#### 105 E MAIN ST POST, TX 79356-3245

# The Most Bispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2012

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

# City manager calls it quits

## Taylor submits resignation to council

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

Post City Manager Arbie Taylor submitted a letter of resignation to the City Council on Monday effective close of business Nov. 16.

Taylor, who's been at the helm of the city's administration for the last three and a half years, said it was time for a

"My wife and I both felt like we've seen the writing on the wall," Taylor said. "Something else came along, and I felt like I couldn't pass up the chance

7th annual

Tom Butler

event kicks

By Wayne Hodgin

The Post Dispatch

ary 2006.

off Saturday

Tom Butler was one of the region's

shining stars of the cowboy and ranching

community when his life was tragically

cut short in a vehicle accident in Febru-

The Texas Tech student from Guthrie

His mother, Traci Butler, said her son

was one of those rare individuals who

had a memorable and positive impact on

"He lived life with infectious passion

and purpose, with the wisdom of some-

First held in the fall of 2006, only

one three times his age," Butler said.

a few short months after his tragic

death, the Tom Butler Memorial

Bronc Riding event was a way for

rodeo dreams alive.

Butler's memory to live on and his

everyone he met - young and old.

might have been only 18 years old when he died, but he fast was becoming a West

Texas rodeo legend in many respects.

to move up. It'll be a good career move for me and a chance for my family to explore new endeavors."

While reserving comment on exactly where he was going, Taylor did say it was a much larger city north of Lubbock in the Panhandle.

Taylor's admitted disdain for some members on the City Council, including now former Mayor Thressa Harp,

Taylor often butted heads with council members and other county

See RESIGN, Page 6



Wayne Hodgin/The Post Dispatch

Post City Manager Arbie Taylor submitted his letter of resignation to members of the City Council on Monday. The council was expected to accept the resignation during a called meeting Thursday.

It sounds like a scene from one of those awful B-rated horror movies, but there's nothing funny about the more than \$12,000 in funds the county is facing to remove a colony of bats that has called the Garza County Mu-

During a called Commissioners Court meeting Oct. 10, museum director Linda Puckett told commissioners that was the estimated cost to just remove the bats from the museum premises.

has sunk thousands of dollars into the building over the last several years, including replacing the architectural fascia around the building. The new metal eaves replaced the rotten wooden eaves of which the years of abuse from bat excrement had taken its toll on the 100-year-old structure.

Despite the attempts at keeping the bats at bay, including replacing the fascia, the winged mammals con-

tures outside easily reach 100 degrees - and the God-

## **Post Notes**

General Education Diploma classes are now in session and are free to the public. Classes meet from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 18 at Post High School. Enter through southwest doors. For information, email Ed Singleterry at esingleterry@postisd.net or call 495-2770.

#### Gospel band

The Crystal River Gospel Band will perform during the 11 a.m. worship service Sunday at Justiceburg Community Church on U.S. 84 in Justiceburg. For information, email Rosene Green at rockerg@ caprock-spur.com.

#### Hunter education

A hunter-education course will be offered this weekend, Oct. 20-21, at the Post High School cafeteria and instructed by local Game Warden Drew Spencer. The course is open to all, especially children ages 9-17. Cost is \$15. For information, call Spencer at 806-773-4179 or email drew. spencer@tpwd.state.tx.us. More information on hunter education also can be found online at tpwd.

Lamb & Goat Validations Due at 4 p.m. Oct. 22 at the show

Jr. Livestock fundy The Garza County Junior Livestock Association will have a fundraising dinner at 6:40 p.m. Oct. 27 at Trailblazers. Tickets are available from any member.

#### Cancer awareness

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service of Garza County is sponsoring a breast and cervical cancer awareness program Oct. 30 at the Heritage House. County Agent Nancy McDonald will lead the program called, "Friend to Friend: Staying Healthy Together," and will focus on educating about the importance of mammograms and Pap tests. The program is free to all Garza County women. For information, or to register, call

495-4400. Only the first 80 registrants will be accepted.

#### Diabetes education

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service of Garza County is sponsoring a diabetes education program, "Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes," in a series of five classes developed by the Extension Service. Classes will be from 9 to 11 a.m. beginning Oct. 24 at the Extension office, 215 W. Main St. Cost is \$20. For information, or to register, call 495-4400.

#### 4-H Meeting

The next 4-H meeting will be at 6:40 p.m. Nov. 5 at the show barn.

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

#### Correction

Tim Tatum was incorrectly identified in a photo credit on page 8 of the Oct. 12 issue.

#### News on the go



Use your smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

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# **Bats threaten to overtake museum**

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

seum home for the better part of the last two decades.

The building the Garza Museum calls home is the former Post Sanatorium, which marks its 100th birthday this year.

tinue to colonize in the museum's attic. Walk into the museum on any given day — especially one of the sweltering days of summer when tempera-

awful smell emanating from the museum's nether re-

See **BATS**, Page 6



## Since its inception, the event has raised See **BUTLER**, Page6



Tom Butler was an 18-year-old Texas Tech student from Guthrie when his life was cut short in a vehicle accident his freshman year. The Tom Butler Memorial Bronc Riding event is held every year in honor of his life and helps fund numerous scholarships for area high school seniors.

## Report: Five Stone official threatens editor

#### The Post Dispatch

ened the editor of The Post Dispatch reportedly over a story the newspaper printed in its Oct. 5 edition.

According to Garza County sheriff's reports, O.L. "Ferg" Ferguson called The Post Dispatch about 2:10 p.m. Oct. 11 and left a message on the newspaper office's voice mail threatening Editor Wayne Hodgin if another story about the ministry was published.

According to the message, "the next time you print a letter on us in the newspaper like you did last time, the name of your company is gonna be Ferguson and Blackburn Media Incorporated. I'm warning you."

The Post Dispatch is owned by Blackburn Media Group and its CEO, Christopher Blackburn of Childress.

Ferguson is executive director of Five Stone Min-An official with Five Stone Ministry has threat- istries, an outreach facility open to drug and alcohol addicts who may or may not have had run-ins with law enforcement. Sheriff's officials were alerted to the message and

took a report from Hodgin. At issue is an article written by Hodgin and pub-

lished in the Oct. 5 edition of the Dispatch that reported sheriff's officials believe a good deal of local crime is connected with residents or former residents of Five Stone Ministries.

Garza County sheriff's Chief Deputy Tommy Binford said the case is actively being investigated but no arrests have been made.

Blackburn said all threats to employees are taken

See THREAT, Page 6

LIVE Friday Night Antelope Action!



#### BMG BLACKHURN MEDIA GRUNT

The Post Dispatch, 123 E. Main St., Post Texas, 79356, Is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Phone 806-495-2816 Fax 806-495-2059 Email thepostcitydispatch@

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EDITOR/GENERAL MANAGER Wayne Hodgin

The Post Dispatch (USPS 439-620) is published every Friday, including holidays, by Blackburn Media Group Inc., P.O. Box 1260, Childress, Texas, 79201-1260. Entered at U.S. Post Office, Post, Texas, for transmission. through the mail as a Second-Class matter, according to an Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Post, Texas, 79356. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Post Dispatch, 123 E. Main St , Post, texas, 79356.

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

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### **Letters to the Editor**

#### Five Stone men work hard

I was disappointed when I read the article in the Dispatch (Oct. 5) blaming Five Stone Ministries for the increase crime happening in Garza County.

Does Deputy Binford have all the facts to back this up, or is this based on his assumptions?

We are country neighbors up the road from their facility and not once have we ever had any problems with anything or anyone there. Quite the opposite, frankly.

We have had at least 10 or 12 different men over the past couple of years help us with vari-

ous projects around our places. Each one of them has done their job well and are always eager to work. They always have a smile in their faces and are very polite and respectful.

Granted, these are men and women who have come across hard times, but they seem to be trying to put their lives back together.

Maybe Deputy Binford should do some more investigating before trying to throw Ferg and his group under the bus.

LYNETTE and JERRY THUETT Post

#### Letters to the Editor Policy

Hint: Quote by Socrates

The Post Dispatch welcomes letters from readers on topics of local, state, national and international importance. Email letters are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com. All letters must include a first and last name, street address (no post office boxes), daytime phone number. Letters sent via U.S. mail may be sent to P.O. Box 426, Post, TX 79356.)

Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the

actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the

puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence.

Cryptogram Solution on page 5

MAQSZCXKPRPNSHX

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ROPGGDXPHJ DPVVQ MAQSZ

QSZ GG RXTSDX P OLMGSJSOLXV

We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

#### Our view

## They doth protest too much

#### Five Stone issue strikes at the heart of the First Amendment

Don't pick a fight with a guy that buys ink by the barrel.

The pen is mightier than the

We've all heard those quips, and as comical as they sometimes can be, there's nothing funny about the First Amendment — the power of the press, the Fourth Estate.

But that constitutional heavyweight has been challenged recently by members of Five Stone Ministries who've gone out of their way to, instead of debate facts, impugn the integrity of this newspaper for reporting a story that calls into question the ministry's policies and practices.

For an organization that receives thousands of dollars not only personally from hardworking members of our community but also through their tithes to local churches, when a high-ranking official within the law enforcement community points out flaws in that organization, it's news.

Two weeks ago, this newspaper reported a story that Garza County sheriff's officials believe a good deal of the local crime rate is a result — however directly or indirectly - of residents and former residents of the local ministry that caters to drug and alcohol addicts.

While such a ministry could be a feather in the county's cap, so to speak, it would seem, to sheriff's officials at least, nothing is further from the truth.

One thing that continually comes to mind with this whole issue is the Shakespearean line, he "doth protest too much."

The published story evidently struck a nerve. Otherwise Five Stone officials, in particular its executive director, O.L. "Ferg" Ferguson, wouldn't be carrying on so, making veiled threats against said law enforcement official and this newspaper.

While we're on the subject of threats, Mr. Ferguson has threatened to sue this publication for slander. He should do his homework before throwing out such legal terminology without knowing their definition.

Slander is a false and mali-

cious spoken statement. Libel is a written defama-

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Ask any attorney worth his or her weight in jurisprudence, and they'll tell you libel cases are the hardest to prove because an act of maliciousness first must be established.

While he and members of the Five Stone community may feel like the integrity of their organization is at stake, maybe it's taken this proverbial mirror to be held up to its face to realize there just may be some issues that need to be addressed.

And while we're holding local entities to integrity, we're disappointed in the Garza County Commission for allowing such petty name-calling and vitriolic hatred to be aired publicly in such an improper fashion as was during last week's called meeting.

