

Texas A&M AgriLife peanut sheller to be unveiled Sept. 27

A new \$1 million-plus peanut sheller at Texas A&M AgriLife Foundation Seed in Vernon will be unveiled next week.

Vernon BDC managing consultant Rick Hardcastle announced the ribbon cutting as part of the BDC meeting, last week. The sheller was installed, in part, thanks to BDC funding of the project.

Texas A&M AgriLife and Texas Peanut Producers will host the ribbon-cutting and unveiling ceremony at 3 p.m. Sept. 27 at 11914 Highway 70 S., Vernon.

The sheller is among the first of its kind specifically designed for seed production, said Rick Vierling, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Foundation Seed manager and Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center director at Vernon as well as senior adviser for business strategy for Texas A&M AgriLife. The sheller has a 1-ton per hour capacity and will process lots as small as 250 pounds.

Due to design modifications, the new peanut sheller can reduce split-seed losses to less than 10%. It also offers a rarer ability to process identity-preserved peanuts, allowing food companies to procure peanuts with higher-quality traits.

"Texas A&M AgriLife's investment in the sheller is a commitment to Texas peanut producers, the peanut industry, food companies and consumers," Vierling said.

Guest speakers and dignitaries will include Patrick J. Stover, Ph.D., vice chancellor of Texas A&M AgriLife, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and director of Texas A&M AgriLife Research; Bob Parker, National Peanut Board president and CEO; Shelly Nutt, Texas Peanut Producers Board executive director; Wilbarger County Judge Greg Tyra; Grayson Wilmeth, Texas Peanut Producers Board chairman; and John Cason, Ph.D., AgriLife Research lead peanut breeder.



Halftime honorees

Vernon High School extracurricular activity students of the week, honored at halftime of the Vernon football game at Wichita Falls on Thursday include cheerleaders of the week Haylee Morrison and Valerie Tyra, and band members of the week Kristina Urista, and Nicholas Vaughn.

Bret McCormick/Vernon Record

Huge wind farm on Waggoner Ranch comes online

Ørsted has completed the 367 MW Western Trail Wind Farm located on the Waggoner Ranch in Wilbarger and Baylor counties – its largest onshore wind project brings Ørsted's total onshore capacity to over 2.8 GW of wind, solar, and battery storage in operation.

The project has secured long-term power purchase agreements with PepsiCo, Hormel Foods, and Nucor for the majority of the power generated from the project.

The Wind Farm, located east of 283 at the Baylor County line, has 130 turbines.

"Western Trail Wind is a well-sited greenfield development project that will provide low-cost, reliable power to the Texas grid," said Philip Moore, Senior Vice President of Ørsted Onshore. "I'm very proud of our team working on this project as we continue to scale the busi-

ness and play a leading role in the US energy transition."

The project is situated on the ranch owned by Stan Kroenke. "The Waggoner Ranch has a rich history for developing energy resources. We're excited to partner with Ørsted on the Western Trail Wind Farm to make renewable energy a part of our ranching operation," Daniel Zvoloski, Land Manager for Kroenke Ranches, said.

Western Trail will provide long-term financial returns in the form of increased property tax to the counties and three independent school districts.

Ørsted delivered Western Trail Wind working with long-standing relationships with leading tax equity providers, equipment suppliers, and construction companies.

Lubbock dentist pleads guilty to production of child porn

A Lubbock dentist pleaded guilty in federal court today to one count of production of child pornography, announced Acting U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Prerak Shah.

Jason Paul White, 42, was charged via criminal complaint in January and indicted the following month. In August, prosecutors filed a superseding indictment against him alleging additional child pornography and enticement crimes involving seven victims over the course of 15 years. White pleaded guilty Monday before U.S. Magistrate Judge D. Gordon Bryant, Jr.

According to plea papers, White admitted that in December 2009, he coerced a 17-year-old boy into engaging in sexually-explicit conduct in order to produce a video of that conduct. Over the next 11 months, White produced seven more sexually-explicit videos of the same child, which he uploaded to a Dropbox internet storage account.

Law enforcement discovered the Dropbox account in January 2021, during a search of Mr. White's business and residence. The child later identified himself in the videos. Other victims came forward as well.

White eventually admitted to producing sexually-explicit videos and enticing into sexual activity seven additional teenage boys, including one child not accounted for in the superseding indictment.

The children, who were as young as 13 at the time of the crime, told investigators that White used the ruse of running a pornography film business to lure them into sexual activity.

As a result of his plea, White faces a minimum sentence of 15 years and a maximum of 30 years

in federal prison. He will also be required to forfeit his interest in his home in Lubbock and a 966-acre ranch in Garza County,

where he committed his crimes. White will remain in custody pending his sentencing, which has not yet been set.

Restitution Revival Ministry

Speaker: Prophet Vernon D. Heslep

This is an old holy ghost revival meeting. "God's anointed One." God's man is here. He has the key to revival. This gospel he has is not ORDINARY, it is EXTRAORDINARY!

If you want to be revived, come in faith believing in God for whatever you need, he has the power to heal, deliver and set you free from all powers of the devil. All things are possible if you believe.

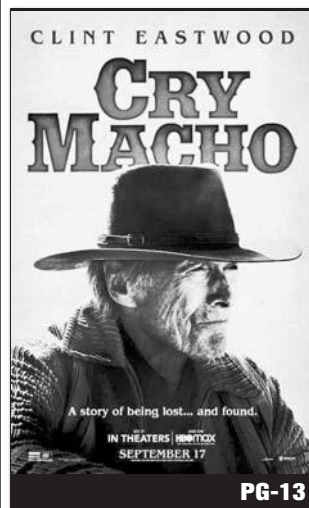
Saturday, October 2nd & 9th
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Special session deals with redistricting

Texas lawmakers will redraw the state's maps for Congress, the Texas House and Senate and the State Board of Education. Formal work began Monday to account for a decade's worth of growth recorded in the 2020 census. The process will play out in backroom map drafting and public hearings and debates over maps meant to go into effect for the 2022 election.

Most political districts have to be redrawn, regardless of political motive.

The state's population has swelled significantly — and unevenly — in the last decade, yet districts are supposed to be equal or, in the case of legislative districts, close to equal in population. On the congressional front, lawmakers must also incorporate

the two additional seats the state earned because of its growth.

Republicans currently hold 23 of the state's 36 congressional districts, 82 of the state's 150 House seats and 18 of the state's 31 Senate seats. But in controlling the

redrawing of the state's maps, they will have to contend with population growth that's largely concentrated in areas where they are already in the minority and among populations that don't generally favor their party.

Crusin' The Brazos

Saturday, October 9, 2021
Downtown Seymour, Texas

- Car Meet
- Poker Run
- 5K Run
- Food
- Goods For Sale
- Live Music
- Games
- Cornhole



VERNON COLLEGE RODEO



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EVENTS CENTER
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