

Council to Consider Incentives Deal SEDC to Offer Financial Assistance to Pizza Restaurant Development

Members of the Seminole City Council will consider ratification of an incentive agreement tentatively made between the Seminole Economic Development Corp. and a developing pizza restaurant, according to an agenda obtained Thursday by the *Seminole Sentinel*.

In their Jan. 28 regular meeting, members of the SEDC's Board of

Directors unanimously approved of a motion to enter into a \$15,000 loan agreement with BYOPizza, a "build your own pizza" eatery located in 1100 block of S. Main St., developed by co-owners Richie Brown and Robert Griffin.

The terms of the loan approved in the Jan. 28 regular meeting of the corporation will see the repayment of \$10,000 at 3.25-percent interest

paid over two years, beginning in the 2014 calendar year. In addition, if BYOPizza is still in business by 2017, the remaining \$5,000 portion of the loan will be forgiven by the corporation.

"(BYOPizza) will be a unique concept compared to any other pizza restaurant around," said Griffin in a Jan. 30 story produced by the *Seminole Sentinel*.

Featuring 6 and 10-inch personal pizza crust sizes -- available in five different flavors -- customers will be able to personalize their pizzas to their desires, with "more toppings and choices than other (pizza) places currently offer," according to Griffin.

"It's comparable to the Subway (sandwich) concept, where you have the choice to put whatever you

want on your pizza," said Griffin. "It's going to be a unique experience."

Seminole City Administrator and interim SEDC Director Tommy Phillips stated the business is planning on opening "around the first week of March."

Monday's regular meeting of the Seminole City Council is slated for a 7 p.m. start at Seminole City Hall, located at 302 S. Main St. The meeting is open to the general public, for those local residents who wish to attend.

In other business action on Monday evening, Seminole City Council members will consider the following agenda items:

- a request to remove rubbish and weeds from 200 block S.W. 11th St;
- a request to demolish a structure at 109 N.E. Ave. F; and,
- a request to demolish a structure

at 208 S.W. 11th St.

During his administrative report, Phillips will update Council members on the following city-related items:

- Santa Rosa water project;
- new fresh water wells in the La Tierra wellfield;
- effluent water line project between the City of Seminole/Gaines County;
- sewer line replacement project;
- removal of the former Thelma's restaurant building;
- drainage issues in northeastern Seminole;
- the City of Seminole's sidewalk replacement project;
- potential changes to the City of Seminole's employee handbook; and
- update on equipment repairs.

Local News Briefs

Excess Rotary Dictionaries at G.C. Library

Earlier this school year, the Seminole Rotary Club distributed a free dictionary to every third grade student in the Seminole community.

If your third grade child has not received a dictionary from the club at his/her school, you're invited to pick one up at the Gaines County Library while supplies last.

For more information about the program, or the Seminole Rotary Club, contact Judy Sage at (432) 758-5841.

The Gaines County Library's Seminole branch is located in the 700 block of Hobbs Hwy.

Sandyland Ag Conference Set for Feb. 28th

The annual Sandyland Agricultural Conference will be held Thursday, Feb. 28, at the Gaines County Civic Building in Seminole.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. with the program beginning at 8:25 a.m. and concluding at approximately 3:45 p.m.

According to officials with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service's Gaines County office, this year's conference will focus on the Production of Cotton and Peanuts as it relates to minimum rainfall and irrigation.

Irrigated & Dryland Cotton Production, Peanut Fungicides & Disease Control, Water Quality & Quantity, Weed Control, Herbicide Damage, Insect Management, Variety Trials, and Fertility are just a few of the cotton and peanut topics that will be discussed.

Those attending will also gain information on the Economic Timing of Irrigation, Pesticide Applicator License Requirements, Pesticide Laws and Regulations, and industry updates.

Program Presenters will include Dr. Mark Kelley - Agronomist, Dr. Jason Woodward - Plant Pathologist, Charles Stickler - Retired Extension Agronomist, Dr. Peter Dotray - Weed Specialist, Dr. Dana Porter - Agricultural Engineering Specialist, Dr. Terry Wheeler - Plant Pathologist, Dr. Jackie Smith - Extension Economist, Management, Terry Millican - Gaines County Agricultural Extension Agent, Manda Anderson - Gaines County IPM Agent, Jay Yates - Economist/Risk Management, all with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Other Presenters include Debbie Slocum - Texas Department of

Agriculture.

Licensed pesticide applicators will receive Continuing Education Units (CEUs) toward their Pesticide License Requirements for attending this conference.

Local and surrounding businesses will be allowed to set up booths with educational and promotional information. Anyone wanting to sponsor this program or reserve a booth space should contact the Gaines County Extension Office at (432) 758-4006 ext. 140.