While we uphold the First Amendment right for members of our community to have their own opinions and to air those opinions in a public forum, allowing remarks such as Mr. Ferguson's during a Commissioners Court meeting at which all sense of decorum is required, is nothing short of unprofes-

# Clay Miller

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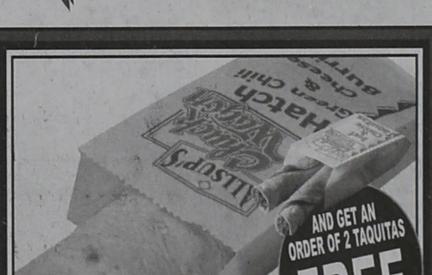
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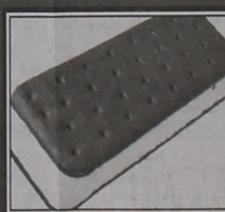
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## 43rd annual Sausage Fest this weekend

#### Special to the Dispatch

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SLATON — The 43rd annual German Sausage Festival at St. Joseph Church will be Sunday at the church social hall.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Menu consists of German sausag, grilled chicken, homemade German potato salad, green beans, cakes and bread. Take-out plates will be available on the south side of the social hall.

The festival began in 1969 with a 200-year-old recipe from Austria belonging to Marie Bednarz. The recipe was increased for the Slaton festival.

The first year, 524 pounds of German sausage were made. In 2011, officials say, 8,000 pounds will be made.

Jalepenos are added to about Dinner will be served from 1,000 pounds of sausage for those who like a little more spice. This year extra spicy habanero sausage will be sold.

> All funds raised go benefit St. Joseph School.

Preparation for the event starts months in advance. Throughout this last week, volunteers and parishioners worked to make 600 pounds of. German potato salad and 150 loaves of homemade bread:

A number of homemade quilts sown by the St. Joseph's Ladies Quilting Club will be on display throughout the day.

Other activities include live and silent auctions, games, music, food, rock wall, spider climb and a country store.

The Catholic Ladies will host a mini-bazaar, and raffles for quilts and a cedar chest also will be conducted.

For information, call St. Joseph's School at 806-828-6761 or Adam Behnke at 806-239-

## **Springer stumps in Garza**



Wayne Hodgin/The Post Dispatch

Drew Springer, Republican candidate for state House District 68 and presumptive winner, speaks with area officials and residents Thursday evening at a town-hall forum at the Post Community Center. In May's primary, Springer, who is from Muenster, defeated Trent McKnight of Throckmorton for a spot on the general election ballot. Springer was supposed to face Democrat challenger Lanhon Odom of Bowie in the general election next month, but Odom, who ran unopposed, voted in the GOP primary, which makes him ineligible to run for the House seat as a Democrat.

## Extension to offer diabetesmanagement seminar

#### The Post Dispatch

According to the Centers for Disease Control, diabetes has increased by 3 million cases in the last three years to a new high of 24 million in the United States.

This means that almost 8 percent of people in the United States have diabe-

Almost a quarter of people older than 65 have diabetes. In addition, 57 million people have prediabetes, which means they are at high risk for develop-

ing diabetes. According to the 2012 data from the Texas Department of State Health Services, 9.7 percent of adults 18 years and older in Texas have been diagnosed with diabetes. About 323 residents older than age 18 in Garza County have dia-

betes. If you have diabetes, or just want to learn more about how to make sure you do the best you can by keeping your blood glucose in the range recommended by the American Diabetes Association (70 mg/dL to 130 mg/dL), Nancy McDonald, family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County, will conduct a five-week series of diabetes self-management classes from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays beginning Oct. 24 at the Extension office.

Cost is \$20 to cover materials and snacks.

Extension health specialist Carol Rice, a registered nurse and professor at Texas

#### ABOUT DIABETES/PRE-DIABETES

If you are 45 years or older, you are at risk of type-2 diabetes, especially if you are over your recommended weight.

You are also at higher risk if you are younger than 45 years of age and have any one of these risk factors:

- · physically inactive
- · have close relatives with diabetes
- are a member of high-risk ethnic populations such as African-American, Latino, Native American, Asian: American, or Pacific Islander
- have delivered a baby weighing more than 9 pounds
- have high blood pressure, high cholesterol and/or triglycerides, polycystic ovary syndrome, tests indicating your body is not handling glucose well, or a history of vascular disease.

If you think you are at risk, ask your doctor or clinic for a fasting blood-glucose test. Then, make sure you understand the results when they come back to you. Ask for a copy, and keep that copy somewhere so you can find it and compare future results. Doctors and other health care professionals can provide advice and medicines, but the person with diabetes has to manage it every day.

If you are told your results indicate you do have pre-diabetes, there are things you can do to reduce your risk of developing diabetes. By walking 30 minutes daily for five days each week at a moderate speed and losing 7 percent of your body weight, 58 percent of the people participating in a recent study by the Diabetes Prevention Program did not develop diabetes.

A&M University, has developed the "Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes" program to educate participants about the disease and how best to manage it.

For information, or to reserve a space, call the Garza County Extension Office at 495-4400.

People with diabetes, or people who have been told they have pre-diabetes, and their caregivers are encouraged to attend.

With enough interest, an evening session is possible, McDonald said.

## 4-H Junior Leadership Retreat slated Nov. 9-11 in Brownwood

#### Special to the Dispatch

**BROWNWOOD** 

Younger 4-H members, ages 9-14, will have an opportunity to hone their skills in several areas during the Junior Leadership Retreat set for Nov. 9-11 at the Texas 4-H Conference Center at Lake Brownwood.

"The Junior Leadership Retreat features Texas 4-H Council members conducting hands-on educational workshops with younger 4-H members," said Mark Carroll, conference center program director. "This year's program will focus on increasing knowledge and skills in five 4-H project areas, golf challenge, food show/recipe rally, science engineering and technology, sport fishing and the any soldier project."

Carroll said the retreat starts with registration at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 9, followed by general orientation at 9 p.m., with adult chaperone orientation at 9:30 p.m.

Nov. 10 activities start at 7:30 a.m., followed by a flag ceremony and breakfast, with the first of the day's three general assemblies beginning at 8:30 a.m. The remainder of

the day will be devoted to concurrent sessions featuring the five programming areas. The evening activities will start at 6:15 p.m. with a flag lowering ceremony and dinner, followed by a presentation on state and national opportunities for 4-H youth at 7:30 p.m., and a costumed-theme dance immediately after.

Adjournment is set for 11 a.m. Nov. 11.

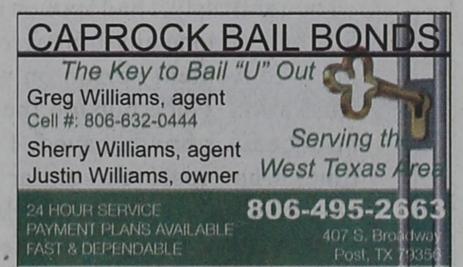
"While this is learning retreat, the main ingredient underlying the whole weekend is a sense of fun," Carroll said. "The State 4-H Council members take pride in showcasing their creativity which will become apparent at the Saturday Night Theme Dance.

They're asking participants to come dressed as their favorite character from the Avenger comic series. All the council members plan to be in costume, so it should prove to be fun for everyone."

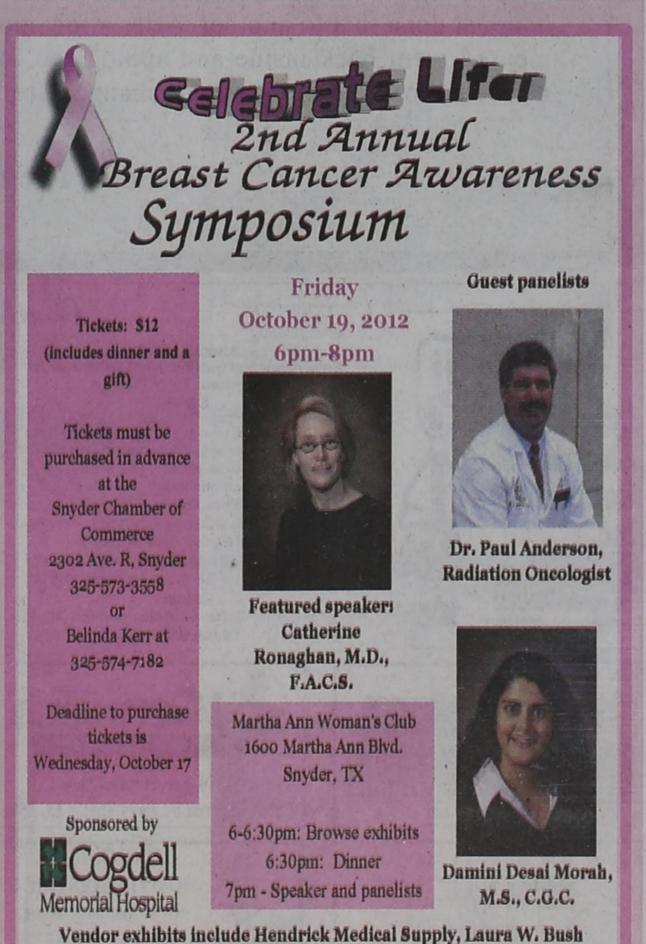
Carroll stressed that each county sending 4-H youth to the retreat must provide adult chaperones for the weekend.

Individual registration is \$105 for youth and \$70 for adult chaperones. The fees include two-nights lodging, four meals, snacks and program fées. Online registration is available through Nov. 5 at texas4hcenter.tamu.edu.

For information, contact Carroll at 325-784-5482 or jmcarroll@ag.tamu.edu.







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## 2011 crop loss assistance sign-ups begin Monday

The Post Dispatch

Beginning Monday, area producers can enroll in the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program for 2011 crop year losses.

director of the Garza-Borden County USDA Farm Service Agency, said under the 2008 Farm Bill, SURE authorizes assistance to farmers and ranchers who suffered crop losses caused by natural disasters occurring through Sept. 30, 2011.

"Eligible producers who experienced a 2011 crop loss can contact the Garza-Borden County FSA office to learn more about the SURE program," Ashley said. "All eligible farmers and ranchers must sign up for 2011 SURE benefits before the June 7, 2013 deadline," he said.

To qualify for a SURE payment, the producer's operation must be located in a county that was declared a disaster for 2011 and have at least a 10 percent production loss that affects one crop of economic significance. Producers with agricultural for SURE benefits if they usda.gov/sure.

had a production loss greater or equal to 50 percent of the normal production on the

In Texas, 213 counties received a primary disaster designation and 41 counties Victor Ashley, executive received a contiguous disaster designation during 2011. This means that all 254 counties in Texas can apply for SURE benefits as long as all other eligibility requirements

> To meet program eligibility requirements, producers must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all insurable crops through the Federal Crop Insurance Corp. and obtained Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program coverage on non-insurable crops, if available, from FSA. Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of a socially disadvantaged, limited resource or beginning farmer or rancher do not have to meet this requirement. Forage crops intended for grazing are not eligible for SURE benefits.

