

# Wood County MONITOR

www.woodcountymonitor.com

Wednesday,  
December 27, 2017

Vol. 2 No. 52  
Two Sections

50 cents

## SPARKS FLY AT CONTEST



The Mineola FFA Trailer Build-Off team competed in Lindale on Dec. 7. Above, rails of the trailer are put into place and tacked. No teacher interference or input was allowed during the construction of the trailer. See more information, Page 3.

## Council OKs tax abatement for Stitch n Heaven move

By DORIS NEWMAN  
editor@woodcountymonitor.com

### Accepts gift deed for historic cemetery

After a brief executive session the Mineola City Council approved a tax abatement for Stitch n Heaven to move to the northeast loop last Monday during the regular December meeting.

The council returned to open meeting and held a public hearing on the tax abatement for the business.

Clay Luttrell, co-owner of the quilting store located at Northgate Plaza with his mother Deb Luttrell, noted that the business has been

operating for about 20 years and in Mineola for about five years. "And we're purchasing this land from the Mineola Industrial Foundation," he said. The property they are purchasing is on Northeast Loop 564 by Southwest Steel Buildings.

Luttrell said the company has hired a chief marketing officer out of the DFW area "who is going to come in to help expand our business, even more. So we're really excited about that."

"We plan to add more employees and just kind of keep growing. Growing for us and for the city of Mineola," Luttrell said.

City Administrator Mercy Rushing asked Luttrell if they had a large online presence and if they do a lot of shipping. He said they do. "UPS and the post office here love us," he said. About a third of their business is an annual or biannual sub-

COUNCIL, Page 5A

## QUITMAN SCHOOL BOARD

### Trustees OK Chrome Book purchase

By LARRY TUCKER  
news@woodcountymonitor.com

Quitman High School students will receive Chrome Books in the near future after school board unanimously approved the purchase for all high school students. The devices are expected to cost \$119,764.50.

Superintendent Rhonda Turner said she believes the purchase is a big step for Quitman High School.

"The approval of our

QUITMAN ISD, Page 3A

## MINEOLA SCHOOL BOARD

### Supt. reports on students' performance improvements

Mineola Superintendent Kim Tunnell gave a presentation on improvements in students' performance during the regular December meeting of the Mineola School Board last Monday.

This annual requirement of accountability is based upon the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness.

MISD, Page 7A

### This Week in Your Neighborhood

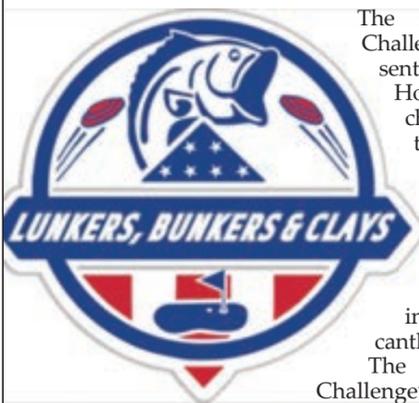
• The Quitman Chamber of Commerce is inviting everyone to come celebrate a Hometown New Year's in downtown Quitman from 9 p.m. to midnight Sunday night. There will be music, dancing, games, a scavenger hunt and much more. Speakeasy Coffeehouse and The Den will be open with extended hours. Everyone is invited.

## LUNKERS, BUNKERS & CLAYS



From left are Joann O'Bryant, Kelly Jordan, Nancy Schnabel, Micheal Rogge, Diane Nemecek, Garry Schnabel, Chuck Roy, Jeff Stone, Brian Dick and Nancy Roy. (Monitor photo by James Draper)

## Sporting Challenge donates \$100,000 to Folds of Honor



The Patriot Sporting Challenge recently presented to the Folds of Honor Foundation a check for \$100,000 to support the educational opportunities for dependents of those U.S. Servicemen who have been lost in action or significantly disabled.

The Patriot Sporting Challenge's inaugural event

"Lunkers, Bunkers and Clays" was held at Lake Fork Texas on October 27 and 28 featuring 42 competitive four-man teams competing in a trilogy of sporting events. This was a first ever challenge that coupled fishing, golf, and shooting sports into a tournament format for determining a Challenge Grand Champion. The Links at Land's End, Hidden Lakes Resort, and Lake Fork presented the competitors a challenging arena for the competition. The winners received a trophy that is on permanent display at The Links at Land's End as well as significant cash and merchandise prizes.

The check presentation was held in the corporate headquarters of Skeeter Boats in Kilgore, and was attended by Jeff Stone, Senior Vice-President and General Manager of Skeeter and JoAnne O'Bryant, Senior Marketing Project Manager. Skeeter was a Signature Sponsor for the event. Kelly Jordan, a Skeeter Professional Staff member, also attended and added his appreciation as a participant in the Challenge. Accepting the check for the Folds of Honor was Diane Nemecek,

DONATION, Page 4A

## Growth and changes highlight the 2017 news in Wood County

By LARRY TUCKER & DORIS NEWMAN

An announcement at the end of March that the country's third largest chicken producer will be investing in East Texas may prove to be the most far-reaching news story for Wood County in 2017.

The Sanderson Farms announcement was one of several pertaining to economic growth in Mineola, Quitman, Lindale, Wood and Smith Counties for the year.

Also in 2017, an investigation by a special prosecutor on a shooting incident in 2015 involving former Sheriff Jim Brown's land and an oilfield lease



led to his and one of his former employees', Miles Tucker's, indictments.

Schools asked taxpayers for money to build new facilities. Some measures passed, while Mineola's was rejected twice. The following are some of the highlights of the 2017 news year.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In a press conference in the Smith County Commissioner's Courtroom, the announcement was made that Sanderson Farms intended to build facilities in Wood and Smith Coun-

YEAR IN REVIEW, Page 4A

## WOOD COUNTY CALENDAR AVAILABLE THIS WEEK



With support from areas businesses, the Wood County Monitor and Bluebonnet Publishing are again offering free calendars. The calendars should be available in both the Quitman and Mineola offices this week and include 12 months worth of photos providing glimpses of life in Quitman, Mineola and Wood County.



Church Directory.....	4B	Obituaries.....	7A
Community Calendar.....	2A	Opinion.....	2A
Classifieds.....	5B	Police/Fire Reports.....	5A
Meals on Wheels.....	7A	Sports.....	Section B

**Page 6A**  
'American Pickers' TV show coming to Texas in January

**Section B**  
New coach looks to rebuild Quitman girls basketball



# Corner Column

## Spending time living on purpose



DORIS NEWMAN

As we rumble through this week, we are closing in on the end of another year. With each year, what others have told me about time going faster as you get older seems very true.

There are many things that reflect this. One of them, very specific to me, is how each edition of the newspaper is numbered corresponding to the week of the year. This week's is No. 52. Week-by-week it is a very marked reminder of just how far we've flown through the year. On the personal level, there's my little pill (mostly vitamins) keeper that is a visual reminder of prog-

ress through the week and I admit, on some particularly tough weeks, the goal is to just to get to the Saturday and Sunday compartments.

During this season, even more than any other period, time seems to be a rare commodity. It never seems to be any different. It seems that once Halloween arrives, it's time to buckle your seatbelt because "the holidays" are barreling down on us.

With all of this, I have come to realize that time is golden. You don't get it back. Even though, centuries ago, there were some days added in to make the calendars work out

right. Every person's bank account starts every day with the same balance, 1,440 minutes – 86,400 seconds. How you choose to spend your time currency is your choice.

Theodore Geisel, Dr. Seuss, prescribes to looking through the telescope backwards to see things from a different perspective. One of the most inspiring people I've interviewed, Patti Foster who miraculously survived a horrible car wreck years ago, lives her life "on purpose," with purpose, because she believes that's what she's meant to do.

Maybe it wouldn't hurt in life, as we repeat actions that eventually become habits that devour our time, to stand back and get a different perspective. It's something I still need practice on as I ask, are these moments spent with meaning and in doing things that feed my soul? There's a choice, and the children's wordsmith Seuss also has a quote that pretty much sums it up this way: "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself, any direction you choose." Simple, yes, but resoundingly clear.

### Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are opinions expressed by the writers and in no way reflect opinions or policies of this paper. Publication of a letter does not necessarily mean the facts have been confirmed.

Letters must be signed, accompanied with a telephone number for verification and be no more than 350 words long. One letter per writer per topic will be accepted.

The Monitor does not accept letters of endorsement for or against political candi-

dates. Letters of a political nature will not be accepted for the last edition prior to the election as well.

Letters should not be personal attacks and must not be libelous. The newspaper has editorial discretion on publishing as well as editing letters.

Submit letters to the editor to editor@woodcountymonitor.com or by mail to one of our offices (see staff box at bottom of page).

### Letter to the Editor

Dear editor,  
Messages of appreciation are well on their way to becoming a lost art form. I have had this conversation with members of my family and also many of my senior friends who are on fixed incomes. I have told my younger relatives, if I give you a gift and you do not acknowledge it, then

it becomes a one-way relationship. Parents should be horrified, as we teeter at the edge of a cultural extinction of gratitude. I still have notes of gratitude that had a lasting impact when I was a nurse's aid at Sherman Community Hospital over 50 years ago. I suggest during this holiday season and going

forward to remember to thank relatives and friends that took the time to get you a gift or just thank someone for a job well done. Send a text or email or better yet pick up your pen or crayon and jot down a few words. No agenda required, just the lasting pleasure of making someone's day.

**Beverly Chamberlin**

# WOOD COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

2nd FRIDAY ACOUSTICAL JAM - second Friday 6 - 9 p.m., Quitman Public Library, 202 E Goode St, Quitman 903-975-5745  
ALBA CITY COUNCIL - first Monday, 6:30 p.m., City Hall.  
ALBA LADIES CLUB - fourth Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Alba Community Center. 765-2573  
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 - Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m., Friday 8 p.m., Wednesday noon; Women's Group Mon. 11 a.m.; St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, Mineola.  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Wednesday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., 404 S. Main Street, Quitman.  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Gateway Group, Tues. & Sat. 7 p.m. Puckett House, 109 Kilpatrick Street.  
ALANON - Thursday, 7:30 pm; St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, Mineola.  
ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUP (sponsored by Pilot Club) first Monday, 11 a.m., Red Dome restaurant in Quitman, 903-569-5237.  
AMERICAN LEGION POST 296 and Auxiliary - fourth Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Highway 80, three miles east of Mineola. 903-569-0348. All are invited.  
AMERICAN LEGION POST OF WINNSBORO - first Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., 102 West Broadway, in Winnsboro. 903-752-0913 or 903-7675338.  
AMERICAN LEGION POST OF WINNSBORO - first Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., 102 West Broadway, in Winnsboro. 903-752-0913 or 903-7675338.  
APET (Animal Preservation of East Texas) Thrift Store - Dog Gone Good Stuff, 915 S. Pacific Street, Mineola, Thursday-Saturday. 903-569-0505 or 903-563-9542.  
BOY SCOUT TROOP #36 QUITMAN - meets Sunday, 4:30 p.m., Scout House behind First United Methodist Church. Danny King, 903-521-5930.  
BOYSCOUTS TROOP 385 MINEOLA - Tuesdays 7 p.m., Mineola Methodist Education Bldg. New boys/ alums welcome! Chris Jennings 903-569-3531  
BOY SCOUTS TROOP 180 WINNSBORO - Tuesdays 6:30 p.m., Church of Christ. New boys/alums welcome! Tex Willis 903-816-0638  
BOY SCOUTS TROOP 379 WINNSBORO - Tuesdays 7 p.m., City Bldg @ Walker Park. New boys/alums welcome! Sherry McGovern 903-335-9744  
BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY - Humble Baptist, first & third Tuesday 1-4 p.m.  
BREAKING FREE - meeting place for families and friends of addicts and alcoholics. Monday, 7 p.m., 971 E. Goode St., Quitman, 903-497-6149.  
CELEBRATE RECOVERY - a support group for those with various hurts, habits or hang-ups, every Monday, 7 p.m., Church On the Rock annex building at 302 S. Stephens. 903-763-4588.  
COUNSELING CHRISTIAN GUIDANCE CENTER - 903-850-3858 or ibarnes@texascellnet.com.  
CUB SCOUTS PACK 391 HAWKINS - meets Sundays, 5 p.m., Scout Hut, FUMC. New boys, alums welcome. Scott Randall, 903-203-7901.  
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION - first Saturday except June, July, August and December, 12 p.m. Harvest Acres Baptist Church, 460 NW Loop 564, Mineola. 903-629-7837.  
DELPHIAN LITERARY CLUB - first Wednesday, 569-6794 or 569-3586.  
DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS - 7 p.m. Friday, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Ronny Polley 768-2992.  
DUPLICATE BRIDGE ACBL games - Wednesday and Friday, 10:30 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 882-1335.  
EASTERN STAR - Quitman Chapter 695, 2nd Tues., dinner 6:30 p.m., meeting 7:30. Flora Lodge in Quitman. 903-638-6420.  
ETMC Quitman - needs volunteers. Great opportunity to meet people while helping your community. Contact Judy Johnson, 903-383-3433  
FANNIE MARCHMAN GARDEN CLUB - third Wednesday, September - May, Mineola Civic Center, 9:30 a.m. Visitors welcome. Charla Martin, president, 903-638-6389  
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, bridge, lessons, Bingo and card games.  
FOUKE-LAKE HAWKINS CRIME WATCH - third Thursday, 7 p.m., Fouke Community Center  
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY - second Tuesday, Quitman.  
FRIENDS OF THE MINEOLA MEMORIAL LIBRARY - first Wednesday, 1 p.m., Mineola Library, 569-2767.  
GED CLASSES, FREE - Sand Spring Baptist Church. Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, or 6-9 p.m. 903-768-3239 or 903-569-9350.  
GED FREE PREPARATORY CLASS - each Thursday 4 - 6 p.m. concurrent with QISD calendar. Quitman Public Library, 202 E Goode St, Quitman 903-975-5745  
GIRL SCOUT TROOP #3 - Monday, 6 p.m., Broad Street Church of Christ Annex, 903-569-2610. All girls, kindergarten-12th grade welcome.  
HAINESVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER - second Tuesday, 6 p.m. Members bring a covered dish and enjoy an evening of fellowship. The center is located at FM 49 and 778, 903-769-1091.  
HAINESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. - second and fourth Thursday, 7 p.m., Firehouse downtown Hainesville.  
HAWKINS LIONS CLUB - second and fourth Tuesday at the depot in Willful Crossing.  
HOLLY LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT -first and third Tuesday at the fire station at Holly Lake Ranch.  
IRIS GARDEN CLUB-GOLDEN - first Monday, September-May, Golden United Methodist Church. 903-765-3000.  
KIWANIS CLUB - 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. 903-850-2557.  
LAKE COUNTRY REPUBLICANS - fourth Tuesday, 6 p.m., Red Dome Smokehouse, 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 - will resume rehearsals Aug. 6 at Mineola High School Band Hall. 7 p.m. 903-569-2300.  
LAKE FORK ROTARY CLUB - Wednesday, noon, at the Lake Fork Baptist Church on State Highway 515  
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.  
MINEOLA BAND BOOSTERS - second Tuesday, 7 p.m., in high school band hall. All parents invited.  
MINEOLA LIONS CLUB - second and fourth Thursday, noon, Mineola Country Club, 903-638-1596; 903-569-3340.  
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.  
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 - last Monday, 6 p.m., high school lobby.

