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Winona Times

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THE WINONA TIMES

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THE WINONA TIMES

A FUMC WINONA MINISTRY

APRIL 2011
ISSUE 5

JUNIOR PERRYMAN

By: Paul Porter

Did you know one of the best country music steel guitar players lives here?

Yes, Junior Perryman was called one of the best ever on the Fender 200 ten pedal steel guitar. "Yes, Junior could make it sing like an angel. He was a whole different level talent," Judge Mitch Shamburger said recently.

Did you know the Fowler Furniture Playboys Western Band played here at the Winona Hoedown each Saturday?

They had five or six players every weekend from: Junior Perryman – steel guitar, Johnny Gimble – fiddle, Tillman Hill – mandolin, Ray Perryman – saxophone, Kenneth Eishem – bass, Earl Hulsey – lead guitar, James Snyder – rhythm guitar, Curtis Kirk – front man, James Snyder – rhythm guitar, Little Red Hayes – fiddle, Roscoe Anderson – fiddle, Jimmy Eishem – drums, Baker Barnett – fiddle, and Grand Daddy Rich was the emcee.

They would make \$25 per night to play for several hours. They would also hit the road to play at the Big Sandy Skating Rink, the Louisiana Hayride in Shreveport, The Big D Jamboree in Dallas, and The Cowtown Hoedown in Fort Worth.

Did you know that the #1 Nashville country music stars used to play here?

Yes. Porter Waggoner, Loretta Lynn, Willie Nelson, Conway Twitty, George Jones, Roger Miller, Faron Young, and on and on. These stars would play one-nighters throughout the area to promote their newest record releases.

Junior Perryman tells the story of Porter Waggoner driving into Winona in the middle of the night pulling a trailer with his band's instruments and amplifiers. Porter was pulling the trailer with his white Cadillac convertible while the band members were sleeping.

Junior had been waiting for their arrival, and he walked over to the Cadillac to say hello. Porter put his finger to his lips and said, "Sssssh – be quiet. You might wake up the boys." Whereupon, Porter leaned on the Cadillac's horn, and the band members jumped straight up in the air. Porter yelled, "Welcome to Winona gentlemen!!!"

If you can catch Junior when he is not fishing on his Trident Mercury 250 boat, he has many wonderful stories to tell. One of my favorites is Junior telling Roger Miller that his multi-million dollar hit "Dang Me" was a dud and shouldn't be released.

Spend a minute with him and you will know why Junior Perryman is another reason this area is a wonderful place to live.



Hoedown Star Perryman

PASSOVER SEDER DINNER

Presented by

First Baptist Church of Winona

Date: Thursday, April 21st

Time: 6:30 pm

Where: First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$15

Paid reservations due at FBC Winona by April 14th

For information call 903-877-3273



A Passover Seder Dinner is a Jewish ritual feast that marks the beginning of the Jewish holiday of Passover. During the dinner, Jim Singer, a Messianic (Christian) Jew from Winona, will give the history of the Passover and share the many clear representations of Christ in the Passover feast. In other words, we'll see Jesus in the Passover!

Note: In order for this event to happen, we need at least 15 to make it work. If we do not secure 15 paid reservations by April 14, all monies paid will be refunded. The event will last approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Families are invited to attend together if they wish. Rather than the traditional Seder Dinner of lamb, chicken will be substituted.

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Longview Community Center
500 E. Whaley Longview, TX 75601

Pastor To Pew

By: Tony Watson

"And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart."

Ecclesiastes 4:12

Prayer—It's What's Going On . . .

Over the past few weeks the FBC Winona congregation has heard me share a number of times how the burden of prayer has come upon me, both in my own life and for our church recently. Since I've been sharing that, I've heard a number of others say something similar—that you too feel this burden. As the days unfold, I am beginning to understand it better as to the reason why. People are feeling stressed, families are under attack, and people are questioning "where is God?" in various situations. The good news is . . . the body of Christ is in a position to fight against it. That is . . . If we will take our battle positions on our knees.

Sunday morning as we preached on worship we focused on the conditions of preparation and readiness to worship, clearing out the distractions and delays in order to be able to approach the throne of God. It's not a matter of what we should do as much as it is a matter of what we are in need of—a daily encounter with Jesus that starts at the beginning and lasts all day long.

Our new emphasis in our Sunday evening service, I believe, is neither a whim nor a passing fad. I believe it is where we are as a church family for this season of our lives. I believe it is God's clear direction as well as the protection for the attacks on various families He knew was coming all along. I know that through this we can find the solace that is only found at the feet of the Master's throne. We've only begun to scratch the surface of where we need to go in our church prayer life and for myself, where I need to go in my prayer relationship with my Heavenly Father.

If you have been with us the last two Sunday nights, then you know that the presence of The Lord has been strong and God's people are worshipping and going to the throne of grace. Again, we've only scratched the surface. God has given a vision that indicates perhaps we should strive to be the place where people from throughout the community could and would come to bring their needs to the altar and we'll seek God's face for them.

