



PHOTO BY DAVID LOWE

Lampasas County resident Diana Fisch explains her concerns about 345-kilovolt electric transmission lines that may pass through Lampasas County as Manuel Flores, back right, and Allen Nye take notes on behalf of Oncor Electric Delivery.

Landowners express opposition to proposed transmission lines

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group of landowners to take action. Save the Lampasas River Inc. -- a coalition of property owners with land in Lampasas, Burnet and Bell counties -- has hired legal counsel to present the group's arguments against transmission lines near the Lampasas River.

Save the Lampasas River members believe the installation of large electric structures could harm the endangered golden-cheeked warbler and black-capped vireo songbirds, as well as the "threatened" bald eagle, president Lynn Eyberg said during a telephone interview Friday.

Although not that concerned about bird electrocution, Mrs. Eyberg does worry that bald eagles, which she said nest year-round in some parts of the Lampasas River, could mistake large lines for a horizon and suffer serious injury if they crash into the lines.

"Putting those anywhere near where they feed or nest is a big no-no," she said.

The silting and erosion likely to result from clearing easements, Mrs. Eyberg added, could harm

Guadalupe bass populations, which she said already are suffering from hybridized small-mouth bass.

Although STLR "will not pick the route for Oncor," Mrs. Eyberg said the group has suggested using existing right of way on the state-owned Parrie Haynes Ranch, located northeast of a possible Lampasas River valley route. A two-year-old Oncor transmission line already runs along the 4,525-acre ranch's northeast border, she said.

An easement payment would generate additional funds for Parrie Haynes' owner, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Mrs. Eyberg said. Because the ranch is near Fort Hood, a utility easement also would provide a buffer for the military base against encroachments by private developments, the conservation group president added.

Save the Lampasas River members and the group's attorneys have met with Oncor officials and are trying to minimize the number of Lampasas River crossings if lines do go through the river valley.

Oncor held an open-house public

meeting in Lampasas in June to give property owners whose land may be directly affected by lines an opportunity to mention their concerns and request alternative routes. Oncor officials stated several times last week that the company still is receiving public comments and has not picked preferred or alternative routes.

"We are still in the information-gathering stage," Oncor spokesman Chris Schein said in a telephone interview Friday afternoon. "The entire purpose of this time period is for there to be dialogue between all parties."

"Participation by you is real important," Warren added during his presentation Saturday.

Jaren Taylor, Vinson & Elkins associate, noted that Oncor already has more than 180 possible route combinations just for the line segments between Brown County and Kempner.

The PUC will make the final decision about the Brown-to-Newton project. The commission can approve Oncor's preferred route, OK a modified route or reject the line proposals.

vent the spread of flu:

- Wash hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based cleaner.

- Cover coughs using a tissue or the crook of the arm.

- Steer clear of others who are sick.

- If you do get sick, stay home to prevent the spread of germs.

- Get a flu shot.

More information is available at www.texasflu.org.

Flu shot vaccine changes on tap

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system disorders or heart conditions.

No shortages are expected for H1N1 vaccine, Ms. Lucas said, and once the priority groups have received an initial dose, those not considered at high risk are advised to get an H1N1 shot.

"I encourage everyone to get a seasonal flu shot," said Ms. Lucas, "and then get the H1N1 shot if you are in one of the high-risk groups."

The ER director also plans to attend a national summit early next week, and she hopes to see firm recommendations made on the course of shots.

Within the next several weeks, a determination should be made as to when the H1N1 vaccine -- currently under development -- will be available and how many shots will be required, Ms. Lucas said.

The Texas Department of State Health Services lists ways to pre-

Lampasan selected for program

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cess to a variety of NASA information and resources. The Killeen school also operates a robotics laboratory for art instruction and hosts "Science Week" each October. The annual festival features science presentations, demonstrations and rocket launches, and it has attracted scholars from NASA, Harvard University and Johns Hopkins University.

