the hearing was difficult but necessary.

"You may not like the line of questions or the tone of questions, but we are here for answers," King told representatives of the state's regulatory agencies last week. "It's not a personal attack on you or your agencies, but it's time for answers."

Xcel Energy has acknowledged that a fallen power line ignited the Smokehouse Creek fire. The company hired by Xcel to perform safety inspections — Osmose Utilities Services — declined to participate in last week's hearings.

First human case of bird flu detected

The first human case of avian influenza in Texas was reported last week by the Texas Department of State Health Services. It came after contact with infected dairy cattle and is only the second case of a human being infected with bird flu in the United States.

"The risk to the general public is believed to be low; however, people with close contact with affected animals suspected of having avian influenza A(H5N1) have a higher risk of infection," the alert from DSHS said.

Symptoms can include a fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headaches, fatigue, eye redness, shortness of breath, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting or seizures. The alert urged health care providers who see someone who may have the virus to immediately contact their local health department.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture said the commercial milk supply is considered safe and that milk from infected cattle is being dumped.

State's lawyer says immigration law maybe 'went too far'

An attorney defending a new state law allowing law enforcement officials to arrest people who cross the border illegally told a panel of federal judges the law possibly "went too far," *The Dallas Morning News* reported. The 5th U.S. Circuit of Appeals previously halted enforcement of the law and is now hearing arguments over its legality.

"What Texas has done here is they have looked at the Supreme Court's precedent and they have tried to develop a statute that goes up to the line of Supreme Court precedent but no further," Texas Solicitor General Aaron Nielson said. "Now to be fair, maybe Texas went too far, and that is the question this court is going to have to decide."

The U.S. Justice Department is arguing that Texas is trying to usurp the federal government's authority to enforce immigration laws, while the state says it wants to work with the federal government.

State economy expands faster than nation

The state's economy continues to grow faster than the nation as a whole. Data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis indicates gross domestic product for Texas grew in 2023 at an annual rate of 5.7%, more than double the national average of 2.5%. The state also continues to lead the nation in job creation, adding almost 50,000 new jobs in February.

"Texas is again outpacing the nation in economic expansion and job growth thanks to the best business climate and the strongest workforce in America," Gov. Greg Abbott said.

While Texas outpaced the national average for GDP growth, a few states posted higher percentage increases — Nevada, Utah and Idaho.

Distracted driving is deadly driving

Driving the vast highways of Texas can become a bit tiresome, often with hundreds of miles before reaching one's destination. But the Texas Department of Transportation is urging drivers to resist the urge to check that ping of the phone to read a text message or watch the latest social media video a friend sent.

TxDOT reported nearly 400 people died on Texas roadways last year because of distracted driving, and nearly 2,800 suffered serious injuries.

Happy birthday son ...

From 2015

My grown-up 'kid' has a birthday April 10 and he is spending it in Florida. He won't be seeing Mickey, or hanging out on White Sand Beaches with his sweetheart of a wife. He won't be sight seeing in the Everglades or Keys, but he will be fighting fires and working controlled burns that will prevent horrendous fires in the drought plagued Land of Flowers.

Josh is a bona fide character. He is one of those people who has never met a stranger. He is as comfortable talking to a senator as to his next door neighbor. His funny bone tickles easily and he can tell a story that would make his tale telling ancestors proud.

And boy, does Josh have some tales to tell. He has fought fire all across the United States in something like 44 states. His old Dad and I once traveled all the way to South Dakota to end up eating a meal with him between horrendous fires that were sweeping the prairies. That stint resulted in adulthood in rapid order for our newly college-degreed son and heavily calloused knees for old Mom who spent a lot of time in prayer. A lot. He sat on top of the presidents' heads at Mount Rushmore. He was in a helicopter flown by a Vietnam Vet who put the chopper down in the middle of Sturgis during a violent storm. He and a crew were caught in cross fire in the Black Hills and miraculously survived. He has made friends from one end of this country to the other and all points in between. More than friends, my only child has a large extended family that was forged in those fires.

Marcy Smith's late husband Ernie was a part of that family. He helped train Josh as a very young seasonal firefighter. Ernie was Josh's mentor and role model in many ways. By now there has been a host of Ernies throughout this country. Josh is returning the favor and mentoring the inexperienced rookies passing on the lessons he was taught so well and a legacy of service continues generationally.

Josh is a wildland firefighter with a degree in Forestry and minors in Journalism and history. He is also an EMT and a rural volunteer firefighter. In fact, he and his lovely wife Jennifer, an RN, are the only medically certified first responders within miles and miles of where they live. They make a great team. They make a difference right there in their corner of the world when Josh is not busy working in the wider world and Jenn isn't busy working 12 hour shifts at the hospital.

They have two rescue dogs and three goats. The dogs are well trained despite being the size of shetland ponies. The goats, not



The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



so well behaved. Josh is well informed on politics, domestic and foreign policy and international issues. He has decided views, yet an open mind. He loves history and understands its importance in the present.

He is constantly learning and that is one of my very favorite things about him. Insatiable curiosity is a gift. One he has in abundance. This April 10 I will be recalling some of the experiences that helped to create this strong, unique and loving young man. Dad & Lad and Mom & Me scout camping trips, church family retreats and Day Camp, soapbox cars and rubber band rocket competition, along with a conglomeration of events and experiences that wrote lasting life lessons on the man he was to become.

This Friday I will remember when Josh was 8-years old and we lay in the front yard one warm summer night and found the constellations and talked about creation and its magnificence. And, I will know that his love of nature was something his Dad and I helped nurture. He may not remember that one night out of so many in his life, but I will never forget it.

Art lessons, Little League, school plays and carnivals, Halloween costumes designed and made by he and his multi-talented Grani, so much fun, so much joy.

There were also all those visits to the ranch where he and his much loved Buddy and MiMi cut and baled hay, chased cows, built fence and cut mesquites in searing heat, and talked for hours on the front porch with feet propped and iced tea in hand. His grandparents really listened and knew well the person Josh was becoming and the vision he had for his future.

That future is here, and Josh's Dad and I couldn't be more proud of the man he has become and the difference he makes. Now don't get me wrong, he is not perfect by any stretch of the imagination, and I do mean any. And frankly, my old knees are ready for him to consider the Forester part of his education for his career.

But whatever he is doing, wherever he is doing it, he is a mighty fine man. And Jim and I could not ask for anymore than that.

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Homebuying ...

The National Association of Realtors (NAR) recently settled a major federal lawsuit. The primary issue was the compensation to buyers' real estate agents required for homes listed on NAR's multiple-listing services (MLS). While there was the potential for negotiation, most transactions tended to play out according to the default arrangement, with the buyers' and sellers' agents splitting a 6% commission.

