

eBook Option Coming to GCL

Commissioners Approve Motion to Allow Library to Join WT Digital Consortium

By Dustin Wright
Sentinel Managing Editor

Checking out a book to read could be as simple as entering in your Gaines County Library card information and downloading your desired book onto a mobile device of your liking.

And, it's an option which could be available to local library patrons by the end 2012 calendar year, following action taken by members of the Gaines County Commissioners Court on Monday.

In a unanimous 5-0 vote, Gaines County Commissioners approved of a request from Gaines County Library officials to participate in the West Texas Digital Consortium, which is associated with the West Texas Library System.

"We are looking to take the (Gaines County Library) into the 21st century with online books," said Jane Bering, Gaines County Librarian during Monday's request presentation with Gaines County Commissioners. "With the evolution of iPads, Kindle Fires and Nooks, more and more people are trending toward reading e-books and listening to audiobooks on their different devices."

Gaines County's participation on the regional system, will see the county pay \$3,000 annually to the West Texas Digital Consortium, which would see two-thirds of the money devoted toward the purchase of products for patrons to check out electronically. The remaining \$1,000 would be used for maintenance and upkeep of the electronic system, according to Bering.

Patrons will be able to check out their electronic selections, via their Gaines County Library card information, for a two week period -- much like the current period allowed for the check-out policy for paperback, hardback and other materials at either of Gaines County's library location.

Upon the completion of the book or the two week period, the material is removed from the electronic device, which is available via an electronic interface -- much like a smart device application -- between patron devices and the digital consortium system.

"We will never be in front of

the curve with technology, but this will give us a chance to help meet the curve and provide an added service to our patrons," said Bering. "This (electronic reading) is a trend I see growing, but there is still a lot of those who want to hold a book in their hands, smell the paper, and turn the pages, so it will never fully replace what (libraries) have to offer."

The service provided by the West Texas Digital Consortium is powered by OverDrive, a digital distributor of eBooks, audiobooks, and other digital content.

Current members of the West Texas Digital Consortium include: Dawson County Library, Dickens County/Spur Public Library, Ector County Library, Hockley County Memorial Library, Midland County Public Library, Muleshoe Area Public Library, Olton Area Library, Post Public Library, Springlake-Earth Community Library, and the Yoakum County/Cecil Bickley Library.

Bering, on Monday, told Commissioners she hoped the new library venture was in place by December.

In other action Monday morning, Gaines County Commission-



ers approved of the following agenda item requests:

- a change of the Court's Oct. 8 meeting to Oct. 9, in observance of a county holiday;
- a request to seek fuel bids for county vehicles;
- the closing of CR 113, in northeastern Gaines County;
- a request to cast equal votes for candidates to serve on the Gaines County Appraisal District Board of Directors;
- a tournament change request from the Gaines County Golf Course;
- a road crossing by Fiberlight, LLC in southeastern Gaines County, and
- routine administrative items pertaining to regular Gaines County business.

Correction

In an article published last week about Jimmy and Anne Stevens, Jimmy was mistakenly referred to as a "pastor" in the heading. The word should have read "preacher."

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Matters of Record

Seminole Police Dept.

Sept. 14 -- Seminole Police Officers stopped a vehicle in the 700 block of S. Main St., in reference to a traffic violation.

According to SPD reports, officers found the driver of the vehicle to be intoxicated by alcohol.

The driver, identified as a juvenile female, was taken into custody for her alcohol related charge and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center.

Sept. 15 -- Seminole Police Officers stopped a vehicle in the 1200 block of S.E. 5th St., in reference to a traffic violation.

Further investigation by SPD officers showed the driver of the vehicle to be intoxicated, with a child passenger in the vehicle at the time.

The subject, identified as Joe Angel Resendez, 45, from Seminole, was placed under arrest and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center, where he was booked for a charge of driving while intoxicated with a child passenger.

Sept. 15 -- Seminole Police Dept. officers met with a subject at the Seminole Police Dept., in reference to a vehicle burglary.

SPD officers took a report and an investigation is underway.

Sept. 16 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched to a residence in the 900 block of N.W. Ave. G, in reference to an aggravated assault with a deadly weapon (firearm).

