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VOLUME 9, NO. 4

400 Bolivar Street, Suite 311 in Historic Wilfong Building - Sanger, TX 76266

Friday, January 1, 2021



Bolivar: The Once Wild West

Inside TxDOT Divisions Environmental Affairs

Bolivar is a small residential area west of Sanger in Denton County with about 30 homes in Bolivar proper, but in the late 19th century it was a burgeoning frontier town on the edge of the old west.

Archeologists have uncovered artifacts from a transportation project

in an area which was once historically part of Bolivar. The artifacts tell the story of this frontier town and show how TxDOT goes Beyond the Road to plan around the state's cultural environment.

What They Are Digging Up

Archeologists are unearthing the Sartin Hotel, established in the early

1880s. Archeologists have uncovered remnants of the hotel foundation, a water well, lamp glass, a bronze spool, cast iron stove, brass hand bell, ceramic drinking jug, miscellaneous hotel hardware and more!

Tom Cook, a formerly enslaved African American on the frontier, owned a blacksmith shop



that is being excavated by TxDOT. Tom Cook was recognized in a 1918 Denton County history book as one of the best citizens

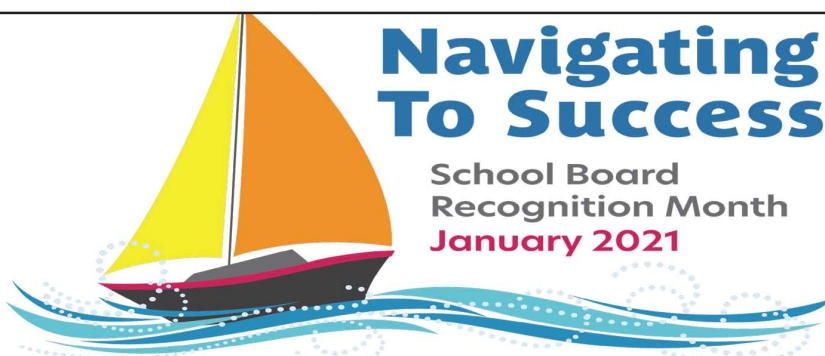
who "never failed to answer the roll call in a time of danger..."

Archeologists are recovering discarded broken wagon parts, forged horse and mule shoes, forged showing nails, hardware, tools and a ceramic smoking pipe.

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(Continued on pg. 4)



School Board Recognition Month
January 2021

Sanger Independent School District

SANGER ISD CELEBRATES SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH



SCRIBNER

The Sanger Independent School District will join school districts throughout Texas to celebrate *January as School Board Recognition Month*, announced Superintendent Dr. Tommy Hunter. Serving as a link between the community and the classroom, school board members are elected to a 3-yr term to establish the policies that provide the framework for public schools.



AFFLERBACH

"Our school board members are volunteers who shoulder critical responsibilities and often make difficult choices for our district, all without pay. They have been courageously navigating the *Choppy Waters of COVID-19 in 2020* to care for our kids and our communities in new, creative and innovative ways, therefore, celebrating School Board Recognition Month is one way to say thanks for all they do".



YORK

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Vice-President Sarah York-2018-2021

Trustees * Jimmy Howard-2011-2021 * Lisa Cody-2019-2022 * Mitch Hammonds-2019-2023, * Zach Thompson-2020-2023

"It is now more important than ever before that communities support public education so that today's students are prepared to be productive citizens and the leaders of tomorrow. We ask that you please take a moment and let your school board members know we support them and their dedicated service is recognized and truly appreciated".

Thank you Sanger ISD Board Members for caring about our children and giving so much of your time to our community.

Board Trustees will be recognized during the January 11th Board Meeting, said Hunter.



HOWARD



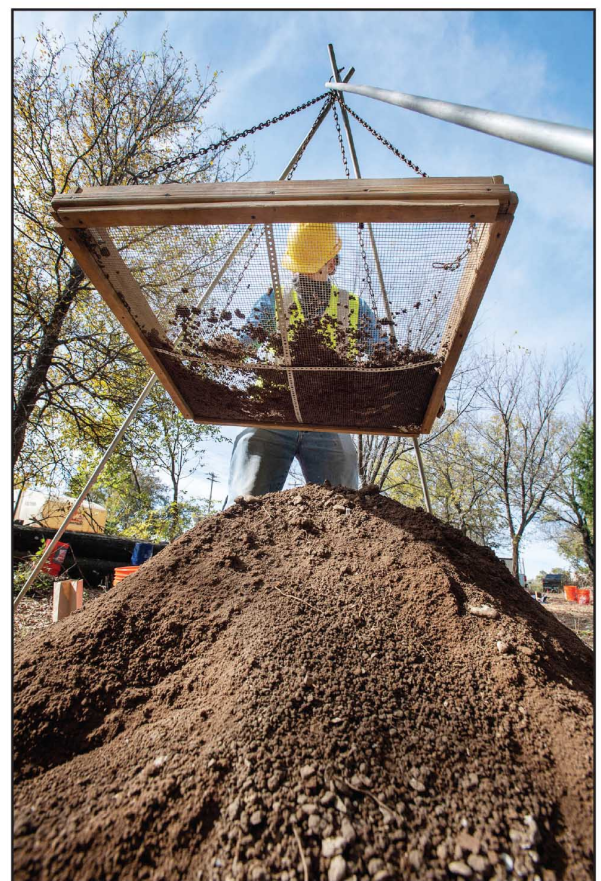
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OBITUARIES...

