



Crash mars spring break return

A Mineola school bus carrying 12 students collided with a car just north of the primary campus Monday morning before the start of school.

The preliminary report by the Dept. of Public Safety said the small school bus was southbound on NW Loop 564 at 7:13 a.m. and crossed the center stripe, colliding with a northbound

2014 Nissan Versa.

Six students were taken to local hospitals for minor injuries, according to the district, while six students were treated at the scene and released.

MISD Superintendent Cody Mize said at Monday night's board meeting that all 12 students were at home recuperating.

He had high praise for

the professionalism of all the first responders who worked the crash and was thankful that the outcome was not worse than it was.

The bus driver was taken to Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler and the driver of the car was taken to UT Health Hospital in Tyler, both with what were reported as non-life threatening injuries.

The investigation is ongoing.

It marked the second crash involving an area school district in recent months.

An Alba-Golden bus was struck by a vehicle that crossed the center line near Grand Saline on FM 17 on Saturday, Feb. 11 as students were on their way to an academic competition. No serious injuries were reported.

Mineola primary costs well over budget

By PHIL MAJOR
publisher@wood.cm

Mineola school trustees got the news on just how much construction inflation has eaten into the money the community approved to build a new school.

Trustees will meet again Thursday to formalize plans for the new primary campus to be built on NE Loop 564.

Jackson Construction's Bryan Parma and J.D. Hale reviewed the bids they re-

ceived from around 160 subcontractors on March 9 and totaled the best bids.

They proposed a guaranteed maximum price of \$23,866,898 to build the 70,000-square-foot facility, with general conditions adding \$3 million for a total of \$26,901,439.

The bond issue had budgeted \$19 million for the project, with another \$10 million for transforming the elementary campus into a career and technical educa-

tion center and upgrades at the primary campus to turn it into an elementary school.

Superintendent Cody Mize said the board will be faced with having to prioritize and execute, adding that the district may not get everything it planned.

He said there has been some added revenue from the interest earned on the bond funds (about \$100,000 a month). There may be some savings on the dirt work for the site. And the

district was able to use federal COVID relief dollars to offset about three-fourths of the \$2 million cost of the new band hall – dollars that the board can consider using for other construction projects.

There is also about \$1 million included in the price for contingencies.

Two primary areas that increased the cost of the structure are the overall inflation

See PRIMARY, Page 4A

Quitman council OKs interim contract for city administrator

By LARRY TUCKER
editor@wood.cm

The Quitman City Council met in executive session and took action concerning City Administrator Rodney Kieke. Kieke participated in the Thursday night meeting remotely.

Keike will serve under an interim contract for \$3,200 per month, basically a part-time schedule, for an undetermined time depending on when new City Administrator James Attaway is ready to perform the duties, Mayor Randy Dunn explained.

Keike and Attaway are on a weekly call for training purposes.

Attaway will be the new city administrator later this spring after his retirement from the U.S. Army. Kieke lives in Galveston but has been returning to Quitman to handle city business until Attaway is ready to take

over.

Dunn also provided a statement on the possibility of the city taking over the Origin Bank facility and housing departments under one roof.

There has been no official action taken.

Origin Bank has offered the current building to the city as they plan on building a new structure in the area between the current facility and Scott's Pharmacy.

"Before we do anything with properties we will spend a lot of time discussing before deciding anything," Dunn said. "The square footage of the building is equal to the police department, library and city hall combined. That's just an example as to how big the building is. There will be community meetings and a lot of discussions before we make a final decision. There has not been a decision and

there won't be a decision made without input."

The council was given a presentation concerning the Memory Health Life Center by Dunn, Annette Simpkins and Darrell Slabaugh.

Dunn said he was doing the presentation as a citizen and not as mayor. The presentation was given earlier last week at a Quitman Development Corporation meeting.

"We will be making this presentation to other groups including city councils, county, school districts and local service clubs throughout Wood County," Dunn noted.

"This complex and program of care will address the critical need in Texas and will serve as a home place for 54 residents at the facility. The center will become a national model for innovative brain care health," Dunn added. "Regional

poverty and lack of access make northeast Texas one of the most medically underserved areas in the country. Medical students and others will train here to learn novel approaches to dementia care and treatment. Education will be provided to all levels of healthcare workers from physicians to certified nursing assistants to nurses, medical technicians and even first responders."

The council approved the city's participation in Sourcewell, a purchasing cooperative. The council approved the purchase of a new backhoe from Doggett of Tyler for \$146,205 using Sourcewell.

Two ordinances were amended and approved by the council. One was concerning animal regulations and the other establishing maintenance funds and oth-

See QUITMAN, Page 4A



Pam Hartman does the honors cutting the anniversary cake for the Mineola Memorial Library at Saturday's celebration of 63 years at its present location. (Monitor photo by Phil Major)

Library history recalled at anniversary event

By PHIL MAJOR
publisher@wood.cm

in May 1950 an open house was held for the 600-book collection.

More than 1,000 more were added in the first year. Mrs. H.C. Chapel was hired as the first librarian for 75 cents an hour.

In 1955 the school needed the room, so quarters were found in the Reneau building on S. Johnson and later in a store front on N. Johnson.

The first had issues with rats while the second had a cricket problem.

A campaign for a permanent home began in 1958 and raised nearly \$15,000.

The Judge family trust was involved, and the Judge family went to visit banker Harry Meredith whose generous donations for the Waco children's home were well-known, but nothing of significance locally.

They convinced Meredith to support the library, and he put up \$50,000, which led to the formation of the Meredith Foundation, which supports numerous enterprises in the city today, with donations surpassing \$1 million a year.

The Judges also convinced Adolphus McDaniel to sell the prime property where the library is located today at N. Pacific and Blair.

A 70x70 building was constructed and deeded to the city with the stipulation that it offer support of \$2,500 per year.

See LIBRARY, Page 4A

County Junior Livestock Show commences Tuesday in Quitman

The Wood County Junior Livestock Show kicks off its run Tuesday, March 28 and concludes Friday, March 31 with the sale of champions at 6 p.m.

All events take place at the new Quitman High School ag barn.

The broiler show will start

the event at 8 a.m. on Tuesday the 28th.

Remaining events that day include the rabbit show at 10 and the ag mechanics show at 1 p.m.

Wednesday begins at 9 a.m. with the lamb show followed by the goat show at 10.

At 1 p.m. the dairy heifer show is scheduled and the hog show gets underway at 6 p.m.

Thursday's activities include the beef heifer show at 8 a.m. in one ring, while the other ring has the remaining breeding classes, sheep, goats and gilts.

The commercial heifer show is next at 6 p.m. and the steer show follows at 7.

Friday morning begins with the floral contest at 8 followed by the food contest at 10, as well as the speaking contest.

Judging of the photography contest is at noon.

Special Olympics returning after three-year absence

Special Olympics returns to Wood County for the first time since 2019.

The Pilot Club of Quitman, along with the Anchor Club, is hosting a sanctioned Special Olympics Track and Field event at the Quitman High School track (1101 E. Goode St.) on Friday, March 24.

The Opening Ceremony and Parade of Athletes will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed

by the individual and team Olympic-style track and field events.

The event is open to the public, and all are welcome to watch and cheer on the athletes. Attendees can park in the parking lot at the north end of the track behind the high school.

There will be about 170 athletes competing in track and field events coordinated by the Pilot Club,

Anchor Club and volunteers. Teams representing nine school districts across Northeast Texas are expected. Following the meet, a hamburger lunch will be served to all athletes and their coaches.

Vanetta Plumlee, event chair said, "This day is always so joyful. I encourage anyone that needs their spirits lifted to come watch these athletes have the best time

of their lives. You'll have one of your best times too. Our club is very grateful to our generous and supportive community of businesses and individuals that sponsor our fundraising. Many of them will be there volunteering to make a special day for our athletes. This event is only possible because of them."

Rain date for the event is March 31.

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One of the nation's top butter makers right here in Wood County

Page 8A

Quitman, Mineola power lifters earn medals at girls state meet



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Area students awarded trip to the capital

Two local students, Noelani Holly and Addison Marcee, were selected as winners of Wood County Electric Co-op's essay contest, earning an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. this summer. They will join more than 150 Texas teens on Youth Tour June 11-19.

Addison is the 16-year-old daughter of Andy and Heather Marcee. She is in 11th grade at Quitman High School, where she participates in varsity softball, volleyball, basketball, powerlifting and cheerleading. Addison is also a member of the National Honor Society and the Key Club, she serves as the historian of the Student Council, and she is president of the Anchor Club.

Noelani is the 17-year-old daughter of Davion and Michelle Holly. She attends Van High School and is in 11th grade where she serves as the secretary of the Student Council, and she is a varsity shot put athlete. She is also a Trio Upward Bound participant through Jarvis Christian College. She is a past participant of East Texas Rural Electric Youth Tour, and she was a participant in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Delta Academy.

Youth Tour has been a Texas co-op tradition since 1965, when the state's electric co-operatives joined to present this unforgettable trip. Educating and mentoring



ADDISON MARCEE

youth fits with co-ops' mission to empower and enrich the communities they serve, and this program is a prime example. Since inception, more than 4,400 Texans have taken part in Youth Tour, and most look back on it as the trip of a lifetime.

This year the students will begin their adventure in Austin for a tour of the state capitol and Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum before boarding a flight to Washington. The itinerary is jam-packed with sightseeing of monuments and museums and meaningful events including a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and meeting with congressional representatives.

Trey Teaff, GM and CEO of WCEC said, "After Noelani's and Addison's week in Washington, they are bound to return home with a deeper understanding of our nation's history and a wealth of experiences that will serve them for a lifetime. Our co-op remains invested in our youth and our community, and I'm looking forward to seeing the impact this trip will have on our delegates."

Quitman looking at two junior high bands next school year

By LARRY TUCKER
editor@wood.com

The Quitman School Board was entertained by three selections from the junior high band program.

Band Director Michael Barron talked about the growth of the program at the junior high level. "The junior program last year had 36 kids in it and that was a combination of seventh and eighth graders.

This group now has 82 students," Barron said. "Next year we are looking at separating the seventh and eighth graders. Thank you to the school board for allowing us to get all the instruments we needed for

our students."

Superintendent Chris Mason reported there are 1,223 students in the district. He reported the remodeling of the IT department has been completed and is in operation.

The board approved a resolution and agreement regarding extracurricular status of the Wood County 4-H organization.

The board approved a memorandum of understanding with Tyler Junior College for dual credit classes.

The board also approved the certification of Mason to the Region VII advisory

See QJSD, Page 4A

Mineola ISD welcomes new principals, finance director

By PHIL MAJOR
publisher@wood.com

The administrative staff at Mineola ISD was filled out with several new hires Monday,

Trustees approved Chase Thomas as the new high school principal, Nicholas Kelley as the elementary vice principal and Keith Sparkman as the assistant superintendent for business and finance.

Thomas comes to Mineola from Lindale ISD where he has been serving as the assistant junior high principal.

Superintendent Cody Mize said the district had five high-quality applicants for the post, and it was one of the toughest decision he has made, but Thomas rose to the top.

A 2002 Mineola High

School graduate will be returning to his hometown to take over the role as the business manager.

Sparkman has been serving as high school principal in Winona and holds degrees in finance and business administration.

Kelley also comes from Lindale ISD where he has served as assistant band director and percussion instructor.

Thomas replaces Mike Sorenson who is retiring after 41 years in education.