MINEOLA HISTORICAL MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD - third Tuesday, 4 p.m., city hall. 569-6944. Public invited.  
MINEOLA MASONIC LODGE - second Thursday, dinner at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. All Masons invited. 569-2608.  
MINEOLA REBEKAH LODGE - first and third Tuesday, 11 a.m., 106 S. Line St. All Rebekahs welcome, 569-2776.  
MINEOLA ROTARY CLUB - Monday noon, Dogwood Room, Mineola Civic Center.  
MINEOLA ROTARY RECYCLING - third Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, Walmart parking lot. Cardboard, paper and plastic accepted.  
MINEOLA SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER - 308 University, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 903-497-1162; Dominoes & other games.  
MLOTA LINE DANCE GUILD - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., and Friday, 9:30 a.m.  
MLOTA FIBER/CRAFT ART GUILD - Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., business meeting fourth Thursday, 9:30 a.m.  
MLOTA QUILT GUILD - first, second and third Thursday, 9:30 am; business meeting first Thursday.  
MLOTA PAINTERS GUILD - Wednesday, 10 a.m.; business meeting fourth Monday.  
MLOTA RUG HOOKING GROUP - first Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Beginners are welcome.  
MLOTA PHOTOGRAPHY GUILD - fourth Thursday, 6:30 p.m. All levels welcome., 903-569-8877.  
MLOTA SCULPTURE GUILD - Tuesday, 1 p.m. Business meeting first Tuesday.  
MONDAY NIGHT KNITS - 6-8 p.m. Monday, Golden Methodist Fellowship Hall. 903-768-2540.  
THE NAME CENTER (National Association of Marriage Enhancement) - 1302 S. Stephens, Quitman. Certified and experienced counselors by appointment to assist couples in Wood County. Free, donations are accepted. 903-763-1286.  
NORTHEAST TEXAS PARATROOPERS ASSOCIATION - third Saturday at 7:30 a.m. at Red Dome Smokehouse in Quitman.  
OPEN HEART MINISTRY - third Friday, 7 p.m., Mineola Civic Center.  
OVERCOMERS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP - Monday, 7-8 p.m., Whispering Pines Church of the Nazarene, located on CR 3811, Hawkins  
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL OF MINEOLA ELEMENTARY- first Tuesday, 8:15 a.m., elementary library.  
PARENTS ANONYMOUS GROUP - Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Quitman. Children's program provided. 903-629-2114  
PILOT CLUB OF MINEOLA - second and fourth Tuesday, 6 p.m. Mineola Civic Center. 903-569-5237.  
PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - at First Baptist Church in Quitman. First Tuesday 1-3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. 903-763-8101.  
QUITMAN CHILD ADVOCACY GROUP - third Thursday, 10 a.m., 403 Conger in Quitman. The public is welcome.  
QUITMAN GARDEN CLUB - second Tuesday (except when on field trips), 2 p.m., Quitman library. quitmangardenclub@gmail.com. All are welcome.  
QUITMAN/LAKE FORK KIWANIS - Wednesday, noon, Faith Student Center, 403 S. Main St., Quitman.QUITMAN LIONS CLUB - second and fourth Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Peralto's Restaurant. Contact any Lions Club member to donate your used eyeglasses for recycling to the needy.  
QUITMAN PILOT CLUB - third Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Quitman Public Library. 903-383-5075.  
QUITMAN ROTARY CLUB, Thurs., noon, ETMC Com-

munity Room, N. Hwy. 37.  
QUITMAN CITY COUNCIL - third Thursday, 5:30 p.m.; city hall.  
QUITMAN SCHOOL BOARD - 2nd Monday, 6 p.m. Administration Building.  
REPUBLICAN CLUB OF WINNSBORO - fourth Monday, 7 p.m., 903-342-0575.  
REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF WOOD COUNTY - third Monday, 11:30 a.m., Red Dome, Quitman, 903 383 2121.  
SINGING AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAWKINS - fourth Sunday, 2-4 p.m.  
SCOTTISH RITE - Wood County Scottish Rite Club meets third Thursday of odd month, 6:30 p.m., Red Dome Smokehouse meeting room. 903-253-3635.  
STROKE SURVIVORS & APHASIA CLUB OF EAST TEXAS - fourth Wednesday, 6-7 p.m., First Baptist Church Quitman, 903-878-2392.  
TEXAS INMATE FAMILIES ASSOCIATION - second Tuesday, 6:30-8 p.m., First Christian Church Tyler, Broadway & Loop, 903-839-2349.  
TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL - Garden Valley chapter, Thursdays on Mercy Ships property, 5:30-6:30 p.m. 903-882-0887.  
TOPS GROUP - Thursday, 8-11 a.m., Harvest Acres Baptist Church, NW Loop 564, 569-1240, 569-2415.  
UPPER SABINE VALLEY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT - every three months on third Monday, Wood County Courthouse, 5:30 p.m., 903-763-2123.  
UTU AUXILIARY MORNING STAR LODGE #851 - third Monday (except July and August), 11:30 a.m.  
VFW LADIES AUXILIARY #7523 - third Sunday, 1 p.m., Recruiting new members. 569-2228.  
VFW POST #7523 - third Wednesday, 6 p.m., Karaoke every Friday, 8 p.m. 569-2228.  
WHYTE DOVE WRITER'S GROUP - first Tuesday, 6 p.m., 407 N. Stephens in Quitman. 903-763-1210 or e-mail mkyoung97@peoples.com.net  
WOOD COUNTY 4-H HORSE CLUB - Business meeting, Monday, 2 p.m. Wood County Extension Office. Wood County Aggie MomS - 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., 903-539-7049 or Wood County Aggie Moms Facebook page.  
WOOD COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT - Quarterly, third Thursday, 8 p.m., appraisal district office. Open to the public.  
WOOD COUNTY CENTRAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT - third Monday, 5:30 p.m. (every three months).  
WOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT - every other Friday, Commissioners Court, Quitman, 10 a.m. 763-2716.  
WOOD COUNTY CRIME STOPPERS - every other month, third Monday, 6 p.m., Wood County Justice Center courtroom. The public is invited. 903-763-2201 or 903-569-6294.  
WOOD COUNTY DEMOCRAT CLUB - fourth Thursday, Quitman Public Library, at 6:15 p.m. 903-383-7036 or www.woodcountydem.org.  
WOOD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - third Monday, January through May and September through November, 7 p.m., Quitman Public Library, Shamburger Community Room. For 903-763-4191 or 967-2458.  
WOOD COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. IMMUNIZATION CLINIC - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9-11 a.m., and 1-3 p.m., third Monday, 1-6 p.m. Public Health Department offices, 213 W. Bermuda, Quitman, 763-5406.  
WOOD COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT - second Monday, 10 a.m., hospital conference room in Quitman. Public invited.  
WOOD COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION - third Monday, September-December, and February-April, 2 p.m. and in May at 5 p.m., Forever Young Activity Center, 402 S. Main St., Quitman. All retired school personnel are invited.  
WOOD COUNTY TEA PARTY - first Monday, 7 p.m., Quitman Library  
YANTIS CITY COUNCIL - second Tuesday, 6 p.m., city hall.  
YANTIS SCHOOL BOARD - second Monday, 6 p.m. (executive session), 7 open meeting, school cafeteria.  
YANTIS/LAKE FORK LIONS CLUB - second Thursday, 6 p.m., Yantis Community Center.

200 N. Pacific Mineola 903-569-6161

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

**OUR STAFF:**

**Publisher • Joyce Hathcock**  
publisher@woodcountymonitor.com

**Editor • Doris Newman, Mineola**  
editor@woodcountymonitor.com

**Sports • Quinton Lilley, Mineola**  
sports@woodcountymonitor.com

**Marketing • Brandi Box, Quitman**  
advertising@woodcountymonitor.com

**Marketing • Pamela Hofmeister, Mineola**  
ads@woodcountymonitor.com

**Classifieds • Brandi Hood, Quitman**  
classifieds@woodcountymonitor.com

## Wood County MONITOR

**OUR OFFICES:**

MINEOLA  
715 Mimosa St.,  
Mineola, TX 75773  
903-569-2442  
903-569-6836 (fax)

QUITMAN  
310-C E. Goode,  
Quitman, Texas 75783  
903-763-4522  
903-763-2313 (fax)

**Subscription Rates:**

- In County: \$31.50 a year
- Texas: \$44 a year
- Outside Texas: \$50 a year

**Errors which may appear in the Wood County Monitor will be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the editor. Wood County Monitor is a member of the Texas Press Association, North and East Texas Press Association.**

**Main News deadline:**  
Noon on Friday

**Community News deadline:**  
4 p.m. on Thursday  
www.woodcountymonitor.com



## Mineola FFA competes in trailer build-off

By **RACHEL MARTINEZ**  
Mineola FFA Reporter

On Dec. 7 the Mineola FFA Trailer Build-Off team competed in Lindale.

Team members Jake Lee, Jacob Hurst, Tristen Brown, and Dalton Rogers had just six hours to construct a 5' X 10' utility trailer. Starting only with a pile of raw materials the students had to complete the project on their

own with no teacher assistance or input. Despite the cold and snow the students worked hard and say that they learned a lot and look forward to the next competition.

The trailer from this contest will be for sale by the Mineola FFA Chapter later in the year.



**TOP PHOTO:** Team members Tristen Brown and Jake Lee discuss what comes next while Jacob Hurst welds the trailer frame into place. **ABOVE:** With coupler, jack and axle in place, the trailer nears completion.

## Quitman ISD

From page 1A

one-to-learn initiative is very exciting for our students and our teachers. The confidence that the board has shown in making this investment is evidence that our district has the right administrators and teachers in place to move to successfully implement this initiative," Turner explained.

"We believe that providing all of our high school students with a Chrome Book is more than placing a computer in their hand. It is providing the tool necessary for a student of today to research, create, investigate, problem solve, collaborate, and explore. It is an opportunity to expand the learning experience and perpetuate the expectations of our district."

In other news, the board approved the construction of a concession stand and restrooms which will serve the new softball field and the agriculture pavilion. The bid of

\$168,125 from Deen's Irrigation was accepted.

"We continue to make upgrades to our campuses, and to our facilities. Our bond project was the jump start we needed, but we know we still have a lot to do," Turner stated. "Our facilities committee has been working very diligently on a long-range plan which includes the completion of our Softball and Agriculture Complex. We approved bathroom facilities and a concession stand for those facilities and are anxious to get that project started."

The board further approved \$18,260 for the purchase and installation for lights at Bud Moody Stadium and Ballard Memorial Gym.

"We have approved and added additional lighting in front of the school and will have additional lighting at the Delbert Ballard Gym and Bud Moody Stadium up soon," Turner noted. "I know lighting

has been a concern for a very long time and correcting this issue is a part of our long-range plan for facilities."

Later the board called for a May 5 election for the three soon-to-be open seats. The positions are those held by Michael Hipp III, Royce Patterson and Jeremy Smith. The first day to file for a place on the ballot is Jan. 17 and the last day to file for a place on the ballot is Friday, Feb. 16, at 5 p.m.

On Election Day, May 5, polls will open at 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. election day voting will be in the foyer at Quitman High School. Early voting will be April 23, through Tuesday, May 1, at the Wood County Courthouse.

## Quitman man inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Gregory Bower of Quitman was recently initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Bower was initiated at Lamar University.

Bower is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

## TJC awards school's first bachelor's degrees

For the first time in its history, Tyler Junior College awarded bachelor's degrees during fall commencement ceremonies Friday, Dec. 8, said TJC's publicity spokesperson Elise Mullinix.

The ceremonies took place in Wagstaff Gym, recognizing 682 candidates for graduation for the Fall 2017 semester. In one of the ceremonies, three graduates received TJC's first Bachelor of Science degrees in dental hygiene: Amanda Camp of Lufkin, Shannon Kassaw of Palestine, and Michelle Trammell of Tyler.

TJC is the first and only community or junior college in Texas authorized to offer a bachelor of science degree.

TJC President Dr. Mike Metke conferred the degrees and certificates of proficiency and certified the graduates.

Graduates from Mineola and Quitman were Stacey Block, Stacey Castorena, Brandy Hudson, Suraj Patel, Ernesto Rivas, Vanessa Stanley and Zantana Zandate of Mineola and Lauren Gates, Shelby Hayes, Melanie Kornhauser and Llujo Ramos of Quitman.

## Locals participate in UT Tyler fall commencement

The University of Texas at Tyler held fall commencement exercises Friday, Dec. 15 and Saturday, Dec. 16 in the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center on the UT Tyler campus, school officials announced.

Degrees were conferred in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences; the College of Arts and Sciences; the College of Business and Technology; the College of Education and Psychology and the College of Engineering.

Mineola degree candi-

dates included:

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**  
Master of Public Administration

MINEOLA – Brooke O. Heard.

**COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY**

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences

MINEOLA – Gregory Matthew Janes.

Bachelor of Business Administration

MINEOLA – Cecilia Sanchez and Brandon Glyn Tonne, accounting;

and Taylor Danae Clark and William Joe Dollar, marketing.

*Happy Holidays*

from

**Brian Toliver of Quitman**



539 East Goode | Quitman  
903-763-2232

[www.briantoliverfordofquitman.com](http://www.briantoliverfordofquitman.com)



*Brian Toliver*  
Quitman, Texas

**MONDAY-FRIDAY**  
8:30AM—6:00PM  
**SATURDAY**  
8:30AM—1:00PM

*WORDS OF Encouragement*



By David Burcham  
Pastor - Harvest Acres Baptist Church  
Mineola, TX

One of the great things about God is that He is a God of "second chances". Just think about many of the well know Bible people: Adam lost the garden but got a second chance...Abraham jumped ahead of God but got a second chance...David sinned badly but got a second chance...Jonah went the wrong way but he got a second chance...and then there's Peter who denied Jesus but got a second chance which he made the most of! There are more but you get the idea.

In a few days, we will move into a New Year - 2018! The key word is NEW. It's like a "second chance". We get a fresh start for our future. Most of us have areas in our lives that we would like to change or improve. 2018 is our chance to do just that. Don't think of this as a resolution but as a pact with the "second chance" God. The beauty of this is that for those of you who have trusted Christ as your Savior, He will enable you to make the most of this "second chance" New Year!