Rodney Dean Smith

Rodney Dean Smith went home to Heaven on December 18th, 2020. He is survived by his parents, Roy Dean and Pat Smith, sister and brother-in-law Debbie and David Miller, brother and sister-in-law Brent and Sheri Smith, and sister Tammy Grafa. Rodney has two sons and daughter-in-laws, Ryan and Kelly Smith, and Zach and Megan Smith. He has four grandchildren, Luke, Emma, Bodee, and Nate who is expected to be born in February.

Rodney graduated from Denton High School in 1975. He played football, earning the starting positions of offensive guard and linebacker, and won medals for throwing the shot put in track. Rodney worked at the G and G Tractor Company, in Denton, Tx., from 1976 to its closure in 2010. Rodney began as a tractor mechanic and worked his way up to a salesman position. Rodney enjoyed helping his customers and developed long-lasting friendships with each of them. Rodney later ventured out to begin his own business, not just repairing farm machinery, but supporting farmers in their times of need. "Call Rodney" was the recommendation farmers had for each other.

Rodney's passion was hunting and fishing with his sons. He taught them the love of being together outdoors, how to tell the best "biggest fish story" and the "greatest buck tale". Rodney had a way of making all around him feel happy and glad to be a part of his life. But most importantly, he taught his sons how to be a loving father and a devoted friend. Ryan and Zach will always cherish the memories with their Dad.

As the angels escorted Rodney into Heaven, he surely smiled and said, "Ryan and Zach are going to love this place!" May we see him again, in Heaven.



Kenneth Craig Jackson

April 13, 1968 - December 21, 2020

Kenneth Craig Jackson, 52, of Sanger, transitioned to his heavenly home on December 21, 2020, in Sanger. Born on April 13, 1968, in Denton, Texas, Kenneth was the youngest son of Bennie Roy and Gladys Josephine (Haskins) Jackson.

Kenneth was a member of the Holy Temple Church of God and Christ in Sanger and worked as a laborer. He and Sandra Renee Stokes had been married for the past 26 years. They made their home in Sanger.

Cherishing Kenneth's memory are his wife, Sandra of Sanger; a daughter Sabrina Stokes of Gainesville; three sons, Jamaine Stokes-Clark of Gainesville, Kenneth Jackson, Jr. of San Antonio, and Brian Keith Stokes of Denton; four sisters Marcella Wagner of Fort Worth, Terri Hales of Killeen, Jacqueline Larkins of Sanger and Yulanda Jackson of Denton; and three brothers Anthony Haskins, Donald Jackson and Jerry Glenn Jackson all of Sanger. Grandchildren Zion Harris, Zamariah Harris, Zaysha Harris, Aaliyah Jackson, Arianna Jackson, and Brian Stokes also survive him. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Stevie Don Jackson and Bennie Jackson, Jr.

Visitation for Kenneth was held 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, December 29, 2020, at Coker Funeral Home in Sanger. Funeral services were held at 11:00 am on Wednesday, December 30, 2020, at the First Baptist Church in Sanger. Pastor Reginald T. Logan, Sr. will be the officiating minister. Robert Wagner, nephew of Kenneth, delivered the eulogy. Serving as pallbearers were Billy Jackson, John Moreno, Jamaine Stokes-Clark, John Henderson, Clifford Nix, and Michael Russell.

Services were under the direction of Coker Funeral Home in Sanger. You may share a favorite memory of Kenneth or offer your condolences to www.cokerfuneralhome.com.



Stephanie Amanda Watts

April 19, 1977 - December 21, 2020

On December 21, 2020, God gained a beautiful Angel. Stephanie Amanda Watts was a loving mother, daughter, sister, and friend.

Stephanie was born on April 19, 1977, in Denton, Texas, to George Allen Bauler and Mary Ann Cole. She enjoyed poetry, drawing, and she loved being a mother to her children.

Cherishing her memory are her parents, Mary Cole of Gainesville and George Allen Bauler of Bridgeport; her husband Mikel Watts of Denton; four sons Mikel Cole Watts, Chase Allen Watts, Corbin Theodore Jude Watts, and Cayden Elijah Watts, all of Denton; and two sisters, Rebecca Ann Songer of Madill, OK and Stacy Lynn Dunn of Gainesville. Many cousins, nieces, and nephews also survive her. She is preceded in death by her paternal grandmother, Lavonia Bauler, paternal grandfather George Bauler, maternal grandmother Mildred Murphy and maternal grandfather Marlin Cole, Uncle Dale Bauler, and cousins Pamela Stokes-Woods and Angela Clark. Stephanie was loved by so many and will be deeply missed.

Graveside services are at 11:00 am on Thursday, December 31, 2020, in the Pavilion at the Sanger Cemetery, Sanger. Pastor Charlie Pickett will officiate the services.

Coker Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Please make online condolences or share your favorite memory of Stephanie with the Watts family at www.cokerfuneralhome.com.