For information on SURE program eligibility requirements contact the Garzaoperations located outside a Borden County FSA office disaster county are eligible at 806-495-2801 or visit fsa.

## Report: Lesser prairie chickens could be moving north

Special to the Dispatch

AUSTIN — Through a multi-state collaborative effort, the first statistically valid, range-wide population estimate for the lesser prairie chicken is an estimated 37,170 birds, according to a new report by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

The survey results could be significant as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prepares its proposed rule expected next month about whether to list the species under the federal Endangered Species Act.

"After the worst single year drought in recorded history, we still have an estimated 37,000 birds on the ground rangewide, and that tells us that opportunities to recover this species are better than what many people expected," said Sean Kyle, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department wildlife diversity biologist in Lubbock.

Aerial surveys this spring detected several previously unknown breeding areas, known as leks, despite severe drought conditions across the region last year. They also discovered leks in Kansas beyond what was thought to be the northern limit of the historic range of the species.

Lesser prairie chicken numbers have been largely increasing in Kansas for the last 15 years, while populations have declined in parts of the southern portion of the range, including Texas. Biologists believe this expansion may represent a northward shift in the population of the species caused by climatic conditions associated with changing precipitation pat-

and we thought the species went extinct," said Bill Van Pelt, grassland coordinator in Phoenix for the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Grassland

"However, with habitat conservation programs being implemented through various Farm Bill programs and Candidate Conservation Agreements under the Endangered Species Act, we are seeing lesser prairie chickens maintaining themselves and even expanding into new areas in some parts of their range," Van Pelt said. "This definitely boosts our confidence in coming up with a plan to maintain this

The WAFWA Grassland Initiative collaborated with the Lesser Prairie Chicken Interstate Working Group, which is composed of biologists from state fish and wildlife departments within the range of the species, the Bureau of Land Management, and West Ecosystems Inc. of Laramie, Wyo., to conduct a large-scale, helicopter-based survey of lesser prairie chicken leks across all five states this

The survey results will be the baseline for a range-wide lesser prairie chicken management plan being developed by the five state wildlife agencies in collaboration with the WAFWA Grassland Initiative. This plan is expected to be completed in March, and could influence the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) decision on whether or not to designate the lesser prairie chicken as a federally threatened or endangered species.

The lesser prairie chicken has been considered a candidate under the Endangered "Historically, we saw habitat conditions Species Act since 1998, and the service like we are observing now in the 1930s, expects to release a proposed rule on the website tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

status of the bird under the ESA in No-

To help restore habitat for the bird, state and federal experts developed a tool called Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) to work with private landowners and managers in the geographic range of the lesser prairiechicken.

This voluntary program was designed to help reverse declining bird numbers by promoting habitat conservation and restoration through practices such as prescribed grazing, upland wildlife habitat management, brush management, prescribed burning, range planting and restoration and management of rare or declining habitats.

The program also provides assurances to landowners that, beyond what is detailed in the CCAA agreement, they will not be required to meet any new regulations if the bird is listed under the Endangered Species Act. To date, close to 315,000 acres of Texas ranch land have enrolled in

Texas agriculture producers may sign up to manage and restore high-priority habitats for the lesser prairie chicken within eligible Texas counties, including: Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Roberts, Hemphill, Gray, Wheeler, Donley, Deaf Smith, Bailey, Lamb, Cochran, Hockley, Yoakum, Terry, Andrews and Gaines.

Landowners can get details regarding the lesser prairie-chicken CCAA by contacting TPWD Biologist Jeff Bonner at 806-665-3494 or Manuel DeLeon at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Zone office in Lubbock at 791-0581.

For further information, visit the NRCS

## The Apology

Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. - Ephesians 4:29 (NRSV)

my behavior. The clerk's face changed from others.

Thoughtlessly, I had spoken harshly to a clerk. a scowl to surprise. She smiled and thanked She hadn't done anything wrong; she was sim- me for coming back. Scripture tells us of Jeply a convenient person on whom to vent my sus' love for all people. I had just mistreated frustration. Once outside the store, I realized someone, and the Holy Spirit showed me imhow badly I had behaved. I remembered the mediately that what I had done was wrong. times I had received similar treatment. Some Some act of repentance was necessary. On the customers seem to take clerks for granted, as way home I praised God for loving me enough nameless and faceless recipients for our anger to correct me when I stray. Viewing the sales and irritation. I felt ashamed; I realized that I clerk as one of God's people helped me see had just done that to another. After a few mo- how wrong I was to show disrespect. I want ments I went back inside and apologized for always to show grace in the way I speak to

Gale A. Richards (Iowa, USA)

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Holy Cross Catholic Church- Ave K and Main Street- 495-2791 Church of Christ

Church Directory Church of Christ- 108 N. Ave M 495-2326 Graham Chapel Church of Christ- 15th & Ave S

Church of God Church of God of Prophecy- 602 W. 14th, 495-3644 Power House Church of God and Christ, Pine Avenue Disciples of Christ First Christian Church- 812 W. 13th, 495-3716

Faith Chapel- 1105 Green Street, Wilson (806) 628-0018 First United Methodist Church- 216 W. 10th, 990-2942 Graham Chapel United Methodist Church (Pastor: John Hedrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400

**Evangelical Methodist** 

Nazarene Post Church of Nazarene- 202 W. 10th, 495-3044 Grassland Church of Nazarene- 327-5656 Presbyterian

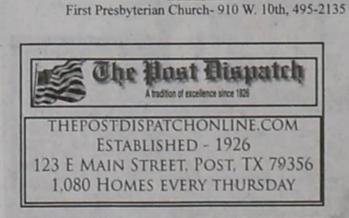




Phone: 325-573-6374

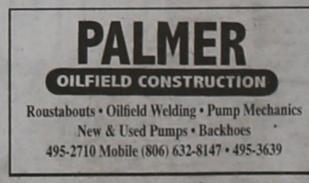














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## Yesteryears

10 Years Ago October 24, 2002

An allegation of an aggravated sexual assault has drawn the attention of not only the Garza County sheriff's officials but also several additional law enforcement agencies. The assault, which allegedly occurred Oct. 11, was reported by a woman in her 40s, Sheriff Kenny Ratke said. The crime is said to have occurred at her home sometime during the overnight hours. Because of the ongoing investigation, Ratke declined requests for additional details pertaining to the alleged assault, the assailant and the victim.

Pat Reiter captured the grand champion horse buckle and the junior showmanship buckle Sunday at the Garza County Junior Livestock Horse Show. Reiter's 10-year old mare won first place in the aged mare class and then won champion mare banner before competing for grand champion horse. Reiter is the son of Chris and Glenna Reiter.

Sterling Smith won the reserve grand champion horse plaque and also won the senior showmanship buckle. Sterling's 16-yearold gelding won first place in the aged gelding class and champion gelding banner before the final competition. Sterling is the son of Perry and Kelli Smith.

Clint McDaniel won the reserve champion gelding banner with his 13-yeaold, second-place aged gelding. Clint is the son of Gary and Joy McDaniel.

20 Years Ago October 14, 1992

Post Art Guild artists displaying their works this weekend in observance of Founder's Day, were Glenda Morrow, Ann Bratcher and Linda Puckett.

Three 1992 high school graduates have been added to the rolls this fall of the Kraft General Foods Scholarship at Texas Tech University. The freshman scholarship recipients are Aaron Leininger, a computer science major and son of Larry and Linda Leininger; Joshua Ty Hill, a computer science major and son of Bruce and Cathy Hill; Dalyn McDougle, a mass

communications major and daughter of Rick and Cindy McDougle. The Kraft General Foods Scholarship was established in 1989, with a \$7,000 donation by Kraft and then-Post Mayor Giles McCrary, who originally contracted Kraft about contributing to the scholarship.

Amber Cooper, 15-year old daughter of Steven and Jamie Cooper, has been elected to represent Post in the Miss Texas Tech USA pageant, which will be held in Houston on Nov. 28. Amber is a sophomore at Post High School.

> 30 Years Ago October 13, 1982

Jana Middleton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Middleton, and Tommy Payton, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Payton, were presented the county's top 4-H awards as Gold Star Girl and Boy on Saturday night at the annual 4-H Achievement banquet held in the community center. Bil Hedrick presented Jana Terry with the J.L. Hedrick memorial award for her award winning horse record book. Five 4-H'ers were presented awards at the banquet, including Mark Tyler, Hilary Williams, Michael Bland, Jana Terry and Cindy Basquez.

Mark Stark and Frances Cendalski have been selected for the Region XVI All Star Region Honor Choir. Other students competing in the Region XVI All Region Honor Choir were Belinda Reece, Renea Melton and Todd Wilson.

A 50th wedding anniversary reception was held in the bank community room for Wade and Hooter Terry on Oct. 3 with about 250 guests.

> 40 Years Ago October 12, 1972

The freshman and sophomore class presidents are Edward Price, freshman president; Randy Josey, sophomore president.

Pete Pennell, who was critically injured in a one-car accident early

Sunday morning on the Lubbock highway, was still in the intensive care unit of Lubbock's Methodist Hospital on Wednesday afternoon. Pennell suffered multiple fractures when his automobile left the highway and struck a tree. Members of the family said the wreck occurred after Pennell suffered an apparent heart attack.

An assault charge has been filed against Edgar Osby of Post, positive identification of a second Post man is being sought and a local juvenile faces a juvenile hearing here as a result of and incident after the Cooper game Friday night in which seven . Cooper band members reportedly were beaten up without provocation.

Mike Sanchez, who farms three and a half miles north of Post, brought into Planters Gin here last Thursday what is to be the first Garza County bale of cotton from this year's crop.

A late Sunday night fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the Fluvanna school gym but fireman from Fluvanna, Snyder and Post prevented the roaring flames from spreading to the school itself only 30 feet away.

> 50 Years Ago October 18, 1962

Leading the Post Antelope pep squad at this season's football games are Pam Stewart, Pam Owen, Mary Beth Ford, Sharon Isaacs, Janith Short and Linda McMahon.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Rose were complimented with a surprise housewarming in their newly purchased home at 718 Chantilly Lane last Thursday.

Julia Childs and Darla Pierce were the high-point girls for September in the Future Homemakers of America chapter here. A different girl will be selected each month from the two FHA groups, based on the amount of work she has done in FHA.

Compiled by Elizabeth Moreno

**Cryptogram Solution** 

## The 501 Hair of the vote

It's no wonder the polls show the presidential race is close. Everybody's got good hair.