It is my prayer for each of you that you will experience God's blessings and power in the New Year. I also pray that all of the Churches of Wood County will be blessed and used by God to impact our community for the Lord. May we love each other and work together for His future.

You are cordially invited to visit us

**HARVEST ACRES BAPTIST CHURCH**

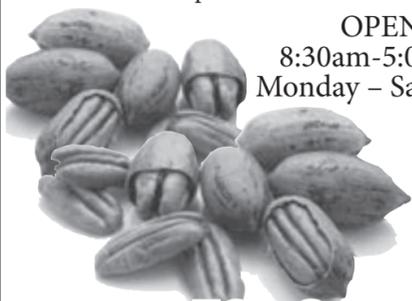
1062 W. Loop 564 - Mineola, Texas | (C) 903.497.6384  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.

## The Pecan House

1225 W Loop564 Mineola, Tx. 75773

OPEN

8:30am-5:00pm  
Monday – Saturday



903-569-3437

# Year in Review

From page 1A

ties. The project had been in the works for a long time with the company planning to build a feed mill on the loop in southeast Mineola, a hatchery and wastewater treatment plant in Lindale's industrial area and a production facility in Winona. The initial estimate was that the company would bring 1,700 jobs to East Texas. The country is also seeking growers throughout the area. Income during a 10-year time period is estimated to be at over \$1 billion from the facilities.

Tax abatements were granted by the city and county, but the company did not ask for any relief from the school district. A state grant will help implement infrastructure for the plant that will aid in the expansion of Mineola in that area.

The Quitman Development Corporation and Executive Director Denea Hudman began to see the fruits of their labor become reality. A new parking lot north of the square was built and new downtown businesses, Speakeasy Coffeehouse and The Den Steakhouse and Grill, have been bustling with business. In addition, The Catch, a seafood restaurant, is being built downtown. Design and architectural plans for downtown lofts, a walk-through and retail space

are being made. According to the town's economic developers, the town's liquor store has become the number one privately-owned package store in Northeast Texas. A doughnut shop and a new tire shop have also joined the business community.

The year was highlighted by the QDC receiving the Texas Downtown Association's Spirit of Downtown Award for the Hard Hat Party on the Pad held earlier in the year on the site of the old Wood County Democrat.

In Mineola, Bush's Chicken opened. ETAS is in the process of a massive expansion at the Mineola Industrial Park. A new shopping center was added to the existing businesses at Northgate Plaza and Hibbett Sports and Dollar Tree joined the Mineola business community.

In late 2017 fiscal year-to-date sales tax rebate payments to the city of Mineola were almost \$2 million – the highest in 10 years. The 2016-2017 fiscal year rebates were 6.16 percent higher than the previous year.

The end of the year brought the demolition of what was intended to be one of the city's brightest economic hopes, the 1888 building at the corner of South Johnson and Commerce

Streets. The building's new owners planned to put a nice restaurant in the building and after several weeks of renovation found that the years of neglect had left the building irreparable. With the blessing of the state historical commission, the building was demolished in December.

Tricia and Erik Carver plan to rebuild the building very much like the former one on the site. The demolition of the building, however, exposed the fragile condition of the aging buildings in the town's historic district.

### SCHOOLS

Quitman School District completed its building program which came in on time and within budget. The original bond was for \$10.45 million. A new band hall, classrooms, science lab, entrance and administrative offices as well as refurbished auditorium and cafeteria were completed in time for the start of school in August. There was also upgrades on plumbing and air conditioning throughout the campus. The district also built an agriculture pavilion and a new state-of-the-art softball facility without using any bond money on those projects.

The district hired a new athletic director, Bryan Oakes, who came to Quitman from Lone Oak. Coach Ashlee Lingo's volleyball team ended the season as one of the state's top Class 3A

teams. The Lady Bulldogs raced through district play with a perfect 14-0 season and a solid 33-8 season slate.

Mineola School District attempted two bond elections but both were defeated - the first by a 54 percent against and 46 percent for, a 79 vote difference. The school board reduced the amount of the bond, repackaged the deal and attempted a second \$38.5 bond proposal in November, but that was also defeated by a 57 to 43 percent vote.

Ironically, the bond defeat, which would have built a new band hall, among other things, occurred just hours before the Mineola High School band won state in marching contest for the first time ever.

The Yellowjackets also saw the departure of their athletic director, Joe Drennon, who coached the 2016 state champion team. Drennon took a job in 5A Hallsville and Mineola graduate and former defensive coordinator, Luke Blackwell led this year's team into the first round of playoffs. New athletic directors and head football coaches were also hired in Alba-Golden and in Hawkins. A-G's sports are led by Derek Smith and Hawkins by Scott Evans, grandson of long-time Mineola educators C.R. and Clarice Evans.

### OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH CRIMES

A jury of six women and six men took just 20 minutes to find former Wood County Jail Administrator David McGee guilty of tampering with a governmental records and sentenced him to two years in state prison. The jury found McGee made a false alteration to a Texas Department of Criminal Justice document by entering a fictitious date of expiration of the sentence of a female inmate. The inmate was in custody on driving while intoxicated with a child passenger, which is a state felony. McGee admitted in an interrogation he had altered the paperwork requesting the inmate's release on Jan. 12 when her actual sentence was to end

on Jan. 31. McGee may still have to face federal charges stemming from the incident.

The end of 2017 also saw the arrest and charge of online solicitation of a minor of Todd Karch, a former longtime Mineola School District employee. Karch had been employed with the district until the district learned of the situation. He was placed on administrative leave and later resigned. Karch is a former elementary teacher, technology director and transportation director for the school district.

### NEW OFFICIALS

The year also saw a new sheriff, former Chief Deputy Tommy Castloo, as well as a new district judge, Jeff Fletcher, take office in Wood County.

In Quitman, Mayor Pro-tem David Dobbs swept the mayor's seat with a 149-46 vote. Jack Robinson was appointed to the city council to fill Dobb's council seat.

In Mineola, Rodney Watkins announced he didn't plan to seek reelection. Watkins had been a very involved mayor as he shepherded the city around a potential financial crisis discovered just a few months after he took office. The position took time away from his business and he chose not to seek reelection. Kevin White, former Ward 2 councilman and a retired Hawkins school principal, became mayor. His position on the city council was filled by retired Mineola Police Captain Jack Newman.

### SAM WHITE PASSES AWAY

Anyone who has lived in Wood County for any amount of time has probably had some Sam White stew. The popular and beloved White passed away July 30 at the age of 89. White spent many days and nights cooking his famous stew for various organizations, cooking since he started in 1955 feeding thousands of people and raising more money than could be estimated.

### BRIGHT SPOTS

Foster children in Wood County were beneficiaries of a big fundraising night at AJ's Fish

House on Lake Fork in August. The event netted \$21,633. Money was raised from tips for celebrity waiters and waitresses, sponsorships and other efforts. There are at least 85 Wood County children in supervised care and that number goes up to over 100 at times. Many of these children are removed from homes where drug abuse or the manufacture or sales of drugs are involved.

Also this year, the Mineola High School junior class held their junior-senior prom in their hometown to thank the community that supports them and in appreciation of the town. The event was centered in the historic Select Theater and students raised money for months to rebuild the stage to be strong enough to be the dance floor. With help from volunteers, temporary platforms were also built on each side of the theater to create a more chic atmosphere. The festivities spilled outdoors onto the brick street where volunteers with vintage and classic vehicles delivered the prom-goers to a red carpet. After the prom, materials from the temporary platforms were donated to the city for use at the nature preserve.

This year also included Mineola teenager Jaxon Holland setting a goal to raise enough money to buy bulletproof vests for Wood County Sheriff's deputies. His fundraising exceeded that and the donations equipped not only sheriff's department personnel, but their canine, the county constables and the Hawkins Police Department with special protective vests.

## Donation

From page 1A

Regional Development Manager. Presenting the check was Garry Schnabel, Director of the Patriot Sporting Challenge.

Nemecek was thrilled to receive the donation and said, "This is an overwhelming honor to receive these funds to support the Folds of Honor's mission statement, 'Honor the Sacrifice by Educating their Legacy.' This money will forever change the life of many dependents that have been adversely affected by the loss of a military family member. Many educational scholarships will be made possible by today's gift." For more about the Folds of Honor, including mission statement and history, see www.foldsofahonor.org

## Give a gift 52 Times!

**Subscription prices**  
 In Wood County \$31.50 a year  
 In Texas \$44.00 a year  
 Outside Texas \$49.00 a year

Contact the  
**Wood County MONITOR**



715 Mimosa Street, Mineola, Texas - 903-569-2442  
 or 310-C E. Goode Street, Quitman - 903-763-4522



**WATKINS INSURANCE GROUP**

P.O. Box 1188 Mineola, TX 75773 (Across from WAL-MART)

**903-569-5115**  
[www.watkinsinsurancegroup.com](http://www.watkinsinsurancegroup.com)



**Jonathan, Rodney & Nic Watkins**

## Discounts up to 40%

Trusted Choice

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
Copyright 2017 by Orbison Bros.

**ACROSS**

1 a trademark of the Lone Ranger short piece in the Clyde Journal

6 TXism: "shaking like a \_\_\_\_\_"

7 Coleman AM corn core

9 TXism: "if a hog wings he'd be an eagle"

12 TX Larry Hagman 1972 TV film: "Getting Away From \_\_\_\_\_"

17 Denton's Phyllis George was "Miss Texas" and "Miss \_\_\_\_\_"

19 what "Old Yeller" contracted

21 TX coast bird

22 \_\_\_\_\_ Alvarez de Pineda was first to map TX coastline

23 TX Charley Pride's "Then \_\_\_\_\_?"

28 hammer or saw

29 TX George Strait's "All My \_\_\_\_\_ Live in Texas"

30 Alamo commander William \_\_\_\_\_ Travis

31 TXism: "his \_\_\_\_\_ are elastic" (liar)

35 holiest Islamic city

36 TXism: "the whole kit \_\_\_\_\_"

42 thirty minutes (2 wds.)

44 TX Ginger's Oscar role: "Kitty \_\_\_\_\_"

46 TX Vikki Carr tune: "\_\_\_\_\_ Hombres"

47 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ con dios" (go with God)

49 TX Linda Ellerbee book: "And So \_\_\_\_\_" (1986)

50 Churchill's flyers (abbr.)

51 Okie town

52 "To \_\_\_\_\_ oneself be true"

53 former NBC talk host, Jay

54 spectacles part

1 2 3 4

5

6

7

8

9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16

17 18 19

20

21

22

23 24 25 26 27

28

29

30

31 32 33 34

35

36 37 38

39 40 41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

P-1356

10 TXism: "noisy as \_\_\_\_\_ mamma"

11 TX "Hoss" Blocker 12 retirement acct. 13 old TV western: "

\_\_\_\_\_ Texas Rangers" 14 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_" (computer)

15 TXism: "hook, \_\_\_\_\_ and sinker"

16 TXism: "use \_\_\_\_\_ as earnings on a sow"

18 \_\_\_\_\_ Grande 20 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ dry the Baptists are sprinkling"

23 this Bonney was Billy the Kid (init.) 24 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ on the hoof" (hog)

25 \_\_\_\_\_ City, TX 26 county between Baylor and Clay 27 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ es su casa"

32 Vega H.S. class 33 C&W Clint (init.) 34 TXism: "scared me plumb \_\_\_\_\_ death"

36 TX Wills: "\_\_\_\_\_ ha, take it away, Leon" 37 TX Larry McMurtry book, e.g.

38 ex-Cowboy RB from TX, Thomas 39 TXism: "tall \_\_\_\_\_ the pack" (leader) 40 this TX Ted pitched for the White Sox 41 Gen. Robert \_\_\_\_\_ 43 Sinatra of "Four for Texas" (init.) 45 former Cowboy RB Emmitt (init.) 48 TXism: "hitched to run in \_\_\_\_\_ harness" (married) 49 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ warn your gullet" (nice) 56 TXism: "told a windy"

## WINNSBORO AUCTION COMPANY

There will not be an auction for December 30th.

We will resume in January  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Smoke Free • Family Friendly • Fun Auction.

We take consignments every week on Monday, Thursday and Friday

Additional Professional Services:  
 Estate, Benefit and On Site Auctions

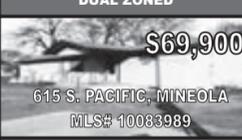
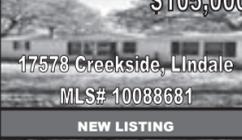
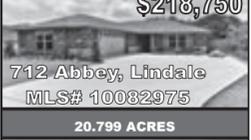
Auctioneer:  
 Dan Hofmeister has over 20 years experience in East Texas.  
**Phone: 903-629-1150 Cell: 903-588-6056**



**REAL EDGE REAL ESTATE**

**6166 SOUTH STATE HWY 37, MINEOLA, TX 75773**  
**PHONE: (903) 638-2455 FAX: (903) 705-7363**  
**MineolaTXHomesForSale.com**

**Get the Competitive Edge With RealEdge Real**

<p><b>DUAL ZONED</b></p>  <p><b>\$69,900</b></p> <p>615 S. PACIFIC, MINEOLA                  MLS# 10083989</p>	<p><b>New Construction</b></p>  <p><b>\$189,900</b></p> <p>20047 CR 445, Lindale                  MLS# 10082707</p>	<p><b>21.585 ACRES</b></p>  <p><b>\$253,000</b></p> <p>1773 E. HWY 80, MINEOLA                  MLS# 10085998</p>
<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>\$272,000</b></p> <p>221 PR 6325, Mineola                  MLS# 10087082</p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>\$375,000</b></p> <p>16924 N. HWY 140, Lindale                  MLS# 10074399</p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>\$34,500</b></p> <p>1516 W Broad St, Mineola                  MLS# 10087382</p>
<p><b>COMMERCIAL</b></p>  <p><b>\$105,000</b></p> <p>17578 Creekside, Lindale                  MLS# 10088681</p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>\$302,000</b></p> <p>220 PR 6325, Mineola                  MLS# 10087417</p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>\$218,750</b></p> <p>712 Abbey, Lindale                  MLS# 10082975</p>
<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>\$104,000</b></p> <p>16574 Stonewood Dr, Lindale                  MLS# 1008763</p>	<p><b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b></p>  <p><b>\$210,000</b></p> <p>349 Smith Circle, Lindale                  MLS# 10084401</p>	<p><b>20.799 ACRES</b></p>  <p><b>\$114,395</b></p> <p>000 US HWY 69, Mineola                  MLS# 10083250</p>

## Mineola Police Report

Mineola police reports for the past week included:

**Dec. 19** – At 8 a.m. personnel at Sonic reported someone had damaged one of the touch-screen order boards.

An officer helped a woman who had gotten off the Amtrak train in Mineola after sleeping through her stop in Dallas. She was taken to the police station and a relative was contacted to pick her up.

