

Wood County MONITOR

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Civic leader, Mineola icon Wayne Collins dies at 94

By HANK MURPHY
editor@woodcountymonitor.com

Wayne Collins, a longtime Mineola businessman, civic leader, Rotarian and pilot who made countless contributions to Mineola and Wood County during his long and productive life, died Sunday at his home in Mineola. He was 94.

The lifelong Mineolan, who most recently served as grand marshal during December's Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade, was known for spearheading numerous civic initiatives, as well as his love for flying, scouting and Rotary. "Always in his heart, it was what was best for the city of Mineola. He will be sorely missed, he really will," said Mercy Rushing, Mineola's city manager.

Greg Hollen, president of the local Rotary Club, said of Collins: "He was extraordinary, he was selfless, he was inspiring."

Collins grew up in an entrepreneurial family. The Collins family began owning businesses in Mineola in 1922 and later opened the city's first dry cleaning business. In 1930, the Collins family began selling men's clothing. After serving in World War II, Wayne joined the business full-time in 1948. They would eventually expand into women's fashions, and throughout the 1950s, '60s, '70s, '80s and the first part of the 90s, Collins had a retail presence in Mineola. He also had stores in Athens and Tyler.

After retiring from the retail business, Collins turned his attention to the Wood County Airport Board, which he helped found. His position at the airport fit nicely with one of his passions in life – flying airplanes. Like he did so often through his life, he parlayed his infatuation with flight into serving others. He participated in Angel Flights, providing transportation to families in need of medical treatment. He introduced young people to flying through the Young



COLLINS

Eagle program, and Collins delivered two single-engine planes to medical missionaries in Africa for Wings of Hope. Into his 90s, Collins continued to fly airplanes. In 2017, his contributions to Wood County Airport were recognized as it was renamed Wood County Airport Collins Field.

He worked tirelessly to improve the airport, said Rushing. "When no one else was there, he was there," she said.

Collins did two stints as president of the Mineola Chamber of Commerce and was a fixture on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Through his position with the chamber, he was catalyst in reviving downtown Mineola through his work in making Mineola a Texas Main Street City, according to Rushing.

She described him as smart and "a wealth of information" who never bragged about himself and always acted in the best interests of Mineola. He was a solutions-oriented man and served as a mentor to her, said Rushing.

Collins also enjoyed a lifelong association with the Boy Scouts.

"There are two things you learn early in scouting. It's all about teamwork and somebody's got your back. You also learn leadership and those things stay with you the rest of your life," Collins said in January of last year after being honored for his lifelong com-

See COLLINS Page 10

City intends to build lighted basketball court

By HANK MURPHY
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The city of Mineola is expected to move forward this year on construction of an outside regulation basketball court near the city's water tower along Wren Street between Front and Walnut.

City Manager Mercy Rushing briefed the City Council on the project during a work session on Jan. 24. A total of \$55,000

has been budgeted for project, which includes a full-court basketball floor, lights, seating and a water fountain.

City public works Director William Crump said he expects the 47-to-96-foot court to run east to west. He told the council that he hopes to see the project completed by the end of August. The city intends to use MHS Planning and Design to design the project.

QISD trustees extend 5-year contract to Turner

By ZAK WELLERMAN
news@woodcountymonitor.com

Serving in the role for nearly six years, Superintendent Rhonda Turner will continue as the leader of Quitman ISD for the next five years.

QISD trustees last week extended a five-year contract with an annual salary of \$130,000 to Turner after

an executive session.

Turner began her role as superintendent in December 2013, after working for the district since 2008.

"I was a product of Quitman ISD, and I am honored to serve this district every single day. So many people get up in the morning and go to a job. I get up every morning and live my passion," Turner said.



Grand Marshal Larry Tucker presents the grand marshal award to Tod Chance of Lowe's Funeral Home at the Pilot Club of Quitman Annual Chili Cook-Off at the Carroll Green Civic Center on Jan. 25. (Monitor photo by Zak Wellerman).



Dressed as Dr. Seuss characters, representatives from City National Bank of Quitman accept their award for best booth theme at the Pilot Club of Quitman Annual Chili Cook-Off at the Carroll Green Civic Center on Jan. 25. (Monitor photo by Zak Wellerman).

Annual Pilot Club Chili Cook-Off a real 'fun-raiser'

Over 300 chili fans attended the Quitman Pilot Club's 2019 Chili Cook-Off on Friday at the Carroll Green Civic Center in Quitman. This event is known for a fun time, but it's also one of the main fundraisers the Pilots use to fund their service projects.

A total of 22 chili chefs were on hand to feed the crowds steaming bowls of traditional, and some not so traditional, chili. Chili Judges Jim Farmer, Jeffery White and Scott Turner had the difficult task of picking the best of the best in a blind taste test. The trophy winners were: First Place, Lowe Funeral Home; Second Place, Fire Pig Genetics; and Third Place, City National Bank.

While the chili was the star of the show, participants also vied for two other main awards: Best Overall Showmanship, earned by booth decorations and liveliness,

was judged by Carolyn Farmer, Ginger Smith, Jan Person. People's Choice was earned by tips that double as donations to the fundraiser.

The trophy winners for Best Overall Showmanship were: First Place, Fencepost Magazine; Second Place, Quitman Anchor Club; and Third Place, Wood County National Bank. The trophy winners for People's Choice were: First Place, Quitman Kiwanis; Second Place, Links at Land's End; and Third Place, Peoples Telephone Cooperative.

The 2019 Grand Marshal, selected for his great love of and dedication to the community, was Larry Tucker. In presenting his award, Pilot Club of Quitman's President Debbie Robinson said, "Larry has always ensured that the good news prevails, and he's been a very great friend to all civic organizations, and especially us Pilots." Tucker then had the

privilege of giving his own award to one deserving booth, and he chose Lowe Funeral Home as the recipient.

A big part of the evening was the dessert auction held by Patricia Hightower and Wood County Precinct 4 Commissioner and auctioneer Russell Acker. With Acker working the crowd, some spirited bidding took place by attendees on some luscious desserts. Adding to the evening, Dale "The C" Cummings provided the musical entertainment, and he had the crowd dancing and singing along. And the evening would not have been complete without the teen service group, Quitman Anchor Club, working hard behind the scenes to help the event run smoothly.

About the event, Chairwoman Paige Eaton said: "The community support we receive never ceases

to amaze us. This year we made over \$11,400. We owe deep gratitude to our sponsors, the chili cooks, and all those that came out to sample some chili. The money raised will be used well. We offer profound thanks to all for helping us reach our goal, for making the event a memorable and fun time, and for the strong backing that enables us to perform our community work."

All funds raised at the event will support the non-profit and all-volunteer Quitman Pilot Club's mission of providing education for the prevention of traumatic brain injury and offering services to those suffering from brain related disorders, such as Alzheimer's, Stroke, and Autism. Bicycle Safety, Project Life-Saver and Special Olympics are just a few of those efforts so important to the health, safety and quality of life for our community members.



High school student Matthew Carder, left, teacher Deborah Armstrong, middle, and high school student Tanner Taylor tell eighth-graders about a project in a technology and engineering classroom. See related photo Page 10. (Monitor photo by Hank Murphy).

Mineola eighth-graders preview high school offerings at Career Day

By HANK MURPHY
editor@woodcountymonitor.com

Mineola eighth-graders experienced an educational smorgasbord earlier this month during Career Day at Mineola High School. The students sampled a multitude of academic and occupational classes and learned about the myriad options open to them.

During their final middle school semester, eighth-graders are required to chart a high school graduation plan along established career pathways.

These pathways may lead to college, post-high school advanced technical training, or immediate entry into the workforce.

As the day unfolded, eighth-graders went from classroom to classroom, where teachers and older students laid out expectations and offered a taste of what's to come for the Class of 2024. The 13- and 14-year-olds have a wide array of educational opportunities open to them – everything from cutting edge graphics and information systems, metal fabrication, auto ser-

ving, human anatomy, mechanical engineering, agriculture, physics, art, music, literature, mathematics, robotics and much more.

High School guidance counselor Carol Crowley said of Career Day: "I hope the students gain information about what we have to offer at the high school level and how that ties into how they are preparing for beyond high school."

Added Crowley: "Our goals for the kids is that once they come up to high school, we want them to graduate on time ready to

do something productive."

Career Day also hosted an evening session so parents, too, could see what the high school offers their children in terms of academics and career training.

"Everything we do we're trying to sell to the community, but I feel like I work with one of the most valuable assets that these parents have – their children. And I want them to understand that we have some things to offer that are very positive," said Crowley.

Corner Column

Let's talk connections. Specifically East Texas connections.

Though my family officially left East Texas (Commerce) more than a half-century ago, we didn't stray too far – to Denton – and our hearts never left.

The pull was so strong that Dad made it back in the early '90s. (He's from Baytown, Mom was from Marshall, and they met at college in Jacksonville.) And a sister, who also attended the defunct Lon Morris College, has relocated to Tyler



PHIL MAJOR

Once interviewed with the company that was responsible for taking so many area newspapers out of families, with Lindale being a likely prospect, but it didn't happen. Other jobs and ownership possibilities have come and gone until our most recent sojourn.

Now that we're back, I'm anxious to begin making those connections – connections that prove indeed that it is a small world.

It shows us that we have much more in common than we do differences. That our shared history helps us to forge ahead and make a positive difference in our com-

munities.

Here are a few geographic nuggets to help begin making those connections.

I was born in Hughes Springs in a clinic that, last time we were through there, had a dollar store on the site. Dad was in his third rotation as a Methodist circuit rider, with one church near the Lone Star steel mill.

From there it was on to Big Sandy and his first full-time church (right along Highway 80), and then into the campus ministry, first at Commerce (we called it East Texas State), then to Denton's two universities with a detour to own a service station (remember those – pump the gas, clean the windshield and check the oil?).

We made at least one trip to East Texas every year, to grandparents in Longview at Thanksgiving.

Then in later years as we became involved with the North and East Texas Press Association, we visited numerous cities and sites in the region and met many of the newspaper folks.