Sparkman also replaces a longtime MISD employee, as William Bjork is also retiring.

Kelley fills the vacancy created when Angela Shine was named elementary principal to replace Brittany Thompson who is moving to junior high principal where Kend-

all Gould is also retiring.

Other new employees introduced Monday include new theater teacher Bryant Cox, a graduate of Van High School who studied under former Mineola theater teacher Larry Wisdom.

Donald Myers is the new percussion director for Mineola bands, coming from Wills Point where he held a similar position.

Mize also announced that high school Spanish teacher Coco Moffatt had rescinded her resignation and would continue teaching.

Resignations were approved from the following: Timothy Baggert, Brenna Gournay, Christine Grier, Heather Nutt and Cheyenne Meadors.

New teachers hired include Mackenzie May, Amanda Harris and Han-



DR. CHASE THOMAS

nah Davis.

The contract of Dr. Tammy Willis as director of the Wood County Special Education Co-op was approved.

Teacher contracts for 2023-24 were also approved.

Quitman Library Connections

BY LIBRARIAN DELENE ALLEN

register at www.ged.com.

There is a monthly subscription on that website that must be paid for by each student to access the preparatory study questions for the following

separate exams: mathematical reasoning, reasoning through language arts, social studies and science. Certified instructors are available at the library to offer assistance and guidance.

Friends of the Quitman Public Library have changed its meeting dates to 2nd Thursdays at noon. The next meeting will be April 13, so come and expect a tasty treat provided by Virginia Hoffpauir.

On the agenda is plans for the FOL Spring Book Sale scheduled May 2-5. Friends is an active group of volunteers dedicated to the growth and improvement of the library.

Knitting and crochet instruction class happens each Thursday from 2-4 p.m. in the lobby. Students of all ages and skill levels may bring their own supplies and join this fun group for free instruction and pattern exchange.

The Wood County TX Ge-

nealogical Society invites



family researchers and historians to meet each 2nd Monday at 7 p.m. at the library. Contact Shirley Patrick at 903-

312-8451 for meeting confirmation and follow the society's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/woocotx>.

Whyte Dove Writers' Group meets the 2nd Tuesday from 6-8:30 p.m. at the library. Consider joining this impressive group of local, published authors.

Wood County Metal Detector Club is all about metal detecting and historical research in Wood and surrounding counties. If interested in digging in the dirt and finding things, join the meeting on 1st Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

The In-Focus Photography Club of East Texas meets on the last Monday of each month in the library's community room. Join the club and network with other photographers, share ideas, and participate in photography-related contests and events. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by the 6:30 p.m. meeting and workshop.

Lost in the Woods Painters meet on 2nd Saturdays from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November. Call 903-763-8353 for meeting confirmation.

In the lobby showcase this month is a collection of Agatha Christie books from the collection of Rebekah Yeager of Quitman. Among the interesting items is an Agatha Christie jigsaw puzzle which has 90 references to her life and her works.

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Ruffin makes dean's roll at Baylor U.

More than 5,100 Baylor University students have been named to the Fall 2022 Dean's Academic Honor List, which recognizes Baylor undergraduates for

their outstanding academic work during each semester.

Students honored on the Dean's List earned a minimum semester grade-point average

of 3.70 with no grade lower than a "C" while enrolled in at least 12 graded semester hours.

They include Sunni Ruffin of Mineola, College of Arts & Sciences.

Beekeepers set meetings

Wood County Beekeepers meet the 1st Thursday at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post, 201 W. Broadway, Winnsboro.

Beekeeping 101 is held the 1st Thursday at 6 p.m. in January, April and August at the American Legion Post. Contact woodcountybeekeepers@gmail.com for more info.

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WOOD COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings alternated on a weekly basis

ALBA CITY COUNCIL - first Monday, 6:30 p.m., City Hall.
ALBA LADIES CLUB - fourth Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Alba Community Center. 765-2956

ALBA LIBRARY/MUSEUM BOARD - third Monday every other month, 4 p.m., library building. Everyone welcome.
ALBA-GOLDEN SCHOOL BOARD - second Monday, 7 p.m., high school library, 768-2472.

ALBA-GOLDEN YOUTH FOUNDATION - second Tuesday, elementary gym, 7 p.m. All welcome.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Mineola-United Methodist Church (enter in-between buildings off McDonald, first door on right) Noon meetings - Monday is women's meeting, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday men and women. Evening meetings - Saturday, Tuesday, Thursday 7 p.m., men and women; Senior Center, 308 University, (corner of University and McDonald), Evening meetings, Sunday, Monday 7 p.m., Friday, 8 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Wednesday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., 406 E. Lane Street, Quitman.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Gateway Group, Tues. & Sat. 7 p.m., Wed. noon, Methodist Church, 319 N. Pacific. Mona B. 903-569-6670.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Hawkins Love and Miracles Group, UMC Wesley House, Pine St., Wed., 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m., speaker meeting each last Wednesday.

AL-ANON MINEOLA - Senior Center, 308 University, Thursday, 7:30 p.m., in-person or Zoom (ID 505-537-4690 PW 201220).

AL-ATEEN MINEOLA - Senior Center, 308 University, Thurs. 7:30 p.m., age 13-18, Questions-mineolaateen@outlook.com.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 296 and Auxiliary - fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m., Highway 80, three miles east of Mineola. 903-569-6481. All are invited.

AMERICAN LEGION POST OF WINNSBORO - first Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., 201 West Broadway, in Winnsboro, 214-502-4496.

APET (Animal Preservation of East Texas) Thrift Store - Dog Gone Good Stuff, 915 S. Pacific Street, Mineola, Wednesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 903-569-1250

AUTUMN TRAILS MODEL A CLUB - second Sunday, 1 p.m., various locations in Wood County. See <https://autumntrailsmodelaclub.com> for latest info.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 36 QUITMAN - meets second and fourth Sunday, 4:30 p.m., Scout House behind First United Methodist Church. Joe Degorostiza, 903-763-4127

BOY SCOUT TROOP 385 Mineola - Tuesdays 7 p.m., Mineola Methodist Education Bldg. third floor. New boys/alsums welcome! Chris Jennings 903-569-3531

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY - Humble Baptist, first & third Tuesday 1-4 p.m.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - a support group for those with various hurts, habits or hang-ups, every Monday, 6:30-9 p.m.,

Church on the Rock annex building at 302 S. Stephens. 903-497-6149

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, Elizabeth English Denton chapter - first Saturday except June, July, August and December, 11 a.m. Harvest Acres Baptist Church, 1062 W Loop 564, Mineola. 281-413-3608.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, John Hogg, Sr. Chapter, 3rd Monday except June, July, August & December, 1 PM. Holly Hall, Holly Lake Ranch. 903-520-8697

EASTERN STAR - Quitman Chapter 695, 3rd Tues., dinner 6:00 p.m., meeting 7:00. Flora Masonic Lodge in Quitman.

EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK - third Wednesday, Bud Moody Stadium, Quitman; fourth Thursday, Meredith Stadium, Mineola, 10 a.m.-noon, free fresh food, no qualification.

EAST TEXAS WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS - first Friday at 10 a.m. at Quitman Public Library

FANNIE MARCHMAN GARDEN CLUB - third Wednesday, September - May, Mineola Civic Center, 10 a.m. Visitors welcome. Kim Hughes, president, 903-312-2455.

FLORA MASONIC LODGE #119 - first Tuesday at the lodge hall, Highway 37, Quitman. Covered dish - 6:30 p.m., meeting 7:30 p.m. Study nights for members each Thursday, 7 p.m. at the hall.

FOREVER YOUNG ACTIVITIES CENTER - Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fitness exercises, educational programs, entertainment, fellowship, Bingo and card games. 903-763-8201

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY - second Tuesday at noon, Quitman.

FRIENDS OF THE MINEOLA MEMORIAL LIBRARY - first Thursday, 1 p.m., Mineola Library, 569-2767.

GED TEST SUPPORT - each Thursday 4 - 6 p.m. concurrent with QJSD calendar. Quitman Public Library, 202 E Goode St, Quitman 903-975-5745

GIRLS SCOUTS MINEOLA TROOP 3 - 2nd & 4th Monday, 5:30-7 p.m., Broad Street Church of Christ Annex, Mineola. All Wood County girls kindergarten-12th grade welcome. Crystal Arcand 903-705-2459

HAINESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. - second and fourth

Thursday, 7 p.m., Firehouse downtown Hainesville.

HOLLY LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT - first and third Tuesday at the fire station at Holly Lake Ranch.

KIWANIS CLUB-Mineola - noon Tuesday, Mineola Civic Center Dogwood Room.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF SAINT PETER'S THE APOSTLE COUNCIL #11933 - second Thursday, 7 p.m., at the church, 203 Meadowbrook Drive, Mineola. 903-569-3662.

LAKE COUNTRY CLASSIC CAR CLUB - third Monday, 6:30 p.m. 903-850-3858.

LAKE COUNTRY REPUBLICANS - fourth Tuesday, 6 p.m., Ancona Restaurant, Quitman.

LAKE COUNTRY RV TRAVELERS - of Good Sam Int'l. Monthly, RV parks w/in 150 m. radius. 903-569-3677 or 3069.

LAKE COUNTRY SYMPHONIC BAND - rehearsals Thursdays at Mineola Middle School Band Room. 7 p.m. 903-569-2300.

LAKE HOLBROOK ASSOCIATION - first Saturday, February, May, August and November, Harold Simmons Community Center, 5:30 p.m. directors, 6 p.m. all members and guests welcome. 903-569-0223.

LAKE FORK SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION - Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Lovell's Restaurant, Lake Fork Marina. Public invited.

MINEOLA BAND BOOSTERS - first Tuesday, 6 p.m., middle school band hall. All middle and high school band parents invited.

MINEOLA LIONS CLUB - for information on meetings call 903-638-1596.

MINEOLA MARINE CORPS LEAGUE Det. #1278, 3rd Tuesday, 6 p.m. meal, 7 p.m. meeting. American Legion Building, 2015 E. Hwy. 80, Mineola. 903-497-3030.

MINEOLA SCHOOL BOARD - third Monday, Admin. Bldg., Loop 564, 7 p.m. dependent on schedule changes.

MINEOLA CITY COUNCIL - fourth Monday, 5:30 p.m., City Hall. Public welcome. Call City Hall for changes in November and December because of holidays.

MINEOLA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB - third Monday, 5:30 p.m., high school lobby.

To add or change a listing to the calendar, email publisher@wood.com or editor@wood.com or call 903-569-2442 or 903-763-4522



County facility produces butter by the truckload

By JOHN ARBTER
woodctystringer@gmail.com

There is something reassuring about large industrial facilities. The hum of ventilation, the repetitious clattering of machines, the warning whistles and bells of large equipment moving, it is all somehow comforting and awe-inspiring.

It is also a source of pride. ‘We made this’ is not a thought taken lightly. Not only must someone have planned the intricate paths of machinery and service lines, but it had to be built, and built correctly.

There are not many such industrial facilities in Wood County, but there are a few. Just outside of Winnsboro, on the north side of State Hwy. 11, stands one of the county’s own: Keller’s Creamery.

Owned and operated by the co-operative, Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), the 199,000 sq. ft. plant sits on 256 acres. It was built, according to Plant Manager Dean Heinert, to capture the boom in local dairy production in the 1990s.

Interestingly, while milk processing is yet a significant part of plant operations, Keller’s Creamery is, today, all about butter. It stands as the second largest producer of butter in the nation – last year churning out 102 million pounds of creamy

goodness.