At 9:50 p.m. there was a report of a vehicle speeding on North Pacific Street. An officer stopped the vehicle and the three juveniles were later released to a parent.

**Dec. 18** – Police arrested Brandy Nicole Wolfe, 29, Mineola for driving with an invalid license at 1 a.m. after officers responded to a report of an assault in the parking lot at Gateway

Lanes. Police reported the vehicle attempted to leave but was stopped, with Wolfe driving. The male involved did not want to file charges and said it was mutual.

**Dec. 17** – A bank card was found in the Walmart parking lot and returned to the owner.

**Dec. 16** – At 6:54 p.m. officers assisted the fire department with a structure fire on West Blair Street.

At 11:23 a.m. there was a report of a man yelling at workers on the construction site on Commerce Street. The man left prior to the officer's arrival.

A woman on Kevin Street reported that her vehicle had been taken and not returned, but it was determined to be a civil issue.

There was a report of arguing and yelling at the apartments on Bromberg

Street, but it turned out to only be two sisters arguing.

Officers were called to Clara Street for an assault. Those involved were separated and no one wanted to file charges.

**Dec. 15** – At 9:20 a.m. an officer was called to the middle school on a report of an unruly student. A parent was contacted to pick the child up.

Personnel at Wood Memorial Nursing Home requested police issue a criminal trespass warning to someone from their facility.

At 12:50 p.m. the high school reported that a student was receiving inappropriate images through text messages.

Police arrested Shane Kaye Turlington, 20, Mineola at Walmart on a warrant out of Wood County.

An officer was asked to talk to a young person about his behavior. The officer spoke to him and the issue was resolved.

**Dec. 14** – An employee at John's Tire reported he was in an altercation with a co-worker and wanted to speak with an officer. It turned out to be a civil issue.

Officers were called to Chevron at 6:13 p.m. where someone was cussing and making threats. That person was issued a criminal trespass warning.

There was a report of a mother abandoning two small children at the civic center. An officer talked with the mother who had been with the children the entire time.

At 8:29 p.m. an officer talked with a woman who reported an assault at Wood Memorial.

## Council

From page 1A

scription in which the customer gets one block of a quilt per month. They also do a lot of online sales, which he said "tend to be kits. So about a third of it is brick and mortar, about a third of it is online and the other part is mail order."

Additionally, Luttrell said they have a separate company that does cruises and travel. He said it is "under the same roof and brand and marketing." The business brings in busses of paying customers from metropolitan areas to go to their store "for them to shop, and feed them and show them a good time. Play some games and load them back on the bus and take them back."

They also have a laser fabric cutting business currently based in Whitehouse. "We'll be bringing that. There'll be a lot of benefits to doing that," he said.

Ward 2 Councilperson Jayne Lankford asked if the business was comparable to Annie's Attic in Big Sandy. She said that Big Sandy built a large post office to accommodate the business. Luttrell said it is "the same industry, just kind of delivered differently."

Rushing noted the tax abatement is for Luttrell and Luttrell, Limited Liability Company and is for seven years. The industrial foundation property is in a business district and inside the city limits. The abatement starts after the building is completed and has gone on the property tax rolls and is on a sliding scale with 80 percent for three years, 50 for three years and then 25 for one year. She noted the property is next to Adam Steck's property. "It's kind of the front part," she said on 2.662 acres.

The abatement was approved on a motion by Lankford and a second by Ward 1 Councilperson Polly Jones. It passed unanimously with five council members voting in favor. Ward 3 Alderman Mitchell Tuck was absent.

Afterward Luttrell told the Monitor the property would allow for much more space for their merged businesses.

Also in the meeting one week before Christmas, the city council accepted the gift of a historic cemetery. It was in the form of a gift deed approved by the city's attorney from the Wood County Historical Cemetery Association, Inc. for Ford Green Cemetery on Green Street west of Mineola.

Rushing encapsulated the ceme-

tery's recent history. She explained that in 2006 residents on the west side of Mineola began complaining of the unkempt property. Mineola Landmark Commission members at that time had taken on the responsibility for the upkeep of the cemetery, which in 2011 was designated a Texas Historic Cemetery, with the assistance of Junior Historians and other volunteers. No relatives of people buried there were found to help with the cemetery. A non-profit organization status was obtained by the volunteers to take care of the cemetery and other things were done sometimes "on their own dime," Rushing said of the volunteers.

Those former landmark commissioners have gotten older and they asked the city to take the property over. Public Works Director William Crump said his department could do so, but only if they could keep it maintained. "The difference between this cemetery and all the other cemeteries," Rushing said, is there is no way to generate money. Lots can't be sold and it can't be developed.

Three of the five members of the Wood County Historical Cemetery Association – Lou Mallory, Charles Minatrea and Ron Minatrea – were present. "It's not a case of what we want to do," Mallory added. "It became a case of what we had to do because of our age."

Mayor Kevin White said, "I think this falls under the (city's) 2020-2040 plan to add parks, even if they're not recreational parks." Rushing said the parks board would be asked if they could put "a little serenity park" there.

The gift deed was accepted on a motion by Ward 3 Councilperson Nevada Bigham and a second by Ward 1 Councilmember Sue Jones.

Also in last Monday's meeting the council heard from White about meetings coming up in January. One will be Jan. 2 at 5:30 p.m. on bids for utility work for the Sanderson Farms construction. He also said after the regular meeting in January the council will hold a workshop for planning purposes.

The council approved the appointment of Allison Utley to the Parks Board as a member at-large filling a vacancy left by Manny Dominguez. Lankford asked about Dominguez and Rushing said he did not have time to serve on the board.

The council also approved naming the *Wood County Monitor* as the official newspaper of the city for the current fiscal year as well as a request from the city secretary for records destruction.

## Wood County Sheriff's Report

Reports from the Wood County Sheriff's office between Dec. 13 and 19 included the following:

**Dec. 18** - Deputies were dispatched to County Road 3273 near Quitman at 6:46 p.m. on an assault that occurred. Mary Hopp, 72 of Quitman was arrested for assault causing bodily injury family violence.

Deputies spoke with a person at 5:17 p.m. on a theft that occurred on CR 2170 near Quitman. Thieves stole a bumper pull trailer from the property. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies went out on a warrant service to CR 3333 near Emory at 8:04 a.m. Patricia Perea, 17, of Emory was arrested for outstanding warrants.

**Dec. 17** - Deputies were dispatched to CR 3203 near Quitman at 2:40 a.m. on an assault. Andrea Clayton, 41 Quitman was arrested for assault causing bodily injury family violence. James Clayton, 54, of Quitman, was arrested for the same

charges.

**Dec. 15** - Deputies responded to a report of a suspicious person on CR 2377 near Alba at 7:47 p.m. Steven Schwed, 31 of Alba was arrested for outstanding warrants, resisting arrest, possession of marijuana, and assault of a public servant.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2275 near Mineola at 7:28 p.m. on an unlawful disclosure of intimate material. This case has been forwarded to investigators. Deputies were dispatched to Farm-to-Market 2869 near Hawkins at 5:14 p.m. on a disturbance. A criminal trespass warning was issued.

Deputies spoke with a person at 12:47 p.m. on a scam that occurred on Highway 154 near Yantis. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies spoke with a person at 10:35 a.m. on fraud that occurred on CR 2200 near Mineola. This case is active.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2157 near Quitman at 9:00 a.m.

on theft. Thieves stole several items from the residence. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

**Dec. 14** - Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 8:35 p.m. on fraud that occurred on CR 4471 near Winnsboro. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

**Dec. 13** - Deputies spoke with a person at 1:24 p.m. on a theft that occurred on Greenbriar Trail near Hawkins. A thief stole a firearm from the reporting party.



**4 Wheeler & Lawn Mower Repair**

**903-967-7301**

Chain Saw Repair  
Tillers & Jet Skis  
XUV's, ATV's & UTV's  
Side By Sides

Hours:  
8-5  
Mon. - Fri.  
9-12 Sat.

1352 E. St. Hwy. 154  
Quitman, Tx. 75783  
B.C. Roberts  
20 Years Experience

## Mineola Fire Report

Mineola Fire reports from the past week included:

Building fire: Dec. 16 at 521 Blair street;

Vehicle fire: Dec. 18 at 540 County Road 2220;

Grass fire: Dec. 15 at 1426 CR 2425 and 256 CR 2749. Dec. 16 at 726 Goodson Circle;

Medical assist: Dec. 14 at the intersection of North Pacific and Lilly Streets. Dec. 15 at 1810 North Pacific Street. Dec. 17 at 5578 South Highway 37. Dec. 18 at 1025 CR 2332 and 115 East Front Street. Dec. 19 at the intersection of North Johnson and Hall streets;

at 22845 CR 455. Dec. 20 at 152 CR 2302;

Motor vehicle accident without injury: Dec. 19 at 3:07 p.m. at 567 Farm to Market 49.

## COLEMAN BAIL BOND

(Directly across the street from Wood County Jail)

407 S. Stephen • Quitman, Texas 75763

**903.763.4844**

24 Hour Service  
Credit Terms Available



# Destination East Texas

## Bluebonnet's Tourism Guide

- Informative & Eye Catching • Full Color Photos & Advertising
- Places of Interest to Visit
- Visitors, Tourists & Vacationers will love this Guide

Over 10,500 copies to be distributed at key visitor information stops:

Welcome Centers at the Louisiana-Texas & Oklahoma-Texas Borders

East Texas Chamber of Commerce Offices

Area Hotels, Motels, Restaurants and Businesses

**Reach Thousands of New Customers!**

**Deadline: February 8, 2018**

**Publish: March 2018**

Quitman ~ Contact: Brandi Box at 903-763-4522 ~ [advertising@woodcountymonitor.com](mailto:advertising@woodcountymonitor.com)

Mineola ~ Contact: Pamela Hofmeister at 903-569-2442 ~ [ads@woodcountymonitor.com](mailto:ads@woodcountymonitor.com)

## Mineola Memorial Library Notes

BY LIBRARIAN MARY HURLEY



Thank you all so very much for a tremendous 2017! Here's wishing everyone a happy and prosperous New Year!

In case you were wondering, we have added 453 new patrons making the total of active library patrons 3,614. We have offered 400 programs which were attended by 2,842 people. The library has been visited at least 22,756 times and circulated 39,656 items saving our patrons \$940,453. We also had numerous uses of our wi-fi and patron access stations for computers. And you just thought we sat around reading books.

Our Books for Fines made it possible to provide 106 books to Caring & Sharing this year. Thank you to all who participated in this endeavor. Thank you to all who attended our Annual Board Meeting and Open House. A giant thank you to all the Friends who provided such yummy refreshments and the entertainment of Gib Maynard, Elvis tribute artist.

We could not do this without generous support from our community, the Meredith Foundation, KMOO radio, the Wood County Monitor, and many others. We are supported by a fantastic library board and the Friends of the Library.

We appreciate all the kind words and snacks that you have given to us this month of December.

We will be closed Saturday and will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Brown Hearing will be here on Wednesday, Jan. 3 beginning at 10 a.m.

The Friends of the Library will meet Thursday, January 4 at 1 p.m. in the library.

Regular programming will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 9 with the After School groups and Wednes-



Party books – Attendees at the library open house and Christmas party on Dec. 14 donated books for Mineola's Caring & Sharing. There were 106 books new books donated for children for the Christmas campaign. Head Librarian Mary Hurley, left, and Kaleigh Sauer, high school staffer, are boxing the books to be given for the Christmas drive. (Monitor photo by Doris Newman)

day, Jan. 10 beginning at 10:15 a.m. with Toddler Story Time followed by Pre School Story Time at 11:15 a.m. American Girls sign up deadline will be Wednesday, Jan. 10 for the Saturday, Jan. 13 meeting.

The library received donations from Roy Devlin and Barbara Morgan.

The Mineola Memorial Library is a 501(c)3, non-profit and your donations are not only appreciated, they are tax-deductible.



Lone Star Dodge held a Holly Jolly Christmas event on Saturday, Dec. 9 with free hot dogs for everyone and Christmas gifts for children from 2 to 10 years old. The event was sponsored by salesman at the Mineola business. (Courtesy photo)

## Texas Songwriters contest has begun

The Texas Country Music Association, Inc. announced that its annual TCMA Songwriter Contest and Awards are open for song submissions in both country and Christian country formats.

Songs must be original works and will be judged on creativity, lyrics, melody, arrangement, originality and overall technique. Songs are reviewed in the order they are submitted so entering early is suggested. To review the rules and to enter, go to [texascountrymusic.org](http://texascountrymusic.org) and choose the Songwriter contest link.



"American Pickers" television program is heading to Texas next month and they are looking for sizeable, unique collections. The show will be in Texas Jan. 14-15 and producers are looking for collections throughout the region, specifically interesting characters with interesting items and lots of them. Anyone who has information or a collection can contact the show's producers at 1-855-OLD-RUST (653-7878), or email them at [AmericanPickers@cinetflix.com](mailto:AmericanPickers@cinetflix.com). Producers say that Mike Wolfe, right, and Frank Fritz, left, only "pick" private collections so that means no stores, malls, flea markets, museums or anything open to the public.

**THE DEN**  
STEAKHOUSE & GRILL  
[www.thedenquitman.com](http://www.thedenquitman.com)  
**903-850-9843**  
101 Lipscomb Dr. • Quitman TX 75783  
"Like" us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/TheDenQuitman](http://www.facebook.com/TheDenQuitman)

# WOOD COUNTY CORKBOARD

### CONSTRUCTION

**John Spanko**  
General Contractor

- Remodels • All Carpentry
- Doors/Windows
- Additions

**35 Years Experience**

Quality Work & Free Estimates

**903-569-2618**

### CONSTRUCTION

**TED WILSON**  
**CONSTRUCTION**  
YOUR REMODELING SPECIALIST

Remodels, Add-ons & Repairs  
Barns, Garages & Shops  
Residential & Commercial

**903-850-3570**

**BE A PART OF THE CORKBOARD!**

**CALL BRANDI BOX TODAY AT**

**903 763-4522!**

## Obituaries

### PATSY HARRIS-BRALEY 1938-2017

A memorial service for Patsy Gene Harris-Braley, 79, of Yantis was held on Saturday, December 23 at Color Blind Anointed Ministries Church in Como with Pastor C.J. Duffey officiating. Kenya Chaffer was the soloist for the celebration of life.

Mrs. Harris-Braley died on Saturday, December 9, 2017. She was born on August 20, 1938 in Dallas, the daughter of the late J.D. Cook and Eula Benson Cook.

For many years she worked as a nurse and lived in Dallas area until she moved to Rockwall. In 1991 she married Grady Braley who died in 2002. After his passing she moved to Yantis.

