

Fond Farewell Linda!

Please join the staff at Prowers County Department of Social Services in a Come & Go to wish a Fond Farewell to outgoing director Linda Fairbairn from 2pm to 4pm on Friday, December 13 in the Mezzanine at the Department of Social Services building.

The Prowers Journal Would Make a Great Holiday Gift

A subscription to The Prowers Journal would make a great Christmas Gift. Out of town friends and relatives will appreciate keeping up with local events each week. You'll get the Police Report, Classifieds, School Sports and Schedules, Obituaries and News Events from Prowers County Communities. Just \$55 will purchase a weekly edition of The Prowers Journal for a year, mailed anywhere in the continental United States. Call or email to get your subscription gift sent for the holidays. Call 719-336-9095 or email your purchase request to theprowersjournal@gmail.com.

LPD Notice

The Lamar Police Department receives found property on a continual basis that includes bicycles, cell phones, keys, driver's licenses and numerous other items. These items are kept for 6 months in an attempt to locate the owners. We encourage persons with lost property to contact the police department Monday through Friday from 8 am to 3 pm at 336-4341.

The Prowers Journal

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Mechanics, Service Writer

Ports to Plains is hiring mechanics and a service writer for our shop. Must have a clean driving record and pass a pre-employment drug test. Pick up an application in the c-store or shop and apply in person to Bruce in the main office.

Real Estate

Professional Office Location

313 South Fifth Street Lamar, CO; Suites Two and Three 800 sq. Feet - All newly remodeled; Utilities Included; Call Lori 336-7000

For Sale

Fresh Cut Christmas Trees

Christmas trees fresh cut on November 30 are for sale at 809 East Olive (Hanagan's Market). Hours are 2-6pm Monday through Friday and 12-6pm on Saturday and Sunday.

The Work Shop/Craft's Design

Antiques, Furniture, Wild Life Décor, elk & deer horn lamps, western décor, yard art & much more. Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM or call for appointment. Call Kathie Payne at 688-1968 or Frankie McCaslin at 336-3149. Store Located at 10 Austin Road, off of Memorial Dr. - watch for signs.

Miscellaneous

PUBLIC NOTICE

At the direction of the Lamar City Council certain building and construction permit fees have been reduced. Beginning January 1st, 2014 certain specialty construction projects (e.g. fences, excavation, and concrete work) are eligible for the newly reduced building permit fees. As stated in City of Lamar Municipal Code, all property owners are required to obtain a building permit prior to commencing

work (e.g. replace water heater, install sprinkler system, or remodel a room) on any property. Please note that some exemptions apply. Please feel free to come by the Building Department or call (719) 336-2085 for more information. Respectfully, The City of Lamar Building Department

Fire Department Incident Reports

Saturday, December 7 - At 3:16am on December 7, fire crews were dispatched to Wal-Mart at 1432 East Olive Street in Lamar on report of arcing, shorted electrical equipment. Upon arrival at the scene, fire personnel found no outward signs of fire. Once inside, they were shown to the point of ignition by the manager and were able to smell a hot smell. The point of ignition was an outlet inside the deli cooler which had a temperature of 115 degrees Fahrenheit that had sparked but was no longer on fire. Fire personnel examined the breakers and noted several fire code violations, but found no hot spots. They attempted to find the breaker and shut down power to the cooler but were unsuccessful. They checked for fire extension down the wall and for heat behind the cooler but found none. The outlet did not appear to be actively arcing while fire personnel were present. Captain Burkhart attempted to get the outlet to arc and duplicate the earlier fire but was unsuccessful. The management was advised to call emergency services if the outlet ignited again.

Tuesday, December 3 - At 4:26 pm on December 3, fire personnel were dispatched to 401 South 3rd Street in Lamar on report of visible smoke and a smoke smell. Upon arrival at the location, fire crew found that smoke was present but that it was coming from a stove flue. The occupant stated that he had just lit his wood burning stove and used tar paper which caused the heavy smoke. The stove was deemed proper and usable. Fire personnel gathered information and departed the scene.

Thursday, December 5 - At 3:17 am on December 5, fire crews were dispatched to a vehicle accident located at 211 North 3rd Street in Lamar for general cleanup. Upon arrival at the scene fire personnel found the vehicle, a white Chevy Impala, resting on its top with one occupant inside. The occupant was out of the vehicle before extrication was required.