After scrubbing up twice – once with hand-soap and once with alcohol – and donning a sterile lab coat, booties, facecloth and hard-hat, Heinert led a walkabout of the facility. It started at a butter churn the size of a 40-foot shipping container.

“We had this one built for us in Germany by Westphalia,” Heinert explained, “It houses upper chambers which compress as much of the moisture out of the cream as possible, then two very large screw-shaped churns.”

The plant manager went on to explain that making butter is all about removing as much moisture and air as possible and then re-adding it at a controlled rate, time and temperature.

In addition to butter, Keller’s also produces butter blends – what local shoppers would know as ‘spreadables’ and anhydrous butter oil, which is butter fat separated and mixed with canola or olive oil.

The three large, independent, butter churns feed a number of packaging machines. These packaging lines are a mechanical engineer’s dream, as the precision with which they operate is impressive.

Interestingly, the packaging machines are old technology. As Heinert explained, “Butter is an old



The Dairy Farmers of America facility just outside Winnsboro city limits on Tx 11. (Monitor photo by John Arbter)

business – you find something that works and you stick with it.”

Keller’s Creamery packages butter from single 4-oz sticks to 55-pound blocks used in commercial bakeries.

The production area is impressive for another reason. The service lines and product paths are all stainless steel. Heinert, who started his career with Keller’s in 1999, could easily explain the process.

Given his tutelage even an inexperienced hand could begin to follow the production process, which at first appears like a maze of stainless steel.

All butter leaving the facility passes a number of checks, for consistency, weight and temperature. Heinert explained that ensuring the purity of the products is high on the priority list. Even the path which was chosen for the tour was taken so as to minimize any chance of contamination.

DFA Dairy Brands, still known locally as Keller’s, is a critical cog in national butter production. As a con-

sumable, butter has made quite a market comeback in the past ten years.

Most of the cream received by Keller’s is shipped in from either Garden City, Kan. or Portales, N.M. The raw milk is drawn mostly from the southeast, Florida and Georgia specifically.

Winnsboro folks can attest to the number of trucks in and out of Keller’s on a 24-hour basis. The plant keeps three of four loading bays busy round the clock.

Heinert explained, “The nature of our business is such that we must carefully balance the amount and timeliness of our incoming milk and cream shipments with our ability to put quality products out the door.”

The complexity of that task is driven home when walking through the shipping bay.

Cooled to 38 degrees F, the shipping bay dwarfs those at big-box retail stores. Flow-through, railed, pallet racks reach to the overhead.

What is headed out for distribution are three types of products: DFA Brand products, private label products

and cooking stock for culinary schools and chefs. In addition to the butter products, that also includes buttermilk, condensed milk and powdered milk.

A few of the DFA brands produced by Keller’s include Keller’s, Borden, Falfurrias (yes, the same Falfurrias as was first made in Falfurrias, Texas), and Plugra. The plant also provides to a number of private concerns as well as large commercial bakeries and supermarkets.

Like every step of the production process, everything is tracked, including any waste from the processes.

One advantage to dairy is that excess from the nearly-closed process can be used for other products. “We work hard to keep waste a mere fraction,” Heinert offered.

The water which is culled from the butter-making process is harvested, purified and used to clean the system lines and machinery.

Of course, the whole facility comes to a sudden stop without the 170-200 employees. Dairy production is naturally a cyclical endeavor

as cows give milk aplenty through the winter/spring, but measurably less in the summer.

Logically then, Keller’s increases employee numbers to around 200 during what is known as the ‘spring flush,’ and employee numbers tail off during the hottest months of the year.

“We are running at near capacity right now,” Heinert commented.

Heinert, who is in his 24th year with the dairy, speaks highly of the DFA and the employees who make the magic happen, day and night.

“Our workforce makes an incredible team,” he commented, “and we simply could not do without them. It is my personal objective to make DFA Winnsboro an employer of choice for Winnsboro and the surrounding area. We are headed in that direction.”

When one sees those trucks run east and west on Highway 11, it is reassuring to know that a company in Wood County supplies the nation with a staple food stock found in every kitchen.



Dean Heinert, Plant Manager at DFA Dairy Brands (Keller’s Creamery). (Monitor photo by John Arbter)

Obituaries

STEPHEN KENT GIBSON 1949-2023



Funeral services for Stephen Kent Gibson, 73, of Quitman are scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, March 25, 2023 at the First United Methodist Church of Quitman with Bro. Fred Morrow officiating. Interment will follow at the Golden City Cemetery in Golden, with services under the direction of Lowe-Gardner Funeral and Cremations in Quitman. Visitation will be one hour prior to the

service at 1 p.m.

Kent was born in Tyler on June 28, 1949 to the late Morris Blane and Verlon (Kennemer) Gibson. He was raised in Golden and graduated from Quitman High School in 1967. He earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting from East Texas State University in Commerce. On July 7, 1972, Kent married Vicki Lynn Martin in Mount Pleasant. They lived in Tyler, Mount Pleasant, Hughes Springs and Pittsburg before moving to Quitman in 1984, where they raised

their two sons, Brad and Blane.

Kent began his work as an accountant in Hughes Springs, working alongside his cousin, Carroll Kennemer. He was the Camp County auditor and Wood County auditor for several years before going to work for James Cavender. He was the accounting manager for Cavender’s Boot City, where he worked for 26 years before retiring in 2018.

He was involved with the Quitman Rotary and served as treasurer for the Quitman Youth Foundation. He enjoyed watching sports and loved being with his grandkids.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Vicki Gibson, in 2014; and his parents, M.B. and Verlon Gibson.

He is survived by his sons and daughter-in-law, Brad and Cara Gibson of Golden and Blane Gibson of Windsor, Colo.; grandchildren, Conner and Braxten Gibson of Golden, Camden and Landry Gibson of Windsor, Colo.; sister, Mary Woodall of Duncanville; brother, Jerry H. and wife, Lynda Gibson of Quitman; close cousins, Larry Gibson of Golden, Susan Gibson Overstreet of Sunnyvale, Carroll Kennemer of Palestine and Stan and Pam Smith of Quitman; sisters-in-law, Joyce Raney and Nicki Taylor; brothers-in-law, Bill Cox and Ron Raney, all of Camden, Ark.; special friends and neighbors, Tony and Kathy Gilbreath of Quitman, and honorary son, John Chatham of Pittsburg.

Serving as pallbearers will be family members, Mike Cox, Greg Cox, Jeremy Taylor, Marty Billingsley, Rodney Raney, Steven Woodall, Michael Woodall, Jerry L. Gibson, Zach Gibson, Clay Smith and Chuck Black.

STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER (CHRIS) MITCHELL 1968-2023

Stephen Christopher (Chris) Mitchell, 54, of Las Cruces, N.M. passed away on March 6, 2023 at his residence, after a lifetime spent striving to brighten the lives of all he met.



A celebration of life service will be held at Coronado Baptist Church in El Paso on Saturday, April 15, at 11 a.m.

Chris was born on Oct. 15, 1968 in El Paso to Pat and Carolyn (Wininger) Mitchell, where he lived until the family moved to Wood County in 1977.

Chris was a 1987 graduate of Mineola High School. He attended East Texas State University and the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), where he met his bride, Selena Stair.

The newlywed couple moved to Ohio for Chris’s graduate studies at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Then, he stage-managed national touring companies of Broadway shows and a resident Cirque du Soleil show at Downtown Disney, opened a show at Radio City Music Hall and worked with the New York City Opera at Lincoln Center, among other achievements.

When the World Trade Center twin towers were attacked in 2001, he lived in Queens, NY. It changed the course of his life, inspiring him toward a career in medicine. He completed additional studies at UTEP before graduating from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

He was an inquisitive and gentle soul with a sharp wit, thirst for knowledge, life-long love of theatre, passion for his pets, and devotion to friends and family.

Survivors include his loving wife, Selena Stair; parents, Pat and Carolyn Mitchell of Mineola; three brothers, Patrick and wife Lauren Mitchell of El Paso, Michael and wife Donna Mitchell of Houston, and Matthew Mitchell of Mineola; sister, Lori and husband Paul Ray of Mineola; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

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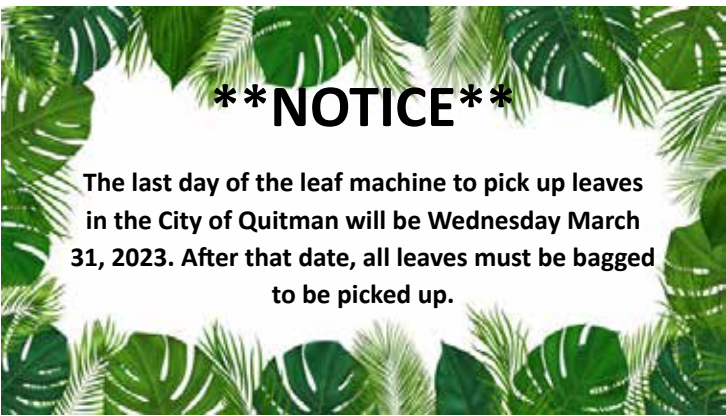
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****NOTICE****

The last day of the leaf machine to pick up leaves in the City of Quitman will be Wednesday March 31, 2023. After that date, all leaves must be bagged to be picked up.



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Alba-Golden HS one-act play advances to area

The Alba-Golden High School one-act play has advanced to the area competition. The troupe earned the following individual awards: All-star crew - Alex Reyes Honorable Mention All-star cast - Grace Longoria All-Star cast - Lizzie Whitecotton.

LIBRARY

From page 1A

It opened in March 1960. Meredith was given a gold key to the library, an artifact that was later donated to the library and whose whereabouts are being sought. A wing was added in 1971, which houses what Jeff Hurley described as one of the best genealogy sections in East Texas. A non-profit was formed in 1974, and in 1979, with the city’s support dwindling due to its financial condition, the 90-day clause was invoked and the library reverted to private ownership. The Meredith Foundation agreed to support the operations, and it remains in operation today with no financial support from any government entity. Hurley pointed out that while the library has 46,000 items, it can access “the combined knowledge of the entire world” through its computers, which patrons use for numerous tasks, including finding employment. The library has also been at the forefront of social justice, noting in the board minutes from 1954 that any and all Negroes who wish to have membership will be welcomed without restrictions. Hurley noted that the library once hosted a Tasting Bee. This year a restaurant week was held in support of the library, and board chairman Lou Steele said there will be another held next year, bigger and better.

PRIMARY

From page 1A

in construction materials since the bond was proposed more than a year ago and an increase in the size and scope of the building to ensure it is built to meet the district’s future needs. A bid alternate for \$1.6 million to add a third wing of 7,000 square feet was also received. Hale and Parma noted that they had revised some of the proposals for possible savings and had included those in their price, such as roofing and landscaping/irrigation. Trustees meet at 6 p.m. Thursday at the administration building to consider the project. Ground breaking is targeted for the first week in April.

QUITMAN

From page 1A

er special funds. City Attorney Jim McLeroy said the 24-page document tracks most of the state animal regulations. “We can’t make our ordinance less restrictive than state restrictions, but we can make it a little more restrictive than state law,” he said. “People aren’t going to be able to put dogs out on chains or out on tethers and just leave them. In order to maintain animals, you have to keep them inside, keep on a leash or keep them in a fence. Hopefully it will solve some issues we have and with enforcement in this last year.” In Fire Chief Scott Wheeler’s February activity report, the local volunteer department answered 44 calls with 12 in the city and 32 outside the city. They were not assisted by other fire departments in February. To date, the department has answered 106 calls, an increase over the 84 calls at this time last year. The next city council meeting will be April 20 at 6 p.m. at the Quitman Public Library Community Room.