My wife even has a bit of a connection, with relatives in Fruitvale, one of whom once worked on the press at the Grand Saline Sun, which I assume also printed the Wood County Democrat as it was owned by the Woodall family as well.

The Woodalls were some of the first folks we met when we began our relationship with the regional press group in the 1980s, later getting to know their son, Bill, from whom we bought the Monitor.

Have you made a connection yet?

Among my interests are history, especially local history, so I can't wait to dig into that. I am acutely aware of the flaws and foibles of this part of the world (as well as its beauty and many wonderful people).

Just an example: I do remember the infamous sign that hung over the highway going through Greenville.

But there are many other great stories to be told, or retold, and we look forward to that. I am already fascinated by the history of the Meredith Foundation.

Getting the paper back to the local level has been more time consuming than we had hoped, but we will be making the rounds and making those connections as soon as the situation allows.

In the meantime we are thankful for those who have stopped by to visit and begin making connections.

We've already heard some great stories and look forward to many more.

MISD prioritizes Meredith Foundation requests

By HANK MURPHY
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The Mineola school board recently prioritized a list of requests that will be submitted to the Meredith Foundation for possible funding in 2019.

At the top of the list is \$30,000 in scholarships for graduating seniors. Scholarships are always at the top of the list for requests since this funding goes directly to students, according to Supt. Kim Tunnell, who noted

that Meredith has increased the amount of scholarships over the years.

The school district's other priorities are to support classrooms and programs that benefit students, along with technology and materials to support expanding CTE and Fine Arts programs. The other requests are for improvements to existing facilities for fine arts and CTE due to the age of school buildings.

Last year, the Mere-

dith Foundation allocated \$1.244 million to 13 organizations. Over the nearly 60 years the Meredith Foundation trust has existed, grants awarded to the community total nearly \$31 million.

The Meredith Foundation was created and the first board organized on July 1958 after Harry Meredith decided to do something for Mineola. He arranged for a sizable part of his wealth to go to the Meredith Foundation, stipulating that

it must be used to benefit the people of Mineola.

Meredith survived three wives and is believed to have moved to Mineola with his wife Mary Hunter from his hometown of Leitchfield, Ky. around 1907. He had no children. He organized Mineola State Bank at 104 N. Johnson St. and it consolidated with Mineola First National Bank in 1932. Meredith served as chairman of the board until his death in 1962.

Meredith Requests from MISD

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1) Scholarships for graduating High School seniors | \$30,000 |
| 2) Shared Reading classroom sets for Grades K-2 | \$61,182 |
| 3) Chromebook charging stations for Elementary School | \$11,500 |
| 4) Upgrade computer lab at Middle School | \$21,509 |
| 5) Interactive flat panel to replace Smart Boards at High School | \$20,000 |
| 6) Portable risers for students for all campuses | \$16,208 |
| 7) Floral Design cooler for High School | \$5,700 |
| 8) Robotics kits update to LEGO We Do 2.0 for Primary School | \$3,039 |
| 9) Classroom flexible seating for Elementary School | \$9,500 |
| 10) Lady Bug document cameras (32) for Elementary School | \$10,336 |
| 11) zSpace 3 dimensional technology for High School | \$10,400 |
| 12) Automotive Tech shop tools | \$4,405 |
| 13) Band instruments - 5 tenor saxes, 6 bass clarinets | \$33,325 |
| 14) Wired headphones for Elementary School | \$6,200 |
| 15) Digital announcement and information screens | \$13,335 |
| 16) Show trailer to haul animals | \$22,490 |
| 17) Middle School band hall upgrades - carpet and acoustical panels | \$28,990 |
| 18) Resurface chalkboards into dry erase boards | \$4,000 |
| 19) Middle School library/media furniture | \$7,380 |
| 20) FFA project trailer | \$5,531 |
| 21) High School band room upgrades - acoustical panels | \$10,750 |
| 22) AG shop expansion for welding | \$45,321 - \$95,171 |

Source: MISD

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.

ALBALADIES CLUB - fourth Tuesday, 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.

AL ANON - 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.

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, 6:30-9 p.m., Church On the Rock annex building at 302 S. Stephens. 903-763-4588.

THE CORVETTES OF WOOD COUNTY - First Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. Richie's Grill, corner of U.S. 80 and FM 14 in Hawkins. Open to any Corvette owner.

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. 903-343-1474.

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

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, 3rd 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 Thursday, 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 SCOUTS MINEOLA TROOP 3 - building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place! All girls kindergarten-12th grade welcome! Monday, 5:00-6:30 pm, September-May, Broad Street Church of Christ Annex, Crystal Arcand 903-705-2459

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 Wilful 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.

MEMORY CAFE, a time for stimulating memory, meets weekly on Thursday in the craft room at Holly Brook Baptist Church from 11:45 to 2 p.m. Lunch is provided. Various activities are offered each week, including games, moderate exercise, art, and music. People in the area are invited. There is no charge. For more information call 903 769-2091

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, 8:30-11:30 a.m., 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 am.

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.

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.

QUILTS OF VALOR GROUP, STITCHIN' ANGELS, meet the last Wednesday of the month at 10:30 a.m., 1118 N. Pacific St., Mineola, to make quilts for service members and veterans.

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 Community 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 - Second Tuesday, 6 p.m., Quitman Public Library. 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.wood-countydem.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, 7 p.m., hospital conference room in Quitman. Public invited.

WOOD COUNTY PCT. 2 CONSTABLE EXPLORERS - first Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Armed Texans Training Facility, 369 CR 2784, Mineola.

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.

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

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Wood County MONITOR

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www.woodcountymonitor.com



Members of Mineola High School's Business Professionals of America Parliamentary Procedure Team are, from left, Armando Veloz, Adrian French, Olivia Toledo, Jackson Vandover and Lin Dong. (Courtesy photo).

MHS business team takes first at regional competition

Mineola High School's Business Professionals of America Parliamentary Procedure Team won first place at regional competition earlier in January and advances to State competition.

The team is advised by Mineola High School business technology teacher Jill Graves.

This is the second year in a row that they have won first place at the regional competition. The team placed third at State last

year, and Graves expects the team to place first this year.

The following is the results of the competition:

- First place: Mineola High School
- Second place: Sunnyvale High School
- Third place: Heritage High School
- Fourth place: Reedy High School
- Fifth place: Independence High School
- Sixth place: Plano Senior High School

Mineola resident dies in county auto accident

Bobby Ray Turbeville, 77, of Mineola died Monday when his pickup truck crashed on FM 14 in Wood County, 9.5 miles north of the city of Hawkins, the Department of Public Safety reported.

Preliminary crash investigation revealed that Turbeville was driving a 1999 Ford F-150 north on FM 14 shortly before 2:50 p.m. when the vehicle's right tires went off the roadway. He steered sharply to the left, causing the vehicle to enter a side skid across the roadway. It continued into the west ditch and struck a tree, the DPS reported.

Turbeville was pronounced dead at the scene by Judge Jerry Parker and was taken to Lowe Funeral Home in Quitman. The crash remained under investigation Tuesday.

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Mineola Civic Center to host Princess Ball Feb. 23

The Mineola Civic Center will host the Daddy-Daughter Princess Ball on Saturday, Feb. 23, from 6-8 p.m.

Girls from pre-kindergarten to fifth grade are invited to a magical evening. Girls can be escorted by dad,

grandpa, uncle, or a father figure. Tickets are on sale now at www.mineolaciviccenter.com.

Subscribe to the Monitor for \$34 per year

Golden overpass project waiting on funds

By HANK MURPHY

editor@woodcountymonitor.com

The Texas Dept. of Transportation has pushed back the anticipated construction date of an estimated \$30 million overpass project at U.S. 69 and FM 779 just east of Golden.

The agency originally targeted construction for 2019. However, the project is not yet funded and is competing with others statewide. TxDOT is preparing plans for the project with the goal of having it shovel-ready

when funding becomes available, according to Kathi White, public information officer for the Tyler district office.

Because of accidents and safety concerns at the intersection, TxDOT has proposed constructing an interchange with U.S. 69 bridging over FM 779. FM 779 would be accessed by ramps, and Texas turnarounds would be will be constructed under the overpass. As part of the project, FM 779 would be widened to include left-turn lanes

and U.S. 69 would be widened to four lanes with a depressed median. Median crossovers would be constructed on U.S. 69, north and south of FM 779, according to TxDOT.

As it stands now, the intersection is controlled by flashing yellow lights for travelers on U.S. 69 and a stop sign and flashing red lights for drivers on FM 779.

Right of way acquisition began in 2018 and is expected to be completed by the end of this year, according to TxDOT.

Wood County approves data service agreement

By ZAK WELLERMAN

news@woodcountymonitor.com

The Wood County Commissioners Court on Jan. 25 approved the addition of a new data service to benefit county law enforcement agencies in last week's meeting. The court approved an agreement with TransUnion for TLOxp Online Services.

TLOxp is a data system that gives subscribers rapid access to information about driving records and vehicle records. It is useful in verifying addresses, employment histories and other information about people.

At the Dec. 28 session, Precinct 2 Constable Kelly Smith told commissioners that TransUnion's TLOxp Online service would be beneficial to officers in the field regarding vehicle sightings, addresses, driver's licenses and license plate reports. Smith suggested the service for his office alone in the beginning. Commissioners chose to table action at the time to look into using TLOxp Online for the entire county. TLOxp has a monthly fee of \$75 for 125 monthly transactions. Smith met with Precinct 3 Commissioner Mike Simmons to discuss the administrative portion of the agreement.

"If he (Smith) starts an account, it has unlimited users where other law enforcement officers with the same credentials so to speak can start their own account

within this deal. It's the proper way to do this as a law enforcement tool right now and others would have a separate, different account should they choose to do it later," Simmons said. "This is the best way to do it. He's already got the money in the budget and if others want to get on then they'll start splitting that budget."

The Wood County Tax Office could possibly use the service but for different reasons than law enforcement. In other news, an order of assignment from the 10th Administrative Judicial Region for Child Protection Services Court was acknowledged by commissioner's court. A retired judge will preside over CPS court cases in 2019.