A report was taken and an investigation is underway.

Sept. 16 -- Seminole Police Officers stopped a vehicle in the 1000 block of S. Main, in reference to a traffic violation.

The driver of the vehicle, identified as Guadalupe Pena, 60, of Andrews, was found to be intoxicated.

Pena was placed under arrest and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center and booked for a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Sept. 16 -- Seminole Police Officers stopped a vehicle in the 200 block of Hobbs Hwy, in reference to a traffic violation.

Upon contact with the driver of the vehicle, SPD officers searched the vehicle and driver for contraband.

The driver of the vehicle, identified as Ana B. Hernandez, 31, of Hobbs, N.M., was found to be in the possession of a quantity of methamphet-

amines and drug paraphernalia.

Hernandez was arrested and booked into the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center, where she was booked for her charges.

Sept. 17 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched to the Seminole Junior High School campus, in reference to a subject in possession of drug paraphernalia. The item was seized and a citation was issued.

Sept. 17 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched to the north redlight (W. Ave. A and S. Main St.), in reference to an accident.

A report was taken in reference to the accident.

Sept. 17 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched to a residence in the 600 block of S.W. 10th St., in reference to a criminal mischief complaint.

A report was taken and an investigation is underway.

Sept. 18 -- Seminole Police Officers stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation in the 100 block of N.W. Ave. I.

A search of the vehicle revealed a quantity of an illegal substance.

The substance was seized and the driver of the vehicle was issued a citation.

Sept. 18 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched northwest of Seminole, in reference to a possible intoxicated driver.

SPD officers made contact with the suspect vehicle three miles north of Seminole on State Hwy. 214.

Upon investigation, the driver of the vehicle and a passenger in the vehicle were found to be intoxicated.

The subjects, identified as Ruben Perez Ortiz, 33, and Marucio Perez Ortiz, 30, both of Odessa, were placed under arrest and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center for their respective charges.

Sept. 19 -- Seminole Police officers were dispatched to a residence in the 600 block of S.W. Ave. H, in reference to a runaway child.

SPD officers gathered information and located the child.

The child was returned to the parents and a report was made.

Sept. 20 -- Seminole Police Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 300 block of N.W. 2nd St.

SPD officers contacted a passenger in the vehicle, and found she held an outstanding warrant out of Gaines County.

The subject, identified as Irma Gar-

cia, 30, of Seminole, was placed under arrest and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center.

Sept. 21 -- Seminole Police Dept. officers were dispatched to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center, in reference to a subject having an outstanding warrant.

The warrant was served and the subject, identified as Paul Hanson, Jr., 30, of Hobbs, N.M., was booked into the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center.

Sept. 22 -- Seminole Police Officers stopped a vehicle in the 100 block of N.W. Ave. I, in reference to a traffic violation.

An officers investigation revealed the driver to be intoxicated.

The driver, identified as Peter Klassen, 48, of Seminole, was placed under arrest and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center, where he was booked for his charge of driving while intoxicated.

Sept. 22 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched to the 300 block of S. Main St., in reference to an accident.

An officer's investigation revealed one of the drivers involved in the accident to have an outstanding warrant out of Gaines County.

The subject, identified as Abram Keathler Loewen, 45, of Seminole, paid the necessary fines and was released from custody.

Sept. 24 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched to the Seminole High School campus, in reference to a theft.

SPD officers took a report and an investigation is underway.

Sept. 24 -- Seminole Police Officers were dispatched to the 1500 block of Hobbs Hwy., in reference to a possible intoxicated subject walking along the road.

Upon contact with the suspect, identified as Stephanie L. McClanahan, 21, of Hobbs, N.M., SPD officers determined the subject was intoxicated.

McClanahan was placed under arrest and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center.

Sept. 24 -- Seminole Police Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of Hobbs Hwy.

Upon their investigation, SPD officers discovered the driver of the vehicle had a county warrant.

The subject, identified as Kim Collins, 50, of Hobbs, N.M., was placed under arrest and transported to the Gaines County Law Enforcement Center.

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