QISD

From page 1A

committee. The board approved an order declaring unopposed candidates elected to the board and canceled the May 6 election. Incumbent Vanessa Simpkins and former board member James Hicks will serve in those two spots. Incumbent Jane Herring decided not to seek another term on the board. The board also approved the selection of Rutherford, Taylor & Company, P.C. as district auditors for the year ending Aug. 31, 2023.

WOOD COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

Spiritual and Material Possessions

Various financial publications periodically list the wealthiest men and women in the world. These people are usually considered to be quite successful. It seems that material possessions and wealth are one way that we measure a person’s success and accomplishments. Having material possessions is fine and necessary for our existence. However, spiritual values are necessary for our relationship with God. Our Lord loves us and cares about all of our needs, especially our spiritual ones. We are told in the Bible, “What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul” (Mark 8:36). Throughout history, there have been numerous people in the world that may have been materially poor, yet were wealthy with God’s love. A wise person takes care of both their spiritual and material needs, and they recognize that God’s blessings are more important than the riches of the world.

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

K.J.V. 3 John 2

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Bright Star Baptist Church
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903-473-4064 • Pr. Jerry Jackson Jr.
Enon Baptist Church
7133 TX-182, Alba
903-765-2014 • Pastor Reggie Day
First Baptist Church of Alba
219 E. Holly, Alba
903-765-2471 • Pr. Kelly B. Burton
Lake Fork Baptist
9483 W. FM 515, Alba
903-473-9523 • Dr. Zachary Tunnell
Alba Church of Christ
Off Hwy 69, Alba
John Ratliff
Church of Christ of Alba
105 W. Holley St., Alba
903-765-9450 • George Filpansick
Alba Methodist Church
170 E. Holley St., Alba
903-473-2411 • Rev. Beverly Tune
Amazing Grace Fellowship Church
7405 US Hwy 69 E., Alba
Pastor Byron George
Open Door Church
633 CR 1560, Alba
903-765-3587 • Randy Bohannan

Golden

Cottonwood Assembly of God
8481 FM 779, Golden
903-765-2675 • Pastor Otis Lee
Golden First Baptist Church
CR 2940, Golden
903-768-2258 • Dr. Mark Neeley
Pilgrim Rest #2 Baptist Church
205 CR 2376, Golden
903-768-2653 • Pastor David Hendricks
Golden Bible Church
CR 2290, Golden
903-768-2700
Golden Church of Christ
FM 779, Golden
903-768-2712 • James Stringer
Golden Methodist Church
658 FM 1799, Golden
903-768-2268 • Pastor Jim Pickens

Hawkins

First Assembly of God
102 Harris St., Hawkins
903-769-3835 • Pastor Bryan Peck
Liberty Baptist
288 CR 3650, Hawkins
903-769-2250 • Pastor Bob Sexton
Trinity Lutheran Church
3718 FM 2869 • Hawkins
903-769-4065 • Kyle Kirk
Pine Mills Pentecostal Church
Hwy 14, Hawkins
903-857-2527 • Pastor M.D. Thornhill
Open Altar Church
PO Box 1511, Hawkins TX
903-569-7603

Holly Lake

Holy Spirit Catholic Church
1612 S. 2869, Holly Lake
903-769-3235 • Rev. Michael T. Snyder
Holly Tree Bible Church
1620 FM 2869, Holly Lake Ranch
903-769-3501 • Pastor Tim Mink, PhD

Mineola

First Assembly of God
1917 N US Hwy 69, Mineola
903-569-9882 • Pastor Jerry Williams
Iglesia Primera Asamblea de Dios
511 N. Second, Mineola
903-569-5537
Calvary Baptist Church
779 FM 49, Mineola
903-768-2313 • Pastor Donald Masters
Central Baptist Church
602 N. Line St., Mineola
903-569-3203
First Baptist Church
204 N. Johnson St., Mineola
903-569-3873 • Pastor Phillip Casper
Freedom Baptist Church
155 CR 2201, Mineola
903-638-8555 • Pastor Don Smith
Hainesville Baptist Church
3368 FM 49, Mineola
903-569-3212 • Pastor Terry Davis
Harvest Acres Baptist Church
1062 W. State Loop 564, Mineola
903-569-5351 • Pr. David W. Burcham
Hubbard Chapel Baptist Church
Hwy 778, Mineola
Pastor Rick Ellington
Legacy Baptist Fellowship
415 W. McDonald, Mineola
903-316-0552

Macedonia Missionary Baptist
1555 CR 3875, Mineola
903-769-5618 • Pastor Thomas Ricks
Mt. Enterprise Baptist Church
3331 S. State Hwy 37, Mineola
903-569-2124 • Jonathan Allen
Mt. Pisgah Baptist
4995 FM 49, Mineola
Pastor Tim Nall
New Hope Baptist Church
3855 FM 1801, Mineola
903-569-3760 • Pastor Michael Mize
Rose Hill Baptist Church
1420 CR 2460, Mineola
903-569-5746 • Pastor Ben Graves
Sand Springs Baptist Church
3208 CR 2330, Mineola
903-569-9350 • Pastor Brandon Gray
Silver Lake Baptist Church
150 E Hwy. 80, Mineola
903-569-2433 • Pastor Mike Sullivan
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
304 S. Stone St., Mineola
903-569-8722 • Pr. Demethruis T. Boyd
Lake Country Bible Church
1402 N. Pacific St., Mineola
903-569-5730

St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
203 Meadowbrook, Mineola
903-569-3665 • Pastor Lawrence Love
First Christian Church Independent
209 N. Pacific, Mineola
903-569-2537 • Pastor Allen Knox
Broad St. Church of Christ
440 W. Broad, Mineola
903-569-2046

North Loop Church of Christ
326 W. FM 564, Mineola
903-569-3117 • Clark Dugger
Jamestown Church of Christ
22022 FM1253, Mineola
903-569-0516

Mineola Church of Christ
1621 N. Pacific, Mineola
903- 569-5571

Southside Church of Christ
527 Read St., Mineola
903-569-6812 • Malcolm Duncan

St. Dunstan’s Episcopal
800 N. Johnson, Mineola
903-569-2478 • Right Rev. F. Lawton

Jehovah’s Witnesses
Hwy 69 S., Mineola
903-569-6370

East Chapel CME Church
723 South Pacific, Mineola
903-569-6770 • Pastor Randy Harrison

First Methodist Church
612 N. Newsom St., Mineola
903-569-5426 • Rev. John Thomas

Smith Chapel Methodist
670 FM 1804, Mineola
903-569-9187 • Pastor Jim Pickens

Johnson Chapel Methodist
224 Elliott, Mineola
903-569-9536 • Pastor Tabitha Rankin

First Church of the Nazarene
503 N. Line, Mineola
903-569-3057 • Rev. Randy Larpeur

Bethel Worship Center
2973 State Hwy 80 E., Mineola
903-569-8708

Church of the Lakes at Enchanted Lakes
22410 CR 455, Mineola
903-569-5101

Holy Ghost Central Church
Hwy 69-10 N of Mineola
903-768-2262 • Pastor Rick Childers

Mineola Christian Fellowship
2207 W. US Hwy 80, Mineola
903-569-8884

Northside Church
1718 N. Pacific, Mineola
903-569-3872 • Steve Prestridge, Pr.

Safe Harbor Prophetic Ministries
5411 Hwy 37, Mineola
903-569-8388 • Prs. Andy & Irene Madding

Spur on Ministries
2670 S. State Hwy 37, Mineola
863-697-0469 • Pastor Mike Fletcher

New Life Pentecostal
201 W. FM 564, Mineola
903-569-5750 • Pastor David Bethel

Seventh Day Adventist
1904 Old Tyler Hwy., Mineola
903-569-6930 • Pastor Richard Rose

Quitman

First Assembly of God
909 E. Goode St., Quitman
903-763-2901 • Pastor Ken Otwell

Clover Hill Baptist
FM 69, Quitman
903-967-7440 • Pr. Mark Thompson

Ebenezer Baptist
FM 14, Quitman
903-967-2848 • Pastor Richard Goodwin

Faith Baptist Church
405 S. Hart St., Quitman
903-492-3535 • Pastor Mike Midkiff
First Baptist, Quitman
301 W. Lane, Quitman
903-763-4142 • Rev. Joel McMullen

Forest Hill Baptist Church
1880 TX-37, Quitman
903-967-3420 • Pastor Fred Morrow

Mt. Calvary Baptist
1119 E. Goode St., Quitman
903-967-2392 • Darrell Pixley

Muddy Creek Baptist
FM 69, Quitman
903-967-3384 • Jerry Williams

Myrtle Springs Baptist
2185 FM 2225, Quitman
903-878-2504 • David Cook

New Life Baptist Fellowship
7365 Main St., Quitman
903-763-1405 • Charles Brewster

Rock Hill Baptist
3543 FM 2966, Quitman
903-878-2762 • Ken Goodson

Horizon Church ETX
155 S. FM 14, Quitman
Pastor Garry O’Dell Phillips

Church of Christ
111 Winnsboro, Quitman
903-763-5544 • Jordan Blair

Mt. Calvary Church of God in Christ
209 Bookman St., Quitman
903-780-0979 • Pr. Bobby H. Jones

Bethel Temple Fellowship
680 CR 2150, Quitman
940-206-5630 • Rabbi Linda Gutierrez

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1128 E Goode St, Quitman
214-929-1889 • Bishop Grady Taylor

Brooks Chapel United Methodist
207 Clark St., Quitman
903-763-4062 • Tabitha Rankin

First United Methodist
406 E. Lane St., Quitman
903-763-4127 • Rev. Mike Cline

Liberty Methodist
E. Goode St./Hwy. 154, Quitman
903-967-7691 • Rev. Mike Cline

Church on the Rock
302 S. Main St., Quitman
903-763-4588 • David Jackson

Country Fellowship of Wood County
709 Oakwood Dr, Quitman
Andrew McQueen

Living Water Fellowship
2574 FM 2088, Quitman
903-967-2000 • David Hartley

Wood County Cowboy Church
3435 FM 2088, Quitman
903-535-9155 • Chase Pope

Victory Fellowship United Pentecostal Church
1600 N. State Hwy 37, Quitman
903-967-2628 • Pastor Keith Clark

Winnsboro

Cartwright Baptist
267 CR 4896, Winnsboro
903-967-2818 • Pastor: Bro. Cody Mize

Crossroads Baptist
1314 CR 4870, Winnsboro
Pastor Jeremy Pierce

East Point Baptist
5029 FM 2088, Winnsboro
Bro. James Scott

Little Hope Baptist Church
CR 3990 & CR 3984, Winnsboro
430-502-5855 • Pr. James Young Jr.