If there's anything conservative about Barack Obama, it's his haircut. The difference this time around is the gray, which makes him look wiser. Mitt Romney has gray at his temples, too, and an equally

snappy cut. Call them

even. We'll get to the vice guys momentarily. After the first

debate, HANABA either via Facebook MUNN or email, WELCH I saw

pictures

of what

the two presidential candidates would look like with each other's hair. Romney looked like a buzz-cut mobster, and Obama looked like Desi Arnaz.

As for Joe Biden and Paul Ryan, the edge goes to Ryan, but only because Biden doesn't still have all his hair. Exactly how much he doesn't have is debatable. We'll return to that

Ryan has the more youthful look. Slightly tousled is my term for his trendy stiff style. But his most outstanding hair feature has nothing to do with the haircut and the gel.

It's his widow's peak. Some observers have made disparaging comparisons to Eddie Munster's Draculean peak, but the images that come to my mind are the classic leading males from the earliest days of cinema.

INTERNET RESEARCH PAUSE.

Sure enough, Clark Gable, Walter Pidgeon and Errol

Flynn all had widow's peaks. I learned along the way that Marilyn Monroe is somewhat famous for hers too. Extra information. No charge. I even stumbled across one site that said no vice president in U.S. history has ever had a widow's

Obviously I'm not the only person who's analyzing Ryan's widow's peak in the context of politics. Hmmm.

As for Biden, I did a search for Biden images and discovered he's now sporting a different hairstyle from his previous one, which had a part on the side. Now he's combing his hair straight back. It's one of the newer styles. When did that happen? It's something only a vice president could get away with, thanks to the nature of the office — not so scrutinized. But it's Biden's style anyway to get away with more than the average Joe. Right?

ANOTHER INTERNET PAUSE.

Well, I didn't expect to stumble into as much as I just stumbled into by Googling

"Joe Biden hair." The most interesting part of the story isn't the disappearing part but the transplantation that apparently has happened over time. Biden neither admits nor denies anything, preferring to maintain at least a bit of mystery about himself, or so I read.

Hey, I don't blame him if he took steps to improve his hairline. If I were a balding politician, I'd want to shuffle hair between districts too. Reelection at any price.

Closing thought: Don't blame politicians for what they spend to look good. Pliable undecided voters are more likely than any other bloc to be swayed by hair. My theory.

If this election ultimately is decided by a hair's breadth, various behind-the-scenes teams no doubt will take credit. The winning hair stylists will get my vote.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a columnist and contributor to The Post Dispatch. Email her at hanaba. quanah@gmail.com.

I, Preston L. Poole Ir., am a declared write-in candidate for the office of Garza County attorney.

I am seeking your vote for this office and your support.

To vote for a write-in candidate, write the name on the line provided with the same spelling as is on the list of Declared Write-In Candidates AND fill in the oval to the left of the name (•). Be sure to darken the oval and don't use an X or check mark.

If you have any questions about my candidacy, please call me at 495-2000 or come by 311 W. Main St., Post, Texas.

> Early voting begins Oct. 22, 2012, at the courthouse.

Paid Political Advertisement paid for by Preston L. Poole Jr.

## Justice-Mason Funeral Home

Across

1. Hits hard 6. Discompose

> 11. Provokes 13. Weak

15. Timid, childish man

16. "So soon?"

\_ alive!" (contrac-

tion)

18. College fee

20. "Fantasy Island" prop 21. Locale

23. Apprehensive

24. Hacienda hand, maybe 25. Fishhook line

27. Ballad

28. Shoulder gesture

29. Mourner 31. Category

32. Contemptible one 33. Grimace

34. Letters 36. Betting information

seller 39. "Silly" birds

40. Greyhound, e.g.

41. Hang 43. Absorbed

44. Ringlets 46. Back of the neck

47. "To is human ..."

48. Layered ice cream

dessert 50. Blazer, e.g. (acronym)

51. Run away lovers

53. Not worth using

55. Differing from accepted

standards 56. Thaw

57. E-mail option

58. Detroit's county

Down

1. Literary composition

2. Handgun sheath 3. Arctic bird

4. "Check this out!"

5. 1988 Olympics site

6. Fusion 7. Building near a silo

8. Trick taker, often 9. Those who climb up and

10. Repulsive

22. Snob

11. Awry

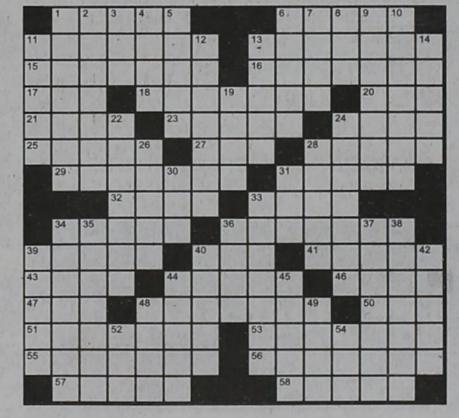
12. Out of proper order

13. Tinker Bell, e.g.

14. Eager 19. Get misty-eyed

24. Four-wheeled horsedrawn carriage

CROSSWORD PUZZLE Justice-Mason Funeral Home 301 West Main Street 806-495-2833



26. Freetown currency unit 28. Kind of fund

30. Big wine holder

31. Bluecoat

33. Lost 34. Mollusk diver

35. Scold

36. Gang land 37. Dodging

38. Drive back 39. Excessive desire for

wealth 40. Explode

42. Retain with stone 44. Traveling amusement

show

45. Strength 48. Clap

49. Soft porous rock deposited from springs 52. Lulu

54. "Don't give up!"

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#### RESIGN

From Page 1

officials on a number of issues throughout his tenure, including the budget and other citywide projects.

"I leave with no regrets," he said Monday afternoon.

Taylor came to Post City in March 2009 from Lamesa, where he had served as assistant city manager and public works director for six years. Before that, he had served as public works director for the city of Perryton.

During the August council meeting, Taylor opted to have his employment evaluation

done in open session, as is allowed for under city ordinance.

At that meeting, it became public knowledge that Taylor and some members of the council were at odds with the way the city manager was conducting the business of the city inside and outside City Hall.

"Tve heard from our citizens who have said they've brought concerns to City Hall only to be met with a harsh, defensive and close-minded attitude," Councilwoman Anita Morris told Taylor at that meeting.

Despite an at-time tense evaluation, Mayor Harp praised Taylor for his recent work at the landfill and with mitigating the

city's purchase-water contract with White River Municipal Water District.

things about the work you've done at the landfill. You're a fantastic project manager," Harp said during Taylor's evaluation. "And your financial expertise in the budgeting process is the best and most concise I've every seen."

Now that his time in Post is drawing to a close, however, Taylor said he wishes the council, staff and residents the best in the coming years.

"Working here has been a great learning experience," he said. "The city of Post is in a

position to bring is some great talent here, whether it be someone fresh out of college who "I can't say enough good can bring in some new and great ideas or someone on the downside of their career who could bring in a wealth of experience."

Since his arrival in Post, Taylor said he is most proud of the work the city has accomplished in the realm of water rights acquisition.

"We've worked hard and diligent over the past three and a half years in securing more water for Post City residents," he said. "We've acquired more water rights in Southland and are pursuing water rights on

the Cap that puts our residents in a much better position than some of our surrounding communities."

Taylor said the recent purchase-water contract negotiated between the city and the White River Municipal Water District is the strongest Post has seen in a long time.

"That contract allows the city of Post to search for water rights outside of White River to plan for future growth and overcoming drought concerns, when previous contracts wouldn't have allowed them to do so," Taylor said. "That point puts Post in a very, very good position going into the future."

The City Council was expected to meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in a special called meeting to accept Taylor's resignation.

On Tuesday, Mayor Archie Gill said he expects the council to hire someone to fill in during the interim as members work through the procedure of getting a full-time city manager.

"I expect we'll go through the normal routine of advertising the position, getting back applications and going through the interview process," he said. "Depending on how fast the council wants to act, I would think we could have someone in place in no more than 90 days."

### BUTLER

From Page 1

more than \$70,000 in scholarship money for scores of high school seniors. Because of the tremendous growth in the event the, scholarship awards have increased every year. Since 2006, the event has awarded scholarships to every applicant who has applied.

During its first two fledgling years, the Tom Butler Memorial was held in Seymour but has since moved to the Post Stampede Rodeo Grounds in Post.

"We felt like the city of help put the event on." Post was a better all-around location for the event not nual Tom Butler Memorial only because of the bet- Bronc Riding event will ter rodeo facilities but also kick off at 9 a.m. Saturday because of its proximity to at the Post Stampede Ro-

Lubbock," Butler said. "It's continued to evolve over the last six years and gotten bigger and better."

Indeed it has. Last year's event drew more than 5,000 to Post City, now the official home of the Tom Butler Memorial Bronc Riding

"The city of Post, the Post Stampede Rodeo Committee and the residents of Post have been overwhelmingly supportive of our event," Butler said. "I can't say enough good things about them. We're very appreciative to them and to the dozens of volunteers throughout the region who

The 2012 seventh an-

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deo Grounds. The Calcutta-style competitive selection will begin at 11 a.m. From Page 1 and the riding commences about noon.

is slated for 5 p.m. .

Outsiders will perform a us." dance from 8 a.m. to mid-

At 9 a.m. Sunday, cowboy musician Jeff Gore will lead a worship service at the arena to cap off the weekend's events.

Also throughout the weekend, the Western lifestyle television show "All-Around Performance Horse," broadcast nationally on RFD-TV, will be filming at the event.

"We encourage all area residents to come out in support of our cause this weekend," Butler said. "I can't think of a better weekend spent than at a rodeo with lots of fun, food and good music."

The awards presentation gions is simply overwhelming.

"It's embarrassing," said Vendors, including food Puckett, who noted the buildand drink booths, will be ing was closed for a period of set up at the arena and will time in the mid-'90s because of be open to the public from the bat problem. "We have nu-9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. A silent merous people from all over the auction also will be con- country who come to the muducted throughout the day. seum each year, and the smell Jake Hooker and the is a terrible embarrassment for

Museum officials have taken to installing automatic room deodorizers throughout the facility to keep the smell halfway at bay, Puckett said. In her presentation to com-

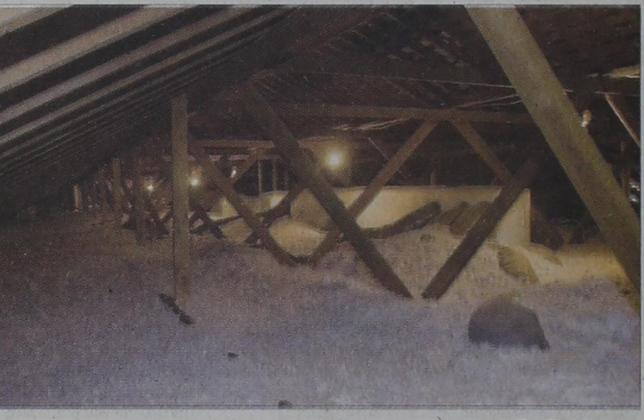
missioners last week, Puckett told county officials a local philanthropical foundation might be willing to fund half the cost of the bat remediation if the county was willing to fund the other half.