She was also preceded in death by her brothers Joe David Cook and Tony Wayne Cook. She enjoyed sewing, crafts, cake decorating and her seven cats and two dogs.

She is survived by her daughters Kay Alderman of Emory, Tammy Preuss of Sulphur Springs, Cecilia Brown of Red Oak, Johna Lacy of Holiday, Florida; five granddaughters; numerous great-grandchildren and aunt Inez Williams of Tyler.



as a deacon for 55 years. He worked for Farmland Industries as a field and meter tech for many years.

In addition to his wife, Mamie; he is also survived by sons, Melvin Wayne Green of Bonaparte, Iowa, Marty Green of Cedar Creek Lake; a daughter, Carolyn Ater of Sulphur Springs; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; as well as brothers, Jimmy Green, Gene Green, and sister, Edna Birchfield. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Everette Green and Herbert Mayberry.

### MELBA SILLS 1931-2017

A funeral service for Melba Ruth Sills, age 86, of Quitman, was held Monday, December 18 at Lowe Funeral Home with Milton and Rosemary Hamilton officiating.

Committal was at Concord Cemetery.

Mrs. Sills died Friday December 15, 2017 in North Richland Hills. She was born August 2, 1931 in Wills Point, one of seven children born to Fermon and Mary Barber. On September 7, 1953 she married Robert Edward Sills. They lived in Quitman 37 years and attended First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Sills was a hostess and enjoyed cooking and catering for churches and quilted in her spare time. She was also a member of many clubs in Wood County.

She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Gladys Wheeler, Clovis Marshall, Coy Barber, Doug Barber and Frank Barber.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years; two daughters, Amy Hunter of Haltom City and Beth Doty of North Richland Hills; brother, Marlon Barber of Tyler; three grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family.

### LINDA SIMONEK 1944-2017

A funeral service for Linda Sue Simonek, 73, of Mineola, was held Wednesday, December 20 at Beaty Funeral Home near Mineola. The service was officiated by Ben Steen.

Mrs. Simonek died on Sunday, December 17, 2017, in Tyler. She was born on August 8, 1944 in Dallas to the late Roy and Betty Zigler.

Mrs. Simonek was preceded in death by her husband, Eddie Simonek.

She is survived by two sons, Tracy Tucker of Mineola and Richard Tucker of Missouri; two daughters, Kimberly Harrison of Katy and Teresa Rountree of Mineola; brother, Billy Beverly of Justin; sisters Marlene Morris of Mineola and Lucy Black of Athens; six grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.



### GERALD WALDROP, JR. 1974-2017

A funeral service for Gerald Ray Waldrop Jr., 43, of Winnsboro was held Tuesday, December 19 at Beaty Funeral Home in Winnsboro with Ronny Spence officiating.

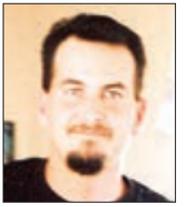
Burial was at Smyrna Cemetery.

Mr. Waldrop died December 16, 2017 in Tyler after battling cancer. He was born on November 30, 1974 in Sulphur Springs to Gerald Ray Sr. and

Regina Vaughn Waldrop. He was a Baptist, attending Wood County Cowboy Church and working in the construction industry.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Brandy Waldrop, and his mother.

He is survived by his father Gerald Ray Waldrop, Sr. of Winnsboro; daughter Brittany Waldrop, Sulphur Springs; sons, Drew Waldrop Cooksey of Sulphur Springs, and Nathaniel Waldrop of Greenville; brothers, Bruce Lee Waldrop of Winnsboro, Ben Waldrop of Concord, Jake Foster of Brownsboro; two grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and many relatives.



### ROBERT WATTIS 1965-2017

A memorial service for Robert Clifton Wattis, 52, of Winnsboro, will be held on January 6 at 1 p.m. on his property in Winnsboro.

Mr. Wattis died on December 13, 2017 in an automobile accident near Quitman. He was born August 10, 1965 to Bette Kay and Edmund Orsen Wattis in Austin.

Mr. Wattis was an avid hunter, a master carpenter and worked in the construction field most of his life.

He was preceded in death by his father. He is survived by his daughter Erica Bednarz of Bullard, a granddaughter, close friend and former son-in-law Randolph Reel of Ore City, former wife and lifelong friend Melissa Williams of Bullard and her son Landon of Quitman.

He is also survived by his mother, Bette Kay Warren, stepfather Daryl Warren, stepmother Betty Neasham, brothers Eddie Wattis and Andrew Warren and sisters Lisa Carter and Paige Farber.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to SPCA of Texas or the charity of your choice.



### ANNE WULFF 1929-2017

A memorial service for Anne Edna Wulff, age 88 of Lindale, was held on Thursday, Dec. 21 at Beaty Funeral Home near Mineola with Pastor David Burcham conducting the service.

Mrs. Wulff died on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at home. She was born on August 27, 1929 in Anthon, Iowa to the late Frank and Willa Clark Lyon. She was a homemaker, a former member of Harvest Acres Baptist Church in Mineola and member of First Baptist Church in Lindale. She was preceded in death by her husband Claire M. Wulff and grandson, John Wulff, Jr.

She is survived by her son, John Wulff of Lindale; daughters, Linda Timmons of Mineola and Marsha Wulff of Carmel, California; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.



## MISD

From page 1A

ness testing and graduation rates. Some of the highlights were grades and content areas in the district in which scores were above regional and state averages, as well as increases for students performing at the advanced levels on the test.

Tunnell later reported that students performing at the college and career ready levels are above regional and state averages. That figure includes the 61 percent of students who are considered economically disadvantaged by the state. The percentage of Mineola School District's students graduating on the recommended high school program is 83 percent, Tunnell said.

The number of Hispanic students has increased from 29 to 32 percent this year. It was also noted that the teaching staff with a master's degree is 28 percent, up from the prior year of 25 percent.

Tunnell also reported the increases seen in math performance this year resulting from a targeted emphasis in 2016-2017. The target areas this year include the literacy and writing program across the district and the support for English Language Learners and performance of special education students.

While a public forum time was allowed, but there were no public comments during the Texas Academic Performance

Report following the presentation by Tunnell.

A presentation was made by Arnold, Walker, Arnold, & Co. PC on the annual school audit. The report had no negative findings or corrections needed by the district and was approved with a 5-0 vote by the board.

The meeting began with recognition of the band directors on their state UIL championship. The directors were presented with certificates and medals and the school board members were also given a medal for the continued support of the school district's Fine Arts programs.

Attendance concerns were discussed during the

enrollment report about the number of students at primary and elementary campuses who missed school because of illness.

The 2018-2019 school calendar components were discussed in reference to the best instructional plan for students. Pros and cons were shared in moving towards a nine-week grading cycle. Tunnell said the new plan should show the benefits of more instructional time for learning led the board to support consideration for 2018-2019. A draft calendar is expected to be presented at the next month's board meeting.

In personnel matters, Kathryn Hancock was

hired as a new third grade teacher to help with grade level class size due to enrollment. The district also later accepted bids on the sale of two delinquent properties. The separate properties sold for \$20,000 and \$850 respectively.

## MEALS ON WHEELS

### THIS WEEK'S MENU:

**Thursday, Dec. 28** - Swedish Meatballs, Chuck wagon Corn, Cranapple Cobbler, Wheat Bread, Milk

**Friday, Dec. 22** - Ham / Raisin Sauce, Black-eyed Peas, Mixed Fruit Cobbler, Bread, Milk

**Monday, Jan. 01** -

CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY

**Tuesday, Jan. 02** -

CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY

**Wednesday, Jan. 03** - Hamburger Patty & Bun, Sliced Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato, Tater Puff Casserole, Hot Spiced Apples, Milk, Mustard & Ketchup

Meals on Wheels - Ph.: (903) 497-1162

Email: [Msc3073@att.net](mailto:Msc3073@att.net)

Hometown Friendly from Hometown Folks



FREE delivery Drive thru  
125 E. Broad St. Mineola • 903-569-3882

**Hilliard Funeral Home**  
**Fairway Crematory**  
Direct Cremation **\$825**  
903.963.8831 [www.hilliardfuneralhome.com](http://www.hilliardfuneralhome.com)

**KELLY DRUG**  
Hometown Friendly from Hometown Folks  
Offering FREE delivery - Drive thru  
125 E. Broad St. Mineola • 903-569-3882

**Better Hearing Begins here.....**

**In Lindale we offer:**

- **Free Hearing Tests**
- **Fair prices on the best Aids**
- **Payment plans (w.a.c.)**
- **60 day trial period, great results.**

**Call for an appointment**  
**903-881-5753**

**East Texas Hearing Solutions**  
**1437 South Main St., Lindale**

# Welcome to Gig City



## Now serving Mineola with speeds up to 1 Gigabit.

Suddenlink is proud to give our customers access to unprecedented Internet download speeds up to 1 Gig. The fact is, very few U.S. cities have access to Internet speeds this fast, and this truly sets Mineola apart.



## Dean's 20 not enough as Lady Js lose to Gilmer

By **QUINTON LILLEY**  
sports@woodcountymonitor.com

Last Tuesday the Mineola Lady Jackets were coming off a tough road loss to their Highway 69 neighbor – the Alba-Golden Lady Panthers.

Mineola was hoping that the new week would bring some new mojo, however the Lady Jackets lost 70-62 against the Gilmer Buckeyes.

Sabria Dean has been a bright spot for the Lady Jackets as she again finished with 20 points and six rebounds.

Dean had scored at least 20 points in five consecutive (non-tournament) games dating back to Dec. 5 against Arp High School. Her highest scoring output came last Friday against Alba-Golden when the sophomore point guard scored 39 points – a season high.

Sharp shooter Cyn-di Butler had a good game as she also broke in to double digits as she scored 12 points, matching her season high. Jessiah Riley, Vanessa Spurgeon and Tisara Stephens each had eight points as well.

## LADY BULLDOGS ALL-STATE ACADEMICS



Several senior Quitman varsity volleyball players earned statewide recognition for academics. The girls maintained a 94 cumulative average for four years to be eligible for Volleyball Academic All State by the Texas Girls Coaches Association and the Texas Association of Volleyball Coaches. They are, from left, Molly Tanner, Cassidy Corrior, Rebekah Corrior, Cammie Hicks and Kaci Raley.

## Rucker seeks to revitalize Lady Bulldog basketball

By **LARRY TUCKER**  
news@woodcountymonitor.com

A Grand Saline native has taken the reins of the Quitman Lady Bulldog basketball program. Amanda Rucker, 24 and a 2011 graduate of Grand Saline High School has hit the ground running in her efforts to lay a foundation for a revived girls basketball program at Quitman.

She's taking on a program which has struggled in the past few years and prior to this year, had won just 10 games in two years and is coming off a 4-23 season last year while going 1-13 in district play.

After spending last year as an assistant at Van, Rucker was named Quitman head coach this year.

"I feel like I was fortunate to come to Quitman and be the head coach. I have always had a lot of respect for Quitman while competing against them in past years. I wanted to coach in a small town like I grew up in and Quitman is a great place to be," Rucker said. "Once I interviewed with Coach Oakes (Bryan), I really wanted the job. Coach Oakes is an athletic director who actually cares about the entire athletic program. He is very supportive of girl's athletics. He has come by to our practices and it means a lot to the girls that he cares about them too. So many times, you see programs that are only about football, but in Quitman, all sports

See RUCKER, Page 6B

## Quitman drops 1st district game to Edgewood

By **LARRY TUCKER**  
news@woodcountymonitor.com

District 12-3A favorite Edgewood defeated Quitman 71-20 to open conference play before a large crowd in Edgewood last Tuesday night.

After taking an 18-9 first quarter lead, Edgewood went on a 17-0 run in the second quarter to take a 35-9 lead into intermission. Quitman hit three, three-point shots on a pair of long shots by Jace Reid and one from Garrett Peek.

The Edgewood full-court press gave Quitman problems and led to several turnovers. Edgewood's Trey Erwin scored a game high 33 points. Reid led Quitman scoring with eight points.

Quitman will return to district action after the Christmas break with a home game against Eustace Tuesday. During the district break the Bulldogs will travel to

See BULLDOGS, Page 3B



Josh Medlin (22) looks for room to make a play at Edgewood. (Monitor photo by Larry Tucker)

Sammi Ramsel applies full court man-to-man defense against Eustace last Tuesday. (Monitor photo by Quinton Lilley)



## Lady Panthers dominate Eustace

By **QUINTON LILLEY**  
sports@woodcountymonitor.com

The Alba-Golden Lady Panthers have now won two straight games after thoroughly beating the Eustace Lady Bulldogs Tuesday afternoon 53-10.

The Lady Panthers quickly jumped all over Eustace with their full court man-to-man defense that led to repeated easy baskets for A-G. The Lady Panthers got out to an early 11-0 lead by the end of the first quarter. Eustace scored their first basket on a three-pointer midway through the second quarter making it a 14-3 score

in favor of A-G.

Macie Pendergrass got the scoring off to a hot start for A-G as she scored on a short jumper and a lay-up in the early moments of the first quarter.

In the second quarter the Lady Panther defense continued to stifle the Lady Bulldogs as A-G took a 21-6 lead in to halftime. However Alba-Golden Head Coach Blake Hamrick was visibly displeased with his team's performance at halftime.

Hamrick said about the game, that his team played sluggish on offense and didn't

See A-G, Page 3B



First-year Head Coach Amanda Rucker watches the Lady Bulldogs from the sidelines. (Monitor photo by Larry Tucker)

North, East, South or West  
The Lakes of Wood County are the best!

THE LAKES OF WOOD COUNTY  
BEYOND THE LURE OF BIG FISH

www.woodcountytexas.com

Do you have plans for New Years Eve??

JOIN US FOR THE  
BIGGEST NEW YEARS PARTY  
IN WINNSBORO!

Special Entertainment:  
**MYR & LENIUS**  
& Live DJ!

Doors open at 8pm!  
TICKETS - \$30.00  
includes Late Night Buffet, Concert & DJ, Champagne Toast at Midnight, Plus Prizes and Giveaways!!

Get your tickets before they sell out!!

**LONE REPUBLIC STEAKHOUSE & BAR**

206 Market St., Winnsboro  
www.lonerepublicsteakhouse.com  
(903) 347-6526



Quitman award winners for football were (left to right) Most Improved Gavin Derryberry, Offensive Player of the Year Trey Berry, Defensive Player of the Year A.J. Dunn and Most Valuable Player Garrett Taylor.



The region qualifying Quitman Lady Bulldog Cross Country team honored at the fall sports reception were (left to right) Katie Kelley, Tristan Payne, Hannah Smith, Joanna Santiago and Maria Rowland.