You may be reading this and saying, "Bro. Tony, you sure are taking a serious tone with this article this month", and I suppose you would be right. There is a little extra urgency in my heart. I'm hearing from people and talking to people and others are coming to me and saying "we need to pray for families" or "we need to pray for our young people" or various other needs not given just as a typical prayer request.

Sunday morning, we will be preaching on the theme of community and how vital the concept of community is to our lives. In fact, we were created for community. Sunday evening, we are going to build our prayer service around the theme of these things that are under attack in our midst right now, particularly the family. Bring your needs to the altar and our Lord will show Himself faithful once again.

Tony Watson

Pastor

First Baptist Church of Winona



Easter Traditions...Where do they come from?

By: Pat Schlau

Remembering back to my childhood, I recall many Easter Sundays dressed in my possible best, attending a church service, and then coming home to hunt real eggs after lunch. With raising a very large family of my own, I recall carrying the same tradition into their adult years of dressed in their best, going to grandma's for that big Sunday dinner and hiding the eggs for the kids to hunt those dozens of plastic eggs filled with candy.

As with many holidays we celebrate today, Easter was not always the holiday it is today. As it happened the pagan festival of Eastre was celebrated at the same time of the year as the Christian observation of the Resurrection of Christ. It made sense to alter the festival itself to make it a Christian observance as pagans were slowly indoctrinated. The early name Eastre was later changed to the modern spelling of "Easter".

Ash Wednesday is the first day of 46 days to end on Easter Sunday. Tuesday before this day is Mardi Gras (French for fat Tuesday) known in New Orleans all over the world as being able to get it all out before the sacrifices of lent begins.

The goddess Eastre was worshiped by the Anglo-Saxons through her earthly symbol of a rabbit. The Germans brought the symbol of a rabbit to America after the Civil War and it was not really used until after that time. The Easter Egg predates the Christian holiday of Easter. The exchange of eggs in the springtime was a custom that was centuries old when Christians first celebrated Easter. The egg was a symbol of birth in most cultures. They were wrapped in a gold leaf or if you were a peasant, boiled them in bright petals of certain flowers for the color.

For Winona Citizens...Easter use to be a gathering of all the local Churches for a join Sunrise Service with prayer, special music, and special sermon upon the rising of the morning sun. Donuts and coffee for everyone being provided by the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce. For years this was done with everyone bringing their own blanket to the school football stadium. The good old days, should they be brought back again?

Who would come? Would You?



Chili Supper Benefit by the United Methodist Women

By Marilyn Gentry, Helen Bozeman & Pat Schlau

On March 29th, Tuesday at 6:00 p.m., the Winona Methodist Church was very proud to have guest speaker J.B. Smith Sheriff of Smith County. The pews were full and the crowd attentive to one of the best speaking events this community has had in a long time. With guests from a variety of East Texas towns, he kept the crowd's full attention with his stories, jokes, and extra law enforcement stories of show and tell. Following the speaker was dinner for a bargain price of 6.00 of all you could eat that was chili, pinto beans, cornbread, desserts, and all the fixins fit for a king to go with beans or chili.



As people filled their plates the auction began with J.B. Smith taking the lead as the auctioneer and finished up with long time known Winona Travis. Many ladies and local businesses donated baked cakes, pies, bread, and items of interest to be auctioned off to the highest interested bidder. The funds generated from the auction sells will be used to further remodel the church parsonage that seriously needed a face lift since it was built in the 1950's with little change through the decades.

The ladies of the First United Methodist Church of Winona thanks every person who attended from the community and businesses that helped in making this a very successful event on behalf of the parsonage.

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Dear Citizens:

I want to wish a happy April to everyone. We have made it through one fourth of 2011 already. It always amazes me how fast time moves. I think it has a lot to do with the fact that we have so much going on in our City right now, and I also think this is a good thing. We have been moving in a positive direction for a while and the momentum is still building.

We are looking at two road projects in the near future. One is for Johnson Rd and the other is for Wildcat Drive. Johnson Road is one of our newest projects, and we want to keep it in great shape. We have patched several spots that needed repair, and we will be adding a new layer on top for waterproofing and extending the life of the road. We hope to get everything in place to have Wildcat Drive repaired this summer when school lets out. I will keep you posted on both of these projects.

We are also actively pursuing options for a city park. The City Council just approved a collaborative project between the City and First United Methodist Church. We plan to rebuild and update the park beside the church. Some of the improvements will be updated playground equipment, a covered picnic area, and landscape improvements. The goal of this collaborative project is to establish a small park for family picnics and public events. This is only a single step in the direction the City wants to go with public parks, but the first step is always a very important one.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Amy Miles' second grade class for its expressed support for our Park project. Each student wrote a letter to the City expressing his support of a City Park, as well as offering ideas and even help to complete the project. We hope each one of them gets to enjoy our City Park for many years to come. I truly hope each student remembers that he or she can make a difference by reaching out to community leaders. Participation of the people is required to make our government successful.