Lots 236, 264 and 265, section 8 of Holly Lake Ranch subdivision were combined into one lot after a public hearing.

A public hearing on the acceptance of private road 6309 located in Tuscany Park subdivision phase II for county maintenance was set for Feb. 22 at 10 a.m.

Road permits #2174, 2175, 2176 and 2178 in precinct 3 for logging were approved. Road permit #2177 in precinct 2 for logging was also approved.

Tax collection agreements were approved by the court. Newly pledged securities from BTH Bank were approved and released.

Discussions concerning the Nationwide Life Insurance Company fixed an-

nuity account with Wood County were tabled pending additional information.

The following items were also approved:

- Sarah Holeman was hired as a jailer at the Wood County Sheriff's Office (WSCO) effective Jan. 7
- David Morris resigned as patrol sergeant at WSCO effective Jan. 18
- Lathon Miller changed positions from deputy to patrol sergeant at WSCO effective Jan. 19
- Mario Arellano was hired as deputy sheriff at WSCO effective Jan. 19
- Kale Holland was hired as a dispatcher at WSCO effective Jan. 19
- Angela Jacobs changed positions from dispatcher to dispatcher supervisor effective Jan. 19
- Nita Jo Petty was hired as clerk II/ criminal investigations division position at WSCO effective Jan. 14
- Monica Bailey transferred from WSCO dispatcher supervisor to chief clerk at Justice of the Peace Precinct 2 office effective Jan. 19
- Anita Pieper was hired as clerk II at the Justice of the Peace Precinct 2 office effective Feb. 2
- Rita Schneider resigned from her part-time position at the Wood County Tax Office effective Jan. 11
- Haile Moore was hired part-time at the county tax office effective Jan. 2
- Maria Devine was hired as office manager/clerk II under County Judge Lucy Hebron effective Jan. 14

Payroll of \$336,210.90

Health and dental claims of \$111,525.48

Accounts payable of \$290,577.74

Voided checks of \$1,244

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Congratulations to Joe Brady

After 41 years as a dedicated employee of Wood County Electric Cooperative (WCEC), Field Service Representative Joe Brady is retiring on Thursday, January 31, 2019.

Joe began his WCEC career in 1977 as a work order clerk in the warehouse. Following, he worked in several capacities both indoor and out, before settling into the role of Field Service Representative.

We'll miss his well-rounded talents and strong knowledge that helped smooth the work processes in the service of our members. As a friend, we'll miss his humor and stories, sympathetic ear, and the sound of his laughter ringing in the halls.

Joe attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas and graduated from Stephen F. Austin before moving to Quitman. He has two children, Landon and Leslie and six grandchildren. In his fully deserved retirement, all of us wish him contentment and the time to richly experience his favorite pursuits including hunting, fishing, raising cattle, and spending time with his family.

Best Wishes Joe!

SAVE THE DATE | February 12th 2019

Peoples Telephone Annual Meeting

Door prizes for each attending member!

Additional drawings for cash and prizes.

WHO: Peoples Cooperative Members
WHEN: Tuesday, February 12th
TIME: 2:00 PM
WHERE: Carroll Green Civic Center
Quitman, TX

PEOPLES

Agenda

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Invocation.
3. Statement by President.
4. Reading of the notice of meeting and proof of mailing thereof.
5. Reading unapproved minutes.
6. Report of Nominating Committee.
7. Election of Directors.
8. Report by Manager.
9. Drawing for prizes.
10. Adjournment.

The nominating committee met and nominated the following individuals to fill the 2019 vacancies:

Mike Fowler, District 1
Rocky Christenberry, District 2
Rodney Whitter, District 5
Johnny Zielger, District 7

Tucker and Brown trials scheduled later in year

The trials of two former high-ranking Wood County law enforcement officers are scheduled to begin later this year in connection with the shooting of a father and son in 2015 near Quitman.

Former Sheriff Jim Brown and former Chief Deputy Miles Tucker were indicted on various charges stemming from the shooting of John Winston Forrester and son John Phillip Forester over access to an oilfield lease on Brown's property northwest of Quitman. The Forresters, who survived their wounds, were shot by Jerry Boone, who in May 2018 was convicted on two counts of aggravated assault.

Tucker is under indictment on two felony counts of tampering with or fabricating evidence, a felony count of abuse of official capacity and a felony count of aggravated perjury. He also faces misdemeanor counts of aggravated perjury and two counts of official oppression.

The charges spring from his arrest of a person who



BROWN

had cut a lock to gain access to an oil well, the use of others to obstruct access to the well, and an alleged attempt to cover up evidence. Tucker is also accused of swearing before former District Judge Tim Boswell, "I have seen nothing which provides for accessibility or the right to cut a lock or chain of a private land owned by the defendant." However, Tucker had been told that the person did have a legal right to access the property, the indictment alleges.

A trial in the Tucker case



TUCKER

is set for June 3-7.

A pre-trial hearing in the Brown case is set for April 13. A trial is set for May 6 and 7.

Brown was indicted on two misdemeanor counts of official oppression as well as state felony charge of abuse of official capacity. The indictment alleges that Brown knowingly misused sheriff personnel to obstruct and prevent access by John Winston Forrester to an oil lease on property owned by Brown.

Mineola library to host talk about author

Journalist and author Carolyn Curtis will appear at the Mineola Memorial Library at 1 p.m. on Feb. 7 to discuss the book *Women and C.S. Lewis: What his life and literature reveal for today's culture*.

The event, which will be held in the library's Meredith Room, is sponsored by Friends of the Mineola Memorial Library.

The book, which was edited by Curtis and Mary Pomroy Key, is a collection of short essays, opinion pieces and interviews from

academics and writers who delve into the question of how Lewis, a 20th century British author and scholar, regarded girls and women during his life in literature.

Lewis is the author of the *Chronicles of Narnia* as well as other acclaimed works of literature that include *Mere Christianity*, *Screwtape Letters*, *Surprised by Joy* and *The Four Loves* among others.

Along with talking about Lewis's ideas about women, Curtis will entertain questions and comments

from the audience as well as sign copies of her latest book, which will be available for purchase.

Curtis has authored or collaborated on seven books. She also has worked as journalist for the *Wall Street Journal* as well as several other news organizations. She holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Texas at Austin and a master's degree in communication from Stephen F. Austin State University.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

As a concerned U.S. citizen, I am speechless that Washington lawmakers and President Trump have locked horns over securing America's southern borders. In my opinion it is extremely irresponsible that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her House Democrats refuse to even meet with President Trump or give him funds to build a wall.

The USA southern border wall already in place at San Diego, Calif., El Paso, Texas and other Arizona southern border towns has shown crowds suffering at our southern border is reduced, stopping the crossing of thousands of illegal aliens and drug and human traffickers from pouring into our country.

President Trump demands the House under

House Speaker, Nancy Pelosi pass a bill that funds building the wall to secure our southern borders thus protecting America's sovereignty. Nancy says, "No!" The Democrats demand President Trump give amnesty to 798,980 Deferred Action Childhood Arrivals, DACA. President Trump says "No."

Because of this political impasse, President Trump shut down most of the federal government, now the longest shutdown in America's history.

Shortly after the shutdown, the Democrats left Washington to go on vacation. Instead, President Trump cancelled his Christmas vacation and his G20 trip to Davos, Switzerland to remain at his White House desk ready to negotiate a win-win deal with

Nancy to secure our southern borders and give her Democrats incentive to return to Washington.

But, the Democrats and Nancy Pelosi are still missing in action.

Friday, President Trump temporarily ended the partial government shutdown; but I predict the Democrats will refuse to put America first in the name of politics.

This is Washington politics at its worst: Nancy stays home because she doesn't want to give President Trump a political "win." Because of politics, Nancy refuses to fund the building of the wall on our southern borders and our federal government remains closed.

For now, America loses.

Dr. Linda Rosene Mineola

Quitman Library Connections

BY LIBRARIAN DELENE ALLEN

February is Black History Month, and the Quitman Public Library is highlighting this with a selection of books in the children's section as well in the display near the front check-out area. February is also for valentines, so stop by and check out a romantic movie from our large collection of DVDs.

Friday, Feb. 8 marks the seventh anniversary of the Second Friday Acoustic Music Jam at the library. Acoustical musicians of all ages and musical levels are invited to join in from 6-9 p.m. There will be an open mic set-up for those who wish to perform. Listeners are always welcome. Call 903-975-5745 for more information.

There will be no free federal income tax assistance at the Quitman Public Library this tax season. Printed Forms 1040, 1040 A, and 1040 EZ are available

here. The AARP Tax Aide office can help with locating the nearest free tax preparation site by calling 1-888-227-7669. Public computers, with no time limits, are available at the library for patrons to file online during regular business hours. Public Wi-Fi is available 24/7.

Patron cards are for Wood County residents with photo identification. A guardian must sign for children ages 5-17. Hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Call 903-763-4191 or visit our website at www.quitmanlibrary.org. Keep up with current events on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/quitmanpubliclibrary.

ADULT SERVICES

Rebekah Yeager and Virginia Hoffpauir invite students of all ages and skill levels to bring their own supplies and join the group for free crochet and knitting instruction each Thursday 2-4 p.m. in the library's main gallery.

It's always a great time to get your GEDs at Quitman Public Library. Adult General Educational Development (GED) support services with assistance provided by state-certified instructor is offered each Thursday, 4-6 p.m. in the library's public computer area.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Story Time, designed for young readers and home-schooled students, meets each Wednesday at 2 p.m. Lillian Gray plans an educational hour filled with stories, crafts and plenty of fun. Upcoming events: Jan. 30 - Fun Day with Hot



Cocoa and a Movie; Feb. 6 - How Big is America?; Feb. 13 - Valentine Party!; Feb. 20 - What's Different About Me?; Feb. 27 Talk About Bullies!