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Rosalee Strayhorn

June 19, 1927 - December 21, 2020

Rosalee Strayhorn, 93, of Denton (formerly of the Sanger-Krum Area), went to be with the Lord on December 21, 2020, in Denton, Texas. Rosalee was born on June 19, 1927, in Jonesboro, LA, to Willie and Gracie Mae (Glenn) Jones.

On May 16, 1946, she married Sam F. Strayhorn in Little Rock, AR. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ in Krum.

Cherishing her memory are her four children Rebecca Williams of Lewisville, Annette Johnson of Krum, Sam F. Strayhorn, Jr. of Quinlan, and Duane Strayhorn of Krum. A sister, Ann Downey of AR; thirteen grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren also survive her. Preceding her in death are her husband, Sam, and three brothers, Alfred Jones, Thomas Jones, and Eddie Jones.

Graveside services for Rosalee were held at 1:00 pm on Monday, December 28, 2020, at Jackson Cemetery in Krum. Jim Chism and Darry Shelton were the officiating ministers.

Arrangements were under the direction of Coker Funeral Home in Sanger. You may offer condolences to www.cokerfuneralhome.com.

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Bolivar Baptist Church
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Christ the Great Shepherd Church
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Church of Christ
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Freedom Life Church
1609 Duck Creek Road - Sanger
Pastor - Gary Sweatman
- 940-300-6169

First Assembly of God
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First United Methodist
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Pastor - Phillip Stobaugh

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Pastor Ken Peterson

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Pastor Marc Cornzao

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940-300-1147, Pastor Robert Graf

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MORE OBITUARIES...

Gloria Kay (Lilley) Norris

November 19, 1936 - December 24, 2020

Gloria Kay (Lilley) Norris, of Fort Worth, passed away on December 24. She was 84. Kay was born to Jeff B. Lilley and Bessie Jo Shelley Lilley on November 19, 1936 in Carencro, Louisiana.

Kay attended school in Evangeline, Louisiana, Purvis, Mississippi, and graduated from Gladewater High School, where she was the head cheerleader and the catcher on the girls' softball team. While working as a candy striper at the local hospital, she met her future husband, Jerry Norris, while he was on leave from the Navy. After a brief courtship, the couple eloped to Durant, Oklahoma and were married on June 29, 1956.

Kay and Jerry were blessed with three boys – Kevin, Kyle, and Kent. They lived in many places during their 61 years together, including overseas in Stavanger, Norway and Stonehaven, Scotland. The couple moved to Fort Worth in 1979. Kay was a loyal church member wherever she lived and was most recently a member of Crossway Baptist Church in Crowley. Kay was a devoted volunteer, from Cub Scouts, Sunday school teacher to PTA, to name a few.

Kay is survived by two sons, Kevin (wife Xan) Norris and Kyle (wife Betsy) Norris; four grandchildren, Caleb Norris, Zan Marie Baesmann, Ashton Norris, and Tatum Norris; two great grandchildren, Rylee and Brock Baesmann; brother Robert Lilley of Thibodaux, Louisiana; and sister JoAnn Bell of Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Kay was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry Norris, her son, Kent Norris, her parents, and brothers J.B. Lilley, Jimmy Frank Lilley, Bill Lilley, and Ronald Lilley.

There was a graveside service at 11AM on Tuesday, December 29 at Old Trinity Cemetery in Denton, Texas.

Memorials can be made to the Old Trinity Community Cemetery Association, 6562 Grissom Rd., Denton, Texas 76208, or the Crossway Baptist Church, 10417 Old Cleburne Crowley Jct., Crowley, Texas 76036.



James Lee Roberts

January 20, 1939 - December 21, 2020

James Lee Roberts, 81, of Sanger, began his walk on the streets of gold with his Lord and Savior on December 21, 2020. Born on January 20, 1939, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jim was the son of Tom and Elsie Owens.

Upon graduation from Tulsa Central High School, Jim worked in the Oklahoma/Kansas/Nebraska oilfields until his enlistment in the U.S. Marine Corps in February, 1960. He served his country proudly for 12 years which included three tours in Viet Nam as a pilot of A-4s and F-4s. He earned his college degree from the University of Tulsa and was employed by The Oilgear Company as a hydraulic-pneumatic engineer at the time of his retirement in 2010.

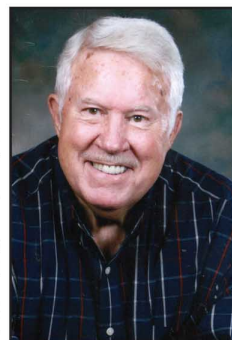
Jim married the love of his life, Katherine Griffith McNickle, on July 15, 1989 in Denton, Texas, and they made their home in Sanger, where they were members of the First Baptist Church. Jim was also a member of the Sanger Lions Club and the All-the-Way Gang Motorcycle Group which raised money for cancer research through the annual Route 66 Ride for the Relay event.

Jim was an incredible athlete and was always full of adventure. He did it all from racing Corvettes to flying planes and riding motorcycles. He had a beautiful gift of making everyone in his life feel extra special, and his love for others was genuine.

Cherishing his memory are his wife, Kathy of Sanger; two daughters, Jennifer Roberts Allen and husband Wesley of Raleigh, N.C., and Angela Johnson of Sanger; two sons, Jared Roberts and wife Sarah of Denton and David McNickle of Plano. Seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter also survive him.