Sharon Baptist
176 CR 4890, Winnsboro
903-629-7202 • Perry Shirley

St. Ann’s Catholic
1010 W. FM 515, Winnsboro
903-629-7889 • Mani Mathai

Central Christian Church
110 Sage St., Winnsboro
903-342-5883 • F. Kevin Hollowell

Perryville Methodist Church
FM 852, Perryville, 8 miles SE of Winnsboro • Glenda Mendoza

First Presbyterian
302 S Chestnut St, Winnsboro
903-342-3011 • Rev. Dr. Jerry Carpenter

Yantis

Sweet Fellowship
6050 FM 2966, Yantis
903-473-2673 • Pastor Perry Crisp

Covenant Reformed Baptist
FM 515 & 852, Yantis
Pastor Tony Jackson


First Baptist, Yantis
100 Church St., Yantis
903-383-2393 • Pastor Danny Parker

White Oak Fellowship Yantis
116 PR 5922, Yantis
903-383-2310 • Pastor Jimmy Rogers



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Wood County Sheriff’s Report

MARCH 8
Cpl. Baldwin, cows out, County Road 1900. While herding the cows back, deputy observed multiple dead cows, case forwarded to investigations.
Deputy Kovic, theft, Private Road 7687; property owner advised trailer stolen, entered as stolen.
Cpl. Baldwin, animal complaint, County Road 1406; deputy observed horses malnourished, person from rescue group observed cows malnourished, owner advised deputy would follow up to check welfare of horses.
Deputy Hughes, stolen vehicle, County Road 1370; owner advised her ex knew vehicle location, denied knowing, case forwarded to investigations.
Sgt. Skinner, Deputy Hughes, criminal mischief, Holly Lake Ranch. Security advised male drove through gate again, case forwarded to investigations.
Deputy Arellano, suspicious person, County Road 4591; owner advised unknown female walking on property. Deputies located female, who had two warrants. Elizabeth Woodward, 38, Longview arrested for outstanding warrants.
Two transports.

MARCH 9
Cpl. Baldwin, cows out, County Road 1900; cows herded back, property owner will receive another citation.
Cpl. Mayer, suicidal person, Alba. Deputies located female who went with EMS for treatment.
Deputy Arellano, agency assist, County Road 4805. Hopkins County advised vehicle involved in hit and run may be at residence, determined vehicle not at residence.
Sgt. Cox, Cpl. Baldwin, suspicious person, FM 2088. Deputies located subject, who advised he was looking for person, the person had quit taking medication that could have caused incident.

MARCH 10
Sgt. Morrison, Deputy Croney, Deputy Comeaux, warrant service, County Road 3147. Avery Hartness, 76, arrested for outstanding warrant.
Deputy Croney, Deputy Comeaux, identity theft, County Road 2445; caller received emails of someone attempting to open account in his name, contacted his bank, incident report completed.
Sgt. Morrison, Cpl. Cooper, war-

rant service, Holly Lake Ranch, attempt to serve active warrant for Philip James Emerson, 49, neighbor advised Emerson came outside, got mail, ran back into residence. After multiple attempts to make contact with Emerson, entry forced into residence, Emerson located, arrested, transported, booked for criminal mischief warrant.
Sgt. Morrison, firearm found, FM 49; handgun checked, found to be clear.
Deputy Burdick, traffic stop, FM 778; occupant arrested for possession of controlled substance.
Deputy Way, abandoned vehicle, County Road 1960; someone wrecked vehicle, left on property, trooper given vehicle information, report completed.

MARCH 11
Deputy Croney, warrant service, County Road 2165. Shane Davis, 26, Quitman arrested for possession of controlled substance.
Sgt. Morrison, Cpl. Cooper, assault, FM 779. Both parties advised verbal argument became physical. Due to conflicting stories and injuries, both parties arrested for assault.
Sgt. Williams, Deputy Burdick, agency assist, Mineola. Mineola PD advised there had been a shooting, deputies able to secure crime scene.
Deputy Way, disturbance, County Road 4641; both parties advised physical altercation occurred, parties separated to avoid further conflict.
Multiple animal calls.

MARCH 12
Sgt. Morrison, Cpl. Cooper, warrant service, Hwy. 69; wanted individual observed inside residence, refused to come outside. Deputies forced entry, Irae Lowe, 52, Mineola arrested for outstanding warrant.
Sgt. Morrison, Deputy Croney assisted Mineola PD with vehicle search. Croney transported inmate to county jail.
Deputy Pollard, suspicious circumstance, County Road 1500; property owner found game camera that did not belong to them, did not know who put it on property. After looking at pictures, deemed camera had recently been placed.
Sgt. Williams, Deputy Burdick, shots fired, County Road 2299; caller stated as he bent over outside, heard loud bang and what he believed to be pellets flying over his head, did not observe firearm in neighbor’s hand. Deputies unable to make con-

tact with neighbor.
One agency assist.

MARCH 13
Deputy Gould, illegal dumping, FM 17; property owner observed sewer truck dumping waste into drain, wrote down vehicle information, driver left scene.
Deputy Comeaux, Deputy Kovic, terroristic threat, County Road 2842; caller received threatening messages in January, worried, due to recent events from suspect. Deputies observed messages to not be direct threat, report completed.
Cpl. Mayer, welfare check, Hwy. 154; caller’s husband back on drugs, seeing things. Deputies checked on individual who denied EMS, not a threat to himself.
Deputy Hughes, structure fire, County Road 3494; property owner woke up in the night to shed on fire, recently ran two people off her property.
Deputy Arellano, disturbance, County Road 3920. Parties advised argument occurred due to female not giving male a ride. Deputy transported male to nearby gas station to separate parties.

MARCH 14
Deputy Kovic, Deputy Comeaux, terroristic threat; victim advised he has been harassed by neighbor who doesn’t like him cleaning up neighborhood, victim was advised a threat did not occur, but incident will be documented in case of future issues.
Deputy Kovic, Deputy Comeaux, animal bite, Holly Lake Ranch; victim stated customer’s dog bit him, he refused medical treatment. Deputies will follow up with dog owner for shot records.
Deputy Gould, suicidal person, Private Road 8693; subject asked for deputy’s gun to harm himself, subject transported by EMS for treatment.
Sgt. Skinner, Cpl. Mayer assisted Van police. Van PD advised pursuit coming into Wood County, ended in Mineola, suspect arrested.
Cpl. Mayer, motorist assist, Hwy. 154; observed vehicle with flat, after checking on driver, did not have tools to change tire. Deputy able to change tire.
Cpl. Mayer, Deputy Hughes, assault after the fact, County Road 4440; victim assaulted by husband, he assaulted a child, suspect later made threat directed at victim in the jail. James Short, 39, arrested for assault family violence, CPS contacted.

Mineola Police Report

MARCH 11
5:32 a.m., unknown offense, Graham, people outside talking loudly, unable to locate.
9:57 a.m., welfare concern, 600 blk E. Broad, transient advised bitten by snake and having trouble walking, taken by EMS.
4:26 p.m., found property, N. Newsom, bag of weed left in dressing room, picked up by officer.
6:44 p.m., unknown offense, Debby, subject asleep, checked by EMS, waiting on someone to drive him home.
6:57 p.m., unknown offense, NE Loop 564, three juveniles shoplifting, released to parents, no charges.
8:40 p.m., unknown offense, N. Line, items vandalized.
8:49 p.m., welfare concern, Brenda, unable to contact grandmother, has been under the weather but otherwise OK.

MARCH 12
1:17 a.m., welfare concern, 100 blk N. Pacific, subject asleep at the wheel, no signs of impairment.
1:33 a.m., disturbance, S. Line, unable to locate, staff advised subjects left.
1:45 a.m., disturbance, Padgett, emergency call about subject with gunshot to leg, first aid given, EMS on scene, victim transported to Tyler hospital, Kelsee Kyle Green, Mineola, arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon causing serious bodily injury-family violence.
7:39 a.m., suspicious vehicle, Inwood, vehicle appears to be stuck, water line and mailbox damaged, wrecker removed vehicle.
8:41 a.m., drunken subject, N. Pacific, female subject nearly hit subject’s vehicle, driver’s eyes bloodshot and glazed over, subject refused medical attention, Chastity Lynn Weems, Winnsboro arrested for driving while intoxicated with open alcohol container.
10:13 a.m., alarm, N. Pacific, everything OK.
10:30 p.m., reckless driver, N. Hwy. 69 at CR 2373, unable to maintain lane, driving slowly.

MARCH 13
2:46 a.m., suspicious person, NE Loop 564, person not impaired, advised if person returned unwanted, call police to have criminal trespass issued.
8:00 a.m., alarm, N. Newsom, everything OK.
10:03 a.m., found property, NE Loop 564, returned to owner.
10:57 a.m., alarm, Brenda, doors and windows secure, residence

cleared.
12:47 p.m., harassment, W. Broad, ex-tenant video taping from sidewalk, no crime committed.
4:22 p.m., public assist, 300 Greenville, fingerprints.
4:36 p.m., reckless driver, S. Pacific at McWhorter, high speed, in and out of traffic, unable to locate.

MARCH 14
1:23 a.m., information, N. Pacific, calls received from restricted number giving personal information, no report.
2:58 a.m., welfare concern, W. Kilpatrick, subject in neighboring house screaming and crying, subject declined medical help.
6:14 a.m., public assist, 1200 blk N. Pacific, pipe in roadway, removed.
7:22 p.m., assist other agency, W. Hwy. 80 at FM 1253, Van police in pursuit on FM 1253 toward Hwy. 80, vehicle stopped at 1400 blk N. Pacific, Mineola units blocking intersections only.
8:28 p.m., assault, NE Loop 564, suspect left going north on Hwy. 37, Quitman units stopped vehicle, Joseph David McKinney arrested by Quitman police.
10:03 p.m., trespassing, Front, female subject on train with no ID or ticket, taken to Salvation Army in Tyler.

MARCH 15
4:28 a.m., suspicious person, 2200 blk N. Pacific, male walking in lobby, causing no problems.
11:10 a.m., assist other agency, S. Hwy. 69 at CR 431, two vehicle wreck with one rollover.
11:38 a.m., public assist, 100 blk E. Broad, subject wanted officer to be aware he was going to relative’s house armed, has had problems with neighbors in the past.
12:20 p.m., suspicious person, NE Loop 564, subject acting strangely, transported to Lindale for further transport to Tyler.
12:45 p.m., suspicious person/vehicle, W. Front at Stone, unable to locate.
12:59 p.m., suspicious person, NE Loop 564, subject trying to get into vehicle, vehicle owner knew the person.
4:01 p.m., found property, CR 2740, wallet, owner picked up.
4:54 p.m., alarm, W. Patten, residence locked and secure.
5:56 p.m., trespassing, Clara, someone on security camera, turned camera around, directed patrol issued.
7:42 p.m., public assist, 1400 blk N. Pacific, debris in roadway, re-

moved.
7:56 p.m., theft, Goodson Cir., let person use cell phone, took off with it, returned, not stolen.
8:17 p.m., assist other agency, Wigley, sheriff’s office warrant service.
9:37 p.m., alarm, W. Patten, homeowner having issues with alarm.
11:14 p.m., city ordinance violation, W. Blair at Pegues, loud music, turned down.
11:52 p.m., unknown offense, 300 blk Greenville, driver needed directions.

MARCH 16
7:16 a.m., public assist, 100 blk N. Pacific, lumber in roadway, cleared.
12:19 p.m., motor vehicle accident, 2100 blk N. Pacific, two vehicles.
3:15 p.m., public assist, N. Newsom, vehicle repossession dispute.
3:51 p.m., vehicle stop/arrest, 300 Greenville, Hunter Wright arrested for no insurance, no registration.
4:48 p.m., information, Meadowbrook, power line smoking, company notified.
6:27 p.m., suspicious vehicle, Hart, vehicle parked on lot with lights on, advised leaving property.
9:28 p.m., public assist, N. Pacific, strong gasoline odor, unable to locate, may be from truck pumping gasoline.
10:01 p.m., assist other agency, FM 1254 at city limits, vehicle in ditch.
10:40 p.m., information, 300 Greenville, subject wanted to speak with officer about her brother, unable to contact subject.
10:50 p.m., assist other agency, Maxine, fire department canceled.