Special thanks to Peoples Telephone of Quitman for funding and sponsorship of this year's crafts and activities.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Quitman Public Library meet Tuesday, Feb. 12 at noon in the Shamburger Community Room. The Friends invite join them for an hour of friendship including a short meeting that always includes a "5-Minute No Spoiler Book Review," a short presentation of "Show and Tell" from one of the members. Special speaker is Mike Holbrook with the East Texas Symphony Orchestra.

Friends of the Quitman Public Library is an active group of volunteers dedicated to the growth and improvement of the library.

GENEALOGY

Wood County TX Genealogical Society meets at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 18. Follow the society's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/woocotx>. For more information, contact David Gilbreath at 972-977-7988.

NEW ARRIVALS

Visit the library's online catalog at <http://quitman.biblionix.com/catalog> to see what is new. Download the OverDrive app to connect to our library's vast collection of eBooks, audiobooks and streaming video.

ON DISPLAY

The theme for the lobby showcase for February is "Valentine's Day" with items displayed from the collection of Beverly Chamberlain.



Celebrate getting younger.

At CHRISTUS Trinity Mother Frances Loui's and Peaches Owen Heart Hospital, we believe the sooner you take care of your heart, the longer it will take care of you. Our free online heart age assessment measures your real heart age, so you'll know where your heart health really stands, not to mention steps you can take to improve it. Try it today.



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Tiki (left) and Jose are adorable adult cats.

Both are litter box trained and very loving.

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Wood County Sheriff's Report

January 18

Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 8:44 a.m. in reference to a scam that occurred on CR 2460 near Mineola. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Deputies were dispatched to HWY 80 near Hawkins at 11:43 a.m. in reference to criminal trespass. Deputies issued a criminal trespass warning and cleared the incident.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 1246 near Quitman at 3:14 p.m. in reference to an animal complaint. Deputies located a malnourished horse and this case was forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to Lloyd Avenue in Quitman at 3:35 p.m. in reference to a disturbance. Billy Cockerham, 39, of Hawkins was arrested for an outstanding warrant.

Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 3:59 p.m. in reference to a terroristic threat that occurred on Geronimo near Quitman. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Deputies went out on an arrest/warrant service to Evans St. in Mineola at 8:33 p.m. Deputies searched the area, but were unable to make contact with the individual.

Deputies went out on an arrest/warrant service to SPUR 514 near Yantis at 10:12 p.m. Billy Finklea, 69, of Yantis, was arrested for outstanding warrants.

January 17

Deputies were dispatched to CR 4790 near Winnsboro at 12:02 a.m. in reference to a reckless driver. Deputies located the wrecked vehicle and this incident was forwarded to the Department of Public Services.

Deputies conducted a traffic stop on CR 1726 near Yantis at 12:14 a.m. Jody Luscomb, 52, of Yantis was arrested for outstanding warrants.

Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 2:18 a.m. in reference to an unauthorized use of a motor vehicle on HWY 154 near Quitman. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to HWY 154 near Yantis at 4:30 a.m. in reference to an assault that occurred. Lane Ogle, 20, of Yantis, was arrested for criminal mischief and assault causing bodily injury family violence.

Deputies responded to a suspicious person, on CR 3810 near Hawkins at 6:15 p.m. Deputies located and provided the individual with a courtesy transport.

January 16

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2310 near Mineola at 9:10 a.m. in reference to an assault that occurred. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to FM 779 near Alba at 9:18 a.m. in reference to an abandoned vehicle. Deputies spoke with the owner of the property and the vehicle was removed.

Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 1:16 p.m. in reference to an unauthorized use of a motor vehicle on CR 2281 near Mineola. A person known to the reporting party took the vehicle without consent.

Deputies were dispatched to FM 2225 near Quitman at 3:34 p.m. in reference to criminal mischief. Someone damaged the reporting party's property.

Deputies were dispatched to FM 2659 near Hawkins at 8:12 p.m. in reference to an inquest. A female, 84, was found deceased in her residence. The Justice of the Peace arrived and no autopsy was ordered.

January 15

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2700 near Mineola at 9:02 a.m., in reference to criminal trespass. Deputies issued a criminal trespass

warning and cleared the incident.

Deputies spoke with a reporting party at 11:48 a.m. in reference to harassment on Ripple Cove near Hawkins. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Deputies spoke with a reporting party at 1:13 p.m. in reference to a scam that occurred on CR 3565 near Hawkins. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Deputies spoke with someone at 3:02 p.m. in reference to a scam that occurred on CR 2590 near Mineola. The reporting party paid someone for half of the job up front and never received any work. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 1660 near Alba at 7:53 p.m. in reference to theft. Someone stole the reporting party's phone. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to Holiday Village Dr. near Quitman at 11:27 p.m. in reference to an open door. Deputies located the open door but were unable to locate any signs of theft; the building was cleared.

January 14

Deputies were dispatched to U.S. Hwy. 80 near Hawkins at 12:42 a.m. in reference to an assault. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to U.S. Hwy. 80 near Mineola at 2:07 a.m. in reference to a disturbance. Darrell Dixon, 49, of Joaquin, was arrested for outstanding warrants.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 1830 near Yantis at 9:14 a.m. in reference to theft. Someone stole a phone from the reporting party's property.

Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 9:56 a.m. in reference to a scam that occurred on FM 2088 near Winnsboro. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Deputies were contacted at 10:04 a.m. in reference to a reckless driver on CR 1700 near Yantis. Deputies advised the reporting party that extra patrol would be provided.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2935 near Mineola at 4:56 p.m. in reference to criminal mischief. Deputies spoke with all parties involved and cleared the incident.

January 13

Deputies were dispatched to PR 8577 near Winnsboro at 3:51 a.m. in reference to a dispute. Lauren Campbell, 34, of Gladewater, was arrested for an outstanding warrant.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 4586 near Winnsboro about 10:42 a.m. in reference to theft. Someone stole a game camera from the reporting party's property. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to FM 1254 near Mineola at 11:24 a.m. in reference to criminal mischief. Someone damaged the reporting party's property. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 4960 near Quitman at 10:47 p.m. in reference to an assault. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to Alba-Golden ISD at approximately 11:43 p.m. in reference to an alarm. Deputies checked the building and it was secure.

January 12

Deputies spoke with a reporting party at 10:20 a.m. in reference to suspicious circumstances on Sunny Glenn near Hawkins. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Deputies spoke with a reporting party at 10:26 a.m.

in reference to theft that occurred on CR 3204 near Quitman. Someone stole a trash can from the reporting party's property.

Deputies were dispatched to U.S. Hwy. 69 near Mineola at 11:04 a.m. in reference to an inquest. A male, 56, was found deceased in his residence. The Justice of the Peace was notified and no autopsy was ordered.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 3482 near Hawkins at 2:19 p.m. in reference to a theft. Someone stole several items from the reporting party's property. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 1613 near Alba at 6:06 p.m. in reference to theft. Money was reportedly stolen from a residence. This case has been forwarded to investigators.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 1481 near Como at 9:08 p.m. in reference to a noise complaint. Deputies advised the individuals to lower the volume of the music and cleared the incident.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 1822 near Alba at 10:59 p.m. in reference to a noise complaint. Deputies advised the individuals to lower the volume of the music and cleared the incident.

January 11

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2436 near Mineola at 3:38 p.m. in reference to harassment. Deputies spoke with all parties involved and cleared the incident.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2280 near Mineola at 4:39 p.m. in reference to a disturbance. Parties were separated for the night.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 2353 near Mineola at 11:56 p.m. in reference to terroristic threat. Deputies spoke with all parties involved and cleared the incident.

Deputies spoke with someone at 2:06 a.m. in reference to harassment that occurred on CR 4420 near Winnsboro. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 3265 near Quitman at 1:50 p.m. in reference to a dispute. Parties were separated for the day.

Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 10 p.m. in reference to theft on CR 3450 near Hawkins. Someone stole a vehicle from the reporting party's property. This case is active.

January 9

Deputies spoke with a reporting party at 1:07 p.m. in reference to a scam that occurred on Greenbriar Trail near Hawkins. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

At 2:32 p.m., cows were reported out on SPUR 514 near Yantis.

Deputies conducted a traffic stop on FM 17 near Alba at approximately 4:07 p.m. Radonna Sowell, 51, of Alba, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

Deputies were dispatched to CR 3135 near Quitman at 6:32 p.m. in reference to an assault. Max Gilbreath, 60, of Quitman, was arrested for assault causing bodily injury.

Deputies spoke with the reporting party at 7:14 p.m. in reference to suspicious circumstances on CR 3960 near Hawkins. Deputies gave the reporting party advice and cleared the incident.

Between the dates of Jan. 9 and Jan. 15, Wood County Sheriff's Deputies responded to multiple agency assists that included the following: Emergency Medical Services, Mineola Police Department and Quitman Police Department.

Mineola Police Report

January 23

11:09 a.m. A woman reported her vehicle getting hit in the Walmart parking lot the night before without any notification from the driver of the other vehicle. This is under investigation.

4:09 p.m. Aaron's Rental reported a theft of service when a person rented items from them and did not pay or return the property.

5:17 p.m. A reckless driver was reported on 37 South headed into the city. The vehicle turned into Walmart. When officers arrived the driver was already in Walmart.

January 22

9:40 a.m. An officer assisted an elderly resident with some problems she was having with her utility bills not getting paid by a person that was taking her money.

10:45 a.m. A man reported his Valero card was used in the Dallas area for large amounts of fuel without his permission.

11:02 a.m. A business reported their Valero card used in the Dallas area for large amounts of fuel without their permission. Detectives went to the Valero to check the pumps for skimmers and found that the Department of Agriculture had just been there and inspected the pumps and found nothing wrong or suspicious with them.

11:08 a.m. A suspicious person was reported sitting in a vehicle at Peterson Park. An officer checked on the man and found that he was using WIFI and checking emails.

3:21 p.m. A welfare concern was reported for a man who left a job site on North Newsom Street. An officer was able to find the vehicle and witnessed no signs of intoxication with the driver.

8:56 p.m. A woman requested assistance with checking the mailbox where she had just moved from on Goodson Circle to see if a package she had delivered was in the mailbox because it showed delivered to that address. An officer checked the mailbox for her and found the package that was delivered.

