Evadale Superintendent to retire

At the February 20th Evadale ISD board meeting, Superintendent Brenda McDaniell officially submitted her Letter of Resignation and Notice of Retirement effective June 30, 2012.

Ms. McDaniell came to work at Evadale ISD at the age of 21. She taught kindergarten for 15 years, first grade for 5 years, Elmich High Principal for 5 years and Assistant Superintendent for one year; thus serving for 26 years with Evadale ISD. She then worked for 7 years as Region 5 Education Service Center as Director of Instructional Services and Deputy Executive Director. In 2009 she returned to Evadale ISD and worked one year as Assistant Superintendent and this is her second year as Superintendent. She will be retiring with a total of 36 years in education.

I have enjoyed working with the students and staff during my 29 years at Evadale ISD,” said McDaniell. “I have some wonderful memories I will always cherish, and lots of pictures, too. We have a great school district, and I hope the district will continue to grow and prosper in the future. I wish everyone the very best.”

By Daniel Elizondo
editor@silsbeebee.com

Simon's wife, Nancy, said they were both sitting in the den watching television when Simon dic- ded that he wanted to get the girls on the first pass on FM 418 and not let them wait. “I just said alright, do whatever you want,” said Nancy. “Next thing I remember, I hear this loud thing, so I run out and see the bus, but I couldn’t see Simon or the kids.”

Because the O’Quinn house sits lower than the highway, Nancy didn’t see that her husband and granddaughters were laying across the guardrail shoulders.

Nancy ran towards the highway to find her family sprawled everywhere. She noticed no movement from anyone but Simon did never stop crying, “I’m alright!” He held his face in his hands and said he was able to turn over on to his back. Her memory recalls Simon was able to lift his face and to his mouth. Terrified, Nancy called for help.

All three were transported to Beaumont Hospital. Green and O’Quinn were listed in critical condition. Derrick suffered a broken leg and was treated and released.

It was no doubt that EMT techs Ben and Marcus from the Silsbee Firemen were the first people to get to that scene. “I just said alright, do whatever you want,” said Nancy. “Next thing I remember, I hear this loud thing, so I run out and see the bus, but I couldn’t see Simon or the kids.”

Simon O’Quinn rests comfortably in his home now and lives to tell a story he will never quite understand.

By Daniel Elizondo
editor@silsbeebee.com

The Miracle Man

Ice House Museum hosts Black History Month reception

By Daniel Elizondo
editor@silsbeebee.com

Several former students, teachers and administrators gathered at the Ice House Museum on Saturday afternoon for a reception, marking the opening of its new exhibit celebrating Black History Month.

The exhibit, "Building Character and Shaping Lives for the Future," recognizes the many faces and his- tory of the Waldo-Frazier Mathews Union and Magnolia Springs in East Texas families through the building of Rosenwald Schools, WP&I built school and schools built during “consolidation” movement of the 1930s.

“In these uncertain economic times, a strong united community is crucial to creating a thriving economy,” said Wright. “History shows us that Mount Union and Magnolia Springs were just such places as a result of the leadership of James and Rachel Fowler and their families.”

Wright added that The Long Black Line is dedicated to sharing the history of these commu- nities touched thousands East Texas families through the building of Rosenwald Schools, WP&I built school and schools built during “consolidation” movement of the 1930s.

The 60-year-old Silsbee resident was above the legal limit. Two vehicles were struck by a vehicle in front of his home on FM 418 West of Silsbee as he walked with them hand in hand from a school bus.

All three were critically injured, but the hospital confirmed that the brain of the impact was O’Quinn himself.

“I don’t remember anything from that day or until I woke up in the hospital,” said O’Quinn from his home. “I’m un- derstanding more people tell me more. Initially I was angry, but mostly I was just scared. That hurt me more than anything.”

A friend speaking on the accident from Dec. 2, that witnesses said a vehicle driven by Williford, ig- nored the stopped school bus and hit the three individuals and drove off to his home. Later, toxic re- vealed that he has blood alcohol level was above the legal limit.

“Why did he cross the road there,” said O’Quinn from his home. “I’m un- derstanding more people tell me more. Initially I was angry, but mostly I was just scared. That hurt me more than anything.”

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March. It could start in early March but it is more likely to start in late March. During the project the sur-
face of the road will be milled 2” and a 1 1/2’’ overlay will be placed on the surface. Work on the project will 
take place at night. It is sched-
uled for between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. but work could start a little earlier if the traffic is light. 

All of the work on the proj-
cess should be complete within two weeks. 

The workers anticipate that there will be no blockage of traffic.

**EDITOR**

March 1.  (continued from previous column) 

The trauma doctor told me 

that he didn’t know how long 

he would have to keep fighting 

because he knew his 

time.

I’m over it. I just get agitated 

when I have to fight. I still 

have days where I get my 


tears. “I have no sympathy for 

people who think like that.” 

Simon continues to fight 

for being alive. Just like his 

mother, he is a Miracle Man.

His condition worsened as 

he lay on FM 418. His injuries 

were numerous: four concussions, 

fourteen stitches and a 

break in his leg. 

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