In most developed countries, total commissions/fees are a much lower percentage of the purchase than in the US, and a major point of contention was that buyers' agents were earning 2.5% to 3% of the purchase price irrespective of their involvement. Buyers finding a home largely through their own research with only minimal use of an agent's services nonetheless paid the full commission (through higher sales prices to cover the costs, which were technically borne by the seller). With home prices rising rapidly over the past few years (though moderating in some areas now), the compensation to agents climbed proportionately. There will undoubtedly be some changes, as the settlement ended this traditional approach (in addition to a substantial monetary payment).

Several situations may arise going forward. If buyers decide to pay only minimal fees or forego an agent entirely, they may save some money. However, they would also have



to locate desirable properties, negotiate with sellers, deal with inspections and repairs, and go it alone on reviewing contracts and other legal documents (or perhaps hire an attorney).

Effective buyers' agents may possess negotiating skills and knowledge of the market to secure better pricing and selections which could more than justify their commissions. They may also help protect purchasers by insisting on rigorous inspections or facilitating needed repairs prior to closing. Agents may be particularly important to inexperienced buyers or those without the necessary skillsets to effectively navigate the process.

Buyers will have to decide what services they need and how much they are willing to pay. Agents will need to develop a variety of options to meet the market and support their fees/commissions.

We may also see the emergence of new business models which are ultimately beneficial to buyers, sellers, and agents, such as specific services offered at flat fees or hourly rates or other innovations to add value. Since a home is the most expensive asset that most families purchase, many will view a full-service agent as well worth the investment.

There are a variety of questions yet to be answered, but real estate agents who offer a valuable service to buyers will be able to navigate a path toward appropriate compensation. The old patterns may be broken, but new and more flexible ones may offer their own advantages. Such is the nature of a market economy. Stay safe!


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Celebrating the life, and legacy, of a fine man

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

-- Jackie Robinson

This coming Monday, Major League Baseball will once again celebrate the life and career of perhaps the game's most important player, Jackie Robinson.

There are times when remembrances such as these tend to get watered down through the years, but in this case, MLB continues to do the proper thing in keeping this man's legacy alive.

On April 15, 1947, when Robinson suited up for the Brooklyn Dodgers and played first base against the Boston Braves, it shook a staid baseball culture to its core.

Prior to Robinson's arrival, the unquestioned, unwritten rule among the game's owners (all except one) was no Black man would ever be allowed to play organized baseball.

However, a parsimonious firebrand named Branch Rickey, who was part owner of the Dodgers, understood that breaking the color line in baseball was not only essential for society but would increase the bank accounts of all of the owners.

By 1945 Rickey had gained approval of the Dodgers' board of directors to sign a Black player



and began searching for the "right man" to break the color barrier.

He found Robinson, an athletic marvel who was a four-sport star at UCLA. Interestingly enough, it has been said baseball was Robinson's "worst" sport but it provided an avenue for income in the Negro Leagues after his discharge from the Army.

On Aug. 28, 1945, Rickey signed Robinson off the Kansas City Monarchs roster and in October, he announced Robinson would be assigned to the Dodgers' minor league AAA affiliate in Montreal for the 1946 season.

All Robinson did in 1946 was to help the Royals to the International League championship as well as lead his team in hitting. His next stop was Brooklyn and history beckoned.

Yet the entrenched racism of the owners and their indefensible belief that segregation reflected the ideals of white Americans made Robinson's first year a liv-

ing hell.

The antagonism came from his own team -- which was quickly doused by then-manager Leo Durocher -- and spread throughout the league. Some players threatened to strike rather than play with or against Robinson, but Commissioner Happy Chandler ruled that any player engaging in a walkout would be suspended.

Robinson played 151 of the Dodgers 154 games in 1947 and helped them advance to the World Series against the New York Yankees. For the regular season, he batted .297, had an on base percentage of .383 and a .427 slugging percentage.

He brought a style of play to the game that was sorely needed. He danced and darted on the base paths to such an extent opposing pitchers were flummoxed. He even stole home 19 times during his career.

When Rickey signed Robinson it was with the caveat that Robinson couldn't retaliate for the racist remarks and actions for the first two

years. After that, however, the gloves came off and the baseball world became acquainted with one of the most hard-nosed competitors the game has seen.

Sadly, Robinson didn't get a chance to show his athletic abilities until he was 28, so we are left wondering just how much better he could have been if he'd been allowed to play earlier.

After baseball, he became a respected spokesman for civil rights and never shied away from calling out racists and bigots, who unfortunately, remain among us to this day.

If he were alive today, there's no question he would be at the forefront of the effort to secure equal treatment for all people -- not just those of color. Sadly his voice was stilled on Oct. 24, 1972 when this great man died from complications of heart disease and diabetes. He was just 53.

Jackie Robinson was a pioneer, not just in baseball, but in so many other facets of society. His dignity in the face of unrelenting hatred -- simply because of the color of his skin -- is something that should inspire generations to come.

While Robinson may not have been the best player of his era, there has never been a player who was more important.



Key Club students honored

Lindale High School seniors Aden Ramsey and Jackson Buttram, both Key Club members, were honored at the recent weekly meeting of the Lindale Rotary Club. Rotarian Carroll Anderson, right, joined Club President Jason Beard and Lillie Russell Memorial Librarian Shannon Reid. The students are also members of the Lindale Speech and Debate team as well as National Honor Society members, Chick Fil-A Leadership team members and are involved in various other community projects/opportunities. Most recently, they participated, along with many other LHS students, in helping to revamp The Journey Center and paint the Lillie Russell Memorial Library. (Courtesy photo)



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

ONE YEAR AGO, April 13, 2023

Lindale High School senior offensive/defensive lineman Will Hutchens was named to the Texas High School Coaches Association Super Elite Team in Class 4A.

Hutchens, who has signed to play with the Sam Houston State Bearcats in the fall, was named the District 9-4A Division I Offensive Lineman of the year for 2022.

He made 41 starts for the Eagles during his three-year varsity career and contributed to offenses that accumulated more than 17,000 total yards, including 10,123 yards on the ground and 142 touchdowns.

Hutchens only allowed two sacks during his three years with the LHS varsity and as a senior, he graded out at 89 percent with 61 knockdowns, 57 pancake blocks and no sacks allowed.

He was also named first team All-District in 2021.

FIVE YEARS AGO, April 11, 2019

Overcoming a 7-1 deficit, the Lindale High School Lady Eagles rallied to defeat Texas High, 11-7, in softball action and improve their season record to 14-3-3 and their district record to 3-2.

The Lady Eagles scored twice in the fourth and four more in the top of the 7th to send game into extra innings. In the top of the 9th, singles from Woodrum, Cailynn Widemon and Aguirre loaded the bases. Jode DeHart then hit a fielder's choice grounder to score Woodrum and Saunders hit a single to score Widemon.