Visitation is scheduled from 6 pm to 8 pm on Monday, January 4, 2021, at Coker Funeral Home in Sanger. Funeral services are at 10:30 am on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, at the First Baptist Church in Sanger. Pastor Grant Bowles and former pastor "Skip" McNeal will officiate. Serving as pallbearers are Jim's grandchildren Colton Allen, Chad Johnson, Cooper Allen, Hannah Johnson, Alexander Roberts, Collin Allen, and Brandon Roberts. Serving as honorary pallbearers are the First Baptist Church Dillon Bible Class. Internment for Jim will be in the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.

Services are under the direction of Coker Funeral Home. You may offer your condolences at www.cokerfuneralhome.com.



Bernard "Beake" Nubine

September 8, 1958 - December 14, 2020

Bernard "Beake" Nubine was born on September 8, 1958, to John and Dorothy Nubine of Sanger, Texas.

Bernard graduated from Sanger High School in 1978 and proceeded to Ranger Jr. College on a baseball scholarship. After leaving college, he worked as a long-haul truck driver. He enjoyed the freedom and travel his work afforded him.

He was a mild-mannered, easy-going, friendly, and sports-loving man that had a deep belief and faith in Christ.

Bernard is survived by his son, Xavier Nubine, his Mother Dorothy Nubine, four sisters, Wanda Nubine, Margaret Ware, Sharon Pereira, and Peggy Haskins; and a host of Aunts, Uncles, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Visitation for Bernard was held from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Saturday, December 19, 2020, at Coker Funeral Home in Sanger. Funeral services were held at 11:00 am on Sunday, December 20, 2020, at the Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Sanger. Pastor Reginald T. Logan, Sr. was the officiating minister. Pallbearers were Jacob Ware, John Johnson, Wilbert Biggens, Russell Parramore, Franklin Haskins, and John Henderson.

Funeral services were under the direction of Coker Funeral Home. Please share a favorite memory of Bernard or offer your condolences to the Nubine Family at www.cokerfuneralhome.com.



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Bolivar

(Continued from pg. 1)

Tom Cook, a formerly enslaved African American on the frontier, owned a blacksmith shop that has been excavated by TxDOT. Tom Cook was recognized in a 1918 Denton County history book as one of the best citizens who “never failed to answer the roll call in a time of danger...”

Archeologists are recovering discarded broken wagon parts, forged horse and mule shoes, forged showing nails, hardware, tools and a ceramic smoking pipe.

TxDOT is actively working with various groups to identify anyone connected or interested to these sites.

The direct descendants of Tom Cook, including his great-,great-grandson and great-,great-,great-granddaughter, are actively involved in site visits and excavations of his blacksmith shop. Archeologists also hope to gain understanding of: 1) What kind of blacksmith was Tom Cook? 2) Who were his likely clientele? 3) How did he gain his skills as a blacksmith? Was it during his previous enslavement in South Carolina?

Volunteers from the North Texas Archeological Society are working alongside TxDOT at the

site excavations.

Other interested parties include the Denton County African American Museum, NAACP’s Denton County chapter, the Sanger Historical Society, the Oral History Program at the University of North Texas, the Denton County Genealogical Society, Sanger Mayor Thomas Muir and more.

Christine Marshall Waggoner, a resident of Bolivar has posted a link on her facebook page about the project.

You can visit the web page dedicated to the project. It has video footage and photos from the dig: <https://www.txdot.gov/.../divi.../environmental/bolivar.html>

TxDOT will widen FM 455 between Sanger to the east and Bolivar to the west. The project is scheduled to begin after August 2022 and is being coordinated with the Bolivar archaeology project.

**MORE
ON
PG. 5**



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HISTORICAL TIMELINE FOR BOLIVAR ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS

HISTORICAL TIMELINE FOR BOLIVAR ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

DALLAS DISTRICT

Sartin Hotel (41DN593)

1820/1870 — Jesse Sartin was born in 1820, and lived in Bolivar by 1870, where he operated a stagecoach stop.

1881 — Jesse Sartin purchased Block 1, Lot 6, in Bolivar on July 13, 1881. There is unconfirmed evidence that a hotel was already on this parcel, and that Sartin expanded and improved the building.

1881 to 1899 — The Sartin Hotel was in operation during the later days of the Chisholm Trail (to 1886), and for some time afterwards.

1899 — When Jesse Sartin died on July 24, 1899, he was buried in the Bolivar Cemetery next to his second wife, Salle. No documentation has been found that reveals the fate of the Sartin Hotel after 1900.

The appearance of the Sartin Hotel and specifics about its operation also remain unknown, but contemporary accounts and oral history recollections provide the following details. The Sartin Hotel:

- * was as a stop on the Chisholm Trail,
- * served as the stagecoach stop for overland lines through Denton County,
- * was a two-story, L-shaped wood building and,
- * had a “flowing well in the lobby” and a “saloon nearby.”

Thomas Cook Blacksmith Shop (41DN617)

1826 (or 1840) — Thomas Cook was born enslaved in South Carolina, but records offer conflicting birth years.

1857 — Thomas Cook was brought to Tarrant County, Texas, as an enslaved person, according to a voter’s registration roll.