During the meeting, County Judge Lee Norman asked Game Warden Drew Spencer,

who also was in attendance, for his advice in handling the bat

Although Spencer, a former park ranger who has experience with the Mexican free-tail bat, said he would be willing to assess the situation, that assessment evidently did not come fast enough for museum officials.

Puckett asked commissioners to expedite the funding process if only because the philanthropical foundation board was



Wayne Hodgin/The Post Dispatch

The attic of the Garza Museum is kept lit to deter members of a Mexican free-tail bat colony from infesting its rafters. Museum director Linda Puckett said the bat problem has been ongoing for more than 20 years.

#### THREAT From Page 1

"In this day and age, any threat, regardless of who it is, should be taken seriously by any employer," Blackburn said. "I would think any responsible business owner

would do the same." As far as attempting to quell freedom of speech in Garza County, Blackburn said it is not uncommon for people in sions. today's society to "attempt to

tackle issues head on." "Such a threat is a direct reflection of the individual or organization and how they handle business," he said. "We report the news - good or bad, positive or

negative. "Our job is informing the

taxpayers of Garza County of the goings-on concerning local entities of which Dispatch readers have a direct interest."

The Oct. 11 incident followed a special called Commissioner's Court meeting the day before at which Ferguson, during the public comments of the meeting, aggressively aired his concerns about the story and called Hodgin and "idiot" on a number of occa-

Also that week, members of kill the messenger rather than Five Stone were seen around town distributing a number of fliers that made disparaging remarks not only toward Hodgin but also toward Chief Deputy Binford, who was quoted in the article at issue.

Text of message purportedly left by Five Stone Ministry's O.L. "Ferg" Ferguson on The Post Dispatch's voice mail.

"Well, Mr. Wayne Hodgin, are we still a bunch of criminals like you think we are now? How do you like them apples? I'm gonna tell you, buddy, next time you print a letter on us in the newspaper like you did last time, the name of your company is gonna be Ferguson and Blackburn Media Incorporated. I'm warning you. Do not print any more bull\_\_\_\_ like you printed last time. Have a good day."

# A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

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## **Rain Totals**

City of Post trace Oct. 10 - zero Year to date: Oct. 11 - zero 17.58 inches Oct. 12 - zero Normal: 18.12 Oct. 13 - zero inches Oct. 14 – zero White River Oct. 15 — zero Oct. 16 - zero Lake Month to date: Oct. 10 - zero Oct. 11 - zero 0.11 inches

Year to date: Oct. 12 - zero 11.76 inches Oct. 13 - zero Normal: 19.04 Oct. 14 - zero inches Oct. 15 — zero Oct. 16 — zero

Month to date: Lake Alan Henry trace Oct. 10 - zero Year to date: Oct. 11 - zero 18.39 inches Normal: 19.43 Oct. 12 - zero Oct. 13 - zero inches Oct. 14 - zero Oct. 15 - zero

> Source: National Weather Service, Lubbock

## **Sports Roundup**

#### JV team dominates Roosevelt

The Post junior varsity (5-1, 1-0) defeated Roosevelt, 41-13, Oct. 11 at Jimmy Redman Stadium.

The Lopes had three players with at least 100 yards rushing. Cambry Gilbert, Blaine Reece and Christian Saucedo all had more than 100 yards on the night. The Lopes scored touchdowns in every quarter and exploded for three in the final quarter.

Gilbert's first touchdown came after the defense forced the Eagles to punt on their opening possession of the game. Backs Gilbert, Reece, Saucedo and Shandon Wiley all had long runs on the drive; Gilbert scored from eight yards, the kicked failed and the Lopes led 6-0 after one quarter.

The Bold Gold would extend the lead to 14-0 after Gilbert ran it in from three yards out. This was set up by receiver Jared Curtis' 25-yard catch on 3-and-15 keeping the drive alive. The two-point play was added by Reece who catch the pass from Curtis. The Lopes had a 14-7 halftime lead.

The Antelopes scored only once in the third when Gilbert took the pitch around the right end made a cut, broke a tackle and was off to the endzone for a 70-yard touchdown run.

The Lopes scored three touchdowns in the fourth as Gilbert scored from 2-and-9, and Reece added a 30-yard run and Rafael Gonzales' booted two extra points.

The Lopes defense dominated most of the night. Linebackers Reece and Saucedo and Gonzales kept the Eagles from running inside, and Alex Ramirez, Blaine Osborn and Joel Lopez, Wiley, Curtis, Ricky Fontenot, Ethan Self and Wyatt Gray controlled the outside and passing.

Osborn also recovered a fumble, and Ramirez had three quarterback sacks.

The Lopes were expected to return to action Thursday at Littlefield for a 5 p.m. kickoff. The Lopes were scheduled to play Tulia, but that game was canceled.

Post 6 - 8 - 7 - 19 = 41Roosevelt 0 - 7 - 6 - 0 = 13

Jerry Pyles

#### Lady Lopes face Lamesa in last home game

The Post High School girls varsity volleyball team lost a twogame matchup against district rival Denver City on Tuesday night, 22-25, 16-25.

Head coach Charlyn Hohman said the sets were close. Top performers included Haily Berry with eight kills, nine digs and an ace; Taylor Osborn had five blocks; Callie Odom had 15 digs; Maggie Shelton had 14 digs; and Kelbie Oden had 10 digs.

The girls last home game will be at 1 p.m. Saturday against

Hohman said the varsity seniors will be recognized before the

The team's record is 2-13 for the season and 0-6 in district play. Last Saturday, the Lady Lopes notched only one win in a 3-1 match against Brownfield at home.

Hohman said the seven girls who played during the game played well.

"In the first set, we had a few things happen that hurt our momentum, but we kept playing strong and showed up in the second set fired up," Hohman said. "We played awesome in the second set, defeating Brownfield by 10 points.

"The girls are continuing to get better in each district game." In JV action, Lady Lopes junior varsity team lost a two-game

matchup against Brownfield at home Saturday. Their record is 5-10 on the season and 0-5 in district play.

Wayne Hodgin

#### Seventh-grade team drops close match

The Post seventh-grade A team lost, 2-1, a three-game matchup with Plains on Monday. Coach Richard Soliz said he felt the game was evenly matched.

"Plains ended up on top, but our girls played hard," Soliz said. "Had we gotten a couple of things to go our way, the girls would have pulled out the victory."

The team's record is 2-7 and 1-2 in district play. The girls play next on Monday against Brownfield and Lamesa.

Wayne Hodgin

### Menus: Week of Oct. 22-26

#### Post ISD

Breakfast Monday: Waffles, sausage, butter and syrup, fruit, milk Tuesday: Pop-Tart, sausage link, fruit, milk

Oct. 16 - zero

Month to date:

Wednesday: Cream of wheat, sausage, toast, fruit, milk Thursday: Doughnut, sausage

link, fruit, milk Friday: Cereal, toast, fruit, ·juice, milk

Lunch Monday: Corn dog, baked beans, tomato and cucumber cup, apple-pineapple delight, milk

Tuesday: Nachos grande, refried beans, garden salad, orange wedges, milk

Wednesday: Chicken sandwich, oven-baked fries, fresh veggie cup, fruity gelatin, milk Thursday: Beefy macaroni, garden salad, baby carrots, fresh grapes, breadstick,

Friday: Pepperoni or cheese pizza, crunchy broccoli, salad, seasoned corn, fresh fruit bowl, milk

#### Southland ISD

Breakfast Monday: Waffles, bacon, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday: Quesadillas, fruit, juice, milk Wednesday: Breakfast bar,

yogurt, fruit, juice, milk Thursday: Muffins, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

Friday: Biscuits, sausage, gravy, fruit, juice, milk Monday: Hamburgers, lettuce,

tomatoes, onions, potato rounds, diced pears, milk Tuesday: Tangerine chicken, brown rice, baby carrots, steamed broccoli, snowball salad, milk

Wednesday: Tex-Mex stack, Spanish rice, refried beans, garden salad, salsa, hot cin-

namon apples, milk Thursday: Stuffed barbecue potato, baby carrots, Texas toast, fresh fruit bowl, milk

Friday: Chicken parmesan, green beans, garden salad, fresh apple slices, breadstick, milk

#### Trailblazers-Senior Citizens Center

Monday: Beef goulash, navy beans, broccoli, cornbread,

Tuesday: Barbecue chicken, mashed potatoes, carrot and raisin salad, roll, Jell-O with fruit, milk

Wednesday: Ham, lima beans, corn, cookie roll, milk Thursday: King Ranch casserole, rice, beans brownie, tortilla, milk

Friday: Charbroiled patty, peppers, onions, mashed potatoes, beets, Mandarin oranges, roll

# TOM BUTLER MEMORIAL BRONC RIDING



#### **OCTOBER 20th, 2012**

9am GATES OPEN (ADMISSION \$5, under 6 ~ free!)

930am - 5pm silent auction | 930am - 6pm vendor booths

CALCUTTA starts at 11AM NOON ~ OPENING CEREMONY followed by BRONC RIDING stock provided by JK RODEO CO. & 3 LAZY S RODEO CO. 5pm Presentaion of AWARDS & WINNERS

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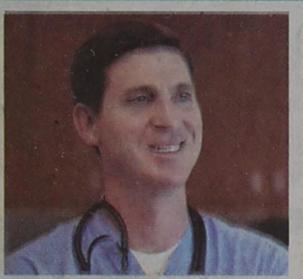
## Grain marketing workshop slated for Tuesday

#### Special to the Dispatch

MULESHOE — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service staff in Bailey County will conduct a Feed Grain Marketing Workshop beginning at 8:30 a.m. Tuedsay at the AgriLife Extension office in Bailey County, 118 West Ave. C, in Muleshoe. Curtis Preston, AgriLife Extension agent in Bailey County, said that in light of the current grain

market volatility, feed grain marketing strategies will be even more important for producers on the High Plains for the 2013 crop year. The workshop will cover current market conditions and the potential of marketing the 2013 crop. Mark Welch, AgriLife Extension economist at College Station, will conduct the meeting via "distance technology." Registration is \$10 at the door. For information, contact Preston at 806-272-4583.

