

Single digit license plates to be auctioned

MyPlates.com, the state's vendor for marketing specialty and personalized license plates in Texas, has revealed the plate messages to be auctioned during their first single-digit license plate auction. The rare low digit numbers of "3" and "8" will be auctioned as well as the tenth letter of the alphabet "J".

Fun facts about the number "3":

- "3" was Joe Montana's number when playing for Notre Dame.
- Dale Earnhardt drove the #3 car.
- It is the first odd prime number in mathematics.
- In science, the Roman numeral three stands for a giant star.
- It is considered a good number in Chinese culture because it sounds like the word "alive".
- The phrase "third time's the charm" refers to the superstition that after two failures in any endeavor, a third attempt is more likely to succeed.
- For those that are interested in numerology, then those that walk a Life Path with the Number "3" have unlimited creativity and almost superhuman abilities.

Fun facts about the number "8":

- The number "8" has no ending and loops back upon itself, thus represents Infinity and everything good in the universe which is infinite, such as infinite love, infinite supply, infinite energy and infinite time. In other words, "8" represents complete and unending abundance.
- "8" was the number worn by TCU legendary QD Davey O'Brien, for whom the nation's top quarterback award is named after.
- "8" was also worn by Cowboys Hall of Fame QB Troy Aikman.
- The number "8" is considered to be a lucky number in Chinese and Asian cultures, because it sounds like the word meaning to generate wealth.

Fun facts about the letter "J":

- It is the 10th letter in the modern English alphabet.
 - In English, it is pronounced jay.
 - The "J" can be used as a smiley face icon in the wingdings font.
 - "J" is a high-level general-purpose programming language developed in the 90's
 - "J" is the metric system's symbol for a "joule" energy unit.
 - Its origin stems back to Roman Numerals as a swash letter I and was added to the Italian language during the early 1500's.
- "We are truly excited to make available to the market these three rare single-character license plates by auction for the first time" said Steve Farrar, President of My Plates.

The auction is now active and bids are being accepted. Texans wishing to bid can register at <http://www.myplates.com/auction>.

10 reasons rural community development is hard to do

by Michael Holton, Center for Rural Affairs

1. People don't understand what community development is. Community leaders and resource providers tend to put characteristics in with community development that constrict the definition. Often it is confused

with other development ideas such as economic development, infrastructure, schools, and business development.

Community development is all of these things, but not packaged separately. Contrary to the belief that any one of these can fix or solve problems that need to be addressed, it takes all of them to complete the puzzle we call community development.

The definition of community

development can be stated as, "The process of improving the social, economic, and cultural conditions of a village or small town." Even this definition may come up short, but at least it addresses other facets of what the community is all about.

2. Differences between rural and urban. Agencies and funding sources often try to address community development as if what worked for urban areas will

also work for rural areas. This very seldom happens as they are two different beasts.

Where do we separate the two so that we can all grasp the differences? Maybe we don't have to. This is an area of understanding and perception, so it all leads back to the fundamental, yet simple, conclusion that rural is anything urban is not.

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