1865 — Thomas Cook became a free man on Juneteenth, June 19.

1867 to 1870 — Thomas Cook first appeared as a Texas citizen in voter’s registration rolls and tax records that show he resided in Tarrant County.

1872 to 1895 — Thomas Cook resided in Denton County by 1872, although he may have arrived up to a year earlier. Ad valorem tax records and the 1880 population census confirm that he lived with his family in Bolivar through at least 1895.

1898 — Thomas Cook died in Denton County on January 5, 1898.



Overhead view of rock foundation of Sartin Hotel.



Archeologist operating a ground-penetrating radar at the Tom Cook Blacksmith Shop, where the “Bolivar” historical marker is located.

Bolivar, Texas

1859/1861

After New Prospect was established, citizens voted to change the town’s name to Bolivar in 1861. The town is 3 miles east of the postbellum Chisholm Trail.

1867 to 1886

The first cattle drive up the Chisholm Trail passed a few miles west of Bolivar, delivering cattle to railheads in central Kansas. During this time, the Chisholm Trail became a major economic boom for towns along its route.

1886

The Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe Railroad built a new track through north-central Texas, several miles east of Bolivar, causing local economic decline. At the same time, the small water stop at Sanger flourished as a railroad town.

1916

The Bolivar post office closed, and mail was forwarded to Sanger.



FM 455 Road Improvements

The Texas Department of Transportation is in the process of widening FM 455 in Denton County, and this activity will impact the historic Sartin Hotel and the Thomas Cook blacksmith shop, which are on either side of this road. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (federal law) and the Antiquities Code of Texas (state law), these sites have been determined historically significant. Consequently, historical and archeological investigations are being undertaken to salvage important information about these significant places and the people associated with them. (Photo: looking east down FM 455; the Sartin Hotel site is on the left.)





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Sanger ISD Learning Platforms

Dear Sanger ISD Families,

COVID-19 has presented many challenges across the world. The primary responsibility of Sanger ISD is to provide students with an exceptional education while providing for their health and safety. Sanger ISD has provided learning opportunities for both remote and in-person learners as methods of instructions so that students can have access to curriculum and academic success. Upon reviewing grades and attendance from our first two grading periods, Sanger ISD administrative staff and Board of Trustees have decided to revise the learning plan options for our students. We believe that in-person learning instruction provides students with additional support and access to teachers, academic conversations with peers and stability leading to higher academic success.

We have been asking our teachers to start their day earlier than ever to deal with the challenges associated with COVID-19. While doing all the little things to keep everyone safe we have several teachers teaching on two different platforms serving both in-person learners and remote learners. Our staff has performed all these tasks while putting in more hours and days than any school year prior. Despite all of our efforts, we have learned the online learning has not been as successful as we have hoped for our remote learners. After reviewing all of our data, we are transitioning our current online students back to in-person learning.

After careful consideration Sanger ISD will be suspending our remote learning platform effective January 8, 2021. Beginning on January 11, 2021 all students are expected back in the classroom for in-person learning **unless they meet one of the exceptions below:**

1. A student is medically fragile or lives with someone who is considered medically fragile. Documentation from a medical doctor is required and must be submitted to the campus principal on or before January 8, 2021.
2. A positive COVID case requires the student to be quarantined in accordance with the guidelines established by TEA as follows: Any student who has tested positive for COVID, or who experiences the symptoms of COVID, must stay home throughout the infection period and cannot return to campus until all three criteria have been met:
 - a. At least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
 - b. The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
 - c. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
3. A student who has had close contact with someone who is COVID positive must be quarantined for 10 days. The student shall return to in-person learning after their quarantine period.

Students who do not meet the qualifications to remain in remote learning must return to school in-person on January 11, 2021.

While we want to see all of our students return to school in-person, we want to allow enough time for you to make the decision you feel is best for your child. Students who do not meet one of the above exceptions are expected to return to campus. Students not returning to school have the following choices:

- Withdraw to homeschool
- Enroll in private school
- Request to transfer to a district offering remote learning

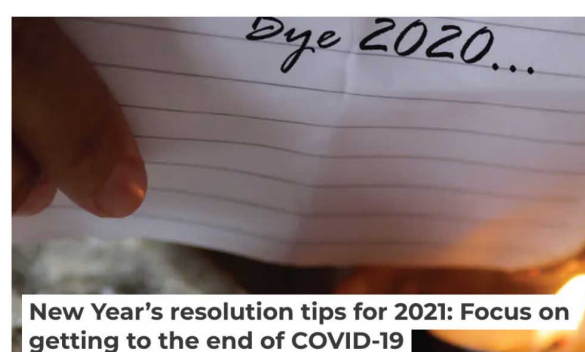
If you have any questions regarding instructional delivery for your child, please contact your campus principal:

- Chisholm Trail Elementary: Cari Cockrell via email at ccockrell@sangerisd.net
- Butterfield Elementary: Larry Beam via email at lbeam@sangerisd.net
- Clear Creek Intermediate: Sally Herrell via email at sherrell@sangerisd.net
- 6th Grade Center: Larry Shuman via email at lshuman@sangerisd.net
- Middle School: Jim Cain via email at jim.cain@sangerisd.net
- Sanger High School: Jennie Flaa via email at jflaa@sangerisd.net
- Linda Tutt: Anthony Love via email at anthony.love@sangerisd.net

Thank you for your support, your partnership and your understanding during this unprecedented time in education.