10:27 p.m. An officer was patrolling North Newsom Street when he came upon a woman sitting on the curb in the rain, emotionally distraught, and appeared confused. The officer was not able to determine exactly what had taken place, other than she possibly fell.

The woman was having problems remembering what took place other than her vehicle broke down at Brookshire's parking lot and she was attempting to walk to her daughter's residence not too far away. The woman did have an injury to her knee. She was transported by EMS to UT Health in Quitman. The woman's vehicle was located in the Brookshire's parking lot.

January 21

12:57 p.m. An officer assisted the fire department and EMS with CPR on an unresponsive 45-year-old female at a residence on

Turman Street. The woman was pronounced deceased at UT Health in Quitman by Justice of the Peace Pct. 3, Jerry Parker. An autopsy was ordered by Judge Parker.

12:57 p.m. A woman reported her Valero credit card had been used without her permission in the Dallas area for a large amount of fuel. This is under investigation.

2:09 p.m. Officers assisted with a welfare concern from Wood County by looking for an elderly man that was driving through town headed toward Fruitvale. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

3:04 p.m. A woman spoke with an officer about getting someone living with her out of her residence. The officer advised the resident on West Blair an eviction notice would have to be filed with the Justice of the Peace.

5:24 p.m. A burn ban violation was reported on English Street. An officer responded and had the resident put the fire out.

January 20

1:21 a.m. A reckless driver was reported eastbound on Broad Street failing to maintain a single lane of traffic and driving at a high rate of speed. An officer was able to get the vehicle stopped in the 1000 block of East Broad Street. The driver, Angel Lee Gonzales, 28, of Findlay, Ohio, failed to identify himself to the officer and was placed under arrest. The passenger, Christopher Michael Ortega, 35, of Quitman was arrested for public intoxication.

1:22 p.m. Walmart reported a female in the store who had previously been trespassed. An officer responded and located the female and verified that she had been trespassed before. Alissa Dawn Trotta, 22, of Mineola was arrested for criminal trespass.

4:33 p.m. A resident reported the neighbor blocking his driveway with a trailer on Wren Street. The vehicle was already gone upon the officer's arrival.

6:04 p.m. A traffic stop on North Pacific for a traffic violation led to the driver arrested for warrants out of Dallas County. Bobby James Bleeker, 42, of Dallas was arrested for four forgery warrants.

January 19

6:38 a.m. Mark Alan Zaloga, 32, of Alba was arrested for violation of a protective order. Zaloga was stopped by an officer for speeding on South Pacific Street. During the stop the officer determined Zaloga had an active protective order and the passenger was the named protected person in the order.

2:54 p.m. A disturbance was reported at a convenience store on South Pacific. A man reported another man had threatened to pour hot coffee on his daughter. By the time an officer arrived, all parties had already left.

7:15 p.m. A public assist was requested when a man was coming home

from the hospital and needed to get into his residence on West Kilpatrick. The officer responded to the call to assist, but a friend was already there waiting.

January 18

5:36 a.m. EZ Mart reported they had a couple customers that stopped at the store because of something in the roadway at Pacific and Broad that made their tire blow out. An officer responded to the area and found a piece of metal and removed it from the roadway.

10:19 a.m. A North Newsom resident reported cash missing from his residence. This is under investigation.

12:05 p.m. A theft was reported when a woman said she accidentally left her boyfriend's wallet in a shopping cart, or dropped it in the parking lot at Walmart. Surveillance cameras shows a person picking up the wallet. This is under investigation.

2:16 p.m. A reckless driver was reported on 37 South northbound into the city. The vehicle pulled into Walmart and parked.

January 17

11:38 a.m. A hit and run was reported in the parking lot of Walmart. After an investigation, the suspect vehicle was located and the victim was given the insurance information of the other driver. This case is still under investigation for duty upon striking the vehicle.

2:05 p.m. Debit card abuse was reported by a resident at the nursing home that just moved from a Grand Saline nursing home. The debit card abuse is under investigation. The suspect has been identified and determined the abuse did occur while the resident was in Grand Saline. The case is still under investigation with pending warrants.

2:28 p.m. A woman requested a welfare concern on a resident on North Pacific. Officers checked on the resident and everything was fine.

3:41 p.m. A welfare concern was reported in reference to a possible intoxicated driver that left in a vehicle on North Pacific. Officers patrolled the area, but was unable to locate the vehicle.

4:31 p.m. A business off East Broad Street asked for extra patrol because of fear of retaliation from a terminated employee. A directed patrol was initiated.

7:18 p.m. Rene Gilberto Cuevas, 59, of Mineola was arrested for possession of a controlled substance. Cuevas was a passenger in a vehicle that was stopped for a traffic violation on South Pacific Street.

10:23 p.m. An officer assisted the Constable Pct. 2 on a traffic stop on West Patten.

10:38 p.m. Wood County requested assistance on a vehicle located in the middle of the intersection of Hwy 49 and Loop 564, unoccupied and smoking. A wrecker service was contacted to get the vehicle out of the roadway.

Five arrested in Quitman on narcotics charges

Five people were arrested in Quitman for possession or sale of narcotics the afternoon of Jan. 24.

The Wood County Sheriff's Office made the arrests at the corner of Goldsmith Street and Highway 154.

Wood County Sheriff Tom Castloo said the case

is under an ongoing investigation and details will be forthcoming.

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MEGAN HOLT

Holt named to All-State band

Megan Holt, a member of the Mineola High School Band, will perform with the Texas All-State Band in San Antonio on Saturday, Feb. 16 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center as part of the 2019 Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention.

The young Mineola trombonist was chosen for this prestigious honor through a competitive process held this year across the state at district, region, and area levels. Holt is a student of Professor Heather Mensch, assistant director of bands at Tyler Junior College. Holt plays at Mineola High School under the direction of Chris Brannan, a member of the Texas Music Educators Association. This will be Holt's first time to perform as a member of a TMEA All-State organization. She is a junior and is the daughter of Blaine and Candace Holt.

All-State is the highest honor a Texas music student can receive. A total of 1,780 students are selected through a process that began with over 72,900 students from around the state vying for this honor to perform in one of 15 ensembles (bands, orchestras, and

choirs). Only the top 2.4% of musicians who initially audition become All-State musicians.

Considering the difficulty in becoming an All-State musician, Holt's selection from a 3A school like Mineola is rare. "For a school of our size, even one (All-State selection) is an achievement," said Brannon, who later added: "She's an awesome kid."

High school students selected to perform in the All-State concerts have competed through auditions to qualify at the state level. Texas Music Educators Association sponsors the Texas All-State competition. This competitive process begins throughout the state in auditions hosted by 33 TMEA Regions. Individual musicians perform selected music for a panel of judges who rank each instrument or voice part. From this ranking, a select group of musicians advances from their Region to compete against musicians from other areas in eight TMEA Area competitions. The highest-ranking musicians judged at the TMEA Area competitions qualify to perform in a TMEA All-State music group.

Quitman honors trustees during School Board Appreciation Month

By ZAK WELLERMAN
news@woodcountymonitor.com

In honor of January being school board appreciation month, Quitman ISD Superintendent Rhonda Turner recognized the trustees for their service to the district.

With "Planting Seeds of Success" as the theme, trustees were given a planter and tools as well as a rib-eye steak meal.

"Each of you brings different talents and expertise to our board and in turn that filters down to our children. On behalf of the 1,143 children that we serve, the 179 employees and the countless numbers of communi-

ty members and parents, thank you so much for what you do," Turner said. "I know that some caladiums and work gloves doesn't go a long way in saying thank you, but we do thank you and we do appreciate what you do for our children because without you guys making the decisions you make we wouldn't be able to do any of things we do at our school district."

The QISD school board consists of President Jeremy Smith, Vice President Doug Cameron, Secretary Royce Patterson, and trustees James Hicks, Jane Herring, Michael Hipp II and Raymond Peek.

Vendor space opens for Bassmaster Elite Series

Vendor space contracts are now available for the upcoming Bassmaster Elite Series tournament at Lake Fork.

Toyota Bassmaster Texas Fest is set for May 2 to 6 at the Sabine River Authority on Lake Fork. This event is one part of nine regular season tournaments in 2019 in Bassmaster Elite Series.

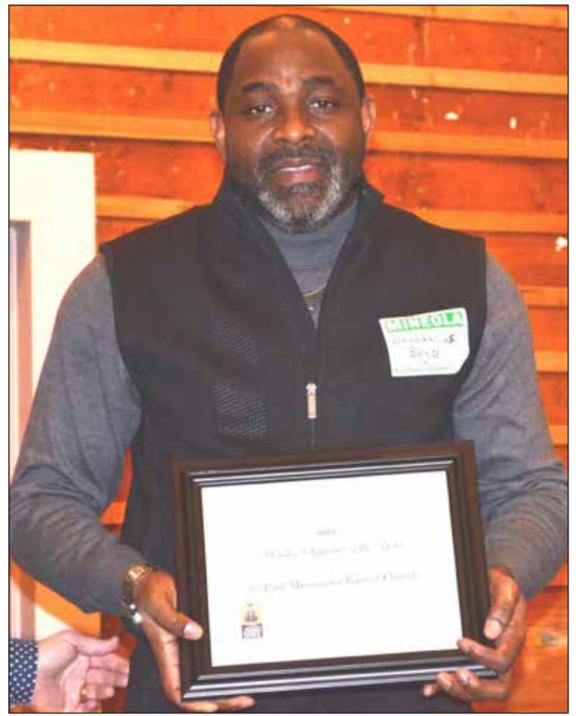
Vendor spaces (10-by-10 foot) can be reserved for \$250. Local chambers of commerce and economic development corporations get a free booth to promote their cities, but the vendor space contract still needs to be completed by these entities.

Space contracts are agreements between the Lake

Fork Chamber of Commerce and the vendor applicant. LFCC reserves the right to determine eligibility. Payment can be made by cash or check. The deadline to turn in a contract form is by the end of March.

Checks should be made out to LFCC and for other payment options vendors should email the chamber at info@lakeforkchamber.org.

