

News Briefs

Masonic Lodge Holding Smoked Ham Sale

The Seminole Masonic Lodge and Order of the Eastern Star is hosting their annual fall mesquite smoked ham sale, according to information provided by the organization to the *Seminole Sentinel*.  
Ham orders are currently being taken for the project, which will see proceeds benefiting the Bob Lewis Mission and Seminole Lodge College Scholarship fund.  
The cost is \$35 per ham, and the order deadline has been set for Oct. 17.  
Hams may be picked up on Saturday, Oct. 27, after 5 p.m. at the Seminole Masonic Lodge, located at 305 N.W. 5th St.  
To order a ham, or for more information, contact Nadine Wilson at (432) 209-6017, Linda Norris (432) 788-7664, or David Lozano at (575) 602-1832.

Sentinel Seeks Local Halloween Festivity Info

The *Seminole Sentinel* is seeking any information from local non-profit organizations and churches who may be hosting trick-or-treat/Halloween festivities within the Seminole community.  
Information for such events can be submitted to the *Sentinel* by coming by the newspaper offices at 406 S. Main St., by calling (432) 758-3667 or by e-mailing information to news@seminolesentinel.com

Windbreak Trees Available for Order, Purchase

The Gaines County Soil and Water Conservation District is sponsoring a windbreak tree project in cooperation with the Texas Forest Service for 2012/2013.  
You may place your order for trees in person at the Gaines County USDA/FSA Service Center located at 1301 South Main. Payment must be made when your order is placed.  
This year's evergreen trees are: Afghanistan Pine, Austrian Pine, Pinyon Pine, Oriental Arborvitae, Lacebark Elm, Four Wing Saltbush, and Italian Stone Pine, Desert Willow. Evergreens are sold in multiples of 30 seedlings.  
Hardwood Species available include American Plum, Black Cherry, Green Ash, Hackberry, Honey locust, Bur oak, Chinkapin Oak, Post Oak, Shumard Oak, Osage Orange, Pecan, Red Mulberry, Redbud, Sand Plum, Aromatic Sumac, Smooth Sumac. Hardwoods are sold in multiples of 25 seedlings.  
Delivery of the seedlings is scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2013. All orders will need to be placed by noon on Wednesday, February 20, 2013.  
Windbreak trees provide a variety of benefits ranging from controlling wind erosion in fields to decorating around homes.  
For more information please contact the Gaines County Soil and Water Conservation District located at 1301 S. Main in the USDA/FSA Service Center or call 758-3722, extension 3.

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

City Okays Water for Subdivision

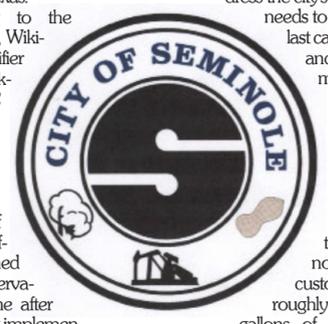
**By Dustin Wright**  
**Sentinel Managing Editor**  
With a new water source for the City of Seminole anticipated to be in place during the 2013 calendar year, members of the Seminole City Council unanimously approved of a request Monday evening from a local real estate developer to supply City operated water and wastewater services to a planned subdivision located southwest of the Seminole City Limits.  
In a 6-0 vote of the Council, City leaders approved of a request of the services to the yet to be named development. The subdivision, according to a request of services letter submitted by Seminole real estate developer C.D. Wickson, is located in section 222, between FM 181 (Frankel City Hwy) and S.W. Ave. G extension. Seminole City Administrator Tommy Phillips described the development site as being behind the Town West Subdivision, located on

CR 303.  
The motion, made by Place 2 Councilman Chet Clark and seconded by fellow Place 2 Councilman Kyle Sodd, states the City of Seminole would not be responsible for providing water and sewer lines within the development for customers who wish to seek the City's water/wastewater services, that (Wickson) would be responsible for any engineering services and other services (i.e. lift stations) required for the water/wastewater service addition, and that customers would pay the City's out-of-town rates.  
"We have water currently running out that direction, near the Town West Addition, but those homes are not tied into the City's system," said Phillips in Monday's discussion of the issue with Council Members.  
"With the new water supply coming online next year, I see this as an opportunity for the City to be able to create some revenue for both

the Water and Wastewater departments," said Phillips.  
Last month, the Seminole City Council unanimously approved of a long-term water deal, which is expected to add a "100 year water supply" for the Seminole community.  
The initial 40-year deal between the City of Seminole and Blas Wasser, LLC -- a limited liability company which offers development of new sources of water for municipal and industrial usage, as well as complete design engineering, construction, project management and long-term financing package for water related projects -- will see the company "furnish to the (City of Seminole) a supply of raw water for an initial period of 40 years, subject to renewal or extension and on the terms and conditions as set forth in their agreement."  
"The (City of Seminole)," per the contract, "agrees to purchase a minimum of 630.72 million gallons each fiscal year at the anticipated rate of between 400,000 gallons per day and 3 million gallons per day during the life of the agreement."  
The cost of the venture, according to Phillips, breaks down to \$2.30 per 1,000 gallons of water.  
Water for the project, according to Phillips, will be delivered from Winkler and Ward counties via a pipeline into the City of Seminole's system.  
The contract further states "(Blas Wasser) will provide and maintain meters, valves and controls, including backflow prevention assemblies as necessary, in order to provide a proper water transmission line connection to the (City of Seminole). (Blas Wasser) will arrange to have its meters tested and calibrated annually by (Blas Wasser) staff or by an independent company qualified to do such work. (Blas Wasser) shall provide the (City of Seminole) with a copy of the test report."  
City officials are expected to tie the water from the Winkler County fields to be tied in, via pipelines, into the City of Seminole's infrastructure within a 10-to-12 month window.  
Currently, the City of Seminole relies solely on water drawn from the Ogallala Aquifer for its customers.  
The Ogallala, also known as the High Plains Aquifer, is a vast yet shallow underground water table aquifer located beneath the Great Plains in the United States. One of the world's largest aquifers, it covers an area of approximately 174,000 sq miles, in portions of the eight states of