Respectfully,

Dr. Tommy Hunter - Superintendent Sanger ISD



New Year's resolution tips for 2021: Focus on getting to the end of COVID-19

BY Katherine Arbutnott

Professor of Psychology, University of Regina

Welcoming the new year may feel a bit different this year, given the challenges of 2020 and the inability to celebrate together.

For many people, the yearly date change — adding one more year to life's tally — puts a greater focus on long-term goals than busy lives usually allow. For many, this leads to the tradition of New Year's resolutions, a chance to consider our progress on becoming the “ideal self” many people hope to achieve by the end of their days.

Even with the knowledge that the focus will shift back to the short-term demands of day-to-day by mid-January, it is valuable to consider those longer-term aspirations, if for no other reason than for people to remind themselves that there's more to them than the harried exhausted person who, at the end of the day, wants nothing more than to get into their PJs and play a video game, binge-watch a favourite TV serial, or read a current novel.

But this year, thinking about the long-term is much more difficult. The pandemic has given us all a different experience of time. The pandemic has not only served as a visceral reminder that something unexpected can land in our well-envisioned path, halting all progress. It has also made the path beyond the pandemic unclear.

As many pundits are noting, a “return to normal” — meaning life exactly as it was before COVID-19 entered our vocabulary — is highly unlikely. The future has become less predictable, which also means that setting long-term goals is much more difficult. It's hard to imagine an ideal self without knowing what that self will be experiencing.

Short-term goals

As a psychologist, I think resolutions for 2021 should be much more short-term than usual. It is probably challenging enough to figure out what's needed to make it through the months until everyone is vaccinated and can start to make their way back into a more social world.

You might be thinking that this hardly seems like a good use of once-a-year resolutions, but even though these goals will be very short-term, this is valuable given that public health leaders are warning that these particular months are likely to be the hardest of the pandemic. So even though these goals will likely only be needed for a few months, they can be vital for determining our state when the pandemic comes to an end.

Living through several months of pandemic uncertainty and restrictions has likely given many people a pretty good idea of which personal vulnerabilities this constrained life chafes against. Some people may be struggling to keep their emotional balance. For others, the absence of friends and even casual acquaintances may be driving them mad. Others might be panting to get back to the gym.

These personal points of pain can give people some idea of what resolutions they might make. Addressing those specific points may help enable people to care for themselves well enough to arrive at the pandemic's end with some semblance of good physical and mental health.

Reviewing the advice that mental health professionals gave at the beginning of the pandemic may be helpful in figuring out your specific short-term resolutions to deal with personal challenges. Or you, like many others, might have discovered the healing properties of nature during this time, as documented in a preprint (not yet peer reviewed) study. If so, your resolutions could be about making sure you continue those activities and visiting your favourite nature spots during these winter months. My own resolution, for instance, is to spend at least five minutes each day appreciating the birds in my yard, which never fails to lift my spirits.

Pandemic lessons

For those who can't resist thinking about long-term goals, despite the uncertainty that this pandemic year has introduced into the world, you could review what you've learned during the pandemic. Long-term resolutions could be based on consideration of three things:

What do I want to keep from changes I made to cope with the pandemic?

What do I want to reclaim from the pre-pandemic time?

How would I “build back better” if I were in charge of the world or my neighbourhood?

Each of these things will require some long-term goal focus, and can help you imagine a new ideal self for the post-pandemic times.

Like Christmas 2020, New Year's 2021 is likely to be unique in many people's memories. Many people have gone out of their way to make these moments as tolerable as possible, given the circumstances, but these new ways to commemorate the holidays are unlikely to become traditions, or things people will want to repeat in subsequent years.

Approaching 2021 resolutions by harvesting any bright spots or treasures that have revealed themselves during this unusual time may help illuminate a new path to follow once the pandemic has ended.



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#23	Elaine Pomeroy	SO.	5'6"
#24	Phoenix Dillin	SR.	5'8"
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The UIL has issued COVID-19 risk mitigation guidelines that include restrictions to GYM capacities. Schools may allow spectators to attend games but must stay within a maximum of 50% capacity and maintain proper social distancing. FACE COVERINGS WILL BE MANDATORY FOR ENTRY INTO THE GYM.

In an effort to stay within these guidelines and provide a safe environment for all participants, staff and fans, Sanger ISD has collaborated with TICKETSPICKET for the 2020-21 Basketball Season.

- All admission will be general admission
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- Gate Workers will scan tickets from smartphones or fans can print tickets prior to arriving at the game.
- Tickets will need to be purchased by using the TICKETSPICKET APP or the TicketSpicket Website @ticketspicket.com
- Ticket Prices: High School Games : Adults- \$3.00, Students- \$2.00
Middle School Games: All tickets \$3.00
- We will honor Senior Passes, THSCA Passes and TGCA Passes as long as we don't have a capacity issue. To ensure entry a ticket will need to be purchased through TicketSpicket
- District 9-4A Passes: We will honor up to three persons total with a district pass
- We will not be able to honor Sanger ISD Employee ID Passes
- Sanger Student Athletic Passes: Only Basketball Players will get in free with their Student Athletic Pass. All others will need to purchase a ticket.