As always, if you should have any questions please contact City Hall at 903-877-3381, or you can email us at cityhall@winonatexas.com.

Sincerely,
Rusty Smith
Mayor
City of Winona

**April Announcements from New Zion Baptist Church
Dr. S. L. Curry, Jr., Pastor**

April 17, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. New Zion Annual Youth Day -

April 19 - 21, 2011 (Tuesday - Thursday) Youth Revival
Rev. Ralph Caraway, Sr. - St. Louis Baptist Church, Tyler, TX will be the evangelist.

April 24, 2011 - Easter Sunday: Morning Worship Service will begin at 10:00 a.m.

**Correction
The article on the Hunter/Nickerson Classic was actually written by Dexter Jones. Our sincere apologies go out to Dexter Jones and our readers.**

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Subject: A Dog Story

Judge Mitch Shamburger, Justice Court #4, Smith County Texas

In politics I have learned two things, you do not mess with people's kids and you do not mess with their dogs, especially coon dogs. I have heard it said that some coon hunters are much more loyal to their dogs than their family. With this in mind came the great coon dog case I had back in 1981. Justice Courts used to enjoy a certain amount of latitude in conduct and proceedings, of which, I admit, I took advantage.

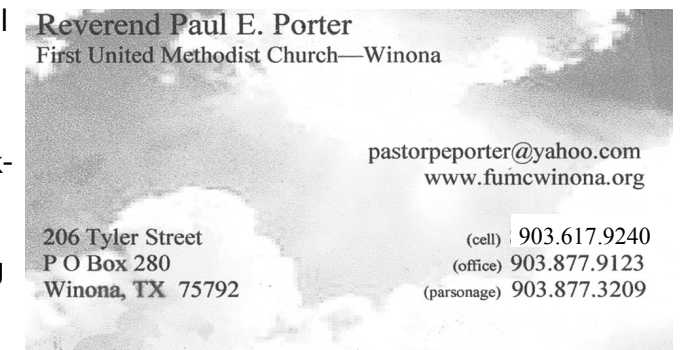
Hunter #1 said he lost his dog while hunting in the East Texas Piney woods. He had searched for days without results, and had given up hope. One night, while on a coon hunt, he recognized a yelp and upon further investigation saw through his tears a dog that looked like "O'l Blue". He knew Hunter #2 and reported him as the dog-napper. Law enforcement gave the standard answer to all problems, "Tell it to the Judge." Hunter #2 said "Red" had resided with him since a pup and was one of his best hunters. This was before the days of the GPS locaters, embedded chips, tattoos and ear tags. Because Hunter #2 lived in my precinct a civil case was filed in Justice Court Precinct 4 for possession of Wonder Dog.

After lengthy testimony on both sides of the greatness and value (\$2,000 to \$5,000) of Blue/Red, and the in-depth discovery of the relationship between a dog and his owner, I was 50/50. Both had convincing arguments and both desperately wanted O'l Blue or Red. I thought of Solomon and wondered how they would handle cutting the canine in half. At that point I realized that my life would be in danger at such a suggestion so I sought plan B.

Both sides had rested, or finished --so I recessed and reconvened outside in the presence of Dog Almighty. He was a spotted hound dog with much more skin and ears than bone and muscle. "These are the rules," I said. "Hunter #1 stands there and Hunter #2 stands there." They were about 40 feet apart. "When the constable releases the dog both of you call, coax, or convince the dog to come to you." The stage was set and the dog set to freedom. The potential owners began calling and clapping. The dog did not move; he sat there. He seemed impervious to the mayhem around him. Every now and then he would look around like he was in control (which he was). After 10 long minutes, the hunters were getting tired; we gasped when HE AROSE, stood on all fours and looked around evaluating the situation. Renewed energy came from the hunters as they called and waved to get Blue's/Red's attention. Slowly The Star began moving, walking without a change of expression, ears and eyes drooping. The old dog sauntered on by Hunter #1 and away from Hunter #2, ignoring both. He went to lay in the shade under a pickup truck.

Both hunters stood with expressions of dismay. It was evidence of their failure as they watched thousands of dollars and "Man's Best Friend" walk away.

"Whose truck is that?" I asked.
"Mine," said one of the hunters.
"Load up your dog and take him home" was my judicial order for the day.



First United Methodist Church—Winona
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<u>Sundays</u>		<u>First Saturday</u>
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.	Breakfast 8:00 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.	
Bible Study	6:00 p.m.	<u>Second Friday</u>
		Game Night 6:30 p.m.
<u>Tuesdays</u>		
Knitting	6:00 p.m.	