MARCH 17
9:37 a.m., suspicious person, Mimosa, subject with active protection order and criminal trespass on property, unable to locate.
2:08 p.m., suspicious vehicle, N. Pacific, truck parked at location 30 minutes, waiting on business to open.
2:36 p.m., motor vehicle accident, 1200 blk N. Pacific, reported two hours after the fact.
7:02 p.m., assist other agency, Wigley, attempt to locate vehicle from Wood County, canceled.
8:12 p.m., disturbance, W. Loop 564, female seen being thrown from vehicle, left prior to officer arrival.
9:52 p.m., theft, NE Loop 564, two men scammed cashier.
10:15 p.m., disturbance, Wells, verbal, no physical altercation.
Officers also made 118 traffic stops and 24 animal control calls.

Mineola Fire Department Report

Road freight or transport vehicle fire: March 11, 1:32 p.m., 5365 Hwy. 37, Mineola.
Medical assist, assist EMS crew: March 9, 5:39 p.m., 673 Kevin St, Mineola; March 12, 1:45 a.m., 722 Padgett St., Mineola; March 14, 5:59 p.m., 511 Sycamore St., Mineola.

Motor vehicle accident with no injuries: March 15, 11:08 a.m., N. Hwy. 69 & N. CR 431, Mineola.
Lock-out: March 9, 2:30 p.m., 5685 Hwy. 37, Mineola.
Assist police or other governmental agency: March 14, 7:30 p.m., all major intersections,

Mineola.
Dispatched & canceled en route: March 11, 10:34 a.m., 600 E. Broad, Mineola.
Smoke scare, odor of smoke: March 12, 8:15 p.m., 6166 Hwy. 37, Mineola.

UT EMS reports benefits to county

By **LARRY TUCKER**
editor@wood.cm

Wood County commissioners heard a comprehensive annual report Tuesday by UT Health EMS/Air Team representatives Scott Berkley, John Smith, Hayden Ray and Jared Smith.

Berkley reported the UT Health East Texas EMS/Air 1 consisted of over 350 caregivers, 14 flight nurses, 25 system status controllers, four mechanics, 28 medical/administrative support staff, 56 ambulances, four helicopters and 12 support vehicles. The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems gave the UT Health efforts accreditation for the fifth time, and this latest time, a perfect score. Only 2% of EMS agencies in the U.S. are accredited. In the past five years UT Health has grown their physician group and services by more than 50%; embraced innovation and technology including tele-health and on-demand video visits; paid more than \$120 million in local taxes that go to support area schools along with local and state governments; provided over \$400 million in costs of unreimbursed care to those in need in the communities; and created a nationally recognized health system and partnership which helped the new school of medicine become a reality. Commissioners approved a proclamation for April as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. County Judge Kevin White urged all citizens to work together to reduce child abuse and neglect and to significantly improve the response of the community when child abuse occurs.

Commissioners approved an animal control agreement with the city of Mineola for 2023. The agreement states the city will euthanize up to five animals per week at a rate of \$35 per animal. Mineola will hold animals from the county only if the space is available. In personnel moves, Jeremy Phillips was hired full-time as an election clerk at \$19.59 per hour. Brandon Caldwell was hired to a temporary position in Precinct 3 at \$12 per hour. Commissioners also approved a tax exemption for the Lake Country Playhouse, Inc. in Mineola as a Texas Historic Landmark. Commissioners approved the residential lease agreement for the Quitman Lake property to William Todd Jenkins for \$650 per month. Warren Blesh was approved by the commissions to be on the Emergency Services District 1 Board of Directors. Commissioners approved a request from Spectrum to construct and place fiber either underground or aerial on existing poles for County Road 4220 in Precinct 4. Reports from the treasurer, constables and environmental officer were approved. There were several speakers during the public comments portion of the meeting. The speakers were in favor of the commissioners declaring Wood County as a constitutional county.

GOT NEWS? Call us.
903-569-2442 903-763-4522

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with a classified

THE IRON HORSE
AT THE BECKHAM
BAR AND SPIRITS

Live Music at The Beckham Hotel

March 24
7:30 PM
Andrew Toole

March 31
7:30 PM
Owen Tiner

April 7
7:30 PM
Justin Todd Herod

COLEMAN BAIL BOND

(Directly across the street from Wood County Jail)

407 S. Stephen • Quitman, Texas 75763

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24 Hour Service
Credit Terms Available

MINEOLA ANIMAL SHELTER

Senko

This is a sweet boy!
Senko gets along great with other dogs. He loves toys, walks great on a leash and is around 6-12 months.

Rocky & Titi

Now up for adoption!
They are brother and sister, 8 months old.

To help decrease the number of homeless animals, please remember to have your dogs & cats spayed & neutered.

BAKER STREET 903-569-2252
IF NO ANSWER, CALL 903-569-6294
TUESDAY-SATURDAY FROM 8AM - 4PM

Lake Country Animal Clinic
Clifton D. Bradshaw «» 903-569-5418
1124 W. FM 564 «» Mineola, TX 75773

Sponsored by:

MEALS ON WHEELS

THIS WEEK’S MENUS:

Fri. Mar 24 - Cheeseburger, Potato Wedges, Dilled Carrots, Hamburger Bun, Animal Crackers

Mon. Mar 27 - Meatloaf w/Brown Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Mixed Vegetable Blend, Dinner Roll, Fruited Gelatin, Milk

Tues. Mar 28 - Herb Chicken Breast, Parslied Rice, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Fresh Fruit, Milk

Wed. Mar 29 - Ham & Black-eyed Peas, Spinach, Carrots, Cornbread, Orange Juice, Milk

Thur. Mar 30 - Mozzarella Chicken, Penne Pasta, Broccoli, Whole Kernel Corn, Fudge Creme Cookie, Milk

Meals On Wheels Office Phone: 497-1162
Hometown Friendly from Hometown Folks

KELLY DRUG

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To advertise, call or
email: 903-569-2442 or
ads@wood.cm

Wood County Monitor classifieds

Merchandise for Sale

Garage Sales

Mineola, two locations. Thurs.-Fri., March 23-24, 8a.m.-6p.m. and Sat., March 25, 8a.m.-1p.m. 237 Lakeside Place, living estate sale, 1/2 price, new items out. 300 Lakeside Place, Garage Sale. Lots of good stuff at both locations!

Garage Sale & Bake Sale, First Assembly of God Church, 909 E. Goode, Quitman, Fri., March 24, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Sat., March 25, 8a.m.-12p.m. All proceeds are for summer camps for students.

Employment

Miscellaneous

Needed part-time employee, 14-24 hours per week around the Lake Fork area. Retail experience a plus, 940-902-3855.

Lawn Service
Mowing, edging & shrub trimming
903-520-5779

PART TIME CLERICAL HELP NEEDED

Part-Time clerical help needed. Approximately 4 hours per day. Job duties include submitting reports as required; answer telephone, assist City Secretary as needed; doing computer data entry and filing. Must be able to read, write, and speak English language; display good decision making abilities and to be able to communicate effectively and courteously with other city employees and the public.

Requires: High School Diploma and prefer some College Business courses.

Minimum of 5 years' experience; Proficient with computer; good communication skills; Plan and be able to schedule independently with little to no instruction.

Salary based on experience.

Applications can be found online @ hawkinstx.org under employment tab or City Hall, 200 N. Beaulah St. Hawkins Tx, 75765. Submit to mandy@hawkinstx.org or in person at City Hall.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property code,
Traders Village Storage Units
1005 S. Hwy 37, Quitman, Texas 75783
will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at
10:00 A.M., Saturday, March 25th, 2023
at 1005 S. Hwy 37, Quitman, TX 75783.
Unit items sold as-is to highest bidder.
Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid or withdraw property from sale.
Property will be sold by the unit and includes the contents of units for the following tenants:
• Carmey Horton • Ame Hobbs
• Anna Bennett • Josh Peppers
• Tommy McFadden • Larita Rudd
• Megan Nichols • Mike Smith
• Dawn Trammell • Jerry Thornhill
• Ronald Busbee • Elizabeth Turner
• Joe Hight • Don Woods
• plus 15 other units •

Divide & Conquer Moving Sale for Mike Hogan
Thurs., Mar. 23 ~ 7:00-5:30 | Fri., Mar. 24 ~ 8:00-5:30
Sat., Mar. 25 ~ 8:00-2:00
2102 Holly Creek Dr. ~ Tyler, TX 75703
Outside SSW Loop 323 & off S. Broadway, turn west onto Grande and left onto Hollytree Dr. Pass the clubhouse and tennis courts. Go to Holly Creek Dr. and turn right.
This 2783 sq. ft. home is for sale. Contents include great din.table/8 chairs; another din. table/4 chairs; antq. hutch; china cabinet; lovely vintage sideboard & chests; demilune chest; antq. plate wall racks; beautiful king bed, nightstands, chest; large bookcase; entertainment piece; large TV; other TV's; TV trays; antique rocker; futon; fireplace/TV stand; wingback chairs; set of sterling silv.; silv./silverplate serving pieces; china; stemware; Wedgwood Embossed Queen's Haviland china; M.A. Hadley and Arthur Court selections; Ware; Royal Doulton "The Chelsea Rose" china; 4 bar stools; lamps; jewelry; jewelry chest; rugs; misc. chairs; vintg. drum table; electronics; CD's; movies; barware; vintg. Crush syrup drink dispenser; MANY holiday selections; 8-10 mirrors; linens; bedding; table cloths; window treatments; fabric; small appliances; cookware; iron skillets; frames; full bed; books; lady's clothes; shoes; scarves; evening wear; men's clothes; boots; children's clothes; toys, books, table/chairs, highchair, car seat; plastic organizers; small exercise bike; Univ. of Okla. cooler; baker's racks; poolside dishes; patio furniture; swimming pool floats & toys; **sooooo much more!!**
Pictures: DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com.

First Methodist Church Mineola --- Children's Director Job Opening ---

This is a part time position that requires a high level of initiative and motivation to do the following tasks, but not limited to:

- Be a highly devout follower of Jesus Christ with a love for children.
- Work with and facilitate our His Kids program
- Plan and coordinate our VBS each summer
- Oversee our children's Sunday School department.
- Recruit and train teachers and volunteers for our children's program.
- Provide Children's Church lessons and Children's moments in both the traditional and the contemporary service.
- Be consistently open and innovative to new things to help the Children's program.

All interested applicants need to contact the First Methodist Church Mineola office at 903-569-5426 in order to fill out an application and give permission for a background check.
We look forward to hearing from you soon!!!

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of FLOYD SCOTT REID, Deceased, were issued on March 13, 2023 in Cause No. 14,365, pending in the County Court of Wood County, Texas, to: DEBRA N. REID.

The mailing address of the Independent Executor, DEBRA N. REID is 275 Woodside Lane, Holly Lake Ranch, Texas 75765.

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.