## Fall sports banquet sees good turnout for Quitman athletes

By LARRY TUCKER

news@woodcountymonitor.com

Quitman High School had a good reception to celebrate fall sports at the school auditorium last Monday.

Volleyball, football, cross country and cheerleading student-athletes were honored in the one-hour ceremony followed by a reception in the foyer.

Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Bryan Oakes started the evening with the football program saying how proud he was of the players on his team.

"I have never been around a team who has faced so many obstacles during the football season. I can't say enough about these young men, their dedication and the determination they had to get through what happened to them this year," Oakes said.

"From the death of Hunter Huggins dad, Tim Huggins, just as practices were getting started to losing one of their own, Stephen Love, near the end of our season. The (players) never complained during the season, even when it didn't go like we planned. They are great young men and I love each one of them."

The Most Valuable Player award for football went to senior Garrett Taylor. Taylor was a two-way starter for the Bulldogs and even played some quarterback duty when the injuries started piling up.

Taylor suffered injuries to his knee in the final game of the season and is facing surgery. Taylor was also named Honorable Mention to the Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA) All State Academic team.

The Defensive Player of the Year was senior A.J. Dunn who also made the THSCA All State Academic First Team. Sophomore running back/quarterback Trey Berry was tabbed Offensive Player of the Year award while junior Gavin Derryberry took home the Most Improved award.

Coach Ashlee Lingo introduced the bi-district champion Quitman Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Bulldogs had a 33-8 season and a perfect 14-0 District 12-3A. "This group is really special to me. I started coaching the seniors when they were playing in the sixth grade," Lingo said. "We have grown close together over those years and this is really hard to see them go. The younger players have some big shoes to fill. They have been so dedicated and they are so involved in other things as

well as they all make really good grades. I could not ask for a group to be more dedicated to the sport and to the work ethic it takes to be successful."

Lingo named senior middle blocker Molly Tanner as this year's Most Valuable Player for the team. Tanner was awarded multiple state level post-season honors and was recently selected with four of her teammates to the Texas Girls Coaches Association Academic All State team. Others making that elite academic team were Kaci Raley, Cammie Hicks, Rebekah Corridor and Cassidy Corrior.

Seniors Hicks and Raley were named as Co-Offensive Players of the Year while sophomore Jentri Jackson was the Most Improved and junior Madalyn Spears was tabbed as Defensive Player of the Year. Lingo's entire varsity volleyball team made the All Academic District



Boys cross country team members honored at the Quitman fall sports reception were (left to right) Aiden Corrior, Ben Burroughs, Rylie Flanagan, Jace Reid, Dalton Brandon (region qualifier), Diego Flores and Garrett Peek. (Monitor photos by Larry Tucker)

team.

Coach Jim Reid named regional qualifier junior Dalton Brandon as the team's Runner of the Year and sophomore Ben Burroughs as Most Improved.

"Most of these guys will be back next year. The basketball players had to deal with their basketball coach being the cross country coach," Reid said. "I am proud of the improvement they made throughout the year. These guys got up early

and ran every morning. They worked hard and it paid off with their best times at the end of the year."

Girls Cross Country Coach Michael Scott's team consisted of four freshmen and three sophomores.

"These young ladies were your regional qualifiers this year. Most had never run before and they did a great job training for the meets," Scott said. "I couldn't be more proud of their work ethic. These

young ladies put forth hours of running and getting better each meet."

The Most Improved Runner for the girls was freshman Hannah Smith and the Runner of the Year was freshman Kaiti Kelley.

Cheerleader coach Ashley Rye gave out awards to the varsity cheerleading squad.

"These girls had a great camp getting ready of this year. Out of six awards given at varsity camp they brought home five,"

Rye said. "We had two girls who were All Americans. They worked hard and are still working hard for basketball season."

Freshman Kaitie Kelley and sophomore mascot Lindsey Barnett were the All Americans.

The cheerleading Outstanding Leadership award was given to junior Abby Dobbs while the Showmanship award went to Cameron Williams. The Bulldog Spirit award went to sophomore Jentri Jackson.



The Area Finalist Quitman Lady Bulldog volleyball team was 33-8 for the year and 14-0 in winning the District 12-3A championship. Honored at the fall athletic reception were (left to right) Jentri Jackson, Julia Simpkins, Rebekah Corrior, Madalyn Spears, Cassidy Corrior, Kaci Raley, Molly Tanner, Cammie Hicks and Abby Dobbs.



The varsity cheer squad won numerous awards as a team and individuals who made All American. They were honored at the fall sports reception. They are (left to right) Aleigh Farnham, Cameron Williams, Jentri Jackson, Katie Kelley, Bre Cockerham, Avery Stephens, Emma Vanbeclearre, Lyndsey Barnett, Abby Dobbs and Halee Hightower.



Molly Tanner (25) fights to get to the bucket against Edgewood last Tuesday. Tanner led Quitman scoring with 10 points in the contest. (Monitor photo by Larry Tucker)

## Panthers survive Wolfe City's late rally, 42-38

By **QUINTON LILLEY**  
sports@woodcountymonitor.com

The Alba-Golden Panthers were able to get a much needed win in their last preseason non-district game Thursday against Wolfe City winning 42-38.

However their solid play for three quarters was nearly for not as the Wolfe City Wolves were down 12 points midway through the fourth quarter and went on a 8-0 run in the final three minutes. The Panthers effectively gave the A-G crowds an early Christmas present.

The Panthers started off solid as Dyllon Shuttlesworth got the scoring started for A-G, by hitting a three from the top of the key. Shuttlesworth then finished a lay-up to pace the Panthers throughout the first quarter. Shuttlesworth finished with a team high 13 points.

The first quarter ended with A-G leading 14-11. In the second quarter both teams switched from their traditional full-court presses to more half-court defense as neither team was shooting the ball well from the outside. However the Panthers had maybe their best quarter of the game as the team repeatedly drove the ball to the basket picking up fouls, free throws and easy lay-ups.

This strategy on offense led to the Panthers gaining themselves a 10-point lead by half time. In the second quarter Shawn Davis got the A-G defense going with steals that led to fast-break lay-up opportunities for A-G. Zane Smith got a tip-in off a Davis miss, and Jon Michael Chadwick got an and one layup to fall during



Alba-Golden's Mike Hartin drives past two defenders during their game against Wolfe City. (Monitor photo by Quinton Lilley)

an 8-0 run late in the second quarter as the Panthers took a 29-19 lead in to halftime.

In the third both teams essentially traded baskets most of the quarter with the Panthers keeping their 10-point lead. Smith would extend the Panther lead back to 12 with another lay-up before the Wolves made a huge comeback in the final minutes that nearly earned them a victory.

Chadwick rounded out the Panther's double-digit scorers with 10 points off the bench. Smith added seven points while Mike Hartin contributed with five points.

## Lady Bulldogs fall in district competition to Edgewood

By **LARRY TUCKER**  
news@woodcountymonitor.com

The Quitman Lady Bulldogs and Edgewood fought a tough defensive battle in the first quarter in last Tuesday night's District 12-3A game. Edgewood broke the game open in the second quarter leading to the 65-19 win.

Neither team could score early until Quitman's Molly Tanner put the Lady Bulldogs up 2-0 with 4:15 left in the opening quarter.

Quitman got another bucket from Tanner and had a 4-3 until Edgewood hit a three-point shot to take a 6-4 lead. It would be the last time Quitman would lead in the game. Edgewood

went on a 22-1 run in the second quarter to take command of the game with a 30-5 lead at the half.

Utopia Henry's score was Quitman's only points in the third quarter and Edgewood led 50-7 going in the final eight minutes. Tanner would hit for six more points as Quitman scored 12 in the final quarter. Tanner led Quitman with 10 points for the evening.

The loss dropped Quitman to 1-2 in district action going into the Christmas break. The Lady Bulldogs will take on Como-Pickton Friday in a 2 p.m. game during the break at Ballard Gym and resume district at home Tuesday against Eustace.

## A-G

From page 1B

execute very well initially.

"We played a good second half after a slow start in the first half. It's hard for players to get motivated when it's Christmas break and the game is in the middle of the day with holidays looming around the corner. We were able to lock in more in the second half and focus on what we do better than what we did in the first half," Hamrick said last week via text.

In the third quarter A-G played arguably their best quarter of the game as the Lady Panthers doubled their lead in less than five minutes. Sammi Rambsel hit back to back three's and Kenzi Chadwick scored a lay-up that capped off a 15-0 run to

extend A-G's lead to 30 points. At the end of the third Eustace had been held scoreless and the score was 36-6.

The A-G Lady Panthers scored 17 points in the fourth as they went on to win by 43 points.

The Lady Panthers were led in scoring by Rambsel who had struggled in recent games.

"Sammi Rambsel stuck out against Eustace. She had had a rough couple of games (prior) against Edgewood and Mineola but was able to bounce back and dial in mentally against Eustace and played a good game," Hamrick said.

Rambsel finished with a team-high 16 points, five rebounds and four assists while hitting two threes.

Hamrick also said he thought the key to the game was the A-G girl's ability to spread the offensive scoring load around.

The Lady Panthers are a team full of similar sized players who can all do a multitude of things to attack defenses.

"The good thing for us is we don't have any (one star) on the team but have a team full of equal talent so if someone is having a bad game or a bad day we have the capability to have someone else step up and pick up the slack,"

Hamrick said. Grace Bizzell finished with 13 points, eight steals. Chadwick was the third scorer in double figures for A-G as she finished with 11 points, seven rebounds and two steals.

The Lady Panthers will look to continue their balanced offensive attack when they return from Christmas break.

## Lady Hawks can't hold early lead, lose to Pittsburg, 58-43

By **QUINTON LILLEY**  
sports@woodcountymonitor.com

The Hawkins Lady Hawks were desperate for a win coming in to last Tuesday's game as the team had lost back-to-back games to Grand Saline and Gladewater. However even after a good start where Hawkins led 9-5 at the end of the first quarter, Hawkins fell to the Pittsburg Lady Pirates 58-43.

The Hawks played a solid first half as they went in to intermission down 17-21, but the Lady Pirates scored 20 points in the third quarter and took their first double-digit lead at the end of the third when the score was 30-41.

The Lady Hawks would not regain the lead again as they eventually lost by 15 being out-scored 17 to 13 in the final quarter.

The Lady Hawks were led in scoring by Raeli Smith who had 12 points and eight rebounds. Also helping the effort

for Hawkins was Harlie Conover with seven points, four rebounds and two steals.

Alyssa Eddington added six points, six rebounds, Emily Hodges had five points and four rebounds, Jaycee Cheshire tied for the lead in rebounding with five points, eight rebounds, and a block. Emily Moore contributed four points and two rebounds, while Carolyn Searer had two points, two rebounds and three steals.

## Bulldogs

From page 1B

Quinlan Boles for a tournament. They will open tournament play against Wolfe City at 11 a.m.

"We wanted to go ahead and play this first district game early be-

cause that way we can get a few games in over the break. We have a young team and we need to play as many ball-games as we can," Quitman Head Coach Jim Reid said. "Edgewood, Kemp and Mineola each have a lot of talent and should be the favorites in our district."



### Watkins Insurance GROUP

P.O. Box 1188 • Mineola, TX 75773  
(Across From Wal-Mart)

**Nic Watkins**  
Licensed Agent

Ph. (903) 569-5115  
Fax (903) 569-5110  
Texas (800) 460-5510

nwatkins@watkinsinsurancegroup.com  
www.watkinsinsurancegroup.com

## Kindness Kottage

**Resale Store Hours:**  
Monday - Friday 9-4 p.m.  
Saturday 9-1 p.m.  
Closed Sun.

**Food Pantry Hours:**  
Monday - Friday 9-3:30 p.m.  
*\*Pre-Qualification Required\**

316 E. Broad St. / Mineola / 903-569-9197  
www.kindnesskottage.com

## MINEOLA ANIMAL SHELTER

THESE ARE SOME OF THE MANY ANIMALS IN NEED OF HOMES.

This dog is described as "just a little sweetheart." She is about 1 year old, 30-35 pounds, house-trained, gentle yet playful and "gets along with everybody." This little longhair tabby male is about 8-10 weeks old, litter-box trained and very cuddly. The kitten in last week was adopted but the white and blue tabby female adult cat is still at the shelter.

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

**BAKER STREET 903-569-2252**  
**IF NO ANSWER, CALL 903-569-6294**  
**TUESDAY-SATURDAY FROM 8AM - 4PM**  
*Please spay and neuter your pets*

Sponsored by these Mineola businesses:

**Lake Country Animal Clinic**  
1124 FM 564  
(903)569-5418

**Kitchens Hardware/Deli**  
119 E. Broad  
(903)569-2664

## Mineola Country Club SENIOR GOLF REPORT

There was a first place tie for the lead in the Mineola Country Club's Senior.

The two teams who tied were Robert Linker, Ricky Stone, Larry Jackson, Rod Waggoner and Bill Lochow, Mike Wester, Mike Casselman, Larry O'Donnell with a 59 for 12 under par.

Closest to the pin: number 5 Billy Hightower, number 9 Bill Stone, number 18 Larry O'Donnell.

# BTH Bank

EARN UP TO 2.50% APY\*

WITH A WORRY-FREE CD

2.30% APY on a 30 month CD (floor of 1.00% APY)  
2.50% APY on a 60 month CD (floor of 1.21% APY)

OR EARN UP TO 1.41% APY\*\*

WITH A CUSTOMER BENEFICIAL MONEY MARKET

0.25% APY up to \$49,999  
0.50% APY for \$50,000 to \$99,999  
1.21% APY for \$100,000 to \$499,999  
1.41% APY for \$500,000 and over

1825 NORTH PACIFIC STREET  
MINEOLA, TX 75773 | 903-569-8010

WWW.BTHBANK.COM

412 EAST GOODE STREET  
QUITMAN, TX 75783 | 903-763-2264

\*Annual Percentage Yield. The minimum to open and obtain the APY is \$10,000. Rates indexed to the One-Year Daily US Treasury Yield Curve Rates and may change every three months after the account is opened. Withdrawal of interest will reduce earnings. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. Refer to Truth-in-Savings disclosure for complete details. Interest rates and APYs are effective November 1, 2017. Additional deposits of at least \$10,000 may be made to the CD. Available for personal and business accounts. \*\*Annual Percentage Yield. Rates are subject to change. \$10,000 minimum to open. \$10,000 minimum balance to avoid the monthly service charge. Interest rates and APYs effective November 1, 2017. Fees could reduce earnings to the account. Available for personal and business accounts.