10 YEARS AGO, April 10, 2014

Lindale High School's Claire Alexander, 16, gave an impressive performance on the ski slopes of Steamboat Springs, Colo., and brought home a gold medal from the Nastar Championships for her efforts.

Alexander, daughter of Teri and Jerry Alexander, granddaughter of Esther Alexander of Hideaway and granddaughter of Gary Sparks of Tyler, had previously qualified to train with world champion and former U.S. Olympian Chad Fleischer of Steamboat Springs.

Judges for the Nastar event were U.S. ski team members Ted Ligety, Steven Nyman, Stacey Cook and Heidi Voelker.

He's full of baloney, and proud of it

You know, there's nothin' better than a baloney sandwich. Okay, I know its spelled bologna, but that's not the way it's pronounced. So, I'm spellin' it like I say it. If you don't like it, take it up with my old English teacher. Of course, you'll have to dig her up. Heck, I bet every time one of these stories of mine come out, she's spinnin' like a top. What was I talkin' about? Oh yeah, baloney.

I love baloney. As far back as I can remember I've been a baloney lover. I'm one of those people who can remember events that happened back even when I was a baby in the crib.

I'm serious. Of course, if you asked me what I did yesterday, I might have to think about it for a while. Like that old sayin' goes, "The memory is the third thing to go, and I can't remember what the first two are."

What was I talkin' about, again? Oh yeah; baloney.

When I tell people that I like baloney, some of them will look at me like I pooted or something. They wrinkle up their nose, and say, "Baloney?" There is this one buddy of mine that when I mentioned that I liked baloney, he started lecturin' me.

"Do you know what baloney is made of?" he asked. "If you knew what baloney is made of, you surely wouldn't eat it."

This is the same guy that eats raw fish, and told me how good snails were to eat. If you ask me, snails are just slugs on the half shell, and I ain't eatin' no slug.

I don't know what's in baloney, and I couldn't care less. I like it. No, I love it. Now, I'm not talkin' about that turkey baloney. That ain't baloney. I don't know what it is, but it ain't



baloney.

Turkey's are supposed to be eaten at Thanksgivin' and such anyway. Baloney is supposed to be eaten all the other times.

I really like that baloney that comes with the skin around the edges. Nowadays most of the baloney you buy doesn't have the skin. I like peelin' off that skin, and then stickin' it in between my teeth, and pullin' it through to get all the left over baloney off of it.

Now, I'm talkin' here about sliced baloney. I'm not talkin' about those big logs of baloney they have in the meat counter. There's nothin' wrong with those, it's just that I like the ones that are already sliced.

For me, there are only a few kinds of baloney sandwiches I like. They all are made with light bread (That's white bread for you Yankees out there). I'm not a big fan of wheat bread. I don't like my bread crunchy.

Then comes the mustard. I like mustard. Not that sissy kind either. I like yellow mustard. I never was a big fan of mayonnaise, either. This was because of what happened back when I was a kid.

Back then, we had a neighbor named Odie Dozier that lived down the road, and he had a big junk pile out behind his house where he burned his trash. We'd go dig through it once a week lookin' for bottles and jars to shoot with our BB guns.

Once I found a mayonnaise jar that had been sit-

tin' in the hot sun for a pretty good while, and when I shot it, it exploded, and I was splattered with old, hot, stinkin', rotten mayonnaise. If you've smelled rotten mayonnaise, you wouldn't like it either.

Anywho, after the mustard, which by the way goes on the top slice of bread, I put on a slice of baloney. This goes on the bottom untreated slice of bread. Then I either put on tomatoes, or sweet pickles, but not both. If its tomatoes I use, then I salt them up good, slap the top slice of bread on the sandwich, and dig in.

If it's sweet pickles, then I just slice them up, cover the baloney with them, slap the top slice of bread on, and jump into the middle of it. If I'm in a hurry, just the baloney, mustard and bread will do.

I've been asked if I like cheese on my baloney sandwich, and I do, but only American cheese, and only when I fry the baloney.

That's right, I said fry it.

I'm fixin' to tell you my recipe for the best fried baloney sandwich you've ever laid a lip over. I call it the Ultimate Baloney Sandwich. Don't ask me if it's healthy, because I'm sure it's not. But who cares. You know, everybody's got to die of somethin', and if it's the ultimate baloney sandwich, then you'll die with a smile on your face.

Now, makin' this sandwich is a lot like makin' a grilled cheese sandwich. I've got this old cast iron

griddle that I use, but a regular skillet will do. This is the only baloney sandwich in which I don't use any mustard.

First off, I put a slice of real butter on the hot griddle, and when it starts spittin' and sputterin' I slap on the baloney. Now, if you've ever fried baloney before you know the center will start poppin' up like a big blister. You can make a cut from the center to the edge, and flatten it back out, or you can do like I do and use a bacon press to keep it down.

Now, it doesn't take long for the baloney to get done, so keep an eye on it and flip it ever so often.

When it's done, I remove the baloney and wipe off the griddle with a paper towel, and slap another slab of butter on it. I spread the hot butter around until it covers the bottom of the griddle, and then put both slices of bread on. On each of the slices I put a slice of American cheese. On top of the one of cheeses I put the hot baloney slice. When the bread starts to brown I flip the slice of bread with just the cheese, on top of the one with the baloney and cheese, and slap the bacon press on top and let it flatten it out and heat up some more and then flip it once.

While this is goin' on, I pour a great big glass of sweet milk, and get ready. Then I pull the sandwich off, and dig in. Man, you talk about good. Usually, by the time I'm halfway through the sandwich, I start makin' a second one.

Try it. If it's not the best baloney sandwich you've ever had, then you might as well tell them to pull the plug, 'cause you're brain dead.

And that's no baloney.



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A&M students now know beans about coffee

By Laura Muntean
Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service

Kias Simmons '26 looked out from the middle of a Costa Rican supermarket over half a dozen bags of coffee beans stacked high in his arms. The aisle in front of him was clear.

All that remained was the high-wire act to get to the checkout line.

"For my family and friends," he said. "I promised I would bring some back."

Simmons was part of the Texas A&M Costa Rica Specialty Coffee Value Chain field trip that offered students a faculty-led, firsthand look at the process of coffee development from bean to cup in Central America.

"I really didn't know much about coffee before the trip," said Simmons, a double major in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Animal Science and Department of Agricultural Economics.

Simmons, who is working toward a Meat Science certification, was looking forward to the learning experience.

Nadav Mer, a lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Economics and trip leader, was in his

element.

"It's really my dream coffee trip as a coffee professional in Costa Rica – bringing students along to a very high-level experience within the coffee industry that generally is only sought out by coffee professionals," Mer said.

Mer said he owned several roasteries and a coffee shop in Ames, Iowa, over the course of 10 years.

"Coffee brings people together in a way that other commodities or other product categories do not," he said. "It's unique in that way."

Students get rare insider view

The shared experience created something special for a small group of Aggies.