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DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	GOLD	PURPLE	VARSITY
FRIDAY	1/1/21	@CELINA (DISTRICT GAME)	AWAY	1:15 PM	12:00PM	2:30 PM
TUESDAY	1/5/21	GAINESVILLE (DISTRICT GAME)	HOME	6:15 PM	5:00 PM	7:30 PM
FRIDAY	1/8/21	BYE	BYE	BYE	BYE	BYE
TUESDAY	1/12/21	VAN ALSTYNE (DISTRICT GAME)	HOME	6:15 PM	5:00 PM	7:30 PM

2020-2021 SHS LADY INDIANS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Jan. 1	Celina	11:00/12:15/1:30	JVP/JVG/V
Jan. 5	@ Gainesville	5:00/6:15/7:30	JVG/JVP/V
Jan. 8	(Bye)	Bye	Bye
Jan. 12	@Van Alstyne	5:00/6:15/7:30	JVP/JVG/V
Jan. 15	Aubrey	5:00/6:15	JVP/V
Jan. 16	@ Northwest HS	10:00	JVG

2020-2021 SANGER MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

1/7	Thursday	Aubrey	Home	5:00/6:00	7B,8B / 7A,8A
1/14	Thursday	Van Alstyne	Away	5:00/6:30	7A,8B / 8A,7B
1/21	Thursday	Krum	Home	5:00/6:00	7B,8B / 7A,8A

2020-2021 SANGER MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

1/7	@ Aubrey*	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/14	Van Alstyne	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/18	@ Krum*	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/25	Gainesville	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00

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Financial FOCUS

By Allen Chick,
Edward Jones



Time for New Year's Financial Resolutions

Many of us probably felt that 2020 lasted a very long time. But now that 2021 is upon us, we can make a fresh start – and one way to do that is to make some New Year's resolutions. Of course, you can make these resolutions for all parts of your life – physical, emotional, intellectual – but have you ever considered some financial resolutions?

Here are a few such resolutions to consider:

Don't overreact to events. When the coronavirus pandemic hit in mid-February, the financial markets took a big hit. Many people, convinced that we were in for a prolonged slump, decided to take a "time out" and headed to the investment sidelines. But it didn't take long for the markets to rally, rewarding those patient investors who stayed the course. Nothing is a certainty in the investment world, but the events of 2020 followed a familiar historical pattern: major crisis followed by market drop followed by strong recovery. The lesson for investors? Don't overreact to today's news – because tomorrow may look quite different.

Be prepared. At the beginning of 2020, nobody

was anticipating a worldwide pandemic and its terrible consequences, both to individuals' health and to their economic well-being. None of us can foretell the future, either, but we can be prepared, and one way to do so is by building an emergency fund. Ideally, such a fund should be kept in liquid, low-risk vehicles and contain at least six months' worth of living expenses.

Focus on moves you can control. In response to pandemic-related economic pressures, some employers cut their matching contributions to 401(k) plans in 2020. Will some future event cause another such reduction? No one knows – and even if it happens, there's probably nothing you can do about it. Instead of worrying about things you can't control, focus on those you can. When it comes to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, put in as much as you can afford this year, and if your salary goes up, increase your contribution.

Recognize your ability to build savings. During the pandemic, the personal savings rate shot up, hitting a record of 33% in April, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. It fell over the next several months, but still remained about twice as high as the rate of the past few years. Of course, much of this surge in Americans' pro-

clivity to save money was due to our lack of options for spending it, as the coronavirus caused either complete or partial shutdowns in physical retail establishments, as well as dining and entertainment venues. But if you did manage to boost your own personal savings when your spending was constrained, is it possible to remain a good saver when restrictions are lifted? Probably. And the greater your savings, the greater your financial freedoms – including the freedom to invest and freedom from excessive debt. When we reach a post-pandemic world, see if you can continue saving more than you did in previous years – and use your savings wisely.

These aren't the only financial resolutions you can make – but following them may help you develop habits that could benefit you in 2021 and beyond.

Allen Chick is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones in Sanger. He can be reached at 940-458-7866.

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Happy New Year

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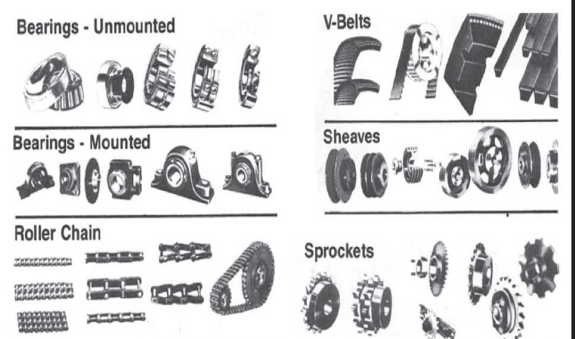
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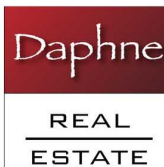
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SHS BASKETBALL

Lady Indians dominate Anna and Melissa

The varsity Lady Indians have really turned it up a notch in their last two district games. They beat Anna last Friday 65-25 and Melissa on Tuesday afternoon 68-46.

Sanger is 10-5 overall and 3-1 in district. They play Celina at home on Friday.