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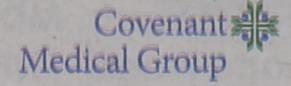






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## Lopes win first district game Post dominates Roosevelt, 48-33

By Jerry Pyles For the Dispatch

ACUFF - The Post Antelopes (5-1, 1-0) opened district play with a victory over Lubbock Roosevelt (0-6, 0-1) Friday night.

D.J. Brown, Bryan Smith and Pake Jones led the Lopes' rushing attack for 381 yards on the night.

The Bold Gold was returning to action after an open week. Roosevelt was the first game of the district season.

The Eagles took the opening possession and drove inside the Antelope five-yard line. The Bold Gold defense stopped the Eagles on fourth down, with outside linebakeer Paden Babb and Caden Dean sacking the Roosevelt quarterback on fourth-and-2. The Lopes would take their first possession and drive to midfield on big gains by Smith and Brown, but penalties would force the Lopes to punt as time expired in the first quarter.

Opening the second quarter, the Eagles scored on a five-yard touchdown pass, making the score 7-0 in favor of Roosevelt. The Lopes would respond with a five-play, 70-yard drive.

The key play on the drive, the Lopes faced third down 12 for their own 45. Quarterback Pake Jones hit wide receiver Dalton Holly on a quick slant for 17 yards and a Lope first down. The final 38 yards was covering by Brown, who took the pitch from Jones and split several Eagle defenders and raced to the end zone. The PAT failed and the score was 7-6 with 6:27 remaining in the second quarter.

The Bold Gold defense came up big on the Eagles first play as

Yds per Pass



Jaycee Johnson/For the Dispatch

Kicker Aaron Lopez attempts a field goal Friday night in Acuff against the Roosevelt Eagles. Lopez had a spectacular night in the Lopes' 48-33 victory over the Eagles.

safety Holly intercepted the pass and returned it 35 yards to the Eagle 23-yard line to step up the Post offense.

Behind the block of the Bold Gold offensive line (Mondo Martinez, Sergio Soliz, Nathan Gill, Jayson Walden and Travis Greathouse), Smith had runs of 13, six and four before Jones would take it in from the one. Smith added the two-point play giving Post a 14-7 lead.

Dean and Greathouse would knock down two passes for the Lopes' defense, forcing the Eagles to punt. On first down, Jones found wide receiver Dy- Eagles would finish the scoring lan Pearson open, and Pearson during the third quarter with a would gain 57 yards before he was tackled at the Eagle 24.

Smith's 10-yard touchdown run and Aron Lopez' kick gave the Lopes a 21-7 lead with 1:24 remaining in the half. The Eagles were able to reach the end zone right before the half to cut into the Lopes' lead. The Lopes held a 21-14 advantage heading to

the locker room.

On the Lopes' first possession of the second half, they had a nine-play, 65-yard drive behind the running of Brown, Smith and Jones. Brown would finish the drive from 13 yards and Lopez' added the PAT making the score 28-14.

The Lopes would extend the lead to 35-14, and Brown recovered a fumble caused by Holly and returned to the Eagle 5. Babb would catch his seconnd touchdown of the season from Jones from two yards out. Once again Lopez' kick was good. The five-yard touchdown throw and catch. After three quarters Post led 35-21.

The Bold Gold started the 7:30 p.m. fourth-quarter by driving inside the Eagle 20 before being stopped on downs. The Eagles would drive down and score a touchdown making the score

Had Intercepted

After the Eagles attempted onside kick, Post would score on the very next play as Brown ran untouched for a 51-yard touchdown. Lopez' would add the PAT, extending the Lope lead to

The Lopes would score one more touchdown. Brown would again add another 51-yard touchdown run and would finish the night with 241 yards.

Roosevelt would add a touchdown with 52 seconds remaining. Post would kneel on the ball two times and open district with

"It is always good to win the first district game," Post head coach Steve Smith said. Post will return to action to-

day in Tulia. Kickoff will be at

Tulia (3-3, 0-1) lost their district opener to Abernathy, 14-7, and should be a good test for the Bold Gold as the Hornets have several good athletes.

INT Yds

### Mercy rule ends BC road game with MW Christian

By Trey Richey For the Dispatch

ASPERMONT — The Borden County Coyotes were on the road last Friday to play the Mineral Wells Community Christian Warriors.

The Coyotes played shorthanded with Ricky Torres being lost for at least six weeks and Tanner Richey missing this week.

The Coyotes however came out of the gates quickly and put this contest away.

After forcing a quick 3-andout, T.J. Basquez followed nice blocks by Matt Roberson, Helio Rosales, Kurt Shafer, Jared Smith and Tristen Benavidez to pay dirt from 19 yards out for the Coyotes first score. Rosales made the kick to give the Coyotes a quick 8-0 lead.

After holding the Warriors on downs the next series, Basquez took the second play the distance, this time from 30 yards out and a 14-0 lead for the Coyotes. The defense got into the act next as Frank Banman began a series of four straight takeaways for the Coyote defense as he intercepted a Warrior pass and rumbled 19 yards to the end zone, and following another Rosales kick the Coyotes had a comfortable 22-0 first-quarter lead.

Banman continued the defensive dominance as he fell on a loose ball on the next series, and moment later Jared Smith hit Matt Proulx on a short four-yard pass play to push the lead to 28 before Rosales tacked on the two-point kick and a 30-0 lead.

Korbin Martinez intercepted a deflected pass by teammate Steven Howard and returned the ball to the Warriors' 19-yard line. On the first play Smith hit Shafer on a 19-yard strike and, with another Rosales, a 38-0 lead to close the opening

Martinez started the second quarter with his second pick of the game, and Basquez followed with a one-yard plunge for his third score to push the coyotes lead to 46-0 after the Rosales kick.

The Coyotes continued their dominant play even with the entire 14-man roster seeing the field.

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After another defensive stop on downs, Martinez got into the act offensively following some nice blocks by Proulx, Matt Ham and Sean Tucker on a 30-yard run for a 52-to-0 lead.

After another defensive stop, Ham got nice blocks by Luis Andrade, Proulx, Tucker, Martinez and Banman for a 24-yard touchdown run. Basquez added the extra point kick to make the final tally 60-0 with the game ending at half by the 45-point mercy rule.

Leading the way for the Coyotes was Basquez with 53 yards on four carries and three scores and a reception for 29 yards and was in on eight tackles.

Howard had six tackles and a pass break up. Ham had four tackles and a carry for 24 yards

Banman had eight tackles an interception for a score and a fumble recovery. Tucker had two tackles. Jordan Martinez had 4 tackles. Korbin Martinez had three carries for 44 yards and a score, five tackles and two interceptions. Smith was 3-of-3 passing for two scores and 52 yards passing and one carry for 17 yards and to tackles. Benavidez had two tackles. Rosales was 5-of-6 on extra point and in on two tackles. Roberson was in on a tackle, and Andrade was in on two tackles.

The Coyotes will have their bye this week as they prepare to host their first district opponent of the season with Klondike.

#### **DISTRICT 2-2A, DIVISION II STANDINGS**

Post		5-1	1-0			
Abernathy	5-1	1-0				
Floydada	3-3	1-0				
Tulia		3-3	0-1			
Olton		1-5	0-1			
Roosevelt	0-6	0-1				
BOXSCORE						
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	
Final						
Post .	0	21	14	13	-	48
Roosevelt	0	14	7	12	-	3:
Team Stats:	Post	Roosev	relt			
1st Downs	13	22			,	
Total Net Yds	457	454				
Avg. Gain per Play	8.8	7.6				
Net Yds Rushing	383	112				
Rushes	49	33				
Avg. per Rush	7.8	3.4				
Net Yds Passing	77	342				
Passes Attempted	4	44				
Passes Completed	3	27				

Avg. Punt		20	10		
Penalties		10	11		
Penalty Yds		90	75		
Fumbles		1	2		
Fumbles Lost		0	1		
Individual Stats:					
PASSING .		Comp.	Att.	Comp.	%
TD				-5	
Pake Jones		3	4	75%	0
RUSHING		Rushes	Yds	Avg.	I
DJ Brown		20	241	12.1	4
Bryan Smith		15	108	7.2	1
Pake Jones		8	32	4.0	1
TOTAL	100	43	381	8.9	6
			B 1 0 2 9 5		

#### 77 1 Long RECEIVING Catches Long Dalton Holly 57.0 Dylan Pearson 2.0 Paden Babb TOTAL 25.33

**Go Post Bold Gold** 

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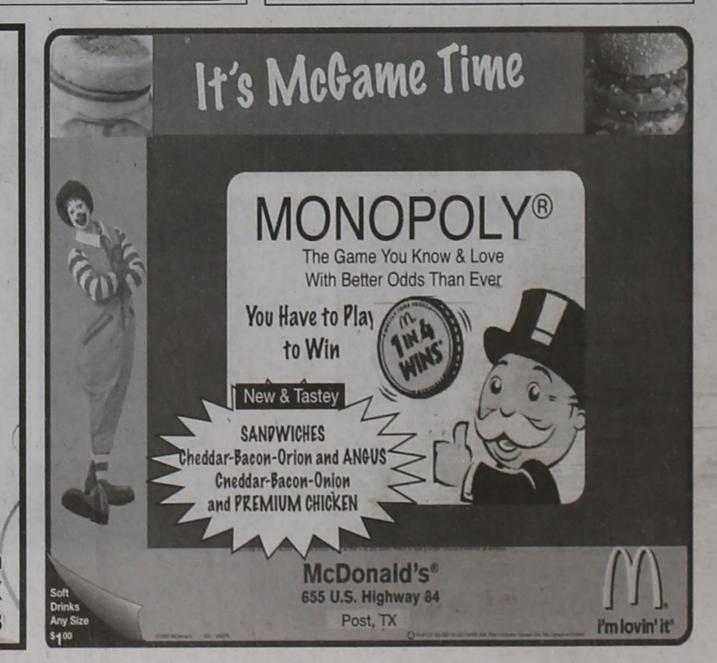
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# Critters on and off Breast of the Caprock Prevent

Part two of Gladys Gates McClure's story on Coopers Canyon and Litwalton continues. She describes how in 1906 that the Litwalton Post Office and grocery store were moved from the Justis home to the Gates' home. A room was added to the side of the house for the store, and a screened area was cordoned off for the post office in the northwest corner of the dugout. The barn, chicken house and milking

lots were to the north of the house down a hill near a dry creek.

People for miles came to Cooper's Canyon to get their mail three times a week. Joe McMahon carried the mail from Tahoka to Litwalton by horseback. The Gates home was a meeting place for visiting as a result. Cowboys and plains residents many times came early and filled the

area between the dugout and the house.