For those interested in being a vendor, contact the following organizations for a contract form: Wood County Industrial Commission at 903 768-2402, woodcic@peoplescom.net, LFCC at info@lakeforkchamber.org or Emory Tourism at 903 473-2496.



Top, Demetrius Boyd, pastor of St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church, accepts an award from the Mineola Chamber of Commerce on Friday on behalf of the church, which was recognized as Chamber of Commerce Supporter of the Year for the church's role in establishing last year's Fiesta celebration. (Monitor photo by Hank Murphy).

Below, Keith Sweeden, right, accepts an award Friday night at the Mineola Chamber of Commerce's Membership Awards Party at Cowburners in downtown Mineola. Sweeden was recognized as Chamber Volunteer of the Year. To his left is Vic Savelli, outgoing chamber president. (Monitor photo by Hank Murphy).

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NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO or Company) publishes this notice that on December 19, 2018, it filed its Statement of Intent and Application for Authority to Amend Transmission Cost Recovery Factor (TCRF) with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT or Commission) in Docket No. 49042. The filing was made in accordance with the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) § 36.209 and 16 Tex. Admin. Code (TAC) § 25.239. The TCRF will recover SWEPCO's reasonable and necessary costs for transmission infrastructure improvements as well as changes in wholesale transmission charges under a tariff approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to the extent that the costs or charges have not otherwise been recovered. In this application, SWEPCO seeks to recover its transmission capital investments from July 1, 2016 through September 30, 2018. SWEPCO also seeks to recover through the TCRF approved transmission charges that are not otherwise being recovered through current rates.

This notice is being published in accordance with PURA § 36.103 and 16 TAC § 22.51(a)(1).

STATEMENT OF INTENT TO CHANGE RATES

SWEPCO requests that the Commission approve an increase of \$12,579,246 above the revenue requirement approved by the Commission in SWEPCO's last base rate case, Docket No. 46449 (as reduced to reflect the reduction in federal corporate income taxes resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017). This amounts to a 3.58 percent increase in SWEPCO's overall annualized Texas retail revenue requirement. SWEPCO proposes that its requested rate change become effective 35 days after the filing of the Statement of Intent and Application. The proposed effective date is subject to suspension and extension by actions that may be taken by the Commission.

All customers in SWEPCO's Texas retail rate classes will be affected by this change. The impact of the rate change on various customer classes will vary from the overall impact described in this notice.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Persons with questions or who want more information on SWEPCO's Statement of Intent and Application may contact SWEPCO at 428 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101, or call toll-free at (888) 216-3523 during normal business hours. A complete copy of the Statement of Intent and Application and related filings is available for inspection at the address listed in the previous sentence.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. A request for intervention or for further information should refer to Docket No. 49042. Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, motions to intervene will be due 45 days from the date SWEPCO filed its Statement of Intent and Application with the Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF QUITMAN TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The City of Quitman will hold a public hearing at 5:05 PM on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at City Hall at 401 E. Goode Street, regarding the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) grant.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TxCDBG funding available, all eligible TxCDBG activities, and the use of past TxCDBG funds. Citizens are encouraged to participate in the development of this TxCDBG application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Andrew Kloefkorn, City Secretary/Administrator at City Hall.

Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Para más información en español, comuníquese con Andrew Kloefkorn al 1-(903) 763-2223.



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Wood County World Read Aloud Day
 The Wood County Commissioners Court approved a proclamation declaring Feb. 1 as Wood County World Read Aloud Day. In the proclamation, Wood County Judge Lucy Hebron stated that Wood County and Mineola Memorial Library recognize the benefits of reading aloud, such as language development and expanding vocabulary, comprehension and listening skills. In this photo, Hebron (center) presents the Wood County World Read Aloud Day proclamation to Mineola Memorial Library director Mary Hurley (left) and adult nonfiction and programming director Pam Hortman (right).



Pictured from left is Darrell Slabaugh, car club treasurer; Larry Barnes, president; R.T. Bridges, past president; Sherry Dupre Bridges, secretary; and Sam Scroggins, chairman of the Rainbow Room Board of Directors. (Courtesy photo).

Lake Country Classics Car Club donates \$1,000 to Rainbow Room

Lake Country Classics Car Club recently presented a \$1,000 check to Rainbow Room Chairman Sam Scroggins. The gift represents proceeds from the club's successful 2018 car show held Oct. 20 at Gov. Jim Hogg Park in Quitman. In making the presentation, club President Larry Barnes said, "Our club is proud to present this gift in support of the significant role the Rainbow Room and their volunteers provides to needy youth in Wood County. Our club received tremendous support from area businesses and organizations, which allowed us to host one of East Texas's best classic car events. As a result of this support, it is

our honor to support organizations like the Rainbow Room, which provides an outstanding service thanks to their volunteers and other agencies in our area." The Rainbow Room is a resource center where Child Protective Services case-workers can get supplies for children who are victims of abuse or neglect - clothing, school supplies, diapers, and much more. Attending the event were Scroggins along with several Rainbow Room board members, Barnes, and car club members Darrell Slabaugh, R.T. and Sherry Bridges, and Chuck Holt, who drove their classic vehicles to the presentation. The Lake Country Clas-

sics Car Club includes Wood County members who have a passion for classic cars and an interest in preservation of classic vehicles. Club members host and attend car shows, host a cruise night at the Quitman Dairy Queen on the fourth Thursday each month from March through August, support Toys for Tots, and participate in parades and nursing home visits, cruises and social events. Family membership fees are \$25 per year. The 2019 Car Show is scheduled for Oct. 19, at Gov. Jim Hogg Park, Quitman. More information is available at www.lakecountryclassicscarclub.com or by contacting any club member.

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Obituaries

ROBERT WAYNE COLLINS 1924-2019



Robert Wayne Collins, a life-long resident of Mineola, died at age 94, at home, on Sunday, Jan. 27, 2019. Wayne was born in Mineola on Aug. 10, 1924, the only son of Thomas Aubry ("Rip") and Beulah Kathryn ("Peck") Collins. He graduated from Mineola High School in 1941 and went on to Rice University (then called the Rice Institute). His studies were interrupted by Naval service as a commissioned officer in World War II in the Pacific. After the war, Wayne completed a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering at Rice on the G.I. Bill, through which he also obtained his pilot's license. Wayne remained in the Naval Reserve after the war, eventually retiring at the rank of Captain.

After graduating from Rice, Wayne joined his father in the family business -- then Collins dry cleaning, tailoring and menswear -- in Mineola. That same year, 1948, Wayne married Frances McBride and the following year they built the house on North Johnson St. in Mineola where they resided until their deaths. From the early 1950s, Wayne served as a civic leader on many fronts in Mineola and beyond, twice as president of the Chamber of Commerce, as the leader of various civic initiatives, on planning and zoning boards, and as president of the Texas Retail Federation. Having worked with his father to expand the Mineola "Collins" store to include women's clothing in the 1950s, in 1962, Wayne opened a second store in Athens. Another followed in Bergfeld Center in Tyler in 1967. He briefly operated a second store in Mineola in the late '60s (called "Dana's") and for a decade in the late '70s-early '80s, a fourth store

also operated in Broadway square mall in Tyler. An east Texas landmark, the Collins stores (and Wayne!) lived up to their motto: "First in Fashion, Value, Service." In 1995, Wayne took his first retirement, when he closed the Collins stores. (Actually it was his second retirement, if you count his 20 years of naval reserve service.) Soon after the store closing, Wayne went to work at First Service Bank, an institution which he had helped found and for which he had previously served as chairman of the board. He failed retirement from that position, too, carrying on afterward as the chair of the Wood County airport board, yet another institution he had helped found, and which was renamed Wood County Airport Collins Field in his honor in 2017. He recently retired from that role as well, although he continued to lead formation flying clinics and play trumpet with the Lake Country Orchestra, among many other activities. He was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church, and a dedicated member of the Rotary Club. Most recently, the Mineola Chamber of Commerce honored him with a lifetime entrepreneur award and he served as the Grand Marshal of Mineola's 2018 Christmas Parade.

After his family, flying was the love and constant of Wayne's life. As a toddler he had a pedal-plane instead of the usual tricycle! Wayne flew his beloved single-engine Beechcraft Bonanza N850T around the world twice (and partially many other times!), served as the founding organizer for formation flights to annual fly-ins at Oshkosh since 1990, provided help to families needing transportation to specialized medical care through Angel Flights, introduced numerous young people to flying through the Young Eagle program, and delivered two single-engine planes to medical missionaries in Africa for Wings of Hope.

Wayne was pre-deceased by his beloved wife, Frances. He is survived by his children Craig (Lori), Corey, Cristle (Robert), and Clay (Jana), and grandchildren Alexis,

Sophie, Brittany, Chelsea, Katie, Hannah, Sarah, Wesley, Spencer and Elizabeth, as well as several nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorials gifts in lieu of flowers. In a sign of just how many organizations Wayne was committed to, the family found it hard to narrow down the list, but suggests that memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Mineola, the Mineola Civic Center endowment, Angel Flight (<http://www.angelflight.com>), the National Alliance for Mental Illness (nami.org), or to any of the other civic organizations with which Wayne was connected.

Arrangements are being handled by Beaty Funeral Home in Mineola. The funeral service will be held at First Baptist Church on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 2 at 2 p.m., with visitation beforehand at the church at 1 p.m. Graveside service with veteran's burial honors will follow in Roselawn Memorial Gardens. After the burial, the family invites all to join for a reception at Wood County Airport Collins Field.

BOBBY RAY TURBEVILLE 1943-2019

Graveside services for Bobby Ray Turbeville, 75, of Mineola, were 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Mineola with Rev. Craig Lacy officiating.

Mr. Turbeville died Jan. 21, 2019, near the Pine Mills community.

He was born Oct. 16, 1943 in Tyler to Jim Bob and Lucille Davis Turbeville. He worked many years as a geologist in the oil and gas industry and received his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Arlington and his post-graduate education at the University of Wisconsin.

Mr. Turbeville was preceded in death by his parents, Jim Bob and Lucille Turbeville.

