

## ♥ Notes

By Neoma Williams

This is my last print edition. I began this job on June 14, 1983, when the editor and publisher of *The Hart Beat* and *The Kress Chronicle*, Mike Wall (my first husband), died. I had a 17-month old daughter, helped my family with Brooks Farms and managed The Company Store. I thought I could do it all, and I guess in a way I did.

I learned how to put out two weekly newspapers, something I did for ten years. I sold (really, I gave it away, in a sense) *The Kress Chronicle* because my mother told me I needed to spend more time with Rachel. She was 11 then. Then, when she turned 15, I told her I'd go back to staying up all night to put out two weekly newspapers so I wouldn't have to endure her teenage attitude.

Now, she has a five-month old son, something she wasn't going to do. I, too wasn't going to have children. We were both 34 when our children were born.

Corporate America has come to Hart. It is difficult to sell advertising to companies that have managers that most often don't live here. When you don't live in a town and aren't invested in

it, except to make money, it doesn't help to keep the community alive. And, where are the residents? Many of them work out of town, and shop out of town. And, there are the people who make their living at Hart (usually in farming or ag-related businesses), but their hearts (and bodies) are elsewhere.

I will continue my website (you can subscribe at [www.thepulsenews.net](http://www.thepulsenews.net)), and I will write, for the foreseen future, for *The Plainview Herald*. You can find Hart stories there. I urge you to subscribe to the *Herald* and to my website. I hear so many people say that they don't subscribe to newspapers. It is your duty to do so. These are the people who cover your town and let you know what's going on...school, city council, etc. You can subscribe to the *Herald* online (cheaper than the print edition) - call them and see what you can do. I have written several stories and sent pictures of happenings in Hart, and they have been published, quite often on the front page.

I hear Donald Trump lambast the media - a man who I find so deplorable that it is terrifying what will happen to America. I don't believe we have enough checks and balances to stop this narcissist from harming us. I read that a well-designed constitution is not enough to ensure a stable democracy, a lesson many Latin American indepen-

dence leaders learned when they borrowed our constitutional model in the early 19th century, only to see their countries plunge into chaos.

The large dailies and magazines (*Newsweek* comes to mind) most often do the investigative reporting - think Watergate, Iran-Contra, etc. *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* often lead in these efforts, and should not be disparaged by a soulless man as Trump. I find it disturbing that all of these investigations which pointed out his many problems - stifles his contract workers, makes his "stuff" in China, is a sexual predator (and bragged about it), is a pathological liar and a serial philanderer who has his children sit in on meetings. With all of his conflicts, you surely can't be okay with this man and his family adding to their business profits on the back of the U.S. government - that is wrong and hopefully enough Republicans will see that he is impeached because he won't stop. Where are his tax returns? That should bother you. You cannot normalize this man - he is not normal.

Kathleen Parker writes that his presidential aptitude deficit is too severe for such trivializing designations, as sore losers. She writes that his demonstrated lack of judgment and impulse control should send shivers down the spines of all Americans in consideration of the nuclear arsenal he is poised to have at his fingertips.

I hope to finally get my office clean, and still have many boxes of things to go through at my house. It is mind-boggling what we humans can collect. I hope to finally get back to family genealogy. I am 69 and every day often brings a new pain. I have enjoyed having enough time this year to have a small garden and work some in my large yard - way too big of a yard. I have only published four times this year, and will miss it some. It is a lot of work to put out a print

**Tom McLain, Runningwater Draw Dam**  
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area through an agreement with the landowner. This agreement stays in place, even when the land is sold.

Doug McDonough, managing editor of *The Plainview Herald*, says there are seven dams (flood control structures) in the Running Water Draw system from Clovis, New Mexico, to Plainview. There are three dams in Hale County, just inside the west county line, another at Runningwater Draw south of Edmonson and one outside of Plainview, north of Ebeling Addition. The fourth dam is the one McLain and his men have maintained, and the remaining two are west of Hart. Warminski said that one of these two is in Parmer County. The most western dam is located near Clovis.

McDonough said the dam closest to Plainview is in the process of getting funding for rehabilitation and enlargement due to so many homes and businesses that are in the flood zone if the dam fails.

McLain, who will have been commissioner for 12 years at the end of the year, worked to get a submersible well dug last year; it is located southeast of the dam. This well is connected to an above-ground water storage tank holding 9,500 gallons. The water in the storage tank is used to maintain the caliche county roads in the precinct, and also is available for the Hart and Sunnyside Volunteer Fire Departments to fight fires in the area.

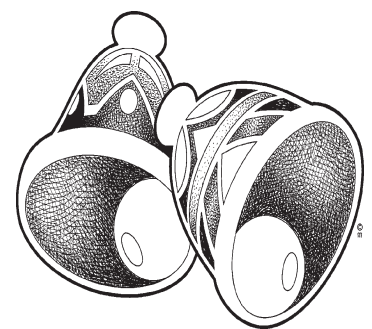
Vandalism is a problem around the dam. McLain said that a No-Trespassing sign has been broken several times, and that drinking alcohol happens, and the concrete gate often has vulgar graffiti on it. And, the iron wheel used to open the gate to allow for overflow into the spillway has been stolen twice.

Yet, McLain and his men are persistent in maintaining the dam and keeping the area clean. Current Precinct 1 employees, Paul Ramirez, Ben Montiel and

Adolfo Carrasco, have worked in these efforts, as well as Charles Lee, who retired from the Precinct in April of this year. Ramirez will take over McLain's duties after he won the race between him and Justin Bradley in the November election. Ramirez said the County will be taking applications for an employee to replace him when he takes over as Commissioner in January.

According to the Texas Historical Association website, Runningwater Draw is a headstream of the Blanco River, rising in Curry County, New Mexico, and entering Texas in western Parmer County. The stream flows southeast 55 miles, across southern Parmer, southwestern Castro, northeastern Lamb and northern Hale Counties. In southwestern Floyd County, the stream has cut a canyon as it descends from the Llano Estacado. From that point, it is known as the White or Blanco River.

Runningwater Draw flows through loose sand that surfaces flat to gently sloping hills covered by scrub brush and grasses. In Parmer County the stream was in the heart of the XIT Ranch's Springlake and later, Bovina divisions. The Morrison Brothers' Cross L and C.C. Slaughter's Runningwater (Circle S) ranches were located on the stream in the area where the corners of Swisher, Hale, Lamb and Castro Counties meet. A large dammed reservoir is on Runningwater Draw northeast of Lazbuddie, in Parmer County.



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Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space permits. Letters should be personally written and signed. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Letters will be edited for length and libelous content. Letters endorsing candidates are considered advertising.

## Weather

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U.S. Weather Observer

	Hi	Lo	Pr
Tuesday	62	21	
Wednesday	49	23	
Thursday	54	15	
Friday	45	16	
Saturday	83	31	
Sunday	40	-5	
Monday	25	-4	

December moisture.....0.08  
2016 to date .....13.99

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