Classified Ads - Published by Robinson Printing, Inc. - December 11, 2013

Filbeck Realty

719-336-4301

311 East Walnut \$35,000
308 South 6th \$66,500
804 South 14th \$77,500
Golden Arrow Motel \$80,000

Religious Items for Sale

On Thursday, December 12, 2013, The Guadalupe Society will be selling religious items. Visit the St. Cletus Hall of St. Francis de Sales/ Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church located at 600 East Parmenter in Lamar from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. or from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. This is the day Lamar Parish Catholics will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

ECO First Presbyterian Church of Lamar

(5 blocks south of Community Bldg.)

Do come and hear Rev. Rory Sunday @ 11:00 a.m.

Come help us celebrate Christmas at a Special Christmas Eve Service starting at 11:00 p.m. Dec. 24

**1110 S. 6th St. • 336-5072
www.firstpreslamar.com**

Online Donations to Salvation Army

The Lamar Salvation Army Bell Ringers welcome you to use our online donation kettle through which you can make a larger donation or use a credit card. 90% of your online donation stays in Prowers County and the more you help us the more we can help others. Donate today by visiting www.onlineredkettle.org/lamar-cobellringers/

Lamar Utility Board to Clarify General Service Large Classifications

The Lamar Utility Board passed several resolutions Tuesday, December 10, as the board held their final meeting of 2013. Resolution 13-12-05 clarifies the availability section in the General Service Large Rate sheet, as it is available to all Non-Residential customers that carry an electric Demand Load greater than 40kW to 399 kW. Light Plant Superintendent Houssin Hourieh explained that a first and second ordinance will have to be published as a matter of public record, and following a second reading, the ordinance is expected to be approved at the first meeting in 2014. Basically, customers that have a demand charge of 40kW or lower will not be subjected to an energy audit, but those who go over that power consumption threshold will be open to future audits.

A resolution on Interest Rates on Customer Deposits was approved per PUC regulations. It is based on a 12 month average of customer rates and for 2014, the rate will be 0.34%. Another housekeeping resolution was adopted regarding a modification of the Charter Appropriation to the City of Lamar for 2014. The new rate for 2014 has been calculated at \$0.0198 and based on an average of 12 months sales, the amount sent to the City of Lamar will be \$1,645,167. Hourieh said this has increased from the previous year rate of \$0.0174.

Revenue and power sales through November show that retail sales are 9.9% lower than 2012. Total Sales of electricity are approximately 6.3% lower than last year. Year to date commercial sales are down 5.4%, irrigation sales are off about 45.5% and residential sales are up about 0.65%. The next Lamar Utility Board Meeting is set for January 14, 2014. *By Russ Baldwin*

Funds Needed to Continue Project HOPE

Project HOPE at the Lincoln School in Lamar is seeking new funding to continue operations for area youngsters when its four year Juvenile Assistant Grant runs out next September. "Each of the four years has less money allocated than the year before," said Lori Hammer, the only full time employee at Project HOPE. As its director, she coordinates activities among the other part-time employees, volunteers and children, as many as 127 a day who rely on the Teen Center for after school activities and some meals.

Hammer said new sources of funding are required at this point, "The JAG funding cannot be renewed, so we need to develop new sources for continued funding, at least \$80,000 to \$90,000 a year to cover all expenses, from salaries to office supplies to materials for the students that aren't donated by the community. "We're in the process of applying for our non-profit 501C-3 status which should help, as well as creating a Master Plan of operations which will also be presented when we apply for future grants," she explained.

Hammer and Anita Zavala, a part time employee, said the basis on the JAG funding was to develop a broad-based prevention and substance abuse program for the students who are between 10 to 16 years old on average. Zavala said, "We got busy in the first quarter with about 135 to 145 students coming to us after school each day." Hammer added that the numbers have fallen off to about 125 to 130 at this point, but it still makes for a full day of activities. "We're open from 4pm to 8pm Monday through Thursday and on Friday we have two sessions, 8am to 11am is for activities and from 1pm to 4pm is homework," she explained. Some activities are seasonal such as constructing working model rockets using plastic tubing and two liter soda bottles and some household chemicals. Others include working with clay, digital artwork, yo-yo instruction, cooking and crocheting.