Survivors include his brother James of Garland as well as numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

Inside and Outside the Picket Fence

BY JAN WHITLOCK

Many hands have been working outside the Picket Fence.

The new rose bed is well on its way to completion. Heirloom and Earth Kind roses have been tucked into their new homes. Rich soil followed by a layer of cardboard topped with a hearty dressing of mulch should ensure many seasons of blooms for all our visitors to admire. Stepping stones have been added to assist you as you stoop over to "smell the roses." I have worked in these gardens for several years, as have many of my friends at the Arbore-



Quitman Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

tum, and I cannot begin to tell you how proud we are of the progress being made to present a beautiful area for Wood County residents and guests to visit.

Inside the Picket Fence, plans are underway and reservations are being secured for the annual Valentine's

Day Dinner. If you are looking for a candlelit venue to share this evening with someone special, reservations can be made on our website. You can also stop by on Wednesday morning to reserve a space.

I will be mentioning more about our free Wednesday workshops as the season progresses. These are classes on some basic garden chores for our friends and neighbors. No reservations are necessary. Bring your gloves and clippers to learn about rose pruning on Feb. 27. The coffee will be on.

QISD trustees approve election plans

By ZAK WELLERMAN
news@woodcountymonitor.com

Quitman ISD trustees set voting plans for the May 4 school board election during the regular January meeting.

Early voting will be done at the Wood County Courthouse to lessen the confusion within the community, said Kari Wilson, administrative assistant to the superintendent.

Election Day voting will be done at the Carroll Green Civic Center from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The following dates and times for early voting are: April 22 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., April 23-26 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 29 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., April 30 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

James Hicks and Doug Cameron's seats are up for election this year. Applica-

tions to be on the ballot are due Feb. 15 by 5 p.m.

Trustees also approved the 2019-20 Quitman district calendar. The school year will have 170 instructional days with Aug. 21 as the start and May 22 as the last day of classes.

Assistant Supt. Angela Brown said the 2019-20 year will include two days in the year for parent-teacher conferences: Sept. 20 and Feb. 14.

Of the 97 teachers who responded to a calendar survey, 65 percent voted in favor of the calendar presented to the school board.

To be compliant with the Texas government code, the board renewed the district's investment policy.

Trustees approved a budget amendment of \$5,000 to increase the appropriation given to Wood County Spe-

cial Education Cooperative in regard to QISD's shared service agreement balances. The original appropriation was \$305,000 for the co-op.

A donation of \$540 from Brenda Hightower Smith for unpaid free and reduced lunches was also accepted by the trustees.

In her report, Supt. Rhonda Turner said enrollment is at 1,143 students with a student-to-teacher ratio of 12.3 in December 2018. Finance Director Cayla Mars gave the financial reports to the board.

Sally Attaway spoke in open forum to thank the board for the hand rails at the Delbert Ballard Gym. Attaway also commended QHS counselor Brittany Elred for her work at Lake Fork Baptist Church scholarship night.

National Sew Day event planned

Quilts of Valor Foundation is hosting a National Sew Day on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Locally, we will be sewing at MLOA from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Come join us for an hour or all day. There will be prizes. Help us make quilts for our service

members and veterans. If you can't join us, consider joining our sew group, Stitchin' Angels on the last Wednesday of each month at Stitchin' Heaven from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

If you have questions, please contact suzanne.dicarlo@QOVF.org.

Area students named to OBU President's List

Allyson Edwards of Hawkins and Hanah Moore of Winnsboro were among 340 students named to the President's List at Ouachita Baptist University for the fall 2018 semester.

To be named to the President's List, a student must compile a 4.0 grade point average and be classified as full-time, with a minimum of 12 academic hours.

Ouachita Baptist University, a private liberal arts school in Arkadelphia, Ark., is in its 132nd year as a Christ-centered learning community.

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MEALS ON WHEELS

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Monday, Feb. 4 - BBQ Pork Rib Patty, Mixed Beans, Broccoli with Red Peppers, Wheat Bread, Fresh Fruit, Milk

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Psalm 128:1

*Behold, the Lord comes to
 save his people;
 blessed are those prepared
 to meet him.*
Matthew 25:6



Front row from left: Ashtin Tullos, Helena Bautista, Amanita Bautista. Back row from left: Kaylin Baker, Ahneka Tullos, Megan Wallace, Sierra White, and Maddie Fedderolf.

Wood County 4-H Horse Club members take honors at Horse Quiz Bowl

The Wood County 4-H Horse Club won the following honors at a recent District 9 Invitational Horse Quiz Bowl Contest:

1st Place Junior Team: Ashtin Tullos, Helena Bautista, Megan Wallace, Maddie Fedderolf

1st Place High Junior Individual: Maddie Fedderolf

COLLINS

From page 1

mitment to scouting.

He also was committed to the Mineola Rotary Club, for which he served for more than 70 years. His father was an original founder, said current Rotary President Greg Hollen.

"He was the rarest of civic volunteers," said Hollen, "He was here every week

3rd Place Senior Team: Kaylin Baker, Ahneka Tullos, Sierra White, Amanita Bautista

2nd Place High Senior Individual: Ahneka Tullos

The teams also won the following awards at the recent Johnson County Horse Judging Contest:

5th Place Senior Team/

and attended every event." Collins even stood in the cold ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, Hollen recalled.

"People like me came to Rotary because of Wayne," he said.

"One of the measures of Wayne is that he really never took credit" for his accomplishments. "He was selfless that way. He was just such and inspiring guy."

Halter
11th Place Senior Team Overall

5th Place Junior Team/

Halter
8th Place Junior Team Overall

4th Place Junior Individual/Halter—Ashtin Tullos

Collins was preceded in death by his wife, Frances. He is survived by his children, Craig, Corey, Cristle, and Clay; 10 grandchildren; as well as several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services are scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church. Graveside service with veteran's burial honors will follow in Roselawn Memorial Gardens.



Clayton Cash, left, and Michael Troccoli explain the workings of the auto tech lab during Career Day at Mineola High School. (Monitor photo by Hank Murphy).

Quitman Rotary Club's January students of the month

Seniors Mikayla Hubbard and Dalton Brandon were chosen as the Quitman Rotary January students of the month. Hubbard plays clarinet in the band. She is a member of the local anchor club, National Honor Society and the First United Methodist Church in Quitman.

Hubbard serves as senior class treasurer and Student Council president. She also competes on the UIL Spelling team. She plans to attend Tyler Junior College to make use of her Presidential Honors Scholarship. While at TJC, she will earn her associates degree in nursing and registered nurse license. She will then transfer to a larger college to earn a Master's of Science in Nursing and a nurse practitioner license.

She is the daughter of Neal and Melanie Poppenhusen.

Brandon serves as HOSA president, Interact Rotary vice president and School Health Advisory Council secretary. He has completed many volunteer hours at the Quitman Animal Clinic, Christus Trinity Mother Frances Quitman Clinic and Brookshire's Pharmacy.

He will attend the University of Texas at Arlington to pursue a biology (pre-medicine) major. After medical school and residency, his goal is to be a doctor of family medicine. To be a part of a hospital or clinic where he can further his knowledge in science and research is his ultimate future career plan.

He is the son of Steven Brandon.



Dalton Brandon (left) and Mikayla Hubbard were named Quitman Rotary January students of the month.

Home Sweet Home

BY ANGIE MONK, WOOD COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Soup's on!

What could be better on a cold day than a nice bowl of homemade soup or stew? A hearty soup with cornbread or crackers is a great meal for many folks. Many soups taste even better the second day, which probably helped popularize the slogan "Cook once, eat twice." Simple food safety tips to keep in mind with soups/stews are:

- Avoid letting soup set at room temperature for more than two hours.
- When refrigerating leftovers, remember to use

shallow containers so the soup will cool to the proper temperature quickly.

- When re-heating soups, reheat thoroughly to at least 165 degrees.

The following recipe is a delicious, hearty soup. To save time, cook the chicken and wild rice and cut up the vegetables the day before.

Chicken & Wild Rice Soup

2 quarts chicken broth
½ lb. fresh mushrooms, finely chopped

½ cup finely chopped celery
1 cup shredded carrots
½ cup finely chopped onion
1 tsp. chicken bouillon granules
¼ tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. parsley flakes
¼ cup butter, cut into small cubes
¼ cup flour
1 can cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
½ cup additional chicken broth
3 cups cooked wild rice
2 cups cubed, cooked

chicken

In large saucepan, combine the first eight ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 30 minutes.

In another large pan, melt butter, stir in flour until smooth. Gradually whisk in broth/veggie mixture. Bring to a boil and then stir approximately 2 minutes or until thickened.

Whisk in mushroom soup and ½ cup additional broth. Add rice and chicken and heat thoroughly. Enjoy!

Wood County Monitor classified ads

Notices

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing has been set to accept Private Road 6309 for County Maintenance.

The hearing is set for Friday, February 22, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. in the commissioners Courtroom. All persons interested in the acceptance of Private Road 6309 for County Maintenance may appear at the hearing with opposition should they so desire.
Lucy Hebron
Wood County Judge

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Pictures: DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com

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Mineola Kiwanis Citizen of the Month
Dr. Mark Race (left) is the Mineola Kiwanis January Citizen of the Month. Dr. Race volunteers at Grace Community Healthcare in Mineola. He also devotes time in Bullard and internationally to healthcare for the needy. Kiwanian Dr. Loy Frazier presented the award. (Courtesy photo).



Kadavian George gets off a tough shot under the basket during the Yellowjackets' win over the Panthers on Friday night.

Yellowjackets defeat Alba-Golden 60-39

Mineola dominated Alba-Golden 60-39 in boys district action Friday at Mineola. The Yellowjackets created a ton of Panther turnovers and exercised a strong inside game in the win.

ellowjacket Wing Kelby Bruner jumpstarted the Jackets' offense with an early three-pointer and a beautiful two-point floater in the lane. Senior Shaw Franklin provided the solid court presence required on a night marred by sloppy basketball by both teams.