They were a happy, friendly, joking group of people, very unlike the uncouth lawless Western rabble shown on TV and in motion pictures.

LINDA

PUCKETT

C.W. Post came to get his mail on one occasion and stood in front of the dugout talking to Arthur, who was ill at the time. Mr. Post asked about Arthur's health and then said, "Have you ever tried Grapenuts?" This made quite an impression on Gladys who had heard stories concerning Mr. Post and knew that her father had Grapenuts for sale in his store.

Mary Gates received for her salary only the amount of her stamp cancellation. She brought turkeys, guineas, ducks and chickens when she moved from Afton; however she didn't keep them for long for the coyotes would slip from the creek back of the barn and grab the hens. The ducks didn't fare much better at the springs. Gladys wasn't too unhappy to see the turkeys go, as the old turkey gobbler had taken a special dislike to her and if he caught her outside the house, he left deep marks on her legs by his floggings. The remedy was never go outside to play unless she carried her father's blacksnake.

The chicken house was covered with wire to keep out the wildlife, and dirt was thrown

against boards at the bottom. At night the door was carefully fastened. Mary had 30 fryers just the right size to begin to use, but one morning when she opened the door she had 30 dead chickens, each with its head bitten and the blood sucked. Skunks had dug under the boards.

There were many quail below the Caprock, especially in the winter. Arthur would not allow hunting on his property, and he did not shoot them himself. If he wanted a quail dinner, he made a trap of sticks with a trigger baited with a head of maize. Then he would remove the few he wanted.

Bobcats and wolves existed but did no great harm. Roadrunners were very common. We were told they killed snakes, perhaps that's why we saw very few snakes. However, the family did go to the canyon to gather wild currants, and as Mary reached inside a bush, she heard a warning rattle. She screamed loudly and our faithful, experienced dog, Red, rushed in front of her and in his excitement took all the poison into his mouth. He died within a half hour.

There were few fences above the Caprock, and antelope were numerous. It was not uncommon to see them running in herds when a wagon topped the Caprock. Cars were just coming into use in Lubbock, and drivers, not bothered by fences, chased and killed antelope from their cars.

Prairie dogs were very much of a nuisance on the plains land. Along the present Gail Highway on the Gates property there were large prairie dog towns. They were interesting to watch, but the holes were harboring places for snakes and owls. Many horses had broken legs when cowboys drove cattle over prairie dog holes. They ate the nearby crops of the farmers and destroyed the grass in the pasture. After the county became more agricultural, a poisoning campaign was carried on to rid the Graham Community of them. As it had to be done several times, Mary found the program quite expensive.

Next week we relive the winter of 1906 when cattle froze to death and the chickens' feet froze off. See you next week for part three.

Linda Puckett is director of the Garza Museum and Garza County Historical Commission.

## The Doctor is in

## Breast cancer: Preventable, curable

s many of you have probably noticed this month, it's breast cancer awareness month. Breast cancer is second only to heart disease as the leading cause of death in women. Just like heart

disease and all diseases, breast cancer has a root cause. The more

BEN EDWARDS

N we can modify
S the factors that lead to breast

cancer, the more likely we can avoid the consequence of breast cancer.

One of the biggest reasons breast cancer develops, and especially at a younger and younger age these days, is because of over-exposure to estrogens and estrogen-like compounds. Many chemicals in the U.S. environment act as "xenoestrogens."

Xenoestrogens are manmade chemicals that have the effect of toxic estrogen once inside the body. Many pesticides and insecticides, BPA that is contained in the lining of canned goods in the grocery store, and parabens found in some lotions are examples of xenoestrogens. Also, fat cells make a type of estrogen called estrone. Birth control pills contain estrogen, and Premarin acts like estrogen. Soy products contain a chemical that mimics

estrogen. Other risk factors for breast cancer development are low vitamin D, low iodine levels, and low thyroid hormone levels. Most, if not all, of my patients are low in vitamin D. This is actually a hormone, not a vitamin. It is produced when sunlight strikes the skin turning the cholesterol in the skin into vitamin D. The vitamin D then sits in the oil of the skin and takes 48 hours to completely absorb into the

Most of us aren't exposed to enough sun. Those of us who are usually bath every 24 hours with soap and wash the vitamin D off before it has completely absorbed. Vitamin D has many, many immune-system boosting activities, which will help your body detect and kill growing cancer cells. It also helps to activate the p53 gene, which is the cancer suicide gene.

When a cell starts to grow too rapidly and out of control, the p53 gene turns on to tell the cell to die. Ninety-five percent of Americans are also deficient in iodine, and unfortunately most doctors are not trained in this knowledge nor are they aware of the need for adequate iodine for overall breast health.

Iodine is also an integral part of the immune system, a powerful germ-killer. Breast tissue contains a large number of iodine receptors, and when they are empty it sets the stage for increased cancer risk.

I highly recommend the book by David Brownstein, "Iodine: Why you need it, why you can't live without it." Pick a copy for your doctor, too!

Also, low thyroid harms the immune system, allows estrone-producing fat cells to hang around and prevents the body from getting rid of excess estrogen. Most doctors rely solely on a blood test to diagnose low thyroid. These blood test are notoriously inadequate.

Find a doctor who will use symptom profiles, morning temperature readings, and spend an hour or more taking a thorough history and exam instead of five or 10 minutes in the room you. I also highly recommend the book "Hypothyroidsim Type II" by Dr. Mark Starr r the website nahypothyroidism.

So, ladies (and men too, the same xenoestrogens can stimulate prostate cancer), let's start implementing some strategies to avoid breast cancer instead of just waiting for that mammogram to show something to kick us into gear.

First, lose weight to cut down on the fat cell production of estrone.

Next, get your iodine and vitamin D levels checked from a doctor competent in what healthy levels are.

Request ultrasound and thermography (combination is best) instead of mammography as screening if possible to avoid ionizing radiation.

For suspicious areas on these tests, or if a lump is detected, consider using MRI. Also, think about switching to organic produce to reduce exposure to estrogen-like chemicals.

For birth control, use a progestin-only pill (no synthetic estrogen), the Today Sponge or IUD. Get rid of sugar and grains from your diet, especially refined grains. Eat more raw, dark-colored fruits and vegetables, especially those in the cabbage family like purple cabbage and kale.

Find a doctor who does not depend on lab test only to diagnose low thyroid conditions. I believe breast cancer is completely preventable and completely curable.

Dr. Benjamin Edwards is a local physician specializing in holistic medicine and nutrition.

## The Paperboy

## Reacting the democratic way

Are we savages? I don't think so, and I hope I'm proved right following the election.

Americans rarely riot. That's a

Americans rarely riot. That's a good thing. With what we've seen in Europe, the Middle East and Asia over the past year, I shudder

to think

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Yesterday,

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CHRIS BLACKBURN

threatening riots
should the outcome of the
election not fall their way.
We need to show the world
democracy works, and we can
accept the outcome without
resorting to violence against

fellow Americans.

During election time, emotions can run deep. I think that's a good thing. I think it's great we live in a society where freedom of speech is alive and well. I can't imagine living in a country without that basic freedom.

If you sincerely believe in that freedom, you have to take the good with the bad. And really, one man's bad can be another's good. As much as I might despise something coming from someone I disagree with, they have the right to convey their thoughts into spoken and written word, art or other mediums. That's the deal.

Where that freedom ends is when action is taken by the citizenry to "voice" discontent. When you take to the streets to break things, start fires, turn over cars, etc., the line is crossed.

Regardless of the outcome of the election, Americans should respect the outcome of the electorate. Sure there will be cheating — by both sides. But as scrutinized as the process has become, the overall system is probably as clean as it's ever

I say that because we know this election, unless it's a sizable win or landslide, will boil down to a few counties in a few states. There are plenty of eyeballs from both sides on these crucial areas. Obviously, we live in a part of the country where we actually know our neighbors. We are, or certainly should be, friends first and political adversaries last. The likelihood of riots occurring in rural America is small. The thought of it happening in our cities does not make the thought any less sickening.

I pray Americans coast to coast realize the blessings we have and exercise control over their reactions following the election. To react with riots is un-American.

Christopher Blackburn is publisher of The Post Dispatch and CEO of Blackburn Media Group.



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## Early voting begins Monday

#### County, school district join for November election

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

When Garza County voters go to the poll Nov. 6, for the first time in recent history they'll be able to cast their general election ballots along with the school district's special bond issue ballot.

Elections Supervisor Jim Plummer said it would be the first time for such an event because Post ISD has contracted with the county to conduct a joint election, sharing polling places, poll workers and resources not only for Election Day but also for early voting.

Early voting for both elections will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, beginning Monday and running Nov. 2 at the Garza County Courthouse. Early voting will be open during the lunch hours those days.

As of Oct. 3, Plummer said, more than 40 mail-in ballot applications had been received in his office.

Applications for ballot by mail must be received by Oct. 30. To request such a ballot, applications must be mailed to Early Voting Clerk, Garza County Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 366, Post, TX, 79356.

"If the absentee applicant qualifies for

Local voting locations

Precinct 1 - Presbyterian Church, 910 W. 10th St.,

Precinct 2 — Post Community Center, 113 W. Main St., Post Precinct 3 - Citizens Bank, 210 N. Broadway, Post

Precinct 4 - Wells Fargo Bank, 216 W. Main St.,

Post St., Southland

Precinct 6 — Lake Alan Henry Fire Station, 2699 FM 3519, Justiceburg

Other pertinent voter information, including sample ballots, can be downloaded online at GarzaCounty. net. Statewide voting information and regulations can be found at VoteTexas.org.

the Post ISD bond election ballot, we will send it with the General Election ballot," Plummer said.

All other early voting will be conducted at the Garza County Courthouse.

Only those who were registered to vote by last Tuesday will be allowed to cast ballots. Only registered voters who live inside the Post ISD boundary will be eligible to vote in the special bond election.

Registered voters casting ballots in the general election will elect a president of the United States, members of Congress, members of the Legislature, and state, district, county and precinct officers.

The only contested local race is for the Precinct 3 County Commissioner seat for which incumbent Republican

Ted Brannon faces former commissioner and Democratic challenger John Valdez.

The only local declared write-in candidate is Preston Poole for county attorney.

The Post Independent School District special bond election concerns a \$28.5 million issue bond for funds to go toward capital improvements, including a new high school.

For those voters casting ballots on Election Day, there will be six polling places open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for registered voters who have not voted early. Those voters must cast ballots at their precinct polling location that corresponds with the precinct number on their voter registration card.

## Water district eyes \$3.5 million in improvements

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

Water district officials were told last week they would only be receiving a portion of the \$2.1 million in state drought disaster funds for which they originally had hoped.