South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas.  
According to the online resource, Wikipedia, the aquifer provides drinking water to 82 percent of the people who live within the aquifer boundary.  
City of Seminole officials, hastened push for conservation issues came after a near-rationing implementation by the City of Seminole, due to the rapid depletion of ground water being pulled from the City's various wellfields during the 2011 calendar year, the driest year on record for the City of Seminole.  
However, rationing was avoided, thanks in part to the addition of two new water wells south of the

Seminole City Limits, near the La Tierra subdivision, which helped address the city's additional water needs to make it through last calendar year's hot and dry summer months.  
Between the months of May and August 2011, during the worst drought on record for the City of Seminole, local water customers used roughly 361.8 million gallons of water. For the 2011 calendar year, the City of Seminole used around 733.9 million gallons of water.  
Blas Wasser, according to the company's website and City of Seminole officials, currently provides water to some 160-plus municipalities within the southwestern United States.



Escape: From Page 1

"Fire is unpredictable and moves faster than most people realize. Having a tried and true escape plan with two ways is essential to ensuring your family's safety should fire break out in your home."  
The SVFD and the NFPA recommends the following tips for planning your family's escape:  
• Make a map of your home. Mark a door and a window that can be used to get out of every room;  
• Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. This is where everyone can meet once they've escaped. Draw a picture of your outside meeting place on your escape plan;  
• Write the emergency telephone number for the fire department on your escape plan;  
• Practice your escape plan with everyone living in your home;  
The SVFD will be hosting activities, such as school programs and fire department walkthroughs, during Fire Prevention Week to promote "Have Two Ways Out!" Through these educational, family-oriented activities, residents can learn more about the importance of fire escape planning and practice, as well as the power of prevention.  
To learn more about "Have Two Ways Out!" visit NFPA's Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org.

Fast Facts About Fires

**Home Fires**  
One home structure fire was reported every 85 seconds in 2010.  
Most fatal fires kill one or two people. In 2010, 19 home fires killed five or more people. These 19 fires resulted in 101 deaths.  
In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to 369,500 home structure fires. These fires caused 13,350 civilian injuries, 2,640 civilian deaths, and \$6.9 billion in direct damage.  
**Cooking**  
Cooking has been the leading cause of reported home fires and home fire injuries since 1990. Unattended cooking was by far the leading cause of these fires; Two-thirds of home cooking fires began with ignition of cooking materials, including food, cooking oil, fat, or grease.  
Cooking caused two of every five (42%) of reported home fires, roughly one of every seven (15%) home fire deaths, and two of every five (37%) home fire injuries, and 11% of direct property damage from home fires in 2010.  
Ranges accounted for the 58% of home cooking fire incidents. Ovens accounted for 16%.  
Children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire.  
90% of burns associated with cooking equipment resulted from contact with hot equipment or some other non-fire source.  
**Heating**  
Heating equipment was the leading cause of reported home fires in the 1980s and has generally ranked second since then. It is the second leading cause of home fire deaths. Fires involving heating equipment peak in December, January and February, as do deaths from these fires.  
The leading factor contributing to heating equipment fires was failure to clean, principally creosote from solid fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.  
Portable or fixed space heaters, including wood stoves, were involved in one-third (32%) of home heating fires and four out of five (79%) home heating deaths.  
Half of home heating fire deaths resulted from fires caused by heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattresses or bedding.  
**Smoking Materials**  
In 2010, smoking materials started and estimated 17,500 home structure fires, resulting in 540 deaths, 1,320 injuries and \$535 million in direct property damage. Smoking materials are the leading cause of home fire deaths.  
Sleep was a factor in two of every five home smoking material fire deaths. Possible alcohol impairment was reported in one quarter of these deaths.  
In recent years, Canada and the United States have required that all cigarettes sold must be "fire safe," that is have reduced ignition strength and less likely to start fires.  
**Electrical**  
Half (49%) of home electrical fires involved electrical distribution or lighting equipment. Other leading types of equipment were washer or dryer, fan, portable or stationary space heater, air conditioning equipment, water heater and range.

Death Notice

**BECCUE**  
Funeral services for Clayton Beccue, age 37 of Seminole will be held Thursday, October 11, 2012 at Community Church at 2 p.m. with Pastor Shane Landers officiating. Burial will follow at Gaines County Cemetery. All services under the direction of Boyer Funeral Home. Mr. Beccue passed away Saturday, October 6, 2012 due to injuries sustained in an auto accident. He was born September 2, 1975 in Rochester, New York.



**TRUCK DRIVERS** needed at **Pioneer Gin**  
Apply in person 18 miles West on Hobbs Hwy.  
or Call 758-3822

**REWARD**  
There will be a reward offered for information leading to the arrest of person or persons responsible for the theft of tools and other oilfield related items from the Basic rig just off of County Road 308 on the night of 10-2-12 or morning of 10-3-12. If you have information please contact the Basic Energy Services yard at 432-758-9215 or the Gaines County Sheriff's Office.

**Business Guide**

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