Six students from the College joined Mer on the trip through forests, mountains, active volcanoes and switchbacks. Lots of switchbacks.

The students' experiences ran the gamut, from picking ripe, cherry red coffee fruit from the tree to plodding across a patio with a rake to dry beans, topped off with a private tasting session of locally grown products. Coopetarrazú, a coffee cooperative in Costa Rica, helped provide some of these fundamental experiences during the trip.

"I have kind of a visualization of what the process is now from plant to cherry to beans all in one cup," Ayla Boyd '24 said. "I have a face for the people who are involved in the process."

Boyd is a senior graduating with a degree from the Department of Food Science and Technology and certificates in Viticulture and Enology and Food Diversity.

A tour of the football-field-sized outdoor composting center was included. Discarded coffee cherries, the fruit left over when the beans are removed, are composted to create fertilizer for the next generation of coffee plants.

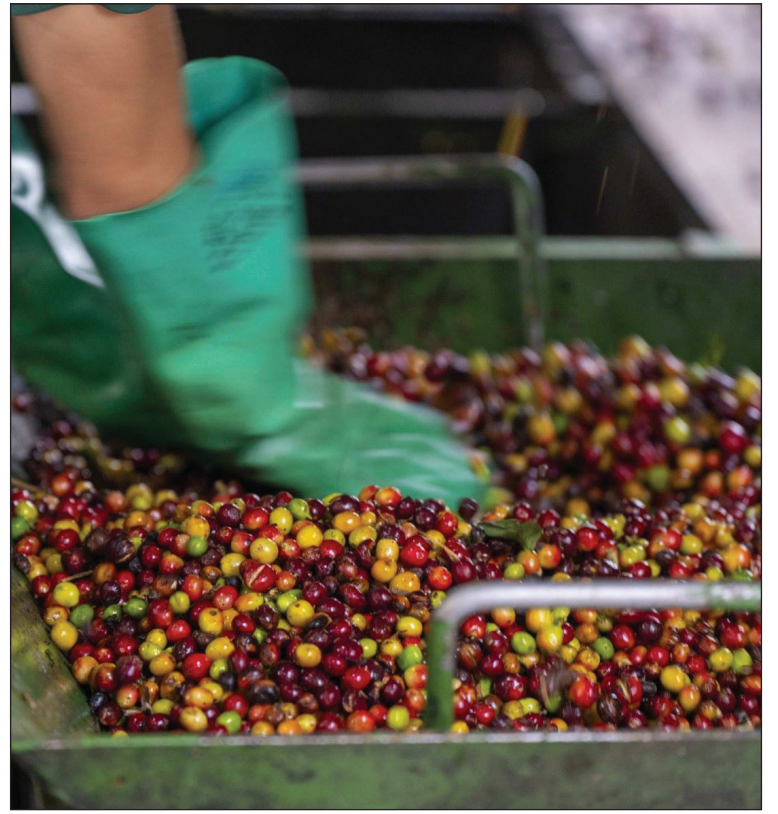
An educational perspective not found in the classroom

Mer is passionate about providing these new perspectives.

"To be able to visualize the journey from picking up a cup of coffee to understanding the steps involved in bringing it to you is a rare treat for anyone passionate about coffee," he said.

Eric Brenner, assistant director for the Texas A&M Center for Coffee Research and Education and trip co-leader, values the depth of education this study abroad experience provides.

"It gives the students a sense



Texas A&M students were able to get a hands on experience at a Costa Rica coffee plantation. (Courtesy photo)

of understanding," he said. "They learn everything that goes on behind the scenes – the science, the mechanisms, all the way to the consumer."

Simmons, for one, left the cop

with a greater respect for the

coffee bean. "It's one of those things where if you grow your own food, it tastes better," he said. "Now that I get to reflect back on this whole process, I think coffee is going to taste a lot better to me."

Celebrations of Faith

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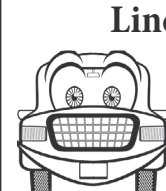
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Lindale Police Department call logs for March 29-April 4

FRIDAY, MARCH 29: Assist Smith Co SO, 17200 block Countrywood, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 16100 block FM 16 West, Unable to Locate; Public Service, 400 block Baker Street, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 900 block Mount Sylvan Street, Report; Stolen License Plate, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Theft, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Report; Suspicious Circumstance, 13700 block CR 4200, Unable to Locate; Attempt to Serve, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 17100 block Creekside Drive, Settled at Scene; Traffic Complaint, 200 block North Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 15500 block Simmons Lane, Settled at Scene; Welfare Concern, 300 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30: Suspicious Circumstance, 400 block Baker Street, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Vehicle, 553 IH-20 West, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled at Scene; Assist DPS, 500 South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 900 block South Main Street, Report; Assist Another Agency, 16400 block CR 4191, Settled at Scene; Possession of Controlled Substance, 100 block Cannery Row, Arrest; Threats, 200 block Cannery Row, Settled at Scene; Traffic Complaint, 500 block North Main Street, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Warning Issued; Suspicious Circumstance, 17000 block IH-20 West, Settled at Scene; Welfare Concern, 800 block North College Street, Unable to Locate.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31: Motor Vehicle Crash, 555 IH-20



East, Report; Suspicious Person, 300 block Hilltop Street, Unfounded; Assist Smith Co SO, 15300 block Doris Street, Settled at Scene; Verbal Disturbance, 100 block Teresa Street, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Warning Issued; Assist EMS, 500 block North Main Street, Settled at Scene; Residential Alarm, 1400 block Allison Lane, Settled at Scene; Theft, 17700 block CR 4112, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 200 block Blackberry Blvd., Settled at Scene; Motorist Assist, 554 IH-20 West, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 200 block South Main Street, False Alarm; Suspicious Vehicle, 400 block Eagle Spirit Drive, Settled at Scene.

MONDAY, APRIL 1: Verbal Disturbance, 200 block Meadow Lane, Settled at Scene; Traffic Hazard, 800 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 400 block East South Street, Warning Issued; Assist DPS, 13200 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Settled at Scene; Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Warning Issued; Criminal Trespass, 3200 block South Main Street, Warning Issued; Public Service, 500 block Sunset Drive, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 100 block East Centennial

Blvd., Report; Business Alarm, 400 block West Hubbard Street, Settled at Scene; Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive, Settled at Scene; Assist EMS, 100 block Legends Court, Settled at Scene.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2: Illegally Parked Vehicle, 100 block Freedom Drive, Unable to Locate; Public Service, 13300 block IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Found Property, 200 block Cannery Row, Report; Assist DPS, 13800 block CR 431, Settled at Scene; Parking Violation, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled at Scene.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3: Assist EMS, 100 block Legends Court, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 300 block East Hubbard, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 13600 block CR 474, Report; Suspicious Vehicle, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 800 block Greenwood, Settled at Scene.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4: Assist Smith Co SO, 15500 block Wendell, Report; Suspicious Circumstance, 800 block Lindale Industrial Parkway, Settled at Scene; Traffic Control/Direct, 2300 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assault, 900 block Mount Sylvan Street, Settled at Scene; Parking Violation, 13100 block CR 472, Warning Issued; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3500 block South Main Street, Report; Welfare Concern, 700 block Linus, Settled at Scene; Traffic Control/Direct, 554 I-20 West, Settled at Scene; Public Service, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled at Scene; Public Service, 2200 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Public Service, 200 block Margaret Street, Report; Disturbance, 200 block Charles Drive, Unable to Locate; Theft, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Report; Business Alarm, 2600 block South Main Street, False Alarm; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3500 block South Main Street, Report.