Tom Fulton, executive director of the White River Municipal Water District board of directors, said the district had been funded only \$1.4 million because the state ran out of funds.

"We've been told the state is searching for additional funds for us," Fulton told the board during its regular monthly meeting Oct. 11 at the water plant at White River. "We're hopeful that extra \$700,000 will be funded by February."

In July, the board beseeched the help from its member cities, including Post, Crosbyton, Spur and Ralls, and their counties, including Garza, Crosby and Dickens, in applying for the state drought disaster funds, of which there was only a limited amount from the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The applications for aid submitted by the entities would have wiped out that entire better water to our district resifund, if they were funded in its entirety, officials have previously said.

The city of Post did not submit an application for aid.

"The state received much more assistance applications than what was expected, and only a few of our applications were funded," Fulton told the board.

Of the seven applications submitted by the South Plains Association of Governments on behalf of member cities and counties, only the cities of Ralls and Spur were not funded.

Fulton said he did not know why those applications for funds were denied.

He told the board the remaining two applications for aid could be funded only if applications for other statewide entities were disqualified for some reason.

Although the city of Post did not participate in submitting an disaster application for aid, council members did in subsequent weeks vote to outright give the water district \$350,000 from its reserve coffers for water-acquisition purposes.

Post City Manager Arbie Taylor this week said that offer still stands.

"As long as the money is used to secure more water rights for the district, the money is theirs for the taking," Taylor said.

In addition to the state drought disaster funds, the water district also has recently applied to the Texas Water Development Board for a \$2.1 million matching grant to offset about \$40 million in needed infrastructure rehabilitation costs across the district.

During a special called meet-

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ing on Labor Day, Sept. 3, the water board voted to submit an application for the grant. The approval process is still ongoing, but Fulton told the board he soon hoped to hear whether the application had been approved.

If approved, the board would buy about \$1.05 million in bonds and finance those bonds over the next 30 years at about 3 percent interest.

The money generated must be used for planning, acquisition and infrastructure upgrades at the water plant, including the Post and Crosbyton water pipelines.

Fulton said the near \$4 million the district was expecting would go a long way on the \$40 million wish list of improvements throughout the district.

"We're thrilled beyond measure that we're finally beginning to make some headway in our plan to provide more and dents," Fulton said. "The plans we're making will benefit all of us and put us in a much better position if this drought continues as it is expected."

#### In other business

Also during the Oct. 11 regular meeting, the board voted to not move forward with a plan to start a scholarship fund for area local high school seniors.

The idea was collectively shot down after some members said a government entity that received the majority of its money from water customers had no business re-dispersing those funds in the form of scholarships.

In addition, the board, during the general manager's report, voted to adjourn into closed-door session without expressly stating for which purpose or purposes the session was called. The executive session was not listed as an

item on the agenda. The Post Dispatch objected to the validity of the closeddoor session under the Texas Open Meetings Act and asked for its objection to be entered into the official minutes.

After the meeting, Fulton said no action was taken on any closed-door session topic after reconvening in open ses-

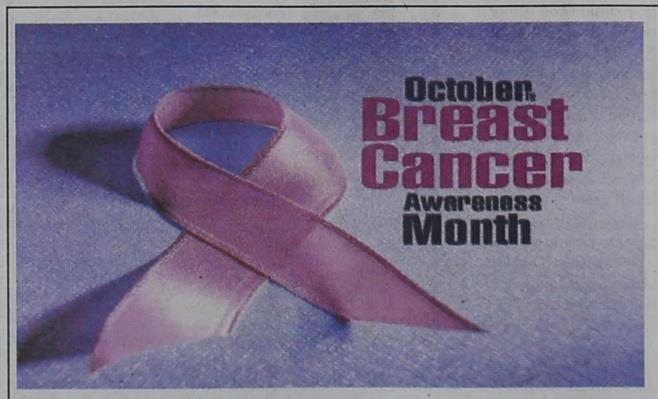
On Tuesday, Fulton divulged the closed-door session was to discuss the city of Spur's water-purchase contract, which had, just a few days prior, been submitted to the board for approval.

## King butterfly



Nathan Dahlstrom/Special to the Dispatch

A Monarch butterfly is seen drinking the nectar of some sort of flowering weed Saturday in northern Garza County as it, and likely millions of others, migrate south to Mexico for the winter.



To help promote the importance of early detection, Cogdell Memorial Hospital is offering a \$50 special on mammogram screenings for all women 40 years old and older during the month of October.

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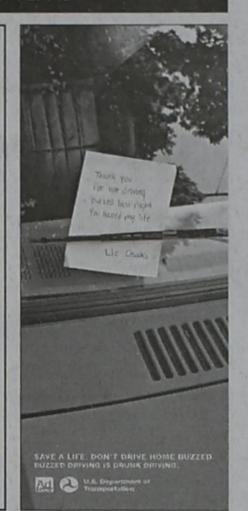
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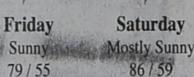
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#### **Post Dispatch Weather Summary**

Post's Seven Day Forecast







Monday Sunday Mostly Sunny Mostly Sunny 81/55 89 / 59



Tuesday Wednesday Mostly Sunny Sunny

80 / 58



Thursday Mostly Sunny 79 / 55

Last

New

11/13

#### Local UV Index



0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

#### Weather Trivia

Wind speeds need to be at least how fast for there to be wind chill?

Answer: 5 mph.

#### Weather History

Oct. 19, 1844 - The famous "Lower Great Lakes Storm' occurred. Southwesterly winds were at hurricane force for five hours, driving lake waters into downtown Buffalo, N.Y. The storm drowned 200 people.

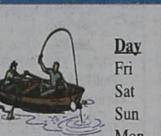
Oct. 20, 1983 - Remnants of Pacific Hurricane Tico caused extensive flooding in central and south central Oklahoma. Oklahoma City set daily rainfall records with 1.45 inches on Oct. 19 and 6.28 inches on Oct. 20.

#### **Detailed Local Forecast**

78 / 57

Today we will see sunny skies with a high temperature of 79°, humidity of 40%. South wind 5 to 10 mph. The record high temperature for today is 91° set in 2001. Expect mostly clear skies tonight with an overnight low of 55°. South wind 10 to 15 mph. The record low for tonight is 29° set in 1989. Saturday, skies will be mostly sunny with a high temperature of 86°, humidity of 21%. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph. Skies will be partly cloudy Saturday night with an overnight low of 59°. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

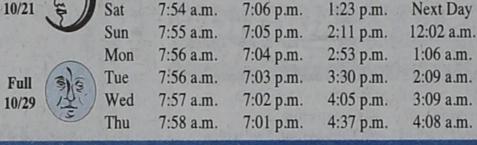
#### Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week



Day

Peak Times				Peak Times				
Day	AM	PM	Day	AM	PM			
Fri	3:15-5:15	2:45-4:45	Tue	6:50-8:50	6:20-8:20			
Sat	4:14-6:14	3:44-5:44	Wed	7:37-9:37	7:07-9:07			
Sun	5:10-7:10	4:40-6:40	Thu	8:21-10:21	7:51-9:51			
Mon	6:01-8:01	5:31-7:31	www	v.WhatsOur\	Weather.com			
	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	And the second second		A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR				

Sun/Moon Chart This Week								
	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	· Moonse				
	7:53 a.m.	7:07 p.m.	12:28 p.m.	10:58 p.				
	7:54 a.m.	7:06 p.m.	1:23 p.m.	Next Da				



Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	rarmer's Growing Degree Days				
10/9	90	47	77/50	0.00"	Date Degree Days		Date Degree Days		
10/10	61	48	77/50	0.00"	10/9	18	10/13	16	
10/11	80	52	77/49	0.00"	10/10	4	10/14	14	
10/12	79	64	76/49	0.00"	10/11	16	10/15	14	
10/13	77	54	76/48	0.06"	10/12	22			
10/14	78	50	75/48	0.00"	Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many growing days are attained.				
10/15	. 80	49	75/47	0.00"					

Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

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## **Dixie Divas** A poor childhood

picture — even one old that has faded from black and white to soft gray - can tell a story, long and true. That one certainly did.

It was made somewhere in the late 1920s and showed three children, ragamuffins really, who did not have the

happiness most children show in photos today. Two little girls, with chopped off, blunt hair, were

RONDA attired in RICH simple, wrinkled

dirty white dresses made from flour sacks, and their dirty feet were bare as they stood on the dusty, rocky ground.

The little boy, blonde and round-faced, was dressed in hand-me-down britches several inches above his ankles and laced up, battered shoes with one of the laces missing. They looked to be two sizes too big for him.

There was a sadness in their faces, a scowl that seemed to say, "Life is grim and hard." And I suppose it was. The kind of grim and hard that few can imagine. It was, after all, the beginning of the Great Depression in the Appalachian Mountains, which had never known anything but depression, both great and small.

Folks there were so poor it was hard to believe they could be any poorer, but in time they were. The time came when they fought to scrounge up enough quarters to pay the taxes on the farm or find enough turnip greens or polk salet to feed their bellies.

The story in my daddy's eyes told far more than I cared to know. His eyes were both angry and fearful, his frown too severe for a child so young.

I know more than the photo tells. I know of the beatings he took and how he was forced to kill his dog, his only friend, because his father, in a drunken stupor, had commanded him to do so.

"I knew if I didn't," he said softly years later, his green eyes moistening, "That he'd beat me."

That was years before he left the drink behind and became a good man. Back then, he cuddled up to a pint of moonshine to forget how he could barely keep his family alive. At 13, Daddy ran away, living in barns for a while until his Uncle Oscar and Aunt Fairy opened their front door and welcomed him. They finished raising him, the only true raising that he got.

He overcame that childhood. Somewhat. But he carried scars his children could neither see nor understand. I suppose he just prayed his way out of those memories or, at least, prayed as best he could. Some wrongs, those that can never be righted, stain the soul of a man.

Even when he was grown and his father had reached down deep to find the good man he could berby giving up drinking and becoming solid and dependable, those childhood memories surely haunted Daddy. But he held no grudge. He forgave and became close to his father.

A while back after Sunday dinner, I walked out of my sister's house to see three boys flying by on variouspsized motorcycles. They rode through the pastures, jumped hills and ditches, laughing happily as they did. In the back yard, four little girls squealed joyously as they jumped in and out of the pool. It was pure merriment.

"These children are going to look back on their childhood with such happiness," I said to Rodney about his grandchildren.

He shrugged. "It's no happier than our childhoods were," he said. "They just have more toys than we did. But I was happy."

I was, too. And, I'm ashamed to say, that until I saw that photo of a little boy who seemed to carry the weight of the world on his tiny shoulders, I had taken it for granted.

Not anymore.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Coming," is available at rondarich.com.



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