Educational programs of the Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodations in order to participate in an Extension sponsored activity are encouraged to contact the Gaines County Extension Office no later than February 20, 2013 at 432-758-4006 ext. 140.

The Sandyland Ag Conference is sponsored by The Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service and the Agricultural Committees in Gaines, Yoakum, Andrews, and Cochran Counties.

GCL Urges Avocation for Public Libraries

By Jane Bering
Gaines Co. Librarian

Supporters of Texas libraries will be urging state legislators next week to join them in becoming strong advocates for public libraries.

This Tuesday (Feb. 12) is Library Legislative Virtual Action Day, and the Texas Library Association is asking Texans to call, write, e-mail, fax, tweet, send valentines or even post messages on lawmakers' Facebook pages to let them know how valuable public and school libraries are to their communities.

And there's no disputing how Texans feel about their libraries.

According to a recent poll:
• Texas voters agree public libraries are a good value for the tax dollar (94 percent, including 70 percent who strongly agree) and deserve more funding (87 percent, including 62 percent who strongly agree).

• Strong majorities support increasing public funding for both public (81 percent) and school (82 percent) libraries. In fact, at least seven in ten voters across every demographic, geographic and political segment support increased funding for both public and school libraries.

• Nearly all Texans (99 percent including 84 percent who strongly agree) believe school libraries are an essential part of the education experience and more than nine in 10 agree (94 percent) that school librarians are critical to student achievement.

Yet state funding has been cut drastically in recent years. In 2011, Gov. Rick Perry signed a budget reducing state funding for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission by 64 percent and cutting funding for the agency's library programs by 88 percent. In all, more than \$30 million was slashed from library programs.

In turn, those cuts led to the loss of another \$8 million in federal funding for library programs. If the state revenue is not restored during this legislative session, the state library system will lose an additional \$9 in funding.

These cuts have forced both public and school libraries across Texas to lay off librarians and staff, and cut programs.

Fortunately, Gaines County Library is well-supported through county funding, but the loss of State Library grant money nevertheless has curtailed the library's purchase power for youth programming and book purchases.

Typically the library received from \$5,900 and \$7,100 annually from the state, but that revenue has evaporated, meaning the library does without things for which the county budget cannot provide.

Now is the time to make your

voice heard in Austin. Tuesday, Feb. 12, is Legislative Virtual Action Day. Please take an active part in urging State Sen. Kel Seliger and State Rep. Charles Perry with your concerns about library funding, and to restore funding to the State Library and Archives Commission.

Call your Gaines County Library branch for your representatives' contact information or come by and pick up a brochure. The Seminole branch can be reached at (432) 758-4007, and the Seagraves branch is at (806) 546-2480.

USDA Accepting Discrimination Complaints

If you, or someone you know, believe the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has improperly denied you farm loan benefits between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic or female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

Claims must be filed before March 25, 2013 to be considered for cash payment or loan forgiveness.

If you think you might be eligible to file a claim, please access the Farmer and Rancher Call Center or Website: 1-888-508-4429 or www.farmerclaims.gov

Have a news brief you need publicized or announced? Let us help!!! (432) 758-3667 ph (432) 758-2136 fax news@seminolesentinel.com or come by 406 S. Main St. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Long Arm Quilting Service
Quilt Finishing
Custom Quilts
Machine Embroidery
Classes Available
Baby Gifts & More

Come See

We Offer



Sew Cute Quilting & Crafting Studio

See What We Have For Your Valentine Sweetheart!

Jennifer Amen
(432) 209-4660

216 S. Main
Seminole, TX 79360

facebook.com/sewcutequiltingbyjenn

FREE * FREE * FREE

Take advantage of our Great Inspection Special

Detecting potential problems before they happen allows you to save on parts, as well as avoid rush delivery and labor charges. Most importantly, keeping you in the field when it matters most.

South Plains IMPLEMENT



Free Inspection Free Pickup & Delivery

Within 100mi radius of Seminole or Denver City locations.

Limit Your Downtime To Almost No Time!

Stop by or call today to schedule your row crop tractor for our 42 point inspection. **If your tractor needs repairs we'll let you know before we begin any work.**

Take advantage of **NO PAYMENTS NO INTEREST** until July 1, 2013 through John Deere Financial for qualified customers.

Ask for Dairold Lambert @ 432-758-1110 or dlambert@southplainsimplement.com

Inspection program valid until February 28, 2013.



Don't forget to send your Greenstar AMS components with your tractor for inspection.



I ♥



AND WE BET YOUR
SWEETHEART
WILL TOO!

210 W. Ave A 758-3900