Job market dips across East Texas

Unemployment numbers dipped a bit across the East Texas area for the month of February, standing at 4.2 percent as compared to 3.3 percent in January, according to figures from the Texas Workforce Commission.

In the Tyler/East Texas area, there were 111,300 people employed out of a combined labor force of 116,200.

Across the state, however, the Texas labor market again achieved new record-high levels for jobs, Texans employed, and the civilian labor force following over-the-month increases in February, TWC figures showed seasonally adjusted job count increased by 49,800 over the month of February to reach 14,103,700 jobs. This reflects job growth in 44 of the last 46 months and marks the largest total nonfarm monthly job gain since January 2023.

Texas' total nonfarm employment grew by 291,400 jobs from February 2023 to February 2024, amounting to a 2.1 percent annual growth rate and outpacing the U.S. growth rate by 0.3 percentage points. In addition, Texas led the nation in seasonally adjusted over-the-month and over-the-year increases in total nonfarm employment.

The Texas seasonally adjusted civil-

ian labor force grew over the month by 25,800 people to reach 15,169,200 in February. This included the addition of 19,800 employed Texans over the month. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate registered at 3.9 percent for the ninth consecutive month while showing a drop from the February 2023 rate of 4.0 percent.

"The Texas workforce continues to show comprehensive growth, with jobs added across almost all major industries over the month," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "TWC continues our efforts to offer funding and support for both employers and job seekers."

Ten of the 11 major industries added jobs over the month in February. The most significant growth occurred in Professional and Business Services with 11,900 jobs added, while 9,300 jobs were added in Private Education and Health Services. The Construction industry added 7,800 jobs over the month in February and grew by 4.0 percent over the year, which outpaced the national growth rate by 1.3 percentage points.

"Texans are opening doors to new and meaningful career opportunities as reflected by the consistently high

employment growth," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III. "TWC and its network of local Workforce Solutions offices are helping to guide job seekers towards emerging career pathways that extend to all segments of Texas industries."

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) maintained the lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 2.9 percent in February, followed by the Amarillo MSA at 3.4 percent, and College Station-Bryan at 3.5 percent.

"Private sector employers continued to drive the historic growth of Texas' labor market by adding more than 45,000 jobs over the month in February," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Joe Esparza. "TWC programs like the Skills Development Fund and the Work Opportunity Tax Credit can help Texas' private employers sustain this pattern of economic growth."

Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. *All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit TexasLMI.com.

Challenges, benefits of container gardening

By Greg Grant
Smith County Extension Agent

Container gardening sounds very appealing, and it is for those who have no ground in which to garden. Just be warned that gardening in containers in Texas is harder than gardening in the ground.

The number one limiting factor with container gardening in here is water. Due to gravity and the limited amount of soil contained in pots, containers in Texas often must be watered as much as twice a day to survive and produce. If a single watering is missed on a hot day, the vegetable plants will possibly die or, at the least, their production will be aborted.

There are two main ways to avoid frequent drought stress when container gardening. The first is using the largest pot size you can find. The larger the container the more soil mix it will hold and the slower it will dry out.

Larger containers allow plants to have larger root systems, which are better at avoiding drought stress. I consider whiskey barrel-sized (30 gallon) containers the minimum size for vegetables. Any large container will work if there are drainage holes in the bottom. I suggest avoiding 5-gallon plastic buckets as they are just too small.

When watering, it is important to



Vegetables can be successfully produced in large containers. (Courtesy photo)

soak the entire soil area from top to bottom. Oftentimes, especially when the soil is dry, water will run off the top and down the inside of the container without soaking the roots.

Use low-pressure drip irrigation to soak the entire root zone as it slowly waters the plants with little runoff.

The potting soil you use in containers will spell the difference between success and failure. There are two choices that you want to avoid. Topsoil dug from the ground is heavy and though it may drain well in the ground, it will not drain well in a container.

Composted black pine bark, which the nursery industry uses to grow woody plants, is not a desirable choice either, as it drains too well and does not retain nutrients.

Though you can experiment with

mixtures of compost, washed sand, and topsoil, for most beginners the best option is a professional, peat-based potting soil.

Just remember that there are three grades of potting soil. Inexpensive potting soils are made from composted pine bark and are tricky. Medium-priced potting soils are made from muck peat and do a fair job.

Professional potting soils are made from sphagnum peat moss (often with perlite, vermiculite, wetting agent, and nutrient charge added) and do the best job of producing vegetables in containers. They cost more but are worth it. These mixtures, which are used by most greenhouse growers, have good water- and nutrient-holding capacities, which makes a dramatic difference in container gardening. If you cannot find a professional peat-based potting mix, you can add about 50 percent sphagnum peat moss to the cheap, bark-based potting soil along with a slow-release fertilizer, such as Osmocote.

Using a slow-release fertilizer in a container will help provide constant nutrition without leaching. Slow-release fertilizers may not provide all the nutrition your container plants need and may have to be supplemented with water-soluble fertilizers as needed.

says Dr. Hurtado. "That doesn't mean that with time they won't develop those complications."

That's why it's important to seek treatment for obesity. Getting to a healthy weight and staying there will reduce these risks and improve overall health. T

For more information about Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Programs, contact Smith County Extension Office at 903-590-2980 or email smith-tx@tamu.edu. Like our Facebook page: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Smith County

Beaumont man gets 57 months for felon possession of firearm

A Beaumont man has been sentenced to federal prison for a firearms violation in the Eastern District of Texas, said Davilyn Walston, spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Damien M. Diggs.

Jorge Luis Castelan, Jr., 32, pleaded guilty on April 13, 2023, to being a felon in possession of a firearm and was sentenced to 57 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Marcia Crone on April 4, 2024.

According to information presented in court, during the early morning hours of May 15, 2022, Beaumont police responded to a domestic disturbance on Dogwood Lane in Beaumont.

The 9-1-1 dispatcher advised the officers to look for a man who was armed and driving a silver pickup truck. Moments later when the officers arrived they found Castelan next to a silver pickup in possession of an assault-style rifle equipped with a fully-loaded, large-capacity magazine. After Castelan was taken into custody it was determined that he was previously convicted of aggravated robbery in Jefferson County.