# Wood County Church Directory

**Lake Fork Baptist Church**  
*A lighthouse on the lake*  
 9483 W FM 515 (903) 473-9523  
 Alba, Tx 75410 Fax: 903-474-9045  
 Website: [www.lakeforkbaptist.org](http://www.lakeforkbaptist.org)  
 email: [info@lakeforkbaptist.org](mailto:info@lakeforkbaptist.org)

**CADE'S**  
**BUILDING MATERIALS**  
 401 S. Pacific • Mineola • 903-569-5423

*Quitman Flower Shop/Gifts*  
 627 E. Lane • 903-763-2922  
 *"Attend the Church of Your Choice"*

**Paddy's Autoworks**  
*Auto Repair Professionals*  
 3841 E. Hwy. 154 • 903-967-3799 Open  
 Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

**SONIC**  
*America's Drive-In.*  
 Chad Lewis 903-763-5445  
 305 E. Goode St., Quitman

**Dairy Queen of Mineola**  
 **903-569-5454**

**Kenneth L. Williams CPA**  
 308 N. Main • Quitman  
**903-763-4366**  
*We support our local community*

**Mineola eyecare**  
*Family owned business for more than 60 continuous years*  
 1238 N Pacific St • Mineola, TX  
**903 569-5432**  
[www.mineolaandcantoneyecare.com](http://www.mineolaandcantoneyecare.com)

**Trinidad**  
 Benham Corporation  
 Packagers of Dried Beans, Peas, Rice, Popcorn, Household Aluminum Foil & Plastic Wrap  
**322 Freeman**  
**903-569-2636**

**Kelly Drug**  
 Corner of Hwy. 69 & 80 | 569-3882  
 Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. | Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
**FREE DELIVERY**

**SUPPORT OUR AREA CHURCHES WITH AN AD IN THIS LOCATION**

**WOOD COUNTY ASPHALT**  
 2124 County Road 2670  
**903.569.1833**

**Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.**  
*Matthew 5:5*

**BAILEY'S ACE HARDWARE**  
 522 E. Broad 903.569.2911  
 Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30 AM - 7 PM,  
 Sat 8 AM - 6 PM • Sunday 1 pm - 5 PM

**BODDIE ROOFING**  
 Composition - Torchdown - Metal  
**RESIDENTIAL • FREE ESTIMATES**  
**903-850-4642**

Alba  
**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 Gunter Assembly of God  
 4578 North FM 17, Alba  
 (903) 765-9981

**BAPTIST**  
 Bright Star Baptist Church  
 2795 Co Rd 3480, Alba  
 903-473-4064  
 Pastor 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  
 Pastor Kelly B. Burton  
**Lake Fork Baptist**  
 9483 W. FM 515, Alba  
 903-473-9523  
 Pastor Perry Crisp

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 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

**METHODIST**  
 Alba United Methodist  
 170 E. Holley St. Alba  
 903-473-2411  
 Rev. Beverly Tune

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
 Amazing Grace Fellowship Church  
 7405 US Hwy 69 E, Alba  
 Pastor Byron George  
**Open Door Church**  
 633 CR1560, Alba  
 (903) 765-3587  
 B.D. Bohannon

Golden  
**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 Cottonwood Assembly of God  
 8481 FM 779, Golden  
 (903) 765-2675  
 Pastor: Otis Lee

**BAPTIST**  
 Golden First Baptist Church  
 County Road 2940, Golden  
 903 768-2258  
 Pastor Ed Lewis  
**Pilgrim Rest #2 Baptist Church**  
 205 County Road 2376, Golden  
 903-768-2653  
 Pastor Craig Kearby

**BIBLE INDEPENDENT**  
 Golden Bible Church  
 CR 2290, Golden  
 (903) 768-2700

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 Golden Church of Christ  
 FM Rd. 779, Golden  
 903-768-2712  
 James Slinger

**METHODIST**  
 Golden United Methodist  
 658 FM 1799, Golden  
 903-768-2268  
 Pastor Jim Pickens

Hawkins  
**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 First Assembly of God  
 102 Hams St., Hawkins  
 903-769-3835  
 Pastor Don Majors

**BAPTIST**  
 Liberty Baptist  
 288 CR 3650, Hawkins  
 903-769-2250  
 Pastor Bob Sexton

**LUTHERAN**  
 Trinity Lutheran Church  
 3718 FM 2869 • Hawkins  
 903-769-4065  
 Kyle Kirk

**PENTECOSTAL**  
 Pine Mills Pentecostal Church  
 Hwy. 14, Hawkins  
 903-857-2527  
 Pastor M.D. Thornhill

Holly Lake  
**CATHOLIC**  
 Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
 1612 S. 2869, Holly Lake  
 Rev. Michael T. Snyder  
 903-769-3235

Mineola  
**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 First Assembly of God  
 1917 N US Hwy 69  
 (903) 569-9882  
 Pastor Jerry Williams  
**Iglesia Primera**  
**Asamblea de Dios**  
 511 N. Second, Mineola  
 903-569-5537

Mt. Pisgah Baptist  
 1294 CR 3270, Mineola  
 903-857-2541  
**New Hope Baptist Church**  
 3855 FM 1801, Mineola  
 (903) 569-3760  
 Pastor Fred Morrow  
**Northside Baptist Church**  
 1718 N. Pacific, Mineola  
 (903) 569-3872  
 Joe Adams, Pastor  
**Rose Hill Baptist Church**  
 1420 CR 2460, Mineola  
 (903) 569-5746  
 Pastor Jeff Thompson  
**Sand Springs Baptist Church**  
 3208 C.R. 2330, Mineola  
 (903) 569-9350  
 Pastor Nick Kerry  
**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  
 Pastor Demetrius T. Boyd

**BIBLE INDEPENDENT**  
 Lake Country Bible Church  
 1402 N Pacific St, Mineola  
 (903) 569-5730  
 Pastor Tony Rosas

**CATHOLIC**  
 St. Peter the Apostle  
 Catholic Church  
 203 Meadowbrook, Mineola  
 903-569-3665  
 Pastor Lawrence Love

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
 First Christian Church  
 Disciples of Christ  
 209 North Pacific, Mineola  
 903-569-2537  
 Pastor Rick Son

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 Broad St. Church of Christ  
 440 West Broad, Mineola  
 903-569-2046  
**Golden Church of Christ**  
 Golden  
 903-768-2712  
**North Loop Church of Christ**  
 326 W FM 564, Mineola  
 903-569-3117  
 Clark Dugger  
**Jamesstown 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

**EPISCOPAL**  
 St. Dunstan's Episcopal  
 800 N. Johnson, Mineola  
 903-569-2478  
 The Rev. Thomas A. Pantle

**JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**  
 Jehovah's Witnesses  
 Hwy. 69 South, Mineola  
 903-569-6370

**METHODIST/CHRISTIAN EPISCOPAL**  
 East Chapel CME Church  
 723 South Pacific, Mineola  
 903-569-3624  
 Pastor - Leonard Spurling

**METHODIST**  
 1st United Methodist Church  
 612 N Newsom St, Mineola  
 569-5426  
 Rev. Paul Thomasson  
**Smith Chapel Methodist**  
 670 FM 1804, Mineola  
 903-569-9187  
 Pastor Jim Pickens  
**Johnson Chapel Methodist**  
 224 Elliott, Mineola  
 903-569-9536  
 Pastor Clara Gilbert

**NAZARENE**  
 First Church of the Nazarene  
 503 N. Line, Mineola  
 903-569-3057  
 Rev. Randy Larpentour.

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
 Bethel Worship Center  
 2973 St. Hwy 80 E., Mineola  
 903-569-8708  
 Rev. Kenneth Teo  
**Church of the Lakes**  
**at Enchanted Lakes**  
 22410 County Rd 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  
**Safe Harbor Prophetic Ministries**  
 5411 Hwy 37, Mineola  
 569-8388  
 Pastors: Andy & Irene Madding  
**Spur on Ministries**  
 2670 S. Slate Hwy 37, Mineola  
 863-697-0469  
 Pastor Mike Fletcher

**PENTECOSTAL UNITED**  
 New Life Pentecostal  
 201 W F M Rd 564, Mineola  
 903-569-5750  
 Pastor David Bethel

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
 Seventh Day Adventist  
 1904 Old Tyler Hwy., Mineola  
 903-569-6930  
 Pastor Richard Rose

Faith Baptist Church  
 405 S Hart Street, Quitman  
 903-492-3535  
 Pastor Mike Midkiff  
**First Baptist, Quitman**  
 301 W. Lane, Quitman  
 903-763-4142  
 Rev. Gabe Marlin  
**Forest Hill Baptist Church**  
 1880 TX-37, Quitman  
 (903) 967-3420  
 Pastor Fred Morrow  
**Mt. Calvary Baptist**  
 1119 E. G 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  
 David Cook  
 903-878-2504

**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  
**Whispering Hope Baptist Church**  
 155 S Farm Road 14, Quitman  
 (903) 967-3149  
 Pastor Eddie Slaton

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 Church of Christ  
 111 Winnsboro, Quitman  
 903-763-5544  
 Del Ussery

**LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
 1128 E Goode St, Quitman  
 (903) 967-3533  
 Bishop Wayne Crabb

**METHODIST**  
 Brock's Chapel Methodist  
 207 Clark Street, Quitman  
 903-763-4062  
 Linda McCullough  
**First United Methodist**  
 406 E. Lane St, Quitman  
 (903) 763-4127  
 Rev. Keefe Cropper  
**Liberty Methodist**  
 E. Goode St./Hwy. 154, Quitman  
 (903) 967-7691  
 Rev. Keefe Cropper

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
 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 FM2088, Quitman  
 (903) 967-2000  
 David Hartley  
**Wood County Cowboy Church**  
 3435 FM 2088, Quitman  
 903-535-9155  
 Chase Pope

**PENTECOSTAL UNITED**  
 Victory Fellowship  
 United Pentecostal Church  
 1600 N. Slate Hwy. 37, Quitman  
 (903) 967-2628  
 Pastor Keith Clark

Sulphur Springs  
**LUTHERAN**  
 Our Savior Lutheran  
 1000 Texas St., Sulphur Springs  
 (903) 885-5787  
 Timothy Eden

Winnsboro  
**BAPTIST**  
 Cartwright Baptist  
 267 CR 4896, Winnsboro  
 903-967-2818  
 Pastor: Bro. Cody Mize  
**Crossroads Baptist**  
 1314 CR 4870, Winnsboro  
 Pastor Terry Bolton  
**East Point Baptist**  
 5029 FM 2088, Winnsboro  
 Bro. James Scott  
**Perryville Baptist Church**  
 9429 E. FM 851, Winnsboro  
 903-725-7729  
**Little Hope Baptist Church**  
 CR 3990 and CR 3984, Winnsboro  
 430-502-5855  
 Pastor James Young Jr.  
**Sharon Baptist**  
 176 CR 4890, Winnsboro  
 903-629-7202  
 Perry Shirley

**CATHOLIC**  
 St. Ann's Catholic  
 1010 W. FM 515, Winnsboro  
 903-629-7889  
 Mani Mathai

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

**METHODIST**  
 Perryville Methodist Church  
 FM 852, Perryville  
 8 Miles SE of Winnsboro  
 Glenda Mendoza

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
 First Presbyterian  
 302 S Chestnut St, Winnsboro  
 (903) 342-3011  
 Rev. Dr. Julie Adkins

Yantis  
**BAPTIST**  
 County Line Baptist  
 6380 FM 2966, Yantis  
 903-383-2148  
 Pastor Rodney Christ  
**Covenant Reformed Baptist**  
 FM 515 & 852, Yantis  
 Pastor Tony Jackson  
**First Baptist, Yantis**  
 100 Church St., Yantis  
 903-383-2393  
 Pastor Craig Vance  
**White Oak Baptist**  
 116 PR5922, Yantis  
 (903) 383-2310  
 Pastor Jimmy Rogers

**Tiffany's Restaurant**  
*"My-O-My the Pie"*  
 271 CR 1558 • Alba  
**903-765-2087**  
**Open Daily 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.**

**The Employees of Watkins Insurance Group**  
 urges everyone to attend the church of their choice!

**Low Funeral Home**  
 1102 E. Goode • 763-2242  
**Dwayne & Lucy Lowe**  
 Quitman, Texas

**Hughes Appliance & Air Conditioning**  
 1305 W. Broad - Mineola  
**903-569-5440 or 903-569-6903**

**DISCOUNT BUILDING MATERIALS**  
 602 E. Goode • 903-763-2931  
**BUILDING MATERIALS - FLOORING SHINGLES SHEET METAL - DOORS CABINETS - WINDOWS**  
 Open Monday-Saturday 8 a m to 5 p m

**For all your insurance needs**  
**Dunahoe Insurance Agency**  
 617 N. Broad • 903-569-6912

**Autumn Wind Assisted Living of Winnsboro**  
**903-342-3388**

**Pizza Hut**  
**MINEOLA • 903-569-5437**

**Coventry & Cameron P.C.**  
**Larry Coventry, CPA**  
 125 Lipscomb (on the square)  
 Quitman, TX 75783  
**903-763-4711**

**Keepit Mini Storage**  
 Hwy. 69N (Next to KMOO)  
**903-569-0400**  
 Keypad Entry - 5'x10' to 10'x30'  
 Locally Owned  
 Climate Control Units Available  
 10X10 & 10X20

**SUPPORT OUR AREA CHURCHES WITH AN AD IN THIS LOCATION**

**Coventry Financial Group**  
 Larry Coventry, *Certified Financial Planner*  
 Brian Coventry, *Financial Advisor*  
 125 Lipscomb (on the square) Quitman, TX 75783  
**903-763-4711**

**DOW AUTOPLEX**  
 Full Service GM Dealer  
 Sales Mon.-Fri. 8 - 6 Sat. 9 - 5  
 1313 Hwy. 69 S - Mineola  
**903-569-2621**

Compliments of  
**Kemp-Meek Manufacturing Co. Inc.**  
 Mineola, Tx.  
*"Strong churches make strong communities"*

**Blessed are those who fear the Lord**  
**Psalm 128**

If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.  
*Colossians 3:1-4*

**Miscellaneous**

**Garage Sales**

**INSIDE GARAGE SALE:** Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8a.m. 910 E. Broad, Mineola. Watch for signs.