DATED the 16th day of March, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Leake Law Firm, PLLC


PAUL R. LEAKE
State Bar No. 12092300
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State Bar No. 24131476
E-mail: jonathan@leakelawfirm.com
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Forney, Texas 75126
Telephone No. (972) 564-1500
Facsimile No. (972) 564-1521
Attorneys for Applicant

Notice of Public Sale
pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas property code,
Eagle Storage, 139 E. Loop 564, Mineola, Texas 75773, will hold a public auction to satisfy Landlord's Lien, at 10 a.m., March 30th, 2023
Sale to highest cash bidder.
Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale.
Property includes spaces of the following tenants:
Josh Harmon
TV, boat motor, mattress, boxes.
Contact Eagle Storage 903-569-9468

REQUEST FOR BIDS Student Chromebooks

MINEOLA ISD is accepting sealed bids for 150 Chromebooks for student learning. HP Chromebooks x 360 11MK G3 Education Edition- 11.6", 4Gb RAM, 32Gb SSD. For specifications and additional information, contact Joseph Armstrong at 903-569-2448 or armstrongj@mineolaisd.net.

Bids are to be delivered to 1695 W Loop 564, Mineola, TX 75773 by 3:00 pm, Friday, March 24, 2023. Place *"Bid for 150 Chromebooks"* on the bid envelope. MISD reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids.

REQUEST FOR BIDS 280 Student Chromebooks

MINEOLA ISD is accepting sealed bids for 280 Chromebooks for student learning. HP Chromebooks 11 G9 Education Edition-Celeron N4500/1.1 GHz-Chrome OS-UHD Graphics-4 GB RAM – 32 Gb eMMC – 11.6". For specifications and additional information, contact Joseph Armstrong at 903-569-2448 or armstrongj@mineolaisd.net.

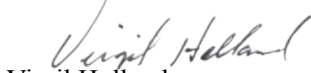
Bids are to be delivered to 1695 W Loop 564, Mineola, TX 75773 by 3:00 pm, Friday, March 24, 2023. Place *"Bid for 280 Chromebooks"* on the bid envelope. MISD reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing has been set by the Wood County Commissioners Court on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, for revision on the plat of Golden Oak Estates Subdivision, located within Precinct 1 of Wood County.


The revision includes Lot 6, Golden Oak Estates Subdivision.

The public hearing is set for Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. in the Wood County Commissioners Courtroom. All persons interested in revision to this plat may appear at the public hearing with opposition should they so desire.


Virgil Holland
Wood County Precinct 1 Commissioner



PUBLIC NOTICE WOOD COUNTY TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

Wood County is giving notice of the County's intent to submit a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program grant application for a Community Development Fund grant request of \$500,000 for water improvements on behalf of Sharon WSC. The application is available for review at the County Courthouse during regular business hours. Para obtener una copia en espanol, comuniquese con Sharon WSC General Manager, David Stout, al (903) 342-3525.



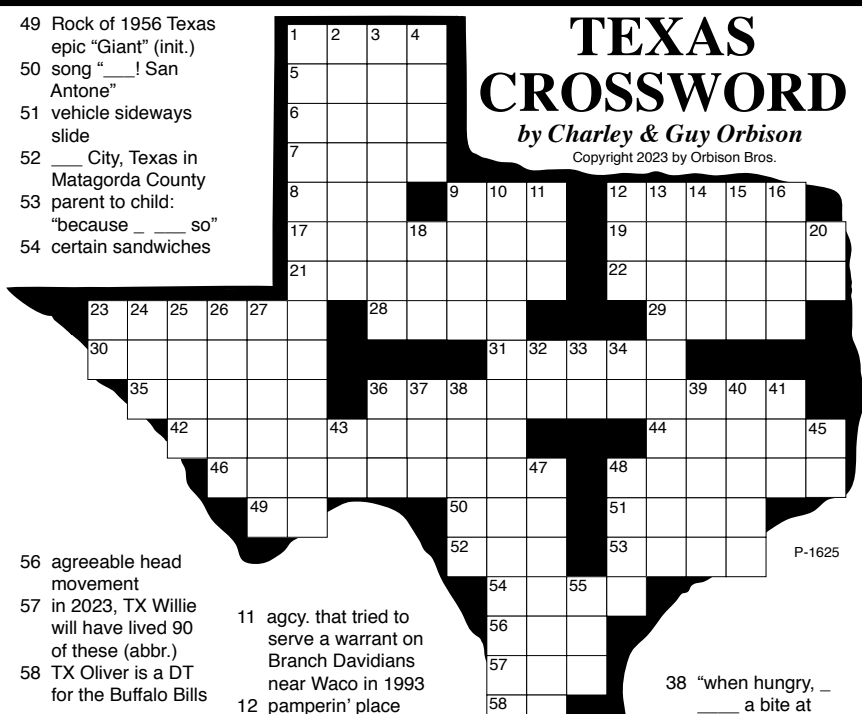
HEFNER GROUP
INSURANCE

2185 N. Pacific, Ste. 200 • Mineola TX 75773
903-569-5115 • www.HefnerGroup.com



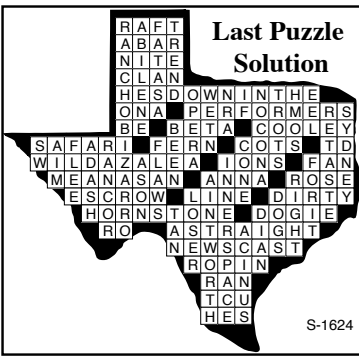
TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2023 by Orbison Bros.



ACROSS

- TXism: "he's holding all the ____" (in control)
- boot underside
- shoe, Texas
- West Texas climate
- "keep a stiff upper ____"
- TXism: "fits like scales ____ fish"
- golfing mistake
- many diets call for this (2 wds.)
- wax your car, e.g.
- TX Larry Hagman 1960s sitcom: "I ____ Jeannie"
- the first King Ranch land was purchased for 2-cents ____
- TXism: "cowboy ____" (jukebox)
- flower stalk
- "if I ____ then what I know now"
- electrical installation in a house, e.g.
- Marie Osmond country tune: "____ Wanted You"
- long-tailed parrot
- end result of a terrorist situation? (2 wds.)
- TX Dan Jenkins novel (hyphenated)
- TX Ty who was a skating cowboy in the "Mighty Ducks" films
- type of drilling used at Spindletop (2 wds.)
- Benny of UH's "Phi Slama Jama" (1982-84)
- Rock of 1956 Texas epic "Giant" (init.)
- song "____ I San Antonio"
- vehicle sideways slide
- ____ City, Texas in Matagorda County
- parent to child: "because ____ so"
- certain sandwiches
- agreeable head movement
- in 2023, TX Willie will have lived 90 of these (abbr.)
- TX Oliver is a DT for the Buffalo Bills
- DOWN**
- TXism: "cautious as ____"
- ____ a big bone:
- Elgin newspaper sets of dots indicating the omission of words in writing what you spit when eating a watermelon
- film with TX-born Steve Martin: "All ____" (1984)
- renown Texas poet (3 wds.)
- agcy. that tried to serve a warrant on Branch Davidians near Waco in 1993
- pamperin' place
- Texas bars/dance halls (2 wds.)
- Ladd of 1957 film "The Big Land" about Texas cattle
- ____ work if you can get it"
- once an FM in Childress, TX
- admission test for any Texas college
- TXism: "____ two-steps to his own beat" (individualist)
- dir. from Canyon to Friona
- Spurs star power forward, Duncan
- historical periods
- slang for a Japanese car
- feel love for
- TX Roy Orbison hit: "____, Pretty Woman"
- TXism: "____ hill for a stepper"
- ____ and behold"
- TXism: "a sight ____ sore eyes"
- "I don't ____ it" (don't believe it)
- "when hungry, ____ a bite at Whataburger"
- populous South Asia country
- disadvantaged
- a fish in found in the brackish water of East Texas
- helper to a teacher (abbr.)
- 19th governor of Texas: ____ Ross
- this Perry pitched for the Rangers and seven other teams
- garage sale deal (2 wds.)
- Dak passes for these (abbr.)



Last Puzzle Solution

S-1624

Jarvis Christian hosting annual awards gala

Jarvis Christian University will host the 2023 Founders/Homecoming Pioneer Hall of Fame and Preeminence Awards Gala at 7 p.m, Friday, March 24, with the Zapp Band headlining the black-tie optional event.

Other performers include emcees comedian Shed G and DJ Monae and R&B artist Yung Vokalz.

The Gala will be held in the E.W. Rand Center, Anthony Robinson Varsity Gymnasium, on the Jarvis Christian University campus at U.S. Hwy. 80 East and PR 7631 in

Hawkins.

The prestigious awards program will recognize and honor individuals whose accomplishments have had a positive impact on Jarvis Christian University or whose work has brought positive recognition to Jarvis.

The Zapp Band produces funky, high-energy, contagious dance music with layered recordings and boisterous, Las Vegas-style live shows. They have established themselves as trailblazers in both songwriting

and showmanship in the tradition of stylish masters such as James Brown, George Clinton, Stevie Wonder and Sly Stone.

Opening for the Zapp Band is R&B artist Yung Vokalz of Birmingham, Ala. Described as having unique star power, Vokalz is building his fan base as he follows the road to becoming one of the south's most notable R&B artists of his generation. Following the gala, he will return to the stage for the Gala After Party.

Homecoming concert Saturday at Jarvis Christian

Tickets are on sale for the 2023 Jarvis Christian University Student Founder's Homecoming Concert and After Party at 9 p.m. Saturday night, March 25, featuring headlining rap artists K Camp and opening act True Story Gee. The concert will be held in the E. W. Rand Center Varsity Gym on the JCU campus in Hawkins. Ticket prices are \$25 for

adults and \$20 for students with their school identification. Tickets are available online at www.jarvis.edu.

K Camp is an American rapper from Atlanta, Ga. better known for his singles "Money Baby," "Comfortable" and "Cut Her Off," which he received a nomination at the 2014 BET Hip Hop Awards. His 2019 single, "Lottery (Renegade)"

gained attention as a Tik Tok meme. His debut album in 2015 peaked at #20 on the Billboard 200 chart. He was named as a "New Artist You Need to Know" by Rolling Stone Magazine in 2015.

Rap artist True Story Gee first emerged onto the music scene as a member of the collective "Everywhere We Go" featuring K Camp.



The Mineola Lady Jackets used aggression and sound fundamentals in taking apart the Winona Lady Wildcats, 16-0, last Wednesday. The lop-sided game was called after three innings, at which point Mineola was giving themselves up on the base paths to facilitate the end of the game. Allie Hooten goes head-first into third base as the Lady Jackets beat the ball to whatever base they wanted, with little opposition from the Lady Wildcats. (Monitor photo by John Arbter)

Lady Bulldogs go 1-1 in district games

The Quitman Lady Bulldogs split a pair of district softball games over the spring break. Quitman defeated Mt. Pleasant Chapel Hill in a close one, 6-5. Kennedy Elmore was dominating on the mound and at the plate. She struck out 14 Lady Devil batters and blasted a home run and had two RBI.

Also hitting for RBI in the game were sophomores Larkin Spears, Allie Berry and Peyton Kruckner, who each batted in a run. The Lady Bulldogs were holding their own against district favorite Mt. Vernon when things fell apart. A 2-2 tie turned into a huge inning for the Lady Tigers on their way to a 13-2 final over Quit-

man. Going into Tuesday's game against Winona, Quitman stands at 1-2 in district action. The Lady Bulldogs will have a big week soon facing off against a tough Winnsboro team March 25 and on the road at Mineola March 28.