A federal grand jury indicted Castelan on Oct. 5, 2022. Under federal law, convicted felons are prohibited from owning or possessing firearms or ammunition.

"This case is emblematic of our commitment to utilize our violent crime prosecutors and our partner agents at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to investigate and prosecute criminals who illegally possess guns in connection with domestic abuse," said U.S. Attorney Damien M. Diggs. "The long-lasting effects of domestic violence, dating violence and intimate partner violence are obviously amplified when firearms are involved. In this case, the quick response of the Beaumont Police Department defused a potentially deadly situation."

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a program bringing together all levels of law enforcement and the communities they serve to reduce violent crime and gun violence, and to make our neighborhoods safer for everyone.

On May 26, 2021, the department launched a violent crime reduction strategy strengthening PSN based on these core principles: fostering trust and legitimacy in our communities, supporting community-based organizations that help prevent violence from occurring in the first place, setting focused and strategic enforcement priorities, and measuring the results.

This case was investigated by the Beaumont Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John B. Ross.



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Is excess weight always a health risk?

By Smith County
Extension Office

More than 42 percent of Americans live with obesity, a complex disease that involves having too much body fat. And within this group are many different lifestyles.

While some people with excess weight could benefit from more physical activity, there are many who exercise regularly. They may go to the gym often or play on an active sports team.

Which leads some to wonder: Can I live with obesity and still be considered

fit and healthy?

It's a complicated question, but Mayo Clinic endocrinologist Maria Daniela Hurtado A., M.D., Ph.D., breaks it down.

"The bottom line is, excess body fat puts you at risk of developing certain diseases." Even if someone feels in good health now, it's important to think about health down the road. Continuing to carry excess weight typically catches up with you.

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Smith County Junior Livestock Show competitors groomed their animals in preparation for the Sale of Champions held this past Friday at Cross Brand Cowboy Church (Photo by Terry Cannon)

Students earn scholarships at Junior Livestock Show

The 48th annual Smith County Junior Livestock Show took place recently at Cross Brand Cowboy Church and Jaclyn Brandon with the Lindale FFA, taking home \$1,000 after the Sale of Champions took place.

Brandon earned a portion of the \$10,000 in scholarships awarded after the sale, said Mintie Betts of the SCJLS.

Others earning money included: Grace Parrott, Smith County 4-H, \$3,000; Haily Perez, Smith County 4-H, \$2,500; Kyleigh Duckett, Chapel Hill FFA, \$2,000 and Hannah Dazey, Whitehouse FFA, \$1,500.

More than \$185,000 was raised during the show with more expected after the additions are totaled by Friday, April 5.

"We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all of our sponsors and exhibitors for their unwavering support, which enables us to host a spectacular show that will have an enduring impact

on the future leaders in our communities," said SCJLS President Rick Perez.

Next year's show is scheduled for March 26-27 and the Sale of Champions set for March 28.

The SCJLS is a non-profit organization that promotes leadership, responsibility, time management, and other important life skills for young people.

By participating in livestock shows, students gain hands-on experience in animal husbandry, agriculture, and business management, setting them up for success in future endeavors.

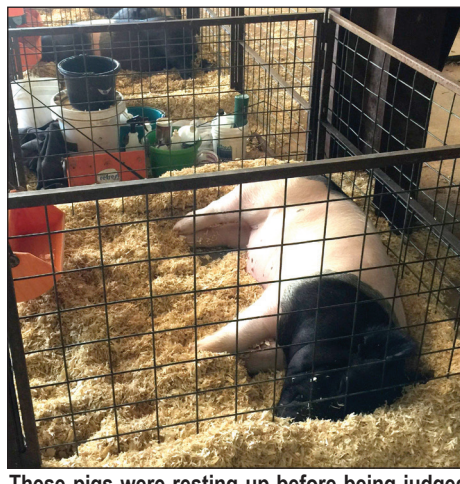
In addition to the livestock shows various activities and competitions, including showmanship contests, public speaking, and home economics took place.

More than 550 projects were presented by 293 students, Betts said.

For more information about the Smith County Junior Livestock Show, visit www.smithcountyjls.com.



A sheep was more than ready to be judged during the Smith County Junior Livestock show recently. (Photo by Terry Cannon)



These pigs were resting up before being judged during the Smith County Junior Livestock show recently at Cross Brand Cowboy Church. (Photo by Terry Cannon)



Yard of the Month
The yard belonging to Garry and Jean Christian, 530 Abbey Road in Lindale, has been selected as Yard of the Month for April by the Lindale Garden Club. (Courtesy photo)

Lindale's Hillary Schmidt named TB&T Employee of the Year

Hillary Schmidt, administrative lending assistant for the Lindale area of Texas Bank and Trust, has been named Employee of the Year as announced by Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Rogers Pope, Jr.

The announcement came at the bank's annual employee dinner on March 9.

The Employee of the Year award is determined by a vote from the bank's officers and recognizes an employee who distinctly exhibits the bank's Core Values of Integrity, Excellence, Mutual Respect, Professionalism, and Joy.

As the 2023 honoree, Schmidt's manager described her as "selfless, joyful, exuding positive energy, always on, and never meets a stranger."



In addition to her bank duties, which include assisting loan officers with commercial and consumer borrowers, relationship management, and various other general banking needs, Schmidt is described as a tireless contributor to her community.

She serves as a volunteer for the Lindale High School Band Booster Club and LHS Volleyball Booster Club, and provides support for her children's extracurricular activities, including LSA Soccer, Lindale Pewee Football, basketball, and varsity cheer.

She and her family participate in Operation Christmas Child each year, and also serves in the nursery at Rose Heights Church in Lindale, where she and her family are members.

Recent rains help East Texas forage growth

By Laura Muntean
Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service

While it is too early to tell about the impact of chill hours for fruits grown in higher chill areas of the state, current conditions are good for the low-to-mid chill areas, said Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

In East Texas, recent rains made some areas like Polk County too wet for good warm-season forage growth. Producers in many counties were able to stop feeding hay. Ponds, lakes and creeks remained full. Cattle markets continued to be strong and steady. Livestock were in fair to good condition. Anderson County reported wild pigs had been very destructive recently.

ACROSS THE STATE

Larry Stein, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension horticulturist and professor in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Horticultural Sciences, Uvalde, said fruit trees like peaches and apples depend on cool, cloudy weather in the winter to promote proper physiological growth in the spring.

Stein said fruit growers in most areas of the state were "cautiously optimistic" that chill hours and other conditions are and will continue to be favorable for this year's fruit crop.

Fruit growers in different regions of the state have plants with different chilling requirements, he said. Orchards along and near the Gulf Coast might have trees that require 200-300 chill hours, while trees in the Winter Garden region need about 400-500 hours, and varieties in the Hill Country and North Texas might require 700-1,000 hours.