With experts from a variety of scientific fields cooperating with West Ward, a prompt response to a student's most profound query rarely is more than a telephone call or e-mail away, Mrs. Adams said.

"They raise the bar on the questions they ask," she said of her students, "because they're used to getting answers about everything."

The similar curiosity of her son, Tom Adams, in-

spired Mrs. Adams to devote herself to space research and education. When Tom, a Lampasas High School graduate, was 10, he begged to attend NASA's summer U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala. Mrs. Adams took him as a reward for earning all A's.

Aerospace topics captured the imagination of the Ohio University theater alumna, and Mrs. Adams has returned to Space Camp for nine years as an instructor. Her fine arts background complements Mrs. Adams' scientific pursuits, as advances in both fields require creative thinking, she said.

Like artists, scientists can profit from a spark of inspiration -- exactly what Mrs. Adams believes her "astronaut" adventures will provide her students.

"It's really fun to see students get excited about science," she said.

Oak Hill Cemetery board to meet

The executive board of Oak Hill Cemetery Association will meet Friday at 4 p.m. at the conference room at City Hall.

The public is welcome to attend.

The association is tasked with advising the city regarding beautification and maintenance of the historic cemetery property.

For more information, contact Roy Koon.

Don Auldon Rhoades

Don Auldon Rhoades was born February 5th, 1923, to Emmitt Elmer and Nellie Hayes Rhoades in Coryell County, Texas.

He attended schools in the Harman Community and graduated from Gatesville High School in 1939. He was a lifelong member of Midway Church of Christ where he served as an elder. He served as a lay minister from 1965 to 1989.

He married Doris Marie Hill on Oct. 17, 1942. They enjoyed almost 67 years of marriage.

Don served as an Army Sergeant First Class in the Medical Corps in Seoul, Korea, at the end of World War II. He retired as a Quality Assurance Supervisor for DOL Maintenance at Fort Hood after 27 years, and was a farmer and rancher in the Izoro community all his life. He was a director of the Coryell County Farm Bureau for more than 50 years. In 2002, he was honored to receive the Texas Farm Bureau Pioneer Award.

Don is survived by his wife Doris of Izoro; daughters, Donnis Self and husband Evon of Lampasas, Laresa Fowler and husband Harlon of Izoro and Brenda Marwitz of Waco; and a son Royce Rhoades and wife Mary of Newnan, Georgia. Also, grandchildren and spouses Leah Akin and Mark of Iberia, Missouri, Dayna Berry and Van of Lampasas, Kevin Self of Kingsland, Natalie Ledbetter and Billy of Fort Worth, Gina Collins and Brian of Fort Worth, Clay Marwitz and Michelle of Evant, and Kyle Rhoades and Kimberly of Izoro.

Great-grandchildren include Lauren and Arin Akin, Marley, Brady, and Kirby Berry, Jordan, Dyrone, and Devin Self, Kaitlyn, Anika, and Brayden Ledbetter, Dreyton, Carson, and Britton Collins, Justin and Gavin Schoonover, James, Madison, and Jeremiah Marwitz and Kyla Rhoades.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Dauris E. Rhoades, and his grandson, Cody Rhoades. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday August 25, 2009 at 10:00 am at Broad Street Church of Christ in Lampasas. Visitation will be from 6-8 pm Monday evening, August 24, 2009, at Sneed Funeral Chapel.

The family requests memorials be made to:

Foster's Home for Children
P.O. Box 978
Stephenville, Texas 76401

Medina Children's Home
HCR 16 Box 75
Medina, Tx 78055-9615

Cherokee Home for Children
P.O. Box 295
Cherokee, Texas 76832

Gospel Broadcasting Network
P.O. Box 23604
Chattanooga, TN 37422



Take Note!

The community is invited to join us for a reception honoring

Shirley McNiel

who is retiring after 34 years of service to the Lampasas Dispatch Record.

Thursday, August 27

2-4 pm

418 S. Live Oak Courtyard Square

Light Refreshments will be served.

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