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HART, TEXAS, CASTRO COUNTY, VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1, MAY 25, 2016



George Chapa, Jr. Sworn In As New Council Member

At the Hart City Council meeting on May 9 at City Hall, new member George Chapa, Jr. was sworn in. He fills the vacancy created when Paul Ramirez did not sign up for re-election. Other members declared elected were Mayor Eliazar Castillo and council member Vickie Ethridge.

Also, Ezekiel Barron was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Danny Rodriguez, who has moved to San Antonio. He will be sworn in at a later date; he was not present at the meeting. Ethridge was elected Mayor Pro-tem.

Members present were Mayor Eliazar Castillo and council members Mary Reyna, Johnny Carrasco, Chapa, Jr. and Ethridge.

Hart School Board Gives Three-Year Contract To New Superintendent

David Cox, currently the high school principal at Dimmitt ISD, was employed as the superintendent for Hart ISD at a meeting of the Hart School Board on Wednesday, May 18. He will assume duties July 1, but will be at the school some in June.

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Incumbents Win School Board Election

Only 29 residents of Hart ISD voted in the School Board election, out of 731 registered voters, announces Teresa Montemayor, Hart ISD Business Manager. This means 3.96% of registered voters bothered to vote.

Montemayor told the school board at its May 10 meeting that Steven Reyna received 24 votes; Angelica Ramirez, 22; and Vickie Chavez, 18. Challenger. Julissa Chaves, garnered eight votes. The Board canvassed the votes, and the three were sworn in.

The Board then realigned officers: Erasmo Mata is president; Angelica Ramirez, vice-president; and Steven Reyna is secretary.

Board Approves Raises

Interim Superintendent Les Miller told the Board that he and Montemayor had been working on salary increases for all employees, developing schedules for all categories of employees. (Administrators have yet to receive raises.) His main focus is to retain and attract teachers. He said that no raises have been approved since 2013-14.

All teachers get a \$3,000 raise. A beginning teacher at Hart ISD goes from \$30,000 to \$33,000. Montemayor said that the state requires a district pay \$28,080 to beginning teachers. The 25 teachers at Hart ISD are on ten-month contracts (187 work days). The \$3,000 increase is built in each year. The school board can change this when it deems necessary.

All teacher assistants, custodians and cafeteria employees get a raise, as well as the three Central Office employees, excluding the business manager and the superintendent. There

Hart High School Announces 2016 Honor Students



Camarie Neudorf
94.178



Yeiryanaly Minjarez
92.052

are ten teacher assistants and they are getting a \$600 a year increase; the two campus secretaries (\$500 per year increase); three custodians (an average of \$500 increase per year); and four cafeteria employees get a two percent raise, said Montemayor. Eliazar Castillo, maintenance and mechanic, wasn't named as getting a raise yet. He has no help, and told Miller he prefers working alone.

Total cost this year for the raises is about \$72,000, according to Montemayor.

Ramona Neudorf, secondary principal for Hart Jr.-Sr. High School, announces the valedictorian and salutatorian for the 2016 graduating class.

Camarie Neudorf is valedictorian. The daughter of Ramona Neudorf, she has a 94.178 GPA. Salutatorian is Yeiryanaly Minjarez, daughter of Ramon and Nidia Minjarez. She posts a 92.052 GPA.

Camarie attended Saint Anthony's Catholic School in Hereford before becoming a student at Hart ISD. She plans to attend the University of Texas in Austin to pursue a degree in electrical engineering.

She attends First Assembly of God Church in Plainview. She enjoys playing with her dog and spending time with her family.

Awards and recognitions she received in high school include being named the Plainview Herald's Tomorrow's Leader as a freshman and senior. She was on the A Honor Roll in high school and received the Presidential Gold Award her freshman, sophomore and junior years.

As a junior, she was named Scholar Athlete for Hart High School and named honorable mention all district in basketball. As a junior and senior, she was a regional qualifier in golf and on the Robotics Teams that qualified for state.

While in high school, Camarie was a member of FFA, FCCLA, National Honor Society, Robotics Teams, Student Council, Yearbook Committee, played varsity basketball and was the Hart Lions Club Sweetheart.

Yeiryanaly Colorado Minjarez plans to attend Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, New Mexico, and major in physical therapy. She received a track and cross country scholarship to attend the Division II University.

Her hobbies include running, cruising and spending time with family and friends. She was on the A Honor and/or the AB Honor Rolls throughout high school.

She served on the Student Council and was named to the National Honor Society.

In cross country, Yeiryanaly qualified for state as a member of the Ladyhorns Cross Country Team her junior and senior years. She was a regional qualifier in track her junior and senior years as a member of the Ladyhorn 1600m relay team, and individually in the 400m and 800m runs.

Commencement Is Friday, May 27, at 8 p.m. in the elementary gymnasium.