"If plants do not receive the required number of chill hours, they can be slow to leaf out, which typically leads to poorly developed fruit or no fruit at all," he said.

Stein said chill hours begin to add up after the first freeze each fall. Trees go dormant for the winter, but chill hours promote hormones that dilute growth inhibitors throughout the winter and prepare the plant to break dormancy and begin new growth, bloom and set fruit.

Typically, temperatures between 32 degrees and 50 degrees can meet the chilling requirements of many fruit plants, with the most effective temperature range being 32 degrees to 45 degrees.

Seeing doubles

Stein said chill hours have been sufficient in the mid-to-low chill areas, but were marginal in the higher chill areas, with a lot of growers reporting "doubles" on plant blooms.

Doubles, also called conjoined fruits, are not an uncommon occurrence, especially in stone fruit, with some fruit varieties more prone to it than others.

"Doubles or multiple fruit come about as



Recent chilly temperatures shouldn't have lasting effects on East Texas peaches, Texas A&M AgriLife officials said. (Courtesy photo)

the result of stress during the flower initiation stage, which would have been May and June of 2023," he said. "These doubles seem to be the consensus when talking to area producers, with some saying they are getting three and four fruit from a single bloom."

Irregular or inadequate watering has also been identified as a likely cause of fruit splitting and doubling.

"Consumers usually consider conjoined fruits less visually appealing," Stein said. "For producers, sometimes the extra piece of fruit is so small as to be insignificant and can be safely removed without harming the main fruit. To avoid the conjoined fruit, producers typically thin their fruit trees to get as many double or multiple fruits back to singles as possible."

Growth regulators and climatic conditions

Jim Kamas, AgriLife Extension fruit specialist based in Fredericksburg, said many fruit growers in the Hill Country and Central Texas, where chill hours were marginal, have benefited from the use of a chemical growth regulator that mimics chill hours.

"This helped the fruit plants to overcome insufficient chilling, and the extra effort and expense for these producers paid off," he said.

The use of these growth regulators helped many producers get to this point, but Kamas said the real elephant in the room when it comes to overall fruit production is drought.

"We are hearing that our brief and disappointing El Niño event is over and that the forecast is to be hot and dry," he said. "The soil moisture is currently adequate for fruit crops as the fruit trees develop and expand canopy, but as the temperatures become warmer, drought could soon become a problem for producers."

If the hot, dry weather arrives early, fruit producers may be at risk for lower yields, misshaped fruit with lower market appeal, and possibly delayed or inconsistent harvests.

"They also have to hope that spring thunderstorms do not hinder the progress of their fruit production," he said.

Leaving wildlife alone best practice

It is the time of year when people are outdoors enjoying warmer weather, beautiful flowers and emerging wildlife.

As you spend time outdoors, you may start to notice more wildlife in your backyard, neighborhood or surrounding areas. Species including birds, deer and snakes are active this time of year and their young can be mistaken as abandoned.

According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) baby birds and deer fawns are the most common animals picked up by well-meaning citizens. However, it is important to realize that many such human-animal encounters are unnecessary and can even be detrimental to the wildlife concerned, not to mention the fact that it is illegal to possess wildlife without a permit.

"TPWD cautions against lending a helping hand, as even the best intentions can cause more harm than good," said Meredith Longoria, TPWD's Wildlife Division Deputy Director. "Most of the time, young wildlife is not abandoned but simply staying in a safe space while their parents search for food. It's best to leave rehabilitation of wildlife to those with the proper equipment, training and permits that authorize them to do so."

Deer fawning season begins in early to mid-May and a fawn's mottled coat and mother's care usually hide them from predators. As fawns mature, they shed these coats for a more adult color, which causes them to catch the eye of onlookers. A doe may leave her fawn for hours at a time while she is browsing for food. During that time, people may spot a fawn lying alone in tall grass or in a brushy area.

Many people interfere with the fawn thinking it has been abandoned by its mother and needs help, but this is rarely the case.

Just as it is for adult children moving

out of the house, baby birds must leave the nest to learn the skills needed to thrive on their own.

Doves, blue jays, mockingbirds and many other birds that are just preparing to leave the nest are often found on the ground and mistakenly thought to be abandoned.

Part of their developmental phase in learning to fly is spending days and sometimes weeks on the ground under the supervision of their parents nearby, who continue to feed them throughout that phase. If the bird's eyes are open, it has feathers and is hopping around, mom and dad are likely nearby. For more information about what to do if you encounter baby birds look at the Audubon Society's FAQ's about injured, sick or orphaned birds and wildlife.

Leave all young animals alone unless they are obviously injured. To be sure, spend time observing the wild animal from a distance to make a solid determination.

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

Various turtle species are also often picked up by well-meaning citizens and given assistance crossing the road. While this is perfectly harmless if done safely, biologists ask that the public not take these animals home with the intention of gaining a new pet. These turtles are wild animals and must remain wild to stay healthy.

If a wild animal is sick or injured, TPWD encourages citizens to contact a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. Please note that TPWD staff advise the public not to handle or attempt to transport injured, sick or orphaned wildlife. Learn more about what to do upon encountering orphaned or injured wildlife, and how to contact rehabilitators on the TPWD Wildlife Division website.

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



SELL IT IN THE Classifieds

903-882-8880 classifieds@lindalenews-times.com



LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Public Sale of property to satisfy landlords lien. Sale 10:30 AM -April 12, 2024, Main Street, Lindale, Tx. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Tenants: Misti Jackson, Chris Liljestrand, Nata Weaver, Peter Somerville, Zoe Bernardelli, Michael McBride, Keesha Smith

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NO. 48139P

Notice is hereby given that on the 18th day of March, 2024, Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Ovada Horne, Deceased, were issued to Nathan Powell by the Honorable Court of Smith County, Texas in Cause No 48139P 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 Ovada Horne
c/o Randall Cook
Hardy Cook & Hardy, P.C.
2080 Three Lakes Parkway
Tyler, Texas 75703

LEGAL NOTICE

CAUSE NO. 48143P.

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW
BILL J. WRIGHT1 § NUMBER THREE
DECEASED § SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BILL J. WRIGHT, Deceased, were issued on March 26, 2024, in Cause No. 48143P, pending in the County Court at Law No. Three of Smith County, Texas, to: FERN DIANE WEAR.

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.

FERN DIANE WEAR
c/o: **Joe K. Thigpen**
Attorney at Law
102 North College, Suite 808
Tyler, Texas 75702

1 Birth name was Billie James Wright, During his lifetime he went by the name Bill J. Wright. His social security information listed his name as Billy.

DATED the 1st day of April, 2024.