Meredith Stadium receives funds for lights

By PHIL MAJOR
publisher@wood.cm

New stadium lights are coming to Meredith Memorial Stadium in Mineola, thanks to the stadium's namesake.

The school board approved a budget amendment Monday night for the grant from the Meredith Foundation that includes \$275,300 for the new lights and \$50,000 for scholarships to high school graduates.

The board also amended the budget for a new police vehicle. The \$33,756 will replace a 2007 Ford that was purchased used and will cost more to repair than it is worth.

It will also require \$6,000 in police equipment.

Business Manager William Bjork said the district has spent about half of the \$1 million in projected fund balance for the year.

He also reported that tax collections for the year are running slightly behind, at 91.3% through the end of February.

That is down about 1.5%

from a year ago.

The annual report on tax collections from Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins and Mott showed about half of the \$226,000 in delinquent taxes from 2021 have been collected, and that collections are down slightly in area counties.

The construction account has yielded \$535,000 in interest since it was opened in August, Bjork reported.

Enrollment has rebounded to 1,623 students, he said, and attendance rates are up to 96%.

Trustees approved a two-year extension to the district's depository contract with the First National Bank of East Texas. It is the third and final extension before the service must go out for bids. It expires in August 2025.

Two annual agreements with Tyler Junior College were approved for dual credit courses and college preparatory classes.

Board meetings for the 2023-24 school year were approved, with early dates in November, December, Jan-

uary and February to avoid conflicts with holidays.

The revised academic calendar was approved for 2023-24.

Trustees had asked last month to take another look at the calendar which had a proposed ending date of May 17, a full week before graduation, and no built-in makeup days.

The approved calendar has school continuing through May 23 with early release on May 24 and a school holiday on April 12.

Trustees approved an agreement with the East Texas Food Bank to provide breakfast and lunch for summer school students. The only cost to the district will be a staff member to oversee the program, as compared to multiple staff members when the district operated the service.

Use of Wood County voting machines was approved for the May 6 trustee election. Early voting will be held at the county elections office in Quitman and election day voting will be at Mineola City Hall.

LIFTERS

From page 8A

bench press and was able to move up to fifth with a 345-pound deadlift, the best in her division.

Individual results are as follows:

Cacie Lennon, Alba-Golden, 123 class, 8th, 710

pounds, 285, 155, 270 (winning total 820).

Ranked 13th to start with 685 pounds.

Addison Marcee, Quitman, 105 class, 5th, 630 pounds, 240, 150, 240 (winning total 700).

Cadence Runyan, Quitman, 114 class, 9th, 620 pounds, 255, 125, 240 (winning total 760). Came in

ranked 20th at 615.

Abby Day, Quitman, 181 class, 6th, 875 pounds, 370, 200, 305 (winning total 1,310). Came in 6th at 835.

Kaleigh Smith, Quitman, 97 class, scratch.

Shylah Kratzmeyer, Mineola, 132 class, 5th, 810 pounds, 295, 170, 345 (winning total 870 pounds).



Kase Karch chests a ball down before clearing it off the Mineola line against Chapel Hill. Goalkeeper David Reyes is also pictured. (Monitor photo by John Arbter)



Defender Paul Stanley clears a ball in early action against the Bulldogs. (Monitor photo by John Arbter)

Jackets blanked in home soccer finale

By JOHN ARBTER
woodctystringer@gmail.com

The Mineola Yellowjackets soccer side was overpowered by Chapel Hill in the Jacket's home finale, last Monday, by a 3-0 score.

The evening's result is not a true measure of the Mineola soccer program. Consider this: Mineola started five freshmen and three sophomores in the Chapel Hill match. Not only is Chapel Hill destined for the playoffs, but they are one of the 4A-sized schools Mineola plays.

It is hoped that soon a 3A district will take shape which will give the Jackets a more equal footing.

Prior to the match, Mineola head coach Shelby Turner could not have been more laudatory of the group which has had a tough go this season. "We are young, but we have a great sense of competitiveness and a tremendous outlook," he said. "The team has improved markedly throughout the season. They are having fun, and building experience for the future."

The Bulldogs' attacking was relentless on the night. In the first half, Chapel Hill pressed 16 attacks against

the Jackets defense. The visitors managed just one goal in the half thanks to the physical defending of the Mineola backline – most notably by Kase Karch, Eduardo Jiminez and Paul Stanley – and a stellar effort by Mineola goalkeeper David Reyes.

Reyes was locked in throughout the match. Unofficially, he is credited with seven saves in the first half and 10 in the second half.

The opening goal came from a Chapel Hill corner. The cross appeared to be heading for the near post and Chapel Hill feigned attacking the cross there, which drew the defense away from the center of the box. A point blank header was dispatched into the net from the second row of attackers in the 26th minute.

The Jackets mustered seven attacks on goal in the first half. The best opportunities came in the 4th and the 33rd minutes. In the first attack, Michael Camargo stole a Chapel Hill throw-in, found Givanni Campuzano down the left wing who managed a shot off his left foot. His effort went just wide to the long side of goal.

Just before halftime Brayan Torres received a free kick

centering pass in front of goal, turned on it in a crowd and placed a solid shot on goal. Unfortunately, it was directly at the Bulldog goalkeeper.

In the first 13 minutes of the second half, Reyes was forced to make four saves on a variety of Chapel Hill shots. The pressure became too much and a second goal was conceded in the 53rd minute.

In the 58th minute a hard shot with especially tough english spun off of Reyes' mitts for the third Chapel Hill goal.

The Jackets nearly etched the scoreboard in the 73rd minute. Nice combination play from Torres to Marco Medina started the attack. Medina found Campuzano with a cross who put a sharp shot on goal, but once more, almost right at the Bulldog keeper.

Mineola moved their lines forward as the clock ticked on, but they could not find the back of the net. The change in posture opened the team to counterattack, and Reyes made five saves in the final 12 minutes.

Mineola wrapped up their 2023 campaign Monday with their season-ending match at Lindale.

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Panthers start baseball season unbeaten

By JOHN ARBTER
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The Alba-Golden Panthers have quietly put together a great start to the spring baseball campaign, having rattled off a dozen straight wins and sitting atop the District 18-2A table.

They kept things rolling Friday with a 13-2 win over the visiting North Hopkins Panthers.

The cold, gusting north wind had no effect on the home side. They put up four runs in the second, three in the third and six in the fourth with a well-balanced performance at the plate.

Meanwhile, Conner Gibson put in four innings on

the mound. In only 57 pitches, he gave up three hits, struck out eight and issued one free pass. He remained in control throughout. Mason Smith came on in the fifth to close out the win for Alba-Golden.

Michael Lacy got things started for the home side by lining the first pitch he faced to left field for a clean single. He was joined on the bases by Gibson, who was hit by a pitch – the first of three plunkings he received in the game – but both baserunners were left on base.

Alba-Golden took advantage of some free passes and used timely hitting to open the scoring in the second. Tucker Samples put a dou-

ble through the right side of the infield, Glen Hartley recorded an RBI with a check swing single to right, and Smith put a ball in play on the ground which resulted in a run.

Gibson smacked a ball down the third baseline, but the inning ended as Easton Campbell was gunned down trying to score from first on the play.

North Hopkins managed a run in the top of the third, but Gibson drew on some extra juice to end the rally with a fastball strike-out.

The Alba-Golden attack continued in the third, taking advantage of two walks and a fielding error. A Luke Jones single through the left side, a Samples sacrifice fly and a Smith fielder's choice generated three runs in the inning.

Gibson set the visitors down in order in the fourth.

Consecutive base hits – a Texas Leaguer by Jones, a double by Boogie Trimble and a Samples' single drove in three early in bottom half of the inning. An infield



Conner Gibson had an excellent start in Alba-Golden's 13-2 win over North Hopkins.

base hit by Campbell resulted in two more baserunners crossing the plate.

North Hopkins scratched a single run across in the top of the fifth, but the required margin to truncate the game at five innings was main-

tained.

Centerfielder Hartley made a nice catch on a deep liner to right-center for the final out.

Head coach Jimmy Oxford will likely be working on pushing baserunners

around the diamond as the Panthers left eight runners on base. That aside, he has to be pleased. The Panthers are playing cohesive baseball, with disciplined pitching, solid defense and the ability to put the bat on the ball.



Senior Glen Hartley speeds around the bases in the second inning.



Boogie Trimble led the Panthers at the plate, going 2 for 3.



Alba-Golden catcher Easton Campbell readies a throw to catch a runner off base.



Joy can be seen on JJ Gandy's face as he heads for home on his inside-the-park home run, last Wednesday at Winona. (Monitor photo by John Arbter)

Yellowjackets have little trouble with Winona

By JOHN ARBTER
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The Mineola Yellowjackets took the short trip down to Winona for a spring break warm-up last Wednesday. They hammered balls to most of the expansive acreage at Wildcat Field and came home with a 17-0, five-inning shortened win.

The mindset of the game was set on the first pitch, as Cason Davis lined the ball into center for a crisp single. He and three other Yellowjackets came around to score in the inning.

Although Winona did not help their cause by committing a costly throwing error, the Jackets hit the ball hard. Ty Burch ripped a double into the right-center field gap while Braydon Alley also pushed a run across by smashing a ball through the

left side of the infield.

Mineola likewise started the game with a great play in the field. Alley made a difficult catch in left field, by having to track deeper into the left-center field gap to spear a very hard-hit liner.

The Jackets chased the Wildcat starter from the mound in the second. They went from facing a breaking ball pitcher to a fastball pitcher. It didn't matter. Mineola put up 10 runs in the second and added four more in the third.

J.J. Gandy led off the second with a deep drive into the left field corner. He raced around the bags, nearly stumbling in excitement as he rounded third, but recovered and came in with an inside-the-park home run.

Alley chased three runs home moments later by putting a ball in nearly the same

spot for a stand-up triple. Gandy returned to the plate in the inning and banged in two more runs when he put a ball through the left side of the infield.

The Yellowjackets combined for 11 hits. Each of the starting Jackets collected a base hit on the day. Alley and Gandy went four of nine, collectively.

Meanwhile left-hander Matthew Ballew gave up three hits, while striking out ten and issuing one free pass. He had excellent control and consistently hit the outside corner at the knees.

It gave the Jackets a 2-0 start to district play after a 4-3 win over Mt. Pleasant Chapel Hill last Tuesday.

The next opportunity to catch the Jackets at home will be Saturday, April 1 against Athens. First pitch is scheduled for high noon.



Addison Marcee of Quitman, above, and Shylah Kratzmeyer of Mineola earned fifth place medals in their respective divisions at the Texas High School Women's Powerlifting Association championships last week in Frisco. (Courtesy photos)

Powerlifters earn top spots in state meet

Two power lifters from Quitman and Mineola earned medals at the Texas High School Women's state championship Thursday in Frisco.

Addison Marcee of Quitman took fifth in the 105 weight class while Shylah Kratzmeyer took 5th in the 132 class.

Two other Quitman girls had top ten finishes, with Abby Day taking sixth in the 181 class and Cadence Runyan placing 9th in the 114 class.

Alba-Golden's Cacie Lennon was the school's first state qualifier and took 8th in the 123 class.

Lennon competed in the 1A/2A division while the Quitman girls were in the 3A small division and Kratzmeyer in the 3A large division.

Kratzmeyer was sitting in sixth after the squat and