Sanger: 13, 20, 21, 14: 68
Melissa: 12,13,6,15: 46

Sanger:
Carly Schmucker 19
Bella Ringenberg 14
Chloe Malone 5
Elaine Pomeroy 14
Lexi Martin 16

Sanger: 17, 15, 19, 14: 65
Anna: 7, 4, 6, 8, 25

Sanger:
Abby Odom 6
Carly Schmucker 14
Bella Ringenberg 9
Chloe Malone 7
Elaine Pomeroy 10
Phoenix Dillin 4
Morgan Hartman 4
Lexi Martin 11

Indians lose to Melissa in overtime

The Sanger Indians varsity lost a thriller to Melissa in a district game on Tuesday afternoon at Indian Gym, in overtime 58-53. Sanger trailed by six points at halftime and it was extended to 10 points in the third quarter, but Sanger fought back and tied it with just over two minutes left in the game. But, free throws cost them in the end. Leading Melissa by three points with less than a minute remaining, Sanger missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw. And, with the game tied with 2.3 seconds on the clock, the Indians missed two more from the line and

Melissa had extra life with overtime.

Aidan Kearney led Sanger with 15 points, mostly inside the paint and Tayte Chupp was a clutch shooting three-pointers. He ended up with 13 points. Point guard Jordan Collendrina made some acrobatic baskets late to help lead the comeback by Sanger. Sanger scorers:
Aidan Kearney- 15 points
Jordan Collendrina- 13 points
Tayt Chupp- 13 points
Rylan Smart- 6 points
Cal Wilson- 6 points



SHS Varsity Basketball Player Profiles:



NAME: Morgan Hartman
GRADE: 11th NUMBER: 25 POSITION(S): Post
PARENTS' NAMES: Cindy and Steve Hartman
SIBLINGS: McKaylyn Satterfield (28), Hailey Moore (25)
HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN SANGER: Whole life
FAVORITE COLLEGE TEAM: Villanova
MY HOBBIES: Watching Netflix or Tik Tok, hang out with friends.
FAVORITE WEATHER SEASON: Spring
FAVORITE MOVIE(S): Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children, The Space Between Us
FAVORITE BAND(S)/MUSIC GROUP(S): Luke Combs, Morgan Wallen
FAVORITE PRO TEAM: Kansas City Chiefs
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CLASS: U.S. History
MOST INFLUENTIAL HS COACH: Coach Sykes
MOST INFLUENTIAL HS TEACHER: Mrs. Murrell
MOST INFLUENTIAL YOUTH COACH: My Dad
MOST INFLUENTIAL SPORTS FIGURE: Jerry West
BEST THINGS ABOUT PLAYING BASKETBALL: I like when everyone in the gym gets into the game and the gym is loud and energetic.
WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR BASKETBALL THIS SEASON: Improve my overall stats in all areas.

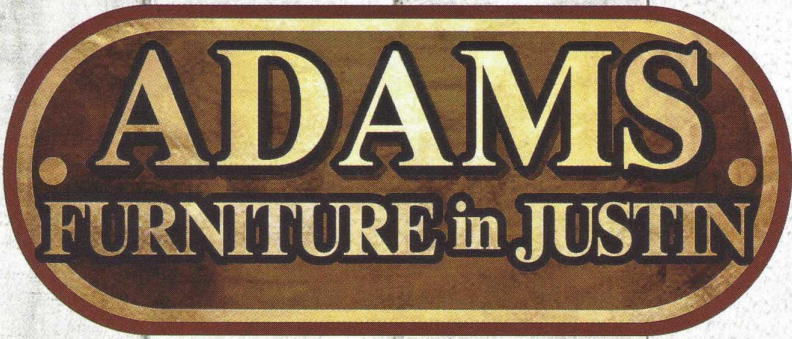


NAME: Rylan Smart
GRADE: 11th NUMBER: 11
POSITION(S): Post
PARENTS' NAMES: Rocky and Monica Smart
SIBLINGS: Ashlynn Smart
HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN SANGER: 2 years - moved here from Forney, TX
FAVORITE COLLEGE TEAM: Texas
MY HOBBIES: Playstation and fishing
FAVORITE WEATHER SEASON: Fall
FAVORITE MOVIE(S): Star Wars
FAVORITE PRO TEAM: Dallas Mavericks
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CLASS: U.S. History
MOST INFLUENTIAL HS COACH: Coach Rivers
MOST INFLUENTIAL HS TEACHER: Mrs. Davis
MOST INFLUENTIAL YOUTH COACH: Coach Cates
MOST INFLUENTIAL SPORTS FIGURE: Kobe Bryant
BEST THINGS ABOUT PLAYING BASKETBALL: Playing with friends.
WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR BASKETBALL THIS SEASON: Get better.



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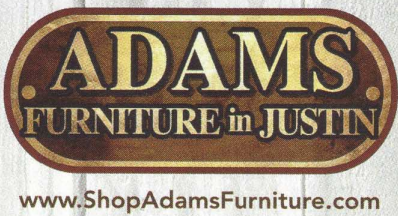
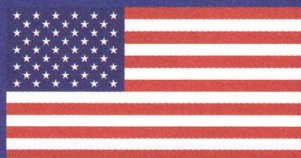


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