/s/ Joe K. Thigpen
Attorney for FERN DIANE WEAR
State Bar No.: 19837400
102 North College, Suite 808
Tyler, Texas 75702
Telephone: (903) 595-0998
Facsimile: (903) 595-1299

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice to Creditors

Letters of Guardianship for the person and estate of MASON JAMES CARRIG, an incapacitated person, were issued on 04/01/24, in Cause No. 48067G, in the County Court at Law No. 3, Smith County, TX, to CYNTHIA ANN CARRIG and ANTHONY EDWARD CARRIG, Co Guardians. The residence of said Guardians is 11832 White Deer Trail, Tyler, Texas 75703. 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.

HUGE ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Trinity Lutheran Church
2001 Hunter, Tyler (off Golden Rd.)
Friday April 12th - 8am to 5pm
Saturday April 13th - 8am to 3pm

GARAGE SALE

Forest Trails Community Garage sale
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NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)

To the Registered Voters of the CITY OF LINDALE, Texas
(Para los votantes registrados de la ciudad de Lindale, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from **7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** on May 4, 2024, for voting in a general election for Mayor and Council Place 2.

(Notificación es por aquí dado que el sitio de votación se abrirá a las **7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m.** el 4 de Mayo, 2024, para votar en la elección general para elegir un Alcalde y Concejo Municipal, Lugar 2.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE (DIRECCION DE EL CITIO DE VOTACION)

Lindale Kinzie Center	912 Mt. Sylvan St., Lindale, TX 75771
-----------------------	---------------------------------------

Early Voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at (La Votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

Lindale Kinzie Center	912 Mt. Sylvan St., Lindale, TX 75771
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Beginning on April 22, 2024, and ending April 26, 2024. Voting times are as follows: (Comenzando el 22 de Abril, 2024 y concluyendo el 26 de Abril, 2024. Los tiempos de votación son como siguen:)


April 22, 2024-April 26, 2024 (22 de Abril de 2024-26, de Abril de 2024)	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
April 29, 2024-April 30, 2024, (29 de Abril de 2024 - 30 de Abril de 2024)	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para la boleta por correo serán enviadas a:)

Michelle Allcon, Elections Administrator (Administrador de las Elecciones)
302 E. Ferguson Street
Tyler, Texas 75702
Phone 903 590-4777
Email address: sselections@smith-county.com

www.smith-county.com
Early voting Clerk's Website

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business (5:00 pm) on Tuesday, April 23, 2024.
(Las solicitudes para las boletas por correo se deben recibir no más tarde que la hora de cerrar (5:00 pm) el Martes, 23 de Abril de 2024)



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CHARITY

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-855-808-4152 today!

ENERGY

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-704-8579 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

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LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Wesley Financial Group, LLC - Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-501-6864.

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We buy oil, gas & mineral rights. Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI). Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation. Call today: 806-620-1422. Lobo Minerals, LLC, PO Box 1800, Lubbock, TX 79408-1800, LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com.

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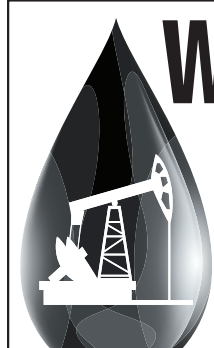
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Council approves ordinance regulating vape shops

Lindale City Council members approved an ordinance aimed at regulating vape and tobacco shops in the city limits during their regularly scheduled meeting at city hall Tuesday night (April 2).

The ordinance spells out the requirements of these businesses, including the distance from schools, churches, parks and daycare facilities.

Lindale City Attorney Glen Patrick said the ordinance is more specific and restrictive from a local perspective than the state's ordinance.

City Manager Carolyn Caldwell said ordinance would not allow these shops to be within 1,000 feet of schools, churches, parks and daycare facilities.

The council also discussed a zoning change to 309 E. South Street from single family residential to neighborhood mixed use district. A

public hearing was called prior to the zoning change request.

Several people spoke during the public hearing, three against the zoning change and two spoke in favor.

The Lindale Planning and Zoning Commission approved the zoning change by a 5-0 vote earlier.

Following a lengthy discussion among the property owners — Daniel and Bethany Patterson — and city officials, it was decided by all parties to table the issue until the next council meeting.

A nonexclusive license agreement for use of the alley way at 112 E. Hubbard was also tabled.

The council approved replacing three cameras and one new one for the water department for \$6,344.

Commissioner's son arrested again during county meeting

Lance Phillips, son of Smith County Precinct 3 Commissioner Terry Phillips was arrested this past week after an outburst during the public comment portion of the commissioner's meeting.

Phillips' arrest on Tuesday (April 2) was the fourth time he had been taken to jail for disrupting a meeting or court proceeding. He was arrested this past January and in June, 2023 he was arrested in Judge Clay White's courtroom during an arraignment in the county courthouse.

He was there for a previous charge of disrupting a meeting which occurred during a May, 2023 meeting

of the commissioners.

On April 2, he signed up to speak on an agenda item pertaining to a resolution proclaiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the county.

County Judge Neal Franklin, noting that Phillips' comments did not pertain to the agenda item, admonished him and told him to stay on topic, to which Phillips demanded more time to be added to his public comment time.

At this time, Phillips addressed the county judge by his first name.

““Mr. Phillips, you need to call me judge,” Franklin

said.

“OK, you can call me chosen one,” Phillips said.

Franklin then ended his time at the microphone and as he was being led out of the court room by sheriff's deputies he made an obscene gesture at the court.

Franklin then made a motion to hold Phillips in contempt. After a second to the motion by Precinct 2 Commissioner John Moore, the court voted in favor of the motion with Terry Phillips abstaining.

Lance Phillips was ordered to spend 24 hours in jail and records show additional charges of hindering proceedings by disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and assaulting a public servant have been added.

His bonds total \$200,000.

Deputies struggled to control Phillips and eventually had to carry him to a patrol unit outside the courthouse annex.

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TEXAS BANK AND TRUST STUDENT BOARD INVESTMENT QUEST 2023-2024 Outstanding High School Seniors Who Make A Difference!



KADY SPEARS, daughter of Kylie Prudhomme and David Spears, is vice president of the National Honor Society, captain of the soccer team, and a member of the student council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy. Outside of school, Kady enjoys working out and attending church. She believes she is impacting the world by volunteering in her community. Kady plans to attend East Texas Baptist University and study nursing. Her future goals include becoming a labor and delivery nurse. Kady was elected by her peers to serve as secretary of the Student Board of Directors.



JALYNN GATELEY, daughter of Jennifer and John Gateley, is an officer for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, captain of the powerlifting team, a student athletic trainer, and a member of the National Honor Society and the track and field team. Outside of school, Jalynn enjoys reading, hanging out with friends, and organizing things. She believes she is impacting the world by being involved in teams and organizations. Jalynn plans to attend Louisiana Tech University and study sports marketing. Her future goals include working in marketing for a professional sports team.

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**

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