"We're going into our second year for the neighborhood garden," Hammer said, explaining one of the more ambitious projects the students have undertaken. The city and county provided some infrastructure and Susan Hanson has worked to educate the kids on the basics of starting and maintaining a vegetable garden. A new batch of seedlings will soon be set to provide the second year's growth in the garden, just north of the school on North 10th Street. Hammer said it became a neighborhood project, "People on all sides of us took an interest in what the students were doing and volunteered to help water the garden." Kids took home vegetables they had grown and some produce was consumed at the school as part of the cooking program.

"One project that's been ongoing is the ESL classes that will resume in January," Hammer said.

"Esparanza Jaime teaches three classes a day on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and we've seen continued interest in those lessons." High Plains Community Health Center and Prowers Medical Center also offer assistance, from classes on family nutrition to contributing \$100 a month for snacks.

Hammer said the community's support has been instrumental in maintaining the core project for the past eight years. "Charlie Ferris and Eagle Scout volunteers have worked with the students in cleaning up our playground, Cindy Vigil is holding a seminar on drug prevention, Angel Madrid is working with students on the Why Try Program, Gary Hammer and Connie Jacobsen are working on our non-profit status, Karen Vopel and the Spirit Foundation continue to assist us as well as students from the National Honor Society and LCC Softball players," Hammer added.

She said if there were sufficient funds in the future, she'd add more instructors for the students, and she and the volunteers have assured the kids that Project HOPE will be there for them in the future. At present they have until the end of September, but hope to have word on future funding before that end date. Hammer said their second chili supper is planned for January 30 and hopes the community and families will come out for the activities that night. *By Russ Baldwin*

10th Annual Fantasy Tree Provides Entertainment & Funding

The tally isn't official yet, but almost \$9,000 has been collected so far from the November 23 Fantasy Tree Celebration held at the Lamar Elks Lodge. Lisa Thomas, committee chairman, said the group hoped they could reach the \$10,000 level in honor of their tenth year. The funds come from the annual auction of decorated Christmas trees and wreaths, as well as donated items from a live and silent auction conducted by auctioneer, Rob Morlan.

The Domestic Safety Resource Center is the benefactor of the proceeds, using the money to help support the 'safe house' which is used by families in need from a four county region. The Center is grant funded, so additional funds from the Fantasy Tree committee have been used to help maintain operating costs of the house, from furnishings to utilities to new weatherized windows.

What makes the Fantasy Tree event so special is that the trees and wreaths are donated by area businesses or individuals and decorated in a unique manner. Some of this year's standouts included all-white Christmas trees decorated to resemble Frosty the Snowman, or even the Grinch Who Stole Christmas. Some businesses or groups have used themes that represent their interests.

Those who attended enjoyed free hors d'oeuvres, an open bar for beer and wine and various forms of entertainment, from holiday dancers from All the Right Moves, to Main Street Bell Ringers, and a live band to round out the evening with music and dancing with the Jeffrey Allen Band.

Attendees can also cast their ballots for the People's Choice Award for tree and wreath, which was won this year by Colorado East Bank and Trust and Jillian Tinnes from New York Life submitted the winning wreath. *By Russ Baldwin*

Saturday Observance for Annual Wreaths Across America at Fairmount Cemetery

10:00 AM Saturday December 14th, 2013 at the Fairmount Cemetery, Veteran's Section will be our 3rd annual Wreaths Across America Day Ceremony. It began as The Arlington Wreath project started by Morrill Worcester in 1992 with the donation and laying of 5000 Christmas wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery. It was relatively obscure until 2005 when a photo of the stones adorned with wreaths and covered in snow circulated around the internet. The project received National attention. In 2006 over 150 State & National cemeteries held wreath laying ceremonies simultaneously. By 2008 over 300 locations held wreath laying ceremonies in every state, Puerto Rico and 24 overseas cemeteries. Over 100,000 wreaths were placed on veterans graves. Over 60,000 volunteers participated. Now the opportunity to adorn every hero's grave has been made available to our community through the efforts of Peacock Funeral Home the exclusive Veterans & Family Memorial Care Provider for Lamar, Colorado.

WAA reaches out to thousands of children each year with the message of Remember, Honor and Teach. The importance of honoring each fallen serviceman/woman as an individual is stressed. The wreath laying is now held each year on the second Saturday of December and was unanimously voted by the US Congress as "Wreaths Across America™ Day". By offering sponsorships to the public, Wreaths Across America hopes that one day every veteran's resting place will be adorned with a wreath for the holiday season.