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Geraldine Alice Shirey, Deceased, were issued on December 4, 2017, in Cause No. 13,222, pending in the County Court of Wood County, Texas, to: SANDRA LOUISE SHIREY. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Kyle G. Waggoner  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1152  
Mineola TX 75773

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Cynthia R. Ellis, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2017, in Cause No. 13,213, pending in the County Court of Wood County, Texas, to: BEN RICHARD ELLIS. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Kyle G. Waggoner  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1152  
Mineola, TX 75773

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jessie Glenn Holiday, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2017, in Cause No. 13,214, pending in the County Court of Wood County, Texas, to: LORRAINE SELMA HOLIDAY. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Kyle G. Waggoner  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1152  
Mineola, TX 75773

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LORRAINE SELMA HOLIDAY. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Kyle G. Waggoner  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1152  
Mineola, TX 75773

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing has been set for revision on the plat of Holly Lake Ranch Subdivision. The revision includes lots 13 & 14, Section 1, within Holly Lake Ranch Subdivision. The public hearing is set for Friday, January 12, 2018, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners Courtroom. All persons interested in revision to this plat may appear at the public hearing with opposition should they so desire.  
Bryan Jeanes  
Wood County Judge

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jerry Wayne Wallace, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2017, in Cause No. 13,210, pending in the County Court of Wood County, Texas, to: JOAN COLE WALLACE. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the

**Buy lot 50x100' near Lake Fork, RV ready, \$1500 down and monthly payments under \$200. (903) 878-7265**

**Under \$200/ MONTH buys land at Lake Fork. 50x100'. Perfect for site built homes, mobiles/ RV's. (903)878-7265.**

**Quitman ISD is hiring Bus Drivers needed Class B CDL with passenger/ school bus endorsement Custodian needed Call Steven Schoon • 903-760-5017**

**WANTED Carpenter Starting pay around \$150.00 per day. Experienced only should apply. Please call, 903-245-7312**



**Shop Local!**

**Public Notice**

undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Kyle G. Waggoner  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1152  
Mineola, TX 75773

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of J.B. REED, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2017, in Cause No. 13,218, pending in the County Court of Wood County, Texas, to: Nona Webb. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Mark W. Breeding  
Attorney at Law  
Post Office Box 239  
105 W. Lipscomb  
Quitman, Texas 75783  
DATED the 18th day of December, 2017.  
Mark W. Breeding  
Attorney for Nona Webb  
State Bar No.: 00787133  
Post Office Box 239  
105 W. Lipscomb  
Quitman, Texas 75783  
Telephone: (903) 763-2236  
Facsimile: (903) 763-1119  
E-mail: breedinglaw@yahoo.com

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jeanette May Wansley, Deceased, were issued on December 4, 2017, in Cause No. 13,223, pending in the County Court of Wood County, Texas, to: TANYA M. WEEMS. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Kyle G. Waggoner  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1152  
Mineola TX 75773

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LORRAINE SELMA HOLIDAY. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
c/o: Kyle G. Waggoner  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1152  
Mineola, TX 75773

**real estate**

**House for Rent**

For Lease. 3BR 1BA Home with all appliances. 2 car carport & shop. \$600 Deposit. \$750 per month. Prefer long lease with non smoker. Call 903-967-3105

**Mobile Home for Rent**

3BR 2BA Mobile Home for rent in Quitman. No Pets Allowed. 903-850-3570

2BR, 1 1/2BA Mobile Home for rent in Quitman. No Pets Allowed. 903-850-3570

**Employment**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, MINEOLA has opening for financial assistant, part time (10-12 hours/week). Full-charge bookkeeping, including receivables, payables, payroll, general ledger, journal entries, reports, etc. Reports to pastor. Send resume to mineolafumc@suddenlinkmail.com or mail to 612 N. Newsom, Mineola 75773.

**Jobs Wanted**

Dependable, honest, house cleaner needing houses to clean, weekly, semi-weekly, monthly. Call Melinda at 740-319-7623 to contact. References.

**HELP WANTED**

Bright Star-Salem Special Utility District is accepting applications for a Full Time water plant operator. This position will be responsible for the daily operations of both Surface Water and Ground Water Treatment, and distribution systems. Applicants must be highly motivated and have dependable transportation. Working on holidays and weekends is required. Ground Water Operator or Surface Water Operator License is preferred but not mandatory. Applicants are subject to a pre-employment drug and alcohol screening and criminal background check. Some heavy lifting and handling of chemicals is also required. Interested applicants can apply at Bright Star-Salem SUD 238 N. Osborn Street, Alba, TX. No phone calls please. Bright Star-Salem SUD is an equal opportunity employer, and offers an excellent benefit package including paid employee health insurance and retirement.



**SHOP LOCAL!**  
Now that's a bright idea!

**BUY! Buy! BUY! Sell! Sell! Sell!**

The Monitor is seeking people with writing ability looking for a rewarding way to spend a few hours a month. If you would like to have a front-row seat to local government events and then communicate those to the community, you are our person.

**WE'LL PAY A FLAT FEE PER MEETING. Contact Doris Newman at the Monitor at 903-569-2442.**

**Earn more with Quality!**

★★★ **30 YEARS OF SERVICE** ★★★

**Looking for CDL A or B drivers to deliver new trucks all over the US and Canada.**

**Experience preferred. Must have DOT physical and be willing to keep logs. No DUIs in last 10 years, clean MVR.**



**Apply Online at www.qualitydriveaway.com or call 574-642-2023**

**Mesothelioma**

**EXPERIENCE COUNTS**  
Lawyers with more than 100 years combined expertise.

may occur 30 to 60 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial and construction workers, along with their families (second hand exposure) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, lung cancer or gastro cancer (throat, stomach, colon). Call us for professional insight.  
Ryan A. Krebs, M.D., J.D.  
Doctor-Lawyer in Full-time Law Practice  
Richard A. Dodd, L.C.  
Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C.  
Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law and Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization  
NO FEE FOR FIRST VISIT  
OFFICES IN HOUSTON, CONROE, TEMPLE AND AUSTIN, PRINCIPAL OFFICE IN CAMERON  
**1-800-460-0606**  
www.AsbestosLaw.com

**WE BUY OIL, GAS, & MINERAL RIGHTS**

Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI)  
Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation.

**CALL TODAY: 806.620.1422**

**LOBO MINERALS, LLC**  
PO Box 1800 • Lubbock, TX 79408-1800  
LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com

**Call us today! Buy & Sell in the Classifieds Mineola 903-569-2442 or Quitman 903-763-4522**

**MINEOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Mineola Police Department is accepting applications for the position of a Full Time Criminal Investigator. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED, have a valid Texas driver's license, and hold an Intermediate certification from TCLEOSE and five years experience in law enforcement.

Applicants must be able to successfully pass a thorough background investigation as well as a drug screen and physical exam. Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 300 Greenville Highway, Mineola, TX 75773. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

*The City of Mineola is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*



**WANTED: Part-time reporter**

**FOR EVENING WORK**  
Approximately 6 hours a week. Will pay hourly rate & some reimbursement for mileage.

Contact: Doris Newman at Wood County Monitor  
**903-569-2442** | 715 Mimosa Street  
Mineola, Texas 75773

**Advertise your Business or Event Statewide in OVER 240 Newspapers**



**ONE CALL, ONE LOW PRICE!**

For more information, call 903-984-2593 Ask for Nora

**LEGAL NOTICE**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct an open house meeting on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, to present the proposed updates to the 2017-2020 Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The meeting will be held from 4 - 6 p.m. at TxDOT's Tyler District Office, 2709 West Front Street, Tyler, Texas 75702.



The Rural TIP is a listing of federally funded projects that will be constructed or implemented over the next four years throughout the district's eight county area of Anderson, Cherokee, Gregg, Henderson, Rusk, Smith, Van Zandt and Wood counties. Maps and project listings will be available for review at the open house.

All interested parties are invited to attend this meeting to gather information and provide feedback. Persons with special communication or accommodation needs, including language interpreters, should contact TxDOT at (903) 510-9100 at least two working days prior to the meeting. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate those needs.

Written comments related to the Rural TIP may be submitted at the meeting or mailed to the

Texas Department of Transportation, Advanced Project Development Office, 2709 W. Front Street, Tyler, Texas, 75702. Comments may also be emailed to Carson.Hollis@txdot.gov. Comments must be received by Friday, January 19, 2016.

**TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK**  
**TexSCAN**

**TexSCAN Week of December 24, 2017**

**ACREAGE**

**10-20 acres, Duval County** north of San Diego; Live Oak County south of Georgewest; Kinney County southwest of Bracketville. Heavy south Texas brush cover. Deer, hogs, turkey, quail. Staring at \$1800 down, \$298/mo. 866-286-0199, www.ranchenterprisesltd.com.

**HUNTING LEASE**

**Got Land?** Our Hunters will Pay Top \$\$\$ to hunt your land. Call for a FREE info packet & Quote. 866-309-1507. www.BaseCampLeasing.com.

**CAREER TRAINING**

**Airline Mechanic Training** - Get FAA certification. Approved for military benefits. Financial Aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 800-475-4102.

**HOLIDAY GIFTS**

**Great prices on Case Knives.** www.CaseXX.com. Call for free catalog, 800-727-4643. Free shipping on orders \$49.99+. Shepherd Hills Cutlery, Exit 127 on I-44, Lebanon, MO.

**SAWMILLS**

**Sawmills from only \$4,397.00** - Make & Save Money with your own bandmill - Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! Free info/DVD: www.norwoodsawmills.com. 800-578-1363, Ext.300N.

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

**Mesothelioma may occur** 30 to 60 years after exposure to asbestos. Industrial and construction workers and their families may have been exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Call 800-460-0606 for professional insight or visit www.asbestoslaw.com.

**OIL AND GAS RIGHTS**

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

**Learn the value of your royalties.** Get an unbiased estimated valuation report online from RoyaltyValuation.com. First report is Free. 12 months of updates, \$19.95.

**RECEIVING PAYMENTS**

**Receiving payments from real estate you sold?** Get cash now! Call Steve: 888-870-2243. www.SteveCashesNotes.com.

**TRUCK DRIVERS**

**Quality Drive-Away Inc.,** Looking for CDL A or B drivers to deliver new trucks all over the US and Canada. Experience Preferred. Must have DOT physical and be willing to keep logs. No DUIs in the last 10 years, clean MVR. Apply Online at www.qualitydriveaway.com or call 574-642-2023.

**Texas Press Statewide Classified Network**  
**251 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads**  
**Start At \$250 • Email ads@texaspress.com**

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

**Kitchens Steakhouse**

Open New Years 6-9 P.M.



**B.Y.O.B.** Texas Original Hardware/Deli

Fresh Seafood  
**World Class Steaks**

For Reservations call  
**903-569-2664**



Quitman Junior and Senior High School athletes took their turn at ringing the Salvation Army bell at the Quitman Brookshire's. Those participating were, from left, Zachary Grattet, Brayden Miller, Hunter Batchelder, Christian James, Hayden Batchelder, Brennen Miller, Haleb Hightower, River Chaney, Coach Rattan, Chance Rogers, Coach Oakes, Eli Lee, Dylan Coe and Gavin Oakes.

Dwayne and Lucy Lowe and the Lowe Funeral Home staff cordially invite you to a reception honoring Earnest Largent on his new adventure (retirement)

**Thursday, December 28th 2-4 p.m.**

Lowe Funeral Home in Quitman

*Refreshments will be served*



**Earnie**  
**We Love You!**

## Rucker

From page 1B

are important." Rucker started playing basketball at a young age.

"I actually played Little Dribblers at Martin's Mill because at that time Grand Saline did not have a program. I played for and learned so much about the game from my dad, Thomas Rucker, who coached me in Little Dribblers and select ball," Rucker explained. "I love basketball and all I have ever wanted to do was play the game and coach it."

Rucker comes to Quitman with impressive credentials. As a player in high school, Rucker made All District all four years of high school and was a Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) All state player her senior year. She also played volleyball, golf, ran track and was the head cheerleader.

After graduation from Grand Saline, Rucker was recruited by Lane Lloyd of East Texas Baptist University (ETBU) while playing in the Azaela All Star game in Tyler. She played for Loyd one year and then Coach Dustin Howard in her remaining three years at the collegiate level. At ETBU, Rucker was named to the All Conference Freshmen team, and was chosen All Conference her junior and senior years. ETBU competes in the NCAA Division III American Southwest Conference.

"Basketball is what I love and working with kids has always been what I feel is my mission and my calling. If I can help young women in their life through basketball I have done my job," Rucker noted.

Rucker teaches physical education at the middle school level and

also spends part of each day at the District Alternative Education Placement (DAEP) classroom. Rucker likes being close to her East Texas roots as well.

"I have a little brother in the eighth grade and I didn't want to get too far away from him. I also wanted to be where I could be a head coach in basketball," Rucker admitted. "The transition from college basketball life to normal life has been difficult for me because that is all I had ever done. I wanted to find a place I could really call home and when this job opened up I was excited. Quitman was always good competition and it was fun to play them. I have always had a lot of respect for Quitman. I feel like I have found the best job for me."

Rucker likes coming to work each day. "Here at Quitman, it is the ultimate family atmosphere. I get up in the morning and love to come to work every day," Rucker said. "My favorite thing about coaching is getting to know my team. I want them to know I care about them not only in basketball, but in their school work, their social life, their family life, and whatever I can do to help them in life. It's my way to give back for all the things I have in my life." Rucker enjoys the teaching part of coaching the most.

"One thing I have learned about coaching girls is the more you don't tell them, the more they wonder and then their minds start to wonder. I try to be very thorough in what I tell them. I want them to understand why we play the game the way I want them to play it," Rucker added. "I try to give my players as much insight into the game as I can. They are learning about basketball as they play. They continue to learn

more about the game each time on the court."

She believes Quitman is a good situation. "They are the most well-behaved girls I have ever been around. They want to please me and they work their tails off every day, they really do," Rucker remarked.

"We have some girls out who have not played at this level. Madalyn Spears has not played in three years and she is our leading scorer. We are very young with three freshmen, two sophomores, four juniors and just one senior, Molly Tanner. That's why we are chaotic at times. They are learning how to play the game and play together. Molly is our leader and she lives the life of a leader and is the most coachable girl I have ever been around."

Rucker also didn't shy away from having the team playing a tough schedule. "I am very ambitious and I know we have played some really good teams, bigger schools and some state-ranked. I told them, you will live to tell about it and we will be a better basketball team in the long run," Rucker said. "I'm glad how this team does not give up, they don't lay down and quit. I want the girls on my team to see court time. The only way to get better is to keep playing."

Rucker is looking forward to the rest of the district slate when Christmas break is over. "Alba-Golden, Edgewood and Mineola are all playoff caliber teams. There will be a fight for that fourth playoff spot," Rucker said. "The rest of us have potential, but it is just a matter of which one steps up out of the crowd."

The Lady Bulldogs host Como-Pickton This Friday at 2 p.m. before returning to district play Jan. 2 at home against Eustace.

“SURE, AT FIRST I WAS A LITTLE TAKEN ABACK BY THE WHOLE PEEING STANDING UP THING. BUT I TAUGHT HIM TO THROW A STICK AND NOW HANGING OUT WITH HIM IS THE BEST PART OF MY DAY.”

—EINSTEIN adopted 12-09-10



A PERSON IS THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO A SHELTER PET

**adopt**  
theshelterproject.org



Amanda Rucker (middle) poses for a photo with her team at a recent game. (Monitor photo by Larry Tucker)