After a steal and breakaway lay-in by Mineola's DeVante Stephens gave Mineola a 10-point advantage, Alba-Golden's Jon-Michael Chadwick scored on a breakaway to make the score 15-7 at the end of one quarter.

A turnaround jumper by Panther sophomore Boedy Baker put Alba-Golden within six points early in the second stanza. It was at this stage that Yellowjacket Kadavian George really began to exert himself at both ends of the floor. His defensive pressure created a turnover in the backcourt, which he converted to make

the score 24-11, and began to open the margin for Mineola.

A late flurry of activity by Alba-Golden spurred by Zane Smith's tip-in of a missed free throw closed the gap to 26-17. An inside bucket by George and good Mineola work at the line made the score 30-17 at the half.

There is only one way to describe the second half play: reach and grab. It was not pretty basketball. There was far too much end-to-end play, too many turnovers by both teams, and unfocused effort. Mineola did continue to force Alba-Golden turnovers and capitalize on the extra possessions.

A Conner Dobbs three-pointer, a Bruner steal and score and a score by Davian Sneed from a nice Franklin assist built a 20-point lead late in the third quarter. The lead ballooned to 26 points after shots by George and Aiden Steward from beyond the arc.

The fourth quarter saw Mineola trading scores with Alba-Golden but with little effect on the margin.



Alba-Golden's Ginny Carson puts up a shot during the game against Mineola on Friday.

Lady Jackets defeat Lady Panthers 48-38

The Mineola Lady Jackets exacted revenge for a late December loss at Alba-Golden with a hard-fought 48-38 win Friday night at home.

The game featured a bit of everything, including an exceptionally well-played opening quarter. Alba-Golden scored off the opening tip as junior Sammy Ramsel intercepted the Mineola tip and scored on a breakaway. Two short jumpers by senior Macie Pendergrass and an offensive put-back by Kalli Wright rounded out the Lady Panthers' scoring.

Mineola recorded points in the opening quarter from Jessiah Riley, Cyndi Butler, Chloe Cormier, and Sabria Dean. Dean also contributed her first of three highlight reel assists, this one to Tahjae Black for a score. The junior stand-out also assisted Tiara Stephens in the second quarter and Riley in the final quarter to help seal the win.

Alba-Golden closed the score to 12-10 in the opening moments of the second quarter when they scored on a nicely executed inbound play. The Lady

Jackets held their guests to only five points in the quarter and built a 20-13 half-time advantage.

Mineola should have opened a large lead before halftime as they out-rebounded Alba-Golden 11-2 in the second period. The Lady Jackets unfortunately committed seven turnovers in the same span, which negated the huge rebounding advantage.

Behind two nice jumpers from Pendergrass and inbound scoring play, the Lady Panthers drew to within three early in the third quarter. It was as close as the Lady Panther team would get on the night. Efficient free throw shooting and a beautiful assist from Meghan Brewington to Black put the Lady Jackets up by as much as 11 points late in the third.

The Lady Panthers fought hard in the fourth. Behind two three-pointers by Grace Bizzell and a three-point play by Ginny Carson, the Lady Panthers closed the score to 40-36 with 3:00 to play. The assist by Dean to Riley and Mineola's shooting from the line salted away the win.

MHS girls, boys win against Rains

The Mineola boys and girls varsity basketball teams defeated their counterparts from Rains High School in action at Emory on Jan. 22.

The boys scored an impressive 55-37 victory and stayed atop the 3A Division 12 standings. Coach Ryan Steadman was especially pleased with how his squad kept to the game plan for the duration of the contest. Senior Kadavian George led the Yellowjackets with 18 points, while sophomore guard Jonah Fischer added 16.

The Lady Jackets, meanwhile, won a squeaker, 59-58. Like the boys, they too stayed in first place in 3A Division 12.

Lady Jacket coach Tony Riley described the game as "a dogfight." His squad overcame early foul trouble and a poor start to their shooting to notch the win. Sabria Dean led the Lady Jackets with 26 points, seven steals, three assists, and six rebounds. Sophomore Tahjae Black netted 12 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Hawks soar past Carlisle 87-63

Camron Taylor poured in 28 points as Hawkins jumped to an early lead and cruised past visiting Carlisle 87-63 on Jan. 22.

The win lifted the Hawks to 5-2 in Division 16AA and 19-4 overall. Carlisle fell to 4-3 in division play.

Hawkins got out of the gate quickly, building a 17-4 lead after the first quarter and never looking back.

Along with Taylor's big night, Paeton Smith and Tristian Garrett scored 17 and 16 points, respectively. Akim Richmond drained 13, and the Hawks also got five points from Zach Conde, and four from Collin Barber and Chris Jackson.

Richmond sank three three-pointers, Smith netted two, and Garrett, Conde and Taylor all hit one.



Bulldog guard Trey Berry executes a no-look pass in action against Grand Saline.

Bulldogs fall to Grand Saline 58-48

The Quitman Bulldogs fell to the Grand Saline Indians 58-48 in action at Grand Saline on Jan. 22. Despite the 10-point margin, the well-played and competitive game was closer than the score suggests.

Both teams were on point at tipoff and played to a 29-29 tie at the half. Quitman received solid play from its entire lineup. Sophomore forward Aiden Corrior made several key plays early, both offensively and defensively. Junior center Luke Pruden scored on an early offensive rebound put-back and chased down a loose ball on a key possession. Junior guard Trey Berry hit two 3-pointers in the half.

The rebounding and turnover stats lines were almost equal at the half. With each team competing hard to exploit their schemes, it was a

masterful half of basketball to watch.

The third quarter provided more give-and-take action. The contest would tilt favorably for Grand Saline with 1:43 left in the period and the score notched at 37-37. An alley-oop to the Indians stand-out senior post Jacob Akins and three 3-pointers in quick succession catapulted the Indians into the lead 48-37 at the quarter break.

The sudden scoring binge by Grand Saline was too much for the Bulldogs to overcome in the fourth quarter. Quitman managed to close the gap to eight points at one juncture, but that was as close as the game got. A comeback by the Bulldogs was hard to muster as Grand Saline enjoyed an 8-2 edge in fourth-quarter rebounds.

Quitman Youth Foundation Summer League Youth Baseball and Softball

Registration Dates, Times and Locations
Jan 30 ~ Feb 6 ~ Feb 13 ~ Feb 20 ~ Feb 27
Registration from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
at the Nutrition Center at the Ball Fields

Youth Baseball/Softball League
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Registration Fee:
\$80 - 1 player per family | \$125 - 2 players per family
\$160 - 3 or more players per family

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Lady Bulldogs Ava Burroughs and Shelby Hayes defend a drive against Grand Saline.

Turnovers doom Lady Bulldogs in narrow loss to Grand Saline

The Quitman Lady Bulldogs fell to the Grand Saline Lady Indians 51-43 in action at Grand Saline on Jan. 22. The Lady Bulldogs managed two significant comebacks, but were missing consistent play down the stretch.

The first quarter was highlighted by good ball movement and a strong Quitman defensive effort. Ava Burroughs got the visitors on the board first with a strong inside move. Madalyn Spears promptly stole the ball and converted a breakaway to give the Lady Bulldogs a 4-0 start.

An evenly matched first quarter of play saw the score notched at 8, when Grand Saline hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to take an 8-11 lead at the quarter break. What began as a game of basketball skill demonstrated by both squads became a bit of a brawl in the second quarter.

Quitman managed just four points in the second quarter while the Grand Saline poured in 12. After Maddy Whitehurst evened the score at 11 with a beautiful three-point shot, the Lady Indians forced three consecutive turnovers with their press and converted after each. A 3-pointer just before half gave Grand Saline a 12-23 lead at intermission.

Quitman dominated play

through much of the third quarter. Two inside buckets by Burroughs, a 3-pointer from Shelby Hayes, and offensive rebound put-backs from Spears and Whitehurst put the Lady Bulldogs up 26-23 with three minutes to play in the quarter. It was simply a great effort by the Lady Bulldogs coming out after halftime.

The last three minutes of the quarter, however, belonged to Grand Saline. Taking advantage of four trips to the free throw line, the Lady Indians built a six-point advantage going into the fourth quarter.

The Lady Bulldogs fought hard and strong efforts from Spears and Hayes kept the game close, with a Hayes's triple putting Quitman up 41-40 with just over a minute to play. In the end it was the composure of Grand Saline that made the difference. They hit seven of eight free throw attempts down the stretch.

The Lady Bulldogs could take a lot of positives out of the game. Their zone defense was locked in most of the night, and they won the rebounding battle 30-23. Effort never lagged, and the team fought to the buzzer. They were over the course of the night undone, however, by 22 turnovers, many of which were against the Lady Indian press.

Mineola Country Club Thursday Senior Golf Scramble, January 24

First Place with a score of 64: Kent Mullins, Carlis Yelverton, Bob Hardin

Closest to the pin:
#5 Robert Linker
#9 Bob Hardin
#18 Allen Brock

The Monitor – your Wood County sports source

Quitman High School power lifters (top photo) participated in the North Mesquite Invitational Power Lifting Meet on Jan. 9. Brooklyn Marcee and Langdon Bautista won Top Lightweight Lifter. The girls team took third place. (Photo courtesy of Heather Marcee). Quitman High School junior Julia Simpkins (above right) prepares to rise up with the bar during the girls power lifting competition Saturday in Quitman. (Monitor photo by Brandi Box). Quitman High School sophomore Bryan Morris (above left) performs the bench press during the boys power lifting competition Saturday in Quitman. (Monitor photo by Brandi Box).

Quitman squads bow to Edgewood

The Quitman varsity basketball programs dropped last Friday's games against high-powered Edgewood squads. The Quitman girls fell in defeat 58-14 while the boys lost 91-35.

The Bulldog varsity girls team has three district games yet to play: Tuesday, Jan. 29 at Rains High School; Friday, Feb. 1 at home against Alba-Golden; and Tuesday, Feb. 5 at Mineola.

The varsity boys team shares the above three dates, and they have an additional district game to play against at Lone Oak